

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



Six members of St Andrews & North East Fife Ramblers made an early start on the Sunday the clocks went forward to travel to Garry Bridge in Perthshire for a 6.5-mile walk around Loch Faskally. Shortly before we reached our destination, the skies turned grey and a sleet-filled shower followed; thankfully this cleared as quickly as it had appeared. We were joined by a visitor from Blairgowrie Ramblers for her second walk with us in recent weeks – we must be doing something right! Setting off down the steps

below the bridge we stopped to admire the adventurous souls preparing to bungee jump or travel along the network of zip wires overhead. One turned out to be not quite zippy enough as we passed underneath her, suspended in mid-air and waiting to be reeled back in. Entertainment over, we made our way along the path beside the River Garry to the picturesque Loch Faskally, where we had our coffee break in cool but glorious sunshine at the water's edge. Our route then took us by Loch Dunmore and on towards the footbridge over the River Tummel, underneath the A9. After crossing the bridge we followed the quiet minor road on the west side of the river – accompanied by another brief snow flurry – to wend our way gradually uphill to a great vantage point for our lunch stop, looking down over the river.



Continuing on the road after lunch, we stopped at the entrance to Clunie Power Station for the traditional group photograph beneath the memorial arch, which honours the men who died while building a tunnel to feed the power station in the late 1940s. We also enjoyed a good view of Ben Vrackie to the north-east. Our next landmark was the Coronation Bridge (vintage George V), a suspension footbridge not to everyone's liking, which took us over



the Tummel once more. Shortly afterwards we were back beside the River Garry and heading along the scenic woodland path to our starting point at the bridge, where adrenalin-seekers were still queuing to throw themselves off or whizz through the trees. After parting company with our visitor, we made a bee-line for our usual café at Bankfoot for drinks, cakes and the customary post-walk repartee. This was a splendid walk in (mostly) good weather and one which we are likely to repeat.

Our next walk is on Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> April, an easy 7.5-mile low level circuit from Ardler to Newtyle on woodland tracks and paths, with some walking on minor roads and railway beds. All of our walks are open to guests who would like to try out The Ramblers, and full details can be found on our website [www.standrewsnefiferamblers.com](http://www.standrewsnefiferamblers.com)