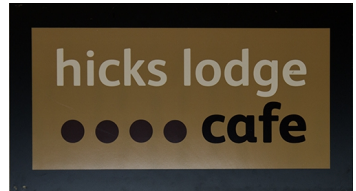


Packington Men's Group PMG



In **June**, 10 **PMG members** visited the **Forestry Commission's Hicks Lodge Leisure & Recreation Area**, just 3 miles from our village, for a social stroll and afternoon tea in gorgeous mid-summer sunshine. This former coal area is now nicely restored and landscaped; it is the **National Forest Cycle Centre**, and its scenic routes include both walks and trails for everyone, and more advanced tracks just for cycles. We first looked around the wooded **New Clumps** area, where our own **PMG guide Geoff Gasson**



pointed out some pristine purple orchids discreetly hidden amidst undergrowth. We then strolled round the scenic lake on the well-paved **Hicks Lodge Trail**, admiring the wildlife on the water and in the air around us, before returning to the Bike Centre and **Hicks Lodge Cafe**, which serves hot and cold food, with homemade cakes and hot drinks, just the job on a warm summer afternoon.

Please join us on **Thursday 9th July 2015, leaving the village at 1:45pm** for the brief drive to nearby **Bath Grounds, Ashby**, where we are again privileged to be able to enjoy the hospitality of the **Ashby Bowls Club**. This is another



opportunity to experience an exciting sport where even rank beginners, such as many of us in PMG, can gain the intensely satisfying feeling that comes from launching a bowl that scores - even though to do so reliably as the experienced players can do, may be a little beyond us! We shall also later enjoy **Afternoon Tea** in the Ashby Club's wood-panelled headquarters pavilion, with its wall-board exhibits and framed

pictures depicting 125 years of bowling history, a really pleasant and sociable venue. **RSVP - for transport and seating, please contact Mike Taylor on 414862 or by email to miketaylor216@gmail.com and say whether you need or can offer transport, please by Monday 6th July 2015.**

Advance notice now of our **PMG Annual Breakfast**, to be held on **Thursday 13th August 2015 at 8am**, at our favourite village restaurant, the Packington Bull & Lion.

For more on PMG : see the front of this Parish News, or look on our village website, Packington dot info

