



## Friends of Humber Bridge Country Park

### Chairman's Report 2007 -2008

I am delighted to report that this has been the most successful year so far for the Friends of the Humber Bridge Country Park. The biggest story is the fact that our Group was successful in its application for a "Big Lottery" grant for the "Breathing Places" project. We chose to dedicate the year to promoting bird life in the Country Park which resulted in a wide variety of activities from bird box building, to fruit tree planting with a whole raft of educational events in between. We enlisted the professional services of Richard Baines, of television fame, who has guided our dedicated group of volunteers. In particular there have been 7 indoor events, 10 outdoor events and 5 public events - a very active year!!

The grant has enabled us to buy equipment for the events which will also serve us well into the future. Indeed we hope to continue with similar activities next year building on the solid foundation created this year.

Another top story this year was the "Springwatch" event in June when we had a stand in the centre of Hull where members of the public were invited to make their own bird feeders. Hundreds of people attended, aided by some timely television publicity.

The web site has gone from strength to strength due to the hard work of our web master, Kathryn. It now includes many details and photos of our Breathing Places project providing a solid record of our work. With some clever investigation, Kathryn has also managed to reduce the costs of running the site to a few pounds per year - another useful foundation for future years.

All this would not have been possible without the help and support of various people and organisations. In no particular sequence:

Hessle High School - for their support of the Springwatch event and use of their classrooms;

East Riding of Yorkshire Council - especially Bev Hylton who has provided inspirational leadership once again and deserves an A++ score!

The Committee who have run around in the background doing much of the organisation of the events including holding 5 separate Committee meetings;  
Richard Baines - our professional ornithologist whose enthusiasm has rubbed off on us all;

Darren Jackson - for his bramble clearing - a job which nobody else wanted!

"The scouts" - who turn out in numbers, work hard, have fun and are a pleasure to work with;

The "Big Lottery" for the money;

Finally all the volunteers and helpers (and anybody else who I have stupidly forgotten) who sacrifice their evenings and weekends in all weathers to support the Friends of the Humber Bridge Country Park.

To all the above a VERY BIG THANK YOU!!

**Richard Jennings** Chairman FOHBC 29<sup>th</sup> April 2008