

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

On a cool but sunny morning at the beginning of April St Andrews & North East Fife Ramblers were pleased to welcome one new member, two guests and a visitor from Dalgety Bay Ramblers for a 6.5-mile circular walk from Kettlehill to Clatto Hill. From Kettlehill we took a woodland path leading uphill to a minor road and shortly afterwards we



reached a path signposted 'Devon'. Assured by our leader that this was the name of a local farm and not the English county we ventured along this path, taking a short coffee break before reaching the farm. Crossing the road, we were now in Devon Wood where we followed the main track for a while before veering left and up to Clatto Hill. As the track levelled out we stopped for lunch, finding a little shelter from the cool wind behind some trees and perching on conveniently-located tree stumps. On setting

off again we enjoyed clear views over the Howe of Fife and to the Lomonds as we made our way downhill towards Clatto Farm. There we were happy to discover that the 'gloop' described so vividly by our leader at the start of the walk had dried substantially and we were able to make our way through without difficulty. Then we followed the farm road to reach the same minor road we had crossed earlier, pausing briefly to watch a newly-born lamb get to its feet and start to feed. A little further along this road we turned left towards Downfield Farm where one of our number had us entertained with his difficulty in distinguishing between equines and canines. Now on the homeward stretch, we headed downhill along field edges and tracks to rejoin our first woodland path back into Kettlehill. On returning to Cupar the more thirsty amongst us made a detour via a favourite café for refreshments before heading home.



The following Wednesday six members and one guest met at Lochore Meadows for a leisurely 4-mile walk up to Harran Hill and then around Loch Ore. We headed along the path past the former colliery winding tower and shortly afterwards began our gentle ascent through a field, keeping a watchful eye on several cows and a young calf grazing in the opposite corner. At the top we joined a track known as Ladath Stripe which led us to Harran Hill Wood. There is no direct ascent to the

summit and we followed the woodland track as it wound around the hill, stopping briefly for a light lunch with a view through the trees over the loch, and then heading downhill again to join the path around the loch. This was a very pleasant walk along the shoreline in the spring sunshine, with fine views over the water and surrounding countryside. On our way back to Cupar the usual suspects called in to one of our regular café stops to complete an enjoyable day out.



Details of our walks – which are open to guests as well as members of Ramblers – can be found on our website www.standrewsnefiferamblers.com