

Trampers are a hit!

PEOPLE with disabilities have praised 'forward-thinking' Charnwood Borough Council for giving them access to a popular beauty spot.

The Outwoods, on the outskirts of Loughborough, was difficult to access in a manual wheelchair due to the surfaces and incline of paths.

So Charnwood Borough Council purchased a Trampler, an all-terrain mobility vehicle, which is capable of covering all surfaces.

Loughborough-based charity the Helen Jean Cope Trust paid for a second vehicle to allow more people to visit the 110-acre site of special scientific interest.

Woodhouse Eaves resident Pat Paterson has been a regular visitor to the Outwoods for 42 years but arthritis means she struggles to get around.

However, the Trampler enables her to explore the woods again and she said: "This is very forward-thinking of the Council.

LET'S OFF ROAD: Cllr David Snartt, chairman of the Outwoods Management Committee, (third from left) receives the keys to a Trampler from Graham Freckleton, chairman of the Helen Jean Cope Trust, (fourth from left) watched by representatives from Charnwood Borough Council, the Helen Jean Cope Trust and Pat Paterson.

"Due to arthritis, I was only able to go a few hundred yards but the Trampler will open my life again. I love the Outwoods and we're very lucky to have them."

Mrs Paterson's sentiments were echoed by Birstall resident Pam Silver who suffers from multiple sclerosis.

She said: "Words cannot convey how wonderful it was for me to be able to go all round the Outwoods again.

"I'm sure many other people will be indebted to Charnwood Borough Council for providing such a marvellous facility.

"Thank you, from the bottom of my heart."
Cllr David Snartt,

chairperson of the Outwoods Management Committee, said: "It's fantastic that so many people are taking advantage of the Trampers.

"It has been successful and we've received a very positive reaction from those people that have used them."

To book the Trampler, simply call (01509) 634 673.

Enviro crime cases in court

THREE more people have been successfully prosecuted by Charnwood Borough Council for environmental crimes.

This takes the number of people who have been taken to court by the Council to 14.

William Charles Parks (56) of Fowler Close, Beaumont Leys, received a 120

community service order and was told to pay £250 costs after pleading guilty to depositing controlled waste contrary to section 33(1)(a) of the Environmental Protection Act 1990.

Ricardo Greaney (23) of Stanton Row, Leicester, was handed a three-month conditional discharge and ordered to pay £25 costs after pleading guilty to

a duty of care offence contrary to section 34 (2)(a) and Section 34 (6) of the Environmental Protection Act 1990.

Meanwhile, Daniella Calardo (19) of St Winefride Road, Shepshed, was fined £80 and told to pay £215 costs for littering after dropping a cigarette butt in Market Place, Loughborough, on February 22.