

# The Institution of Agricultural Engineers

Founded 1938 – Incorporated 1960

## Branch Meritorious Award

### Stuart Martin

CEng FIAgrE

When the lock down started, the West Midlands Branch 'went to pieces' and like many similar organisations just stopped.

However, in our case, having had the secretary retire after many years and no one willing to stand formally as a Chairman we just had a committee. Whilst I was willing to carry on in my current roles, as were other committee members, we were leaderless.

Stuart Martin, despite having declined to be appointed chairman at several opportunities, rose to the occasion and started motivating and organising the committee. Whilst he seemed to liaise mainly with me, William Waddilove, and possibly some others, it is unlikely that I, or any other committee members, would have been as forward and proactive as Stuart.

Whilst the West Midlands Branch has for many years held the reputation of being one of the most active branches, we were in danger of 'disappearing'. Stuart by his management abilities prevented that.

He has also been one of the key supporters of the management of the Pioneering Technology Specialist Interest Group, the 'PTSG' and has very much helped members be aware of the agricultural engineering heritage.

We are confident that without Stuart the branch would have become semi-quiescent, just like some other branches. Whilst I am willing to continue to take my part, as are the other members who have possibly also almost 'run out of steam', we are keen and willing to support the Institution. We very much needed and appreciated Stuart Martin to give enthusiasm, drive, initiative, leadership and encouragement. In his commitment and support and I comment his achievement of the Branch Meritorious Award.

Prepared by William Waddilove  
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