

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

St Andrews and North East Fife Ramblers celebrated our much-anticipated return to Group walking last week with our first walk since the middle of March. Walking with Ramblers is deemed by the Scottish Government to be an 'organised sporting activity' as every planned walk has a designated leader and is fully risk-assessed beforehand. Under current rules we have to operate an advance booking system and our Group has set an upper limit of 15 walkers – including non-members – on a first come, first served basis.



With all Covid requirements in place, 10 very 'sporting' members met at the Fluthers car park in Cupar for a 7-mile circular walk via the Moor Road, Hill of Tarvit and Scotstarvit Tower and returning along by the river into Cupar. With 6 months' news to catch up on there was much socially-distanced conversation on the way, and common themes of gardening, DIY and clearing out cupboards soon emerged as the pastimes which had kept many of us occupied during the spring and summer. We stopped for coffee at the top of the Moor Road, then continued towards Ceres and on to Hill of

Tarvit where we enjoyed lunch and fine views over the surrounding countryside. Crossing the road we took the path towards Scotstarvit Tower before turning onto a track leading down to Sandybrae. Anticipating the dense nettles lining this path which had caused your correspondent not a little grief on the recce two weeks earlier, she and several others donned waterproof trousers, but thankfully the vegetation had been tramped down just enough to allow safe passage this time. On the far side of the Brae we were unable to take the badly overgrown track (which was the main road from Kennoway to Cupar some 200 years ago) so we took to the



1. Hill of Tarvit Mansion House



adjacent field edge to reach the road at Tarvit Mill. The final stretch led us past Damside Mill and on to a very pleasant riverside path, and back to our starting point. Sadly at present we cannot adjourn at the end of a walk for our traditional tea and scones, but nevertheless we enjoyed a very sociable day out after our enforced recess.

For the time being we are not preparing a full walks programme, but details of any planned walks – which are open to guests as well as members of Ramblers –

can be found on our website www.standrewsnefiferamblers.com