

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

St Andrews & North East Fife Ramblers celebrated 35 years of walking with an excellent lunch at the New Golf Club at the beginning of July. Welcoming 27 members and friends, Convenor Jane Houston gave a brief overview of the group's early days, when a number of friends in St Andrews placed an advert in this newspaper inviting anyone interested to join them on a walk to discuss forming a walking group. Within a year they had put together a programme of fortnightly walks throughout the year, and formally affiliated to the Ramblers Association. The group attracted a growing membership, peaking at 211 in 2006, and changed its name to St Andrews & North East Fife Ramblers to reflect the wider area where members were drawn from. The 25th anniversary was marked with a coastal walk to the Rock and Spindle, followed by a celebratory lunch. Group holidays became a popular event in the calendar, to destinations including the Lake District, Hadrian's Wall and more recently, Dunoon and Stranraer. There are now some 34 walks in the annual programme, in Fife, Angus, Perthshire and occasionally a little further afield, and active membership has been increasing over the past couple of years. In September members will be heading to Aberfoyle for a much-anticipated holiday after a break of four years. The Convenor concluded by inviting those present to raise a toast to St Andrews & North East Fife Ramblers, and also to absent friends.



Guests who would like to try out The Ramblers are always welcome. Full details of the walks programme can be found on the group's website www.standrewsnefiferamblers.com