

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

Four intrepid Ramblers assembled in Cupar on a dreich Wednesday morning more in hope than expectation of completing the planned 6-mile walk at Dunblane, given the threatening skies and the sub-optimal forecast of heavy rain. We agreed to give it a go, plan B being to decamp to the nearest coffee shop if the forecast proved accurate. Arriving in an overcast but rain-free Dunblane, our first challenge was to find a parking space in the busy town centre. Eventually we were able to set off, our route taking us gently up through a park and then a housing estate to join the Argyll Trail. There we stopped for drinks and to discard a layer of clothing, all of us having overdressed for the unexpectedly mild, though still murky conditions. The trail continued uphill on woodland tracks to reach the MacRae Monument, which commemorates the clan members who died at the Battle of Sheriffmuir in 1715. The skies had now brightened while we had our lunch break beside the remnants of the Gathering Stone, supposedly the place where the Jacobite clans had gathered before the aforementioned Battle. We then began our gradual descent on the paths leading back to the town, where we made for the friendly little coffee shop that our walk leaders had identified earlier as plan B. On our drive home, meeting the heavy rain that had been forecast and apparently persisted most of the day, we agreed somewhat smugly that going west had been an excellent decision after all.



Our next walk is on Sunday 27th October at Crail and Fife Ness, a 6-mile walk following the coastal path eastward and returning via the golf course and Wormiston. 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