

President's piece

ASEG news

President's piece



Andrea Rutley

Any search that you conduct on the vast amount of information (or dis-information) that can be accessed from internet search engines on mining and its relationship with communities and or the environment consistently brings to the front the negative impacts. Topics that frequently top the list are climate change, poor rehabilitation practises, groundwater or surface water contamination and the impacts on biodiversity. Whilst many of these effects have unfortunately occurred in some instances, we must also remain cognisant of the positive effects that mining can have on communities.

During the last school holidays we loaded our car with family and assorted paraphernalia that is of absolute necessity on a road trip; cameras, tripods, fishing rods, picnic hampers, gold pan, sieves, bagpipes, to name but a few. It is truly remarkable what can actually fit into one car!

Our planned itinerary was to drive from Brisbane to Snowy Mountains, Gippsland, Melbourne, Great Ocean Road, Western Victoria, Central NSW and New England. Remarkably we did this and retained our sanity, albeit that sometimes such sanity was hard to find.

It was during this trip that we drove through many towns, both small and large, where mining had either historical or current influence. For example, Orange in NSW is a spectacular city with a vibrant food and wine industry, strong agricultural ties and both historic and current mining in the region. The photo below was taken on sunset at Lucknow, a small town outside Orange. The Poppet Head was constructed in 1935 to assist in draining the persistent inflow of water into the gold mine, a problem that plagued many mines in the district.



Photo of Poppet Head at Lucknow, NSW.

Whilst many of the small towns that witnessed an influx of thousands of workers to seek their early fortunes fell into abandonment as soon as that easy-to-win gold was exhausted, there were those towns that continued to flourish. Bendigo and Ballarat in the Victorian goldfields come to mind. Servicing large areas of rich mining land, these towns were important regional centres with their own mining exchanges and government offices. Such was the money available to the state at this time that these magnificent buildings are a visual reminder to the wealth and contribution that mining made to these areas. This continues today and a new industry of tourism has grown on the back of mining success. Sovereign Hill in Ballarat is by far the greatest example of public education in an interactive mining environment. By day or night, the history and character of the early Victorian goldfields is clearly apparent.

As the gold was being discovered in NSW, the newly formed government of Victoria was luring explorers to Victoria in 1851, promising significant rewards to the first explorer to find gold within 200 miles of Melbourne. For the time this was a revolutionary change in thinking.

Now we commonly expect governments, both State and Federal to continue the trend of supporting explorers in all commodities. It is certainly pleasing to see that there is significant activity within Australia in this regard. Our geophysicists have only to read each edition of *Preview* to see just how much data the relevant State and Federal Departments are acquiring and releasing to aid explorers. In the last issue of *Preview* alone, there were seven pages dedicated to available or upcoming geophysical data



Main Street Sovereign Hill by day.



Night-time spectacular in Sovereign Hill.

programmes. Such considerable support and recognition of the importance of collaborative exploration data is of mutual benefit to explorers and governments in terms of activity and potential revenue. From successful exploration, regional areas of Australia continue to benefit from the influx of people and money to build strong and lasting communities. I encourage all explorers to use these available datasets to their fullest advantage and who knows, just as Olympic Dam was discovered from the innovative use of government data, the next 'big thing' could be just around the anomaly corner.

Happy exploring!

Andrea Rutley
ASEG President
president@aseg.org.au

Welcome to new Members

The ASEG extends a warm welcome to 15 new Members approved by the Federal Executive at its July meeting (see table).

First name	Last name	Organisation	State	Country	Membership type
Benjamin	Awortwe	University of Mines and Technology	Tarkwa	Ghana	Student
Nicholas	Botross	Macquarie University	NSW	Australia	Student
Mohammad	Farooqui	Quaid-i-Azam University	Islamabad	Pakistan	Student
Jayson	Gregg	M&EC	QLD	Australia	Active
Olaoluwa	Ibilola	University of WA	WA	Australia	Student
Muhammad	Junaid	University of Technology Malaysia	Johor	Malaysia	Student
Partha	Mandal	PGS	WA	Australia	Active
Iniang	Omiela	Niger Delta University	Bayelsa	Nigeria	Student
Louis	Paterniti	University of WA	WA	Australia	Student
Zixing	Qin	Curtin University	WA	Australia	Student
Michael	Reveleigh	Velseis Pty Ltd	QLD	Australia	Active
Aundre	Rodrigues	University of WA	WA	Australia	Student
Hayley	Rohead-O'Brien	Curtin University	WA	Australia	Student
Azadeh	Salehi	University of SA	SA	Australia	Student
Ben	Spyridis	Macquarie University	NSW	Australia	Student

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ASEG Federal Executive 2017–18

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Danny Burns: Treasurer (Finance Committee Chair)
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Research Foundation – Donations: Peter Priest
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Young Professionals Network
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Executive brief

The Federal Executive of the ASEG (FedEx) is the governing body of the ASEG. It meets once a month, via teleconference, to see to the administration of the Society. This is a brief report on the last monthly meeting, which was held in June.

Several of the long-standing and highly regarded FedEx team have retired from their positions in 2017 after many years of dedication and hard work contributing to our Society. Subsequent to this, the FedEx have decided there is a crucial need for the creation of a succession plan for the Fedex and each of the sub-committees. This will be a priority to ensure the continuing success of the ASEG.

Last month the ASEG released our Membership Survey and we have been delighted by the number of responses. We seek to improve our Society for the benefit of our Members, and can only do this through your increased contribution. If you would like to volunteer to be involved in a committee within the FedEx, please contact: fedsec@aseg.org.au

Society finances

The Society's financial position at the end of June 2017:

Year to date income \$177 303

Year to date expenditure \$233 005

Net Assets \$1 021 137

Membership survey results

The ASEG membership survey closed as this edition of *Preview* is going to press. The winners of the free membership for 2018 are Giraud Jeremie from WA and Richard Newport from NSW.

We would like to give a big thank you to the 400 people who replied for all of their considered responses. We are currently reading through all of your valuable feedback, and a summary of the results will be published in the next edition of *Preview*.

Megan Nightingale
Secretary
fedsec@aseg.org.au

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News from the ASEG Young Professionals Network

Thank you to everyone who has responded to my requests seeking members and mentors for the Young Professional Network. It's not too late to register your interest, please contact ypadmin@aseg.org.au with your name and preferred email address.

Since June's edition of *Preview*, the YPN has welcomed a co-president Jarrod Dunne. Jarrod has over 20 years of experience in seismic amplitude interpretation, reservoir characterisation and seismic processing. He has experience in a large number of basins throughout the world, having worked for Shell, Woodside and a number of smaller oil companies. Jarrod has remained actively engaged in R&D through involvement in software development and post-graduate student supervision. Jarrod is an active member of ASEG and PESA and holds committee roles in both societies. Jarrod champions the interests of Young Professionals at the state level for PESA in VIC/TAS, and now at a National Level for the ASEG through the

Young Professional Network and the Education Committee. Jarrod's extensive experience and involvement in the industry is a wonderful asset to our YPN, and we are grateful for his support.

The YPN is focused on coordinating the efforts of connecting societies, including PESA and SPE, at a National and State level for the development of Young Professionals through education, mentoring and networking events. Our first priority is organising events for the upcoming AEGC Conference in Sydney 2018. The YPN will hold a networking function and have a booth on the Exhibition floor. Additionally, we will be running a Presentation Skills Workshop – 'Find your Voice – Present with Confidence'. We will have a synopsis and registration information up on the AEGC website in the coming weeks.

Megan Nightingale
ASEG Young Professionals Network
President
ypadmin@aseg.org

The ASEG Research Foundation thanks all donors in 2016/17

During the 2016/17 financial year 38 ASEG Members used the ASEG website to donate a total of \$4506 to ASEG Research Foundation (see Table 1). We thank each and every one of you for your generosity.

The total amount donated is sufficient for one project for a year, which is significant in the context of the five to six projects we normally support and is important when added to the \$5500 raised at the conference in Adelaide last year.

We also thank Rio Tinto for their donation of \$1000 after the Adelaide conference and, once again, the support

of the ASEG, which donated \$50000 to the Foundation for the 2017 year is gratefully acknowledged.

The ASEG's excellent website makes it easy to donate to the ASEG Foundation using a credit card, and bear in mind that all donations are tax deductible.

Once again thanks to all of our supporters and keep up the good work!

Phil Harman
ASEG Research Foundation Chair
research-foundation@aseg.org.au

Table 1. Member donors to the ASEG Research Foundation

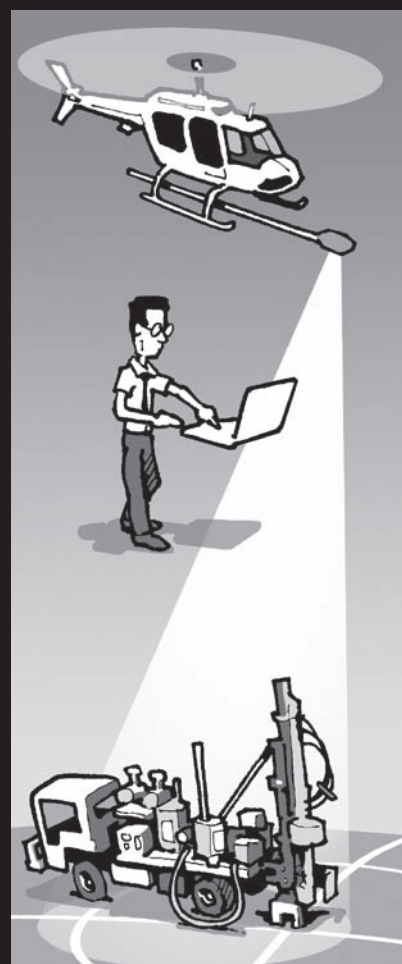
Peter Grant	Bob Musgrave	Roger Clifton	Barry Bourne
Wayne Stasinowsky	Nathan Mosusu	Keith Leslie	Peter Fullagar
Phillip Cooney	Noll Moriarty	Robert Peacock	Robert Elliott-Lockhart
Paul Hayston	Anthony Yeates	Stephen Abernethy	Emma Brand
Aaron Davis	Maxim Lebedev	Lindsay Horn	David Robinson
Rory Murray	Ross Costelloe	Peter Betts	Phillip Harman
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ASEG Branch news

Tasmania

Over the past month we have had the good fortune of receiving several presentations in conjunction with the GSA Tasmania branch and CODES. At the July meeting of the GSA, **Michelle Salmon** presented on 'Using geophysics to empower communities to study and understand the Earth beneath their feet: a practical example utilising seismometers'. The talk was enjoyed by GSA and ASEG Members.

At CODES and co-advertised to ASEG Members, **Steve Kuhn** presented 'Geological Classification of 3D Inverse Model Volumes via Supervised Multiband Image Classification: A prospect scale example from Cave Rocks, WA'. The seminar was attended by CODES staff and students, ASEG Members and staff from Mineral Resources Tasmania (MRT).

We started July with a farewell seminar by **Esmail (Esi) Eshaghi** entitled 'A Geophysical investigation of Tasmania at multiple scales' and presented to CODES, MRT and ASEG Members. Esi has been a Member of the ASEG since moving to Tasmania from Iran to commence his PhD with CODES. His final talk provided a summary of his work over the last 4 years on 3D modelling at scales ranging from crustal to project. His work included an investigation of the seismic and gravity derived Moho and Curie point depth beneath onshore and offshore Tasmania as well as parts of eastern mainland Australia. Using these constraints Esi has constructed detailed models of regions of Western Tasmania using gravity and magnetic inversion. Esi has completed his PhD this month and will be moving to Canada to join

the Metal Earth Group at Laurentian University in Sudbury under the supervision of Professor Richard Smith. The ASEG Tasmania Branch would like to thank Esi for his contribution to a geophysical understanding of Tasmania and wish him all the best in his research at Laurentian.

As always, we encourage Members to keep an eye on the seminar program at the University of Tasmania/CODES, which routinely includes presentations of a geophysical and computational nature as well as on a broad range of earth sciences topics.

Please contact ASEG Tasmania Branch Secretary **Steve Kuhn** with any queries.

Steve Kuhn
tassecreatry@aseg.org.au

Victoria

Contrary to widespread belief, the Victorian branch has NOT gone into hibernation during these colder winter months! On the back of our most well-attended technical meeting so far in May this year, there was anticipation of hosting a second successful technical night in as many months. Unfortunately, our efforts to bring a much-anticipated speaker to present to our Members was thwarted due to a clash of schedules. We do, however, hope to have this speaker at one of our future technical meetings so stayed tuned!

Nevertheless, the Branch was invited to co-host a joint PESA technical luncheon on 21 June at Henry and The Fox. It was a very good turnout despite the late invitation to our Members. The

guest speaker was **Michael Wilson**, an independent technical consultant, whose talk was peculiarly titled 'Seismic Reflections: Reminiscence before Alzheimer'. Michael enthusiastically delivered a string of entertaining anecdotes, which at times were interjected by various audience members who recalled those same events, often adding their own spin to the entertaining story. We thank Michael for his animated participation in June.

Our committee is in final discussions with speakers for our August and September technical meetings. Again, due to misfortune we had to cancel our scheduled July technical meeting but hope to resume in early August. Finally, we are pleased to announce the upcoming Winter Social 2017, to be jointly hosted once again with our sister branch of PESA. This event is slated for the end of August so keep an eye out for updates!

Seda Rouxel
vicepresident@aseg.org.au

Western Australia

The WA Branch continues to be very active with Tech Night presentations. In June the Branch hosted **Andrew Fitzpatrick**, presenting on behalf of Cameco Australia, who gave a talk on 'Maximising the Benefit of Historical Airborne EM in the Search for Unconformity Style Uranium Deposits'. In July **Aaron Davis**, Senior Research Scientist at CSIRO, presented on 'Focussing AEM Acquisition for Groundwater Resource Assessment in the Murchison, Western Australia'. Both talks were well attended and received by Members.

The WA Branch also hosted the SEG DISC course by **Doug Oldenburg** on EM fundamentals in July. The course consisted on a full day lecture program followed by an optional lab session on day 2. The course was well received by attendees, though numbers were lower than anticipated.

The WA Branch is in the process of renewing its sponsorship and currently has committed sponsorship from the following companies for the 2017–2018 financial year: Resource Potentials (Gold), Western Geco, NRG Australia, First Quantum Minerals Inc, Southern



Esmail Eshaghi presenting to the Tasmanian Branch of the ASEG.



Andrew Fitzpatrick presenting to the WA Branch of the ASEG.

Geoscience, GPX Surveys, CGG (Silver), Atlas Geophysics, and ExploreGeo. The Branch could not put together a wide range of technical activities without the support of our sponsors, and we look forward to a long standing partnership with these companies. If you are interested in sponsoring the Branch please contact the Branch President on wapresident@aseg.org.au.

Our technical program has presenters lined up through the end of the year with the following presenters:

- August – **Ben Jupp** (SRK Consulting) presenting a case study of geophysics at the Mt Magnet gold camp;
- September – Schlumberger Oil and Gas themed presentation (details to follow);
- October – **Bill Peters** (Southern Geoscience) presenting on geophysics for nickel-copper exploration; and
- November – Student presentations from UWA and Curtin University.

The schedule is subject to change due to speaker availability. Please check the website for up-to-date information. We are excited about the program of events planned for 2017 and look forward to catching up with our fellow Members.

Kathlene Oliver
wapresident@aseg.org.au

Australian Capital Territory

In May the ACT Branch enjoyed a guest speaker presentation from **Yusen Ley-Cooper** on the use of airborne electromagnetics (AEM) for mineral and ground water exploration. In particular, the use of inversion and the generation of non-unique solutions was discussed.

The presentation was well received and generated a lot of discussion on the use of AEM inversion to better understand and assess data, and how it can lead to gaining data driven geological knowledge.

It was with great pleasure that the ACT Branch was able to award **Ron Hackney** and **Leonie Jones** with Silver Certificates signifying 25 years of membership with the ASEG. The time and effort that Ron and Leonie have contributed to the ACT Branch has ensured that it runs smoothly and is a place that fosters fellowship and learning. Thank you and congratulations Ron and Leonie!

In the coming months the ACT Branch is looking forward to a special site visit and tour of the Geophysical Observatory located just outside of Canberra and maintained by Geoscience Australia. Further details on this event will be distributed to ACT Branch Members shortly.

James Goodwin
actpresident@aseg.org.au



Leonie Jones and Ron Hackney being awarded Silver Certificates by ACT Branch President James Goodwin.

New South Wales

In May **John Warburton** from Oil Search spoke about 'Potential Petroleum Resource Growth in PNG'. John gave a holistic 'Plates to Prospects' assessment of how Oil Search has approached evaluation of the petroleum potential of PNG at a country scale. John discussed Oil Search's programs in PNG and the approach that they took to exploration and some of the issues that they faced. There was quite a large crowd who interacted and asked many questions of John.

Before John's talk we also thanked our three Branch scholarship recipients and wished them well with their studies this year. The recipients were **Anthony Finn** from Macquarie University and **Lauren Harrington** and **Lena O'Toole** from the University of Sydney.

In June, **Chris Firth** from Macquarie University spoke about 'Using satellites to investigate eruptive behaviour at remote volcanoes'. Chris discussed how satellite-borne volcano monitoring instruments (for instance MODIS and OMI) have now been in operation for long enough that year-to-year variation in eruptive behaviour can be investigated at a number of persistently active volcanoes. Through satellite images Chris took us to Heard Island, Bagana and Ambrym volcanoes and showed how such monitoring data can be used to understand eruption regimes at those remote and rarely visited volcanoes. Many questions and much discussion followed Chris's presentation.

An invitation to attend NSW Branch meetings is extended to interstate and international visitors who happen to be in town at the time. Meetings are generally held on the third Wednesday of each month from 5:30 pm at the 99 on York Club in the Sydney CBD. Meeting notices, addresses and relevant contact details can be found at the NSW Branch website

Mark Lackie
nswpresident@aseg.org.au

Queensland

Since the last issue of *Preview* the Queensland Branch has hosted the SEG president, **William Abriel** for a technical night. We learnt a bit more about the SEG and enjoyed a presentation detailing 'Digital integration of subsurface models – where are we and where are we going'.



Mark Lackie (NSW President) with scholarship recipients Lauren Harrington, Lena O'Toole and Anthony Finn.

Nick Josephs from the Qld Branch also worked with local students to organise a field trip. The ASEG Qld Branch provided transport for 19 students of geophysics, geology and geosciences from QUT and UQ to visit Gap Geophysics. **Mal Cattach**, Chairman and Chief Geophysicist of Gap Geophysics gave an overview and history of Gap, then **Stephen Griffin** and **Will Rowlands** demonstrated UltraTEM system for unexploded ordnance detection. This was followed by a BBQ put on by Gap and then an optional brew at the pub afterwards. The Students were

accompanied by Nick Josephs and **Ron Palmer** from the Qld branch. We would like to thank all that contributed to an awesome day!

In July we held our annual Zoeppritz night as well as a Technical Night with presentations by students from UQ. In August we are hosting the **Doug Oldenberg** DISC course and joining with PESA for an annual Trivia Night.

An invitation to attend Queensland Branch meeting is extended to all ASEG Members and interested parties. Details of all upcoming Queensland events can

be found on the Qld Events tab on the ASEG website. We are still looking for speakers for the rest of the year so, if you'd like to volunteer a talk please contact qldpresident@aseg.org.au or qldsecretary@aseg.org.au.

Fiona Duncan
qldpresident@aseg.org.au

South Australia & Northern Territory

After a run of fantastic talks in the first half of the year, the SA/NT Branch remained relatively quiet going into winter, with only one talk since my last update. In late May we were joined by SA/NT Branch stalwart **Philip Heath** who gave us an update on recent microgravity surveys he and his fellow workers at the Geological Survey of South Australia have undertaken this year. In his talk titled 'Microgravity Surveys on the Nullarbor Plain', Phil ran through some of reasoning behind the surveys, the techniques, and the potential pitfalls (in some sense quite literally) of running microgravity surveys with the aim of detecting underground cavities, sinkholes and large cave networks across the Nullarbor Plain. It was a really fascinating talk and leads well into more future work by Phil and his team as well as future mineral exploration drilling in the region. We thank Phil for presenting and giving up his time to join us.

Our technical meetings are made possible by our very generous group of sponsors, including the Department of the Premier and Cabinet, Beach Energy, Minotaur Exploration, and Zonge. Of course, if you or your company are not in that list and would like to offer your support, please get in touch at the email below.

As usual, further technical meetings will be held monthly, at the Coopers Alehouse on Hurtle Square in the early evening. We invite all Members, both SA/NT and interstate to attend, and of course any new Members or interested persons are also very welcome to join us. For any further information or event details, please check the ASEG website under SA/NT Branch events and please do not hesitate to get in touch at joshua.sage@beachenergy.com.au or on 8338 2833.

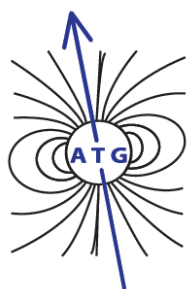
Josh Sage
sa-ntpresident@aseg.org.au



Stephen Griffin and Will Rowlands demonstrating the UltraTEM system to students.

Date	Branch	Event	Presenter	Time	Venue
02 Aug	SA	SEG DISC	Doug Oldenburg	0900–1700	Hotel Richmond, Rundle Mall
07 Aug	QLD	SEG DISC	Doug Oldenburg	0900–1700	Christie Conference Centre, 320 Adelaide Street, Brisbane
08 Aug	QLD	Trivia night		1800–2000	Stock Exchange Hotel – 131 Edward Street, Brisbane
09 Aug	WA	Tech night	Ben Jupp	1730–1900	TBA
09 Aug	VIC	Tech night	Steve Micklethwaite	1800–2000	The Kelvin Club, 14–30 Melbourne Place, Melbourne
16 Aug	NSW	Tech night	TBA	1730–1900	99 on York, 99 York Street, Sydney
	VIC	Winter Social	TBA	TBA	TBA
13 Sep	WA	Tech night	Schlumberger Oil&Gas	TBA	TBA
20 Sep	NSW	Tech night	TBA	1730–1900	99 on York, 99 York Street, Sydney
11 Oct	WA	Tech night	Bill Peters	1730–1900	TBA
18 Oct	NSW	Tech night	TBA	1730–1900	99 on York, 99 York Street, Sydney
08 Nov	WA	Student presentations	Various	TBA	TBA
15 Nov	NSW	Tech night	TBA	1730–1900	99 on York, 99 York Street, Sydney

TBA, to be advised (please contact your state Branch Secretary for more information).



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Nominate a colleague for an ASEG Honour or Award for 2018



An important role of the ASEG is to acknowledge the outstanding contributions of its individual Members both to the profession of geophysics and to the ASEG. The Society has a number of different Honours and Awards across a range of categories. Nominations are now open for the next round of Awards scheduled to be presented in conjunction with AEGC 2018, to be held from 18–21 February 2018 in Sydney.

All ASEG Members as well as State and Federal executives are invited to nominate those they consider deserving of these awards. A list of the various available awards is set out below.

These awards carry considerable prestige within the Society and the geoscience community and therefore require some documentation to support the nomination. Please contact the Committee Chair, Andrew Mutton, if you require further guidelines on what is required.

ASEG Gold Medal

For exceptional and highly significant distinguished contributions to the science and practice of geophysics, resulting in wide recognition within the geoscientific community. The nominee must be a Member of the ASEG.

Honorary Membership

For distinguished contributions by a Member to the profession of exploration

geophysics and to the ASEG over many years. Requires at least 20 years as a Member of the ASEG.

Grahame Sands Award

For innovation in applied geophysics through a significant practical development of benefit to Australian exploration geophysics in the field of instrumentation, data acquisition, interpretation or theory. The nominee does not need to be a Member of the ASEG.

Nominations now open for awards to be presented at the AEGC in Sydney in February 2018

Lindsay Ingall Memorial Award

For the promotion of geophysics to the wider community. This award is intended for an Australian resident or former resident for the promotion of geophysics (including but not necessarily limited to applications, technologies or education), within the non-geophysical community, including geologists, geochemists, engineers, managers, politicians, the media or the general public. The nominee does not need to be a geophysicist nor a Member of the ASEG.

Early Achievement Award

For significant contributions to the profession by a Member under 36 years of age, by way of publications in *Exploration Geophysics* or similar reputable journals, or by overall contributions to geophysics, ASEG Branch activities, committees, or events. The nominee must be a Member of the ASEG and have graduated for at least 3 years.

ASEG Service Awards

For distinguished service by a Member to the ASEG, through involvement in and contribution to State Branch

committees, Federal Committees, Publications, or Conferences over many years. The nominee will have been a Member of the ASEG for a sustained period of time. All nominations will be considered for the award of an ASEG Service Certificate. Where the nomination details outstanding contributions to the shaping and the sustaining of the Society and the conduct of its affairs over many years, consideration will be given to the award of the ASEG Service Medal to the nominee. Honorary Members are not eligible for nomination.

Nomination procedure

Any Member of the Society may nominate applicants. These nominations are to be supported by a seconder, and in the case of the Lindsay Ingall Memorial Award by at least four geoscientists who are members of an Australian geoscience body (e.g. GSA, AusIMM, AIG, IAH, ASEG or similar).

Nominations must be specific to a particular award and all aspects of the defined criteria should be addressed. To gain some idea of the standard of nomination expected, nominees are advised to read past citations for awards published in the *Preview* edition immediately following each conference.

Lists of previous awardees, award criteria and nomination guidelines can be found on the ASEG website at: <https://www.aseg.org.au/about-aseg/honours-awards>. Proforma nomination forms are available from the website or by contacting the Committee Chair. Nominations including digital copies of all relevant supporting documentation are to be sent electronically to:

Andrew Mutton
ASEG Honours and Awards Committee
Chair
awards@aseg.org.au