

REPORT FOR April 08 to October 08

STAFFING

Lesley Cann has been taken on as cleaner 21 hours per week

Laura Russell is with us for 12 month as a student Ranger, whilst Judith is assisting Pat with projects around the district

VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers: April to October : 579

WHEELCHAIR USE

494 times

COUNTRYSIDE CENTRE

Number of Groups/people from beginning April 08 to end of September 2008 was as follows:

	Groups	Number of People	Number of schools
01/04/07 - 30/09/07	181 £20311	4334	30 £4095
01/04/08 - 30/09/08	197 £20346	5679	39 £5377

These included such groups as:, Wildlife trust, Great Fen Project

The bookings continue to come in from both new and repeat customers

CAFÉ

- Business plan was accepted and planning application was agreed
- The building work should start in November and be completed by April 09
- We plan to remain open as long as possible. Wrapped items will be sold when we have to close due to dust or when services are cut.

EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

The popular activities such as angling, pond dipping continue to be over subscribed during the summer holidays. The weather forced a couple of sessions to be cancelled.

The dog show was a success and contributors would like to have a show every two years. Car parking was an issue

WIDER DISTRICT

- Holt Island- footpath and access work has taken many hours and continues to do so
- Colne Graveyard- low level conservation management
- Ouse Valley Way- cutting footpaths
- Godmanchester pond cleared and advice/ tools given to local town councillor to develop a wildflower area

PARK MANAGEMENT

- Mowing has continued later than normal due to the weather
- Path around the lake repairs are now being made to the original sections
- Work has started on the new orchard
- Footpath link to the car park has been completed, signage is the next phase
- Repairs and resurfacing of paths through Bobs Wood

FRIENDS OF HINCHINGBROOKE COUNTRY PARK

- Friends are working to donate up to £2000 towards the orchard and the interpretation
- Membership now – 84 people
- A second successful wine evening was held.

MISC

6.1.1 * The police, cctv and PCSOs have worked alongside rangers and limited the amount of damage, litter and drunken behaviour over the summer

**Contact
Officer:**

**Mrs Judith Arnold, Senior Ranger,
Hinchingsbrooke Country Park, Countryside Services.**

 01480 451568