

The Institution of Agricultural Engineers

Founded 1938 – Incorporated 1960

Honorary Fellow 2016

Geoffrey Freedman

CEng CEnv FIAgrE

Geoffrey Freedman is always seeking to stretch the imagination of those around him, which he does with a combination of humility and humour. In addition to being the leading professional in his field of forest and timber engineering he has applied his tireless enthusiasm and boundless initiative to the benefit of IAgRE over many years.

Geoff was the driving force behind the formation of the Forestry Engineering Group in 1989. He has been an ongoing committee member ever since and has played a crucial role in maintaining the momentum of this vibrant group particularly in organising its annual symposium. It is very much due to these efforts that Forest Engineers are now a valuable part of the IAgRE community demonstrating the Institution's breadth of professional interest across the landbased industries. The fact that it was Geoff's idea to open this to both members and non-members alike, thus bringing IAgRE into contact with a wider group of people, is testimony to his innovative and outward reaching approach



Using FEG as a platform Geoff was the principal organiser of the 1st International Forestry Conference in Edinburgh in 1999 attracting 70 papers and delegates from 25 countries. He has always been a regular presenter of papers at international conferences. By promoting IAgRE throughout he has strengthened the Institution's international identity.

In his time as President from 2000-2002 the Institution faced many challenges as it adapted to the new era ahead for professionals in the land based sector with pressures on funding all round and agriculture in particular undergoing massive change. Geoff was determined that IAgRE would rise to the challenge and his leadership contributed hugely to creating an environment for change and innovation that would extend the membership base, freshen the image, raise our profile and sharpen the commercial approach. He would always lend his support for and encourage new ideas from wherever they came and draw on all the resources available to him, not least the support and expertise of his wife and daughter.

Geoff has continued to support IAgRE with his enthusiasm and encouragement and is a valued member of our community, always available for help or advice.