

**Cambridgeshire Libraries, Archives & Information Service**

# **Histon Library**

# **Library Profile**

# **2006/07**

**September, 2007**

## Foreword

For several years Cambridgeshire's library service has been developing the information it provides about the development and performance of its libraries. In a spirit of open and pro-active provision of information about the service, for the last few years a series of library profiles and other information sources has been made available in both paper and electronic formats.

The library profile is intended to give a rounded view of how each library in the service is performing in relation to others of a similar size within the authority; it is designed to provide contextual information about the library - for example access, local age profile, issue figures; and it investigates the learning, promotional and other activities in which the library has been engaged.

This library profile is a core element in a three-part plan to enable library customers and staff to be better informed about their library. A series of library information posters is displayed in every library - giving snapshot information on performance and other activities, and during the course of the last few years a programme of Library Development events has been rolled out. Using the library profile as the basis for engagement, these events enable library staff and managers to talk to local people, councillors and others about their library, its progress and its future. Findings from the events have been used to inform the service's ongoing planning processes, and progress against the actions identified is now displayed in each library.

If you would like to make any comments or enquiries about your library profile please contact

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## Library Profile

### HISTON LIBRARY 2006/07

*Note: This profile represents a snapshot of the library during the year 2006/07. The profile is updated annually. Please check our website for up-to-date information ( [www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/library](http://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/library) )*

#### **A Summary Of Histon Library**

The library is located in an excellent position in the centre of Histon, with parking facilities. It is next door to an Express Tesco and other adjacent shops. The library is a popular local resource, which serves at least 13 other surrounding villages; it has a good book stock, a friendly atmosphere and provides the only Internet and IT facility in the village. It is support by local people of all age groups.

#### **An Extended View Of Histon Library**

##### **1. Accommodation**

The library building is leased from Aqualife; the lease was renewed in 2005.

The library is light and airy, on one level, with an excellent situation near to shops and car park. Refurbished in November 2002, when the lighting and heating was upgraded, the library was redecorated and the general layout changed.

The DDA funding provided a lowered end to the counter but this needs moving or a computer installed at this point to be fully effective. The library has good internal signs, a refurbished Children's Library (with help from local charities) and a good internal lay-out.

##### **2. Opening hours**

This library opens for **30** hours a week:

Monday: 10 – 1, 2 - 5  
Tuesday: 10 – 1, 2 - 5  
Wednesday: Closed  
Thursday: 10 – 1, 2 - 5  
Friday : 10 – 1, 2 – 7.30  
Saturday: 9.30 - 1

### 3. Accessibility

**Car park** - yes, shared parking with shops

**Public transport** - bus stop nearby

**Ease of access** - wheelchair friendly and fully accessible for all

**Toilet** – no

### 4. IT equipment

Number of People's Network and other computers	PN-Adult	PN-Children's	Learning Centre	Library Catalogue only	Local Studies – CD ROMs	Total
	6	2	0	0	0	8

### 5. Activities

- 10 Reading Groups supported.
- Book circulating displays
- Regular updated display by Village Society
- School visits
- Children's Summer Reading Challenge – 127 completed, 205 registered, Parish Council sponsored two sessions a week for children's activities
- Duke of Edinburgh's Award student – community service placement
- Special needs student placements from the Village College
- Ways in to Work placement

### 6. Special Events Through the Year

- Customer Appreciation Day

### Library Users And The Local Community

#### 1. Active/regular users

- Number of borrowers registered at this library: 4790
- Number of borrowers with one or more items on loan: 749
- Number of "active" borrowers at this library (those who have borrowed within last 12 months): 2183

## 2. Membership – new members during 2006/07

Average new members per month	43
Average for this level of library in Cambridgeshire	49

## 3. Visits

	Visits		
	2005/06	2006/07	%+/-
This Library	43277	41054	-5%
Average for this level of library in Cambridgeshire	44684	44441	-1%

	Visits per open hour		
	2005/06	2006/07	%+/-
This Library	28	26	-7%
Average for this level of library in Cambridgeshire	28	28	-0%

## 4. Long term trend in visits

	% change over 5 years
This Library	-9%
Average for this level of library in Cambridgeshire	-2%

## 5. Local community age profile

This table shows the age breakdown of residents within the catchment area of the library, together with information about the age of customers currently using the library.

Age Group	Residents (from 2001 Census)		Library Customers (from PLUS surveys)
	Number	% of Library Catchment	% of Library Customers
0-4	803	5.2%	9.7%
5-9	848	5.5%	8.7%
10-14	952	6.2%	2.7%
15-19	1247	8.1%	1.8%
20-24	1501	9.7%	1.4%
25-34	1892	12.2%	10.0%
35-44	2144	13.9%	17.7%
45-54	2117	13.7%	13.6%
55-64	1476	9.5%	9.8%
65-74	1184	7.7%	13.9%
75 or over	1304	8.4%	10.8%

## 6. Library Users Feedback

This information is compiled from the Adult PLUS Survey, taken in September 2006

	Very Good	Good	Adequate	Poor	Very Poor
Opening Hours	28.3%	48.7%	20.4%	2.3%	0.3%
Staff Helpfulness	77.6%	21.1%	1.3%	0.0%	0.0%
Choice Of Books	22.3%	46.3%	28.6%	2.6%	0.3%
Condition Of Books	25.5%	59.5%	15.0%	0.0%	0.0%
This Library Overall	47.9%	43.2%	8.7%	0.0%	0.2%

## **Stock And Issue Figures**

### **1. Stock holding**

2006/07	At this library	Average for this level of library in Cambridgeshire
Adult books	8087	7547
Junior books	5217	5198
Reference books	272	241
Total:	13576	12986

### **2. No. of books borrowed**

	Books borrowed		
	2005/06	2006/07	% +/-
This Library	80044	79402	-1%
Average for this level of library in Cambridgeshire	66492	66909	1%

### **3. Books Borrowed per Hour Open**

	Books borrowed per hour open		
	2005/06	2006/07	% +/-
This Library	51	51	0%
Average for this level of library in Cambridgeshire	42	42	0%

### **4. Junior Books Borrowed As a Percentage of Total**

	Junior books borrowed as a % of total		
	2005/06	2006/07	% +/-
This Library	45	47	2%
Average for this level of library in Cambridgeshire	43	44	1%

### **5. Long term trend in book issues**

	% change over 5 years
This Library	-1%
Average for this level of library in Cambridgeshire	7%

## Enquiries

	Enquiries		
	2005/06	2006/07	%+/-
This Library	3328	3016	-9%
Average for this level of library in Cambridgeshire	5896	8801	49%

Note: These enquiries are in-person queries received across the library counter. They do not include telephone enquiries, which are directed to Cambridgeshire County Council's central Contact Centre.

## **Customer Services Managers / Area Managers' Comments**

The staff at Histon have an excellent record of working with and encouraging use by potentially socially excluded customers. Each year, special needs students from the College work in the library, and there are other examples of library customers using the library that need special help and understanding.

The summer reading scheme, which promotes literacy and library use, was very successful with over 205 children taking part. Funding from the parish council enabled us to hold craft sessions every week throughout the school holiday.

The number of visitors to Histon Library continues to increase as does new members joining.