

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



A small group of St Andrews & North East Fife Ramblers met at Silversands, Aberdour towards the end of October for a 9-mile circular walk to Burntisland. Setting out from the car park we headed uphill, then crossed the busy A921 into Kemal's Cut and its carpet of sweet chestnuts. On completing the steady climb below the trees we were doubly rewarded with clear views over the Forth and our coffee stop. We continued along the track in the direction of Dunearn Hill, and after crossing another busy road we joined Standing Stanes Road.

Following this road for some distance we stopped at intervals to appreciate the expansive landscape over the Firth and, looking back towards the west, the three bridges in the distance. Then, turning right onto a track, we embarked on the (mostly) downhill section of the walk, which was fairly muddy and beset with a number of large puddles to test the watertightness of our footwear. This led us to the overgrown remains of Binnend Village, built in 1881 to house oil shale workers. Lunch followed shortly afterwards in a spot well-chosen by our leader, complete with picnic tables. Our route continued downwards along a pleasant woodland path to Burntisland and after walking through the town centre we joined the coastal path to return to Aberdour. Here some of us were fortunate to observe several seals and cormorants basking in the sunshine on a rocky outcrop offshore. On reaching our destination we adjourned for our customary post-walk refreshments at the popular café overlooking the bay, reflecting on our good fortune that we had avoided the rain which had been forecast for much of the day.



For the time being we are still limiting our walks to 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