

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



A bright sunny day at the beginning of February saw 16 Ramblers gather at Petheram car park in St Andrews for a leisurely mid-week walk. We set off through the North Haugh and into Balgove Estate where we followed the farm track down to the A91. Safely across the busy road we headed away from the town and skirted the golf courses to reach the Eden Estuary. Here our leader found a sheltered spot for our lunch break, with entertainment provided by our resident story-teller as he recounted in hilarious detail his recent experience of mud bathing – not for the faint-hearted! Still laughing, we continued to Outhead and, with the tide out, opted to walk back along the sands rather than stay on the path. Back in town we adjourned for refreshments to the Eden Clubhouse, completing a very pleasant winter walk.

The following Saturday offered less inviting conditions for our 7-mile local walk from Cameron Reservoir to Drumcarrow Craig. Despite the heavy mist and gloomy skies, an encouraging eleven Ramblers turned out for this countryside walk, in full knowledge that the splendid views from Drumcarrow advertised in the walks programme would not be afforded on this occasion. In his pre-walk briefing our leader advised us that the going underfoot would be muddy, and indeed it was. In the event, the large stretches of surface water proved more challenging as we squelched and splashed our way along the paths and tracks. We set out along the path on the northern side of the reservoir, making a stop for drinks at the far end. Shortly afterwards we climbed over a gate, with varying degrees of elegance, to head north towards Cassindonald Farm. From there we were on the road briefly before beginning our gradual climb to the top of Drumcarrow Craig, still shrouded in mist. With no views to admire we didn't linger long over lunch there



and soon made our way back down and on towards Denhead Farm. From there we followed the marked path back to Cameron, diverting to a field edge for a while where the path is completely overgrown. Perhaps eager to discard damp jackets (and in the case of your correspondent, leaky boots) we completed this stretch in a surprisingly short time. For the second time that week we headed for tea and scones to the Eden Clubhouse, where we agreed that despite the dreich weather, the day had been a great success.

Our next walk is on Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> February, an 8-mile walk at Blairadam Forest on paths and tracks with some minor road walking. 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)