



# Merseyside Environmental Trust

## **Geoff Woodcock, MET Committee member – pen portrait**

After an early career in engineering and manufacturing industry, Geoff studied at the University of Liverpool specialising in industrial relations. Then as a member of the University staff, he concentrated on planning and environmental issues and was awarded a PhD for his case study of aspects of the Central Lancashire New Town.

Later he became a member of the team, led by Professor Peter Batey, which produced the Mersey Estuary Management Plan – now the Mersey Strategy – having been a member of the Board of Officers of the Mersey Basin Campaign and a number of its sub-committees. Previously Geoff had been chairman of the Planning Resource Group for the Merseyside Council for Voluntary Service (Local Solutions) and subsequently a member of its Executive Committee, and more recently served for five years on the Board of South Liverpool Housing.

Over the years Geoff, inspired by the late Prof Tony Bradshaw, has made his central commitment to Merseyside Environmental Trust, serving as Vice-Chair, Chair and currently as Vice-President.

For a number of years Geoff represented the Trust on North West Environment Link and was a member of the Southern Area Advisory Committee of the Environment Agency's North West Region, and became involved with the Mersey Waterfront's Estuary, development and Management. He has just retired after three years as an Advisory Member of Liverpool City Council's Technical Advisory Group.

Geoff is keen to emphasise the opportunities that being involved with MET bring: to be able to lobby decision makers and to represent environmental interests. Geoff cites this aspect by having been a member recently of Liverpool First Environment Advisory Group and Year of the Environment Working Parties, greening the City Steering Group and serving as an Independent member of the Liverpool Democracy Commission's Select Committee on Environment/Transport and Climate Change.