

# Village welcomes French connection

by Danny Longhorn

**AN EAST Riding village has taken the next step towards being officially twinned with Le Pellerin in France.**

Representatives from North Ferriby were given a warm welcome as they visited the French village to sign a friendship agreement in the presence of about 100 residents.

The visit coincided with a trip to the Fête des Fleurs, an annual flower festival.

John Halmshaw, the newly elected chair of North Ferriby Parish Council, said: "It went very well. They were all so welcoming.

"This friendship agreement is very important to our village.

"It gives people that wider perspective and will give us the opportunity to build friendships and learn about how things are done differently in a French visit."

Mr Halmshaw signed the agreement with Chris Swindin, chair of the North Ferriby Le Pellerin Twinning Association.

The recently-installed mayor of Le Pellerin, Valérie Demangeau and the president of the Le Pellerin Twinning Association, Carole Gauduchon, signed the agreement on behalf of the French town.



**Joining hands:** Representatives from North Ferriby and Le Pellerin, in France, sign a friendship agreement in a bid to twin their communities. From left, Carole Gauduchon, president of Le Pellerin twinning association, John Halmshaw, chair of North Ferriby Parish Council, Valérie Demangeau, Mayor of Le Pellerin and Chris Swindin, chair of the North Ferriby association

The event concluded with a group of singers and a hurdy-gurdy player leading some traditional French songs followed by refreshments.

Chris Swindin said: "We are delighted that this official recognition has been reached after four years of exchanges and contacts.

"We are very pleased that so many

“ It will give us the opportunity to build friendships ”

residents of Le Pellerin have joined us to witness the signing and look forward to welcoming a party of 40 adults and children to North Ferriby at the end of July."

The Twinning Association was formed in Spring 2003.

For more information visit [www.ferriby.info/twinning.htm](http://www.ferriby.info/twinning.htm)