

The Ramblers - St Andrews & N.E. Fife Group



At the end of August a maximum turnout of St Andrews & North East Fife Ramblers met at Balbirnie Car Park, Markinch for a 6-mile circular walk via Star Moss. The morning began overcast and slightly cool but we were not long into the walk when outer layers began to be discarded. Heading out through the park we stopped briefly to explore the ancient stone circle before entering a shady woodland path. After our coffee stop on a track over the railway line our route took us through Lochmuir Wood and along the minor

road at Kirkforthar, leading us to Star Moss. A Site of Special Scientific Interest, this peat bog supports a wide variety of habitats and plants including sphagnum moss. Lunch was had under trees at the edge of the pond, where the large population of ducks – unlike those we had encountered at Tayfield Estate a couple of weeks previously – showed not the slightest interest in the special duck food on offer. Suitably refreshed we left the site, skirted around the village of Star and then took a steepish track up to the wooded Cuinin Hill. From there we descended via a cool, tree-lined ancient roadway towards Markinch and, after following a (very) short section of the Pilgrim Way, we arrived back at our starting point. A very pleasant walk indeed.



For the time being we are still keeping our walks local to Fife, with a maximum of 15 people on each walk. Details of our walks – which are open to guests as well as members of Ramblers – can be found on our website www.standrewsnefiferamblers.com