

The Institution of Agricultural Engineers

Founded 1938 – Incorporated 1960

Honorary Fellow

Andrew Newbold

CEng FIAgrE

When our Institution is looking for an independent person to chair a technical discussion, lead a meeting or interview key people, then Andy Newbold is now the “go to” person. The combination of his engaging personality, experience of organizing a wide range of events, knowledge of our subject area, and the people involved in our business means that he is uniquely placed to make an enormous contribution to the work of The Institution. A contribution both within and outside The Institution that fully justifies the highest award The Institution can make of Honorary Fellow. Andy joined The Institution as an Associate Member in 1994, upgraded to Member in 2004 and became a Fellow in 2018. He was President between 2012 and 2014, has served on many formal and informal committees including The External Affairs Committee, The Finance Panel, The Executive and The Council in a range of roles including that of national treasurer. He is currently the editor of Landwards.

Andy grew up on a small family dairy, beef and sheep farm between the Dales and the Lakes in Cumbria. He studied agricultural engineering at Harper Adams University, graduating in 1993, and during which he undertook placements on an arable farm in Lincolnshire and with the then Farm Electric Centre at Stoneleigh. It was while working at Stoneleigh with Dr Dan Mitchell that his awareness and interest in The Institution was kindled. After graduating, Andy returned to Cumbria to work for a couple of years erecting farm buildings and as an employee with an agricultural contractor.

In 1995 Andy started Newmac Ltd in response to the implementation of the European Machinery Directive helping manufacturers and importers get to grips with product standards and CE marking. Newmac Ltd continues to deliver compliance support, specialist engineering design, process and project safety advice with Andy working together with fellow IAgRE member Mike Whiting. Newmac Ltd led Andy to establish Fusion (now FarmSmart) Events to deliver the Precision Farming Event in 1996 hosted at Silsoe College, which pioneered the integration of remote sensing and machine control technology into mainstream arable production. Andy, with his wife Ann, went on to deliver several events relating to technology transfer into agriculture including The



Oxford Farming Conference which they ran from 2011 to 2017. Andy continues to be the event manager for Scotgrass, and for Tillage-Live and he also runs the Sprayer Demo.

Alongside events, Andy worked with fellow journalist Mike Roberts to develop and launch Pro Operator as the membership publication for the National Register of Sprayer Operators (NRoSO) and this led to the formation of FarmSmart publishing. Andy now edits and publishes Tillage and Soils, Precise, and Agrimachinery.trade magazines. Andy is a director of the British Guild of Agricultural Journalists, is a trustee of the Newton Rigg College in Cumbria and is on the board of the Soil and Water Management Centre at Harper Adams University. He also chairs the “Modified Machinery” subgroup for the Forestry Industry Safety Accord (FISA) and is a director of the FISA.

Outside his professional interests, Andy is active in his local community. With his wife Ann, they run a small family farm and a grade II listed Pele Tower as a holiday “castle”. He coordinated the digging and connection of 10km of a community gigabit fibre to the premises network for his home parish of some 100 homes spread across 6 square miles – something that he notes BT were unable to manage.

In summary, Andrew Newbold’s contribution to the work of The Institution and his activities in the wider land-based sector fully justify the award of Honorary Fellow.

