

# **Institution of Agricultural Engineers**

## **Honorary Fellow 2013**

### **PETER NOEL LEECH**

**IEng FIAgrE**

Peter Leech has been an excellent ambassador for The Institution of Agricultural Engineers throughout the whole of his career. He served as President in the period 2010 to 2012 during which time he demonstrated his real commitment to all aspects of the work of The Institution. His involvement as President was much more than being a figurehead – he became fully involved with activities both at Headquarters and at branch level. He used his considerable knowledge of the industry and current issues to provide The Institution with sound advice and to ensure that the activities were relevant and of interest to members.

Peter has had a long term interest in ensuring that agricultural engineers at all levels are appropriately recognised for the contribution that they make to the land-based sector and more widely. He has been particularly interested in ensuring that technicians receive the recognition that relates to their high level of technical training and expertise and provides them with a means of demonstrating their competence, raising their profile and developing their careers. As Chairman of the AEA Training and Education Committee, Peter was instrumental in the introduction of the Landbased Technician Accreditation (LTA) scheme. His work with The Institution together with his professional roles with John Deere and his involvement with the LTA scheme have been key factors in its success.

Born into a farming family, Peter Leech has spent his entire working life working in the agricultural sector. Following his initial training and helping with the family farm, Peter joined John Deere UK at the age of 20. He has been with John Deere ever since – his current role involves staff training at a European level. He joined The Institution 20 years ago and has linked his professional activities within John Deere and his work for The Institution most effectively. This was recognised in 2005 when he received The Award of Merit from The Institution.

In summary, Peter Leech's involvement with The Institution of Agricultural Engineers has greatly enhanced its standing within and beyond our established community and this fully justifies him being awarded "The Honorary Fellowship of The Institution of Agricultural Engineers".