

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



St Andrews & North East Fife Ramblers had a turnout of ten last Sunday for an interesting and varied 8-mile walk taking in the Forth & Clyde and Union Canals, the Falkirk Wheel, Antonine Wall and the site of Rough Castle Fort. The carload departing from the Fluthers found their collective navigation skills tested when they approached the Wheel from a different direction to their companions, leading to a confusion of phone calls and retracing of steps before everyone assembled at the starting point. All finally accounted for, we set off at a good

pace along the Forth & Clyde Canal towpath towards Lock 16, where we settled on a wall overlooking the Union Inn for our coffee break. We then followed a sheltered track running parallel to the railway line to join the Union Canal towpath. This led us into Rough Castle tunnel, passing a vessel full of visitors approaching from the Wheel before emerging into daylight and a splendid view of the Wheel before us. From there woodland paths strewn with acorns led us to the Antonine Wall and the site of Rough Castle Fort, where we spent some time at the information boards. Lunch beckoned shortly afterwards at a grassy bank looking down



over Rowan Tree Burn. We then continued towards Bonnybridge and rejoined the Forth & Clyde Canal for the final stretch back to the Wheel in the pleasant sunshine, dodging cyclists and a team of speedy huskies on the way. We adjourned for refreshments to the on-site café where with perfect timing we were able to observe the impressive changeover of boats. This was a fine autumn walk full of interest and splendid scenery in an area unfamiliar to many of us.



Our next walk is on Saturday 4th November at Reres Wood and Tentsmuir Forest, a flat 9-mile walk across heathland, beach and dune paths, returning via the Coastal Path. 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