Endings and a new beginning

A total of 89 votes were received for the 51 entries in the ASEG’s 2018 photo competition. This competition was held to seek images for use on the Website and in newsletters. First place, with seven votes, was #43, reproduced here as Figure 1. Entitled ‘Watching the Milky Way rise as the sun sets just of the Barkly Highway. Road side seismic camp, NT’, this was submitted by Richard Barnwell (Terrex Group). Second place was #22 (‘EM Surveying, Disko Island, Greenland’ submitted by Bill Peters of SGC). Third place was a tie between #34 (‘Milky Way lighting the way Birdsville Track, QLD’) and #37 (‘Seismic fleet, expedition Mars frontier...somewhere along the Birdsville track, QLD’) and #41 (‘The eye of the storm, Camerons Corner, QLD’), all submitted by Richard Barnwell (Terrex Group). All entries can be seen at https://www.aseg.org.au/about-aseg/2018-photo-competition. Over the next few months, some of 2018 entries will be used on the website and in the monthly newsletter. Figure 2 shows results of the 2018 photo competition. It is noteworthy that had the six non-members joined the ASEG before submitting their votes, the competition would have been won convincingly by #22. As a consolation, all non-members will receive invitations to join the ASEG so that their votes will count in the next competition. Until that time, as Members they can take advantages of other benefits such as discount conference registration and access to EG.

The second web-related event to end in November, was the annual wine offer. This offer, organised by the SA/NT Branch, goes from strength to strength each year, and the 2018 addition of a third variety, the NV Adelaide Hills Sparkling K1 by Geoff Hardy, was well-received by Members. Members may be pleased to note that, at the time of writing, there are less than 10 months before the 2019 Wine offer commences.

The final web-related topic to end in November was support for user Forums. Conceived as a mechanism for information exchange between ASEG Members in the website’s previous incarnation, and carried over into the current incarnation, these never really captured Members’ imagination. There are several reasons for this, one of which is the popularity of alternatives such as reddit (e.g. https://www.reddit.com/r/geophysics/) and Geosoft’s SEGMIN mailing list (https://bit.ly/2OthqCm). In any case Members, through their silence, have spoken, and the ASEG Forums are no more.

As noted by the Editor in the last issue of Preview, 2019 marks the beginning of the ASEG’s relationship with a new publisher, Taylor & Francis. T&F have strong ties to the European Union and will require Members’ permission to use data. This permission will be given as a seamless part of the usual membership renewal process, which is expected to begin in January 2019. The ASEG’s Data Policy can be viewed at https://www.aseg.org.au/data-collection-policy.

Figure 1. The winning photo in the ASEG 2018 photo competition; Richard Barnwell ‘Watching the Milky Way rise as the sun sets just of the Barkly Highway. Road side seismic camp, NT’.

Figure 2. Tally of votes in the ASEG 2018 photo competition.