

Institution of Agricultural Engineers

Michael Dwyer Memorial Prize 2015

Jeremy Burgess

Jeremy started his agricultural engineering career at the age of 15 with an apprenticeship with David Brown Tractors Retail near York. This led to a National Diploma in Engineering at Askham Bryan College and then a degree at Silsoe College. Jeremy graduated in 1990 with a degree in Agricultural Engineering.

Jeremy began as a design engineer with Massey Ferguson at Coventry, and then promoted to Tractor Quality Manager for the Banner Lane plant.

In 1999 another promotion to Regional Sales and Service Manager – East Asia Pacific. This involved him travelling extensively to meet Importers, large account customers and end users.

When the Massey Ferguson Banner Lane plant closed in 2003, Jeremy moved to AGCO, as Director of Licensee Operations. He saved a vast archive of Massey Ferguson heritage material creating a valuable resource for Massey Ferguson enthusiasts and agricultural machinery and transport historians. Initially the material was stored in his own cellar before he negotiated a long term home at Coventry Motor Museum. Jeremy also acted as curator for the Massey Ferguson collection of historic tractors and machinery, ensuring they were properly stored, maintained and where possible appropriately displayed.

January 2012 saw Jeremy becoming the Managing Director of Sparex Group. Under his leadership the Sparex Group now has 18 companies in 17 countries employing nearly 500 people. They export to 80 countries and now achieve an annual turnover of 120 million which is increasing by 10% year on year.

His interest in agricultural engineering doesn't stop when work stops as in his spare time Jeremy can often be seen working on or driving his vintage tractors.