

For this issue, we will have **Tim Dean** as the member spotlight. He is a Specialist Geophysicist at BHP, and will be the **keynote speaker** at the geophysics session in AEGC 2021.

**1. For how long have you been a geophysicist?**

I first graduated from Curtin University at the end of 1998 and started my first job with Western Geophysical in 1999 so I guess that makes it 22 years (with a few extra stints at University in between).

**2. What do you like most about being a geophysicist?**

Obviously, the travel is always a highlight, I've been to some of the worst places on six different continents... Thanks to the Geology side of Geophysics, and the inherent limitations of every method, there are always interesting problems that need fixing, and interesting people to meet along the way.

**3. If you weren't a geophysicist what would you be?**

I would be designing weapons at the Defence Science and Technology Organisation, the other job offer I had after completing my PhD.

**4. What is your best interview tip?**

Research the job you're applying for and the company you're applying to, but above all, show enthusiasm and a good attitude.

**5. Tell us about your best field meal?**

The best field meal is the last one you have before going home. Barring those, an Asado on the WesternGeco crew in Patagonia.

**6. Where was your best sunrise/sunset location?**

Hard to beat the sun rising over the dunes in Saudi Arabia after a long stint on night-shift.



**7. What made you decide to be a geophysicist?**

When I was at school our science teacher invited a Geophysicist to come and talk to our Physics class. This introduced me to the field, but it wasn't until after a year of Physics and a year of Geology at university that it occurred to me as the best way to make use of the effort that I'd already put it.

**8. What's your most treasured textbook?**

Art of the deal by Donald Trump (laughing). Exploration Seismology by Sheriff, still my go-to reference.



### **9. Your funniest or worst field memory?**

Seismic crews occasionally have pets, often just a random dog, but the WesternGeco crew in South Sudan had two pet monkeys. The smallest monkey would break into the crew bar and help himself to home-brew spirits, he was an amusing drunk but was extremely cranky when hung-over

*Tim will have a talk entitled "20 years of seismic acquisition – a semi-autobiographical review, and predictions for the future" during the AEGC 2021. The virtual program will be out shortly [here.](#)*