

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



There was another good turnout of fourteen Ramblers for our 5.5-mile mid-November walk at Redmyre Loch, Tullybaccart, on the Perthshire side of the border with Angus. We followed a minor road for a mile or so, watched with studied curiosity by the cattle in the adjoining fields, before turning onto a track at Littleton and on to the picturesque Redmyre Loch. The boat house provided the perfect spot for a tranquil lunch by the water's edge (well, as tranquil



as fourteen Ramblers can manage). We set off again to a rousing chorus of Little White Bull, thanks to the aforementioned cattle. The walk now became somewhat more adventurous as our leader, having been thwarted on the recce by tree-felling activity, tried to locate the path which would lead us along the north eastern edge of the forest and back to the road. We traversed an area gouged by large caterpillar tracks, which thankfully were not too boggy, and found a gap through the trees with the path in question ahead of us. Finding ourselves on the wrong side of a barbed wire fence, we kept close to the path and eventually found a place where the fence was low enough for everyone to scramble over with care and helping hands. Back on firmer ground we followed the russet-coloured leaf-strewn path, lit up by the sunshine breaking through the trees, to rejoin the road and retrace our steps back to the car park. Post-walk refreshments at a favourite watering hole on the outskirts of Dundee completed a splendid autumn day out.

The following Saturday twelve of us made the short journey to Collessie for an 8-mile walk to Lindores Loch, a protected site of special scientific interest. We headed up the narrow grass path through Collessie Den, the steady ascent helping to warm us up in the fresh morning air, then began a gentle descent to the B937 to pick up the minor road to Goldenloch Fishery. After passing Black Loch, a low wall at the edge of a field offered a useful place for our break for drinks before continuing past the picturesque Golden Loch and across a field to pass the ruins of Abdie Old Kirk. Following the road to the junction with the A913 (much busier than was confidently anticipated by one of our number) we kept tight to the edge for the short distance to Lindores, glad to reach the relative calm of the B937 again. A few minutes later we turned onto the even more peaceful woodland path which runs above the road, with glimpses of Lindores Loch through the trees. The pier area of the loch provided our scenic if somewhat chilly lunch stop, and we didn't linger too long. As we set off again your correspondent set a challenge to her fellow walkers, more in hope than expectation, to locate a glove (unhelpfully black) dropped anywhere on the remainder of the route during her recce two weeks previously. To everyone's amazement our eagle-eyed walks co-ordinator spotted the missing item fifteen minutes later in a wooded area, half-hidden in the leaves. The route now took us steadily uphill rewarded with fine views over the loch, now bathed in sunshine, and the Tay in the distance. Grass and stone paths led us to an undulating small plantation and shortly afterwards we reached the top of Collessie Den, admiring the expansive views over the Howe of Fife to the Lomonds as we made our way back down to our starting point. We then decamped to Cupar to enjoy tea and scones in a busy café after another great day's walking.

