

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



Eleven members and one guest gathered at St Monans in mid-May for an eight-mile circular walk along the coastal path to Anstruther, returning via inland tracks and minor roads. We set off in breezy spring sunshine but it was not long before outer layers were discarded as we joined the surprisingly sheltered coastal path. That said it was not so warm as to entice any of us to join the hardy swimmers in the pool below! We stopped at the windmill to read about the St Monans salt pans which were at one time the third largest salt producer in Fife.

Today the area is a Site of Special Scientific Interest. Continuing towards Pittenweem we made a short coffee stop at the edge of the village, resplendent in the sunshine. Then it was on to Anstruther, where we turned inland along tracks in the direction of Easter Grangemuir. It was here that our resident commentator, perhaps prompted by the glorious spring countryside and the general good spirits, declared how much he likes to ramble. No one demurred. There followed a short spell of road walking which brought us to our much-anticipated break for lunch at the edge of a field. Suitably restored we continued on the minor road leading to Balcaskie House,



entering the grounds by the Dovecots Gateway. After cutting through Chapel Wood we made our way along field tracks to Abercrombie, temporarily losing one of our group who stopped to chat with farming friends before power-walking to catch up with us again. With our destination in sight, we completed the final stretch down the minor road to St Monans. Before heading home several of us reconvened at Kingsbarns, where we enjoyed a welcome cup of tea in the sunshine as we reflected on another great walk on our doorstep.

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