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

Twelve Ramblers turned out last Sunday for our excursion to Blairgowrie, a favourite



destination, where this time we headed up-river to complete a 6.5-mile circuit via Craighall Bridge. Cupar was shrouded in dense mist as we left the car park, and we travelled through more of the same, with intermittent bursts of sunshine, all the way to Blairgowrie where thankfully the visibility was clear. We set out along the Cateran Trail beside the River Ericht, stopping to admire Cargill's Leap, named after an outlawed minister who is said to have escaped from his pursuers by jumping across the narrow

gorge. Further along we left refreshments at a bridge prolonged, quite steep path and then picking our (definitely deserving of the Finally it levelled out, and views over the open on a track between fields



the Cateran Trail, stopping for over the river before starting a ascent, first on a surfaced way along a rough track epithet 'muddy in places'!) we were rewarded with fine countryside as we continued and through a sheep field.

Now we began the downhill stretch, and shortly after passing Middle Mause farm we stopped for lunch on a pleasant 'grassy knoll' beneath a stand of trees (your correspondent sadly failing to grasp why the conversation had turned to Dallas). We then crossed the A93 onto the old, winding road down through Craighall gorge where the remains of white lines and

cats' eyes are still evident. Bridge at the far end we gorge into the thunder of Craighall Bridge provided a before the final stretch back path into the town was section of road walking, but



After crossing the Bailey emerged from the peaceful traffic on the main road. good view down to the Ericht to Blairgowrie. The riverside closed, which meant a longer before long we reached the

car park. Before making our way back to Fife we diverted for post-walk refreshments to a favourite café in Meigle where we reflected on an enjoyable early-spring walk in unseasonably warm weather.

Our next walk is on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> March, a 5.5-mile circular walk through Springfield to Stratheden and Rankeilour Estate. 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 <u>www.standrewsnefiferamblers.com</u>

