

Lichfield Science & Engineering Society



PATRON

Mr Ian Dudson CBE

HM Lord Lieutenant of Staffordshire

PRESIDENT
Professor Peter A Lambert

8:00 pm on Wednesday, 10th January 2018 in the Studio Theatre of the Lichfield Garrick, Lichfield, WS13 6HR

The Paul Bettson Lecture PRECISION FARMING

Professor Richard J Godwin PhD, DSc (HC), CEng, Fellow RAEng, HonFIAgrE

Visiting Professor - Harper Adams University Emeritus Professor - Cranfield University

Precision farming in arable agriculture attempts to manage the field and the crop in a spatially variable manner in order to meet the varying requirements of the crop. This is caused by variation in soil type and aspect, fertility and compaction levels; and the variation in weed and pest types. In doing so the farmer is attempting to optimize his crop yield and income whilst improving environmental sustainability. Over the past 25 years the ability to manage the crop at sub-field levels has been assisted by the development of accurate GPS systems, on-board computing power, automated vehicle steering and control, crop and soil sensors and variable rate application equipment.

working in Professor Godwin spent his career agricultural engineering, soil management and precision agriculture. In addition to his research and teaching, he has dedicated much time to transferring the principles to advisors and farmers to improve agricultural production systems, the sustainability of soils and the improvement of the environment. He was awarded the John Deere Gold Medal by the American Society of Agricultural and Biological Engineers for his "Distinguished achievement in the application of science and art to the soil" and was elected as a Fellow of the Royal Academy of Engineering in 2001.

This is the second lecture sponsored by Robina Bettson in memory of Paul.