

Packington Men's Group PMG

PMG April 2012

**Visit to Hough Mill
at Swannington**

Bill Pemberton, Curator



In **April**, 14 PMG members visited the restored **Hough Mill** and the adjacent **Gorse Field** sites of the **Swannington Heritage Trust**. Normally open free on Sundays, from 2pm to 5pm, we were privileged to have our own tour guided by a **first-class guide and narrator, the Trust's Bill Pemberton**, *pictured left*. A lull in the April showers allowed the full tour round Gorse Field, with its evidence of a whole millenium of surface, bell-pit and then gin mines in the shallow coal seams. **Hough Mill** itself has

excellent visual-aid poster depictions of just how a mill works, set alongside the huge oak beams of the restored internal workings with their viewing galleries, and the enormous iconic rotating mill cap itself and its directing fantail, *pictured right*. There is more work to be done, but the adjoining workshops and the Trust's active membership have re-built here an impressive museum exhibit, not far from our village.



On **Thursday 10th May** leaving the village at 11:30am our **PMG Annual Luncheon** is held this year at the **Donington Manor Hotel**, where we have exclusive use of **The Gun Room** and its cosy

white-linen sit-down meal service. We need to choose from a PMG menu (see village website), and **make payment in advance to Robert Tel**

411673 before Wednesday 2nd May. Our 2- or 3- course meal costs £10 or £13. After the meal, we have a short talk on "**Travel Experiences in Russia and Japan**" by well-travelled **PMG Chairman David Fill**, who speaks fluent



Russian and has family connection with Japan..

More on PMG at front of this Parish News; or "packington dot info".



For Your Diary: Thursday 14th June - PMG Bowls afternoon at Ashby BC