



Newsletter April 2025



Letter from the Editor

Hello, and welcome to our April Newsletter.

The weather was great for the start of our Loch Ken Trust Ranger Education Programme 2025. A great day was had with Castle Douglas Primary and we are looking forward to more sessions with local schools

Our Resilience Conference is taking place on 15th May- read on to book your free space.

Read on to find out more about our Seasonal Ranger for 2025, Toni Lamont. We are looking forward to welcoming Toni at the beginning of May.

Hope you have all been enjoying the lovely April weather.



Lindsay Stewart- Editor

Climate Ready Glenkens

Our next Glenkens Resilience Meeting will be on
Thursday 15th May Dalry Town Hall 6:30pm

We will have speakers from

- Sepa
- SP Energy Networks
- Drax

All welcome, please let us know if you are coming on the link below:

<https://form.jotform.com/250693843574063>



It has been great to continue with our Resilience work, supporting communities in the Glenkens with resilience planning. Any resilience groups that would like support with their resilience planning, please get in touch
Lindsay@lochken.org.uk

Ranger Education Programme

2025

It has been great to kick start our Ranger Education programme for 2025 with a visit from Castle Douglas Primary School. A huge thank you to all the local schoolchildren who joined us for a bioblitz at The Crannog and around Lochside Park. Great to see the sheer enjoyment of being in the outdoors and finding so many different species. A huge thank you to Malcolm 'The Bug Man!' from SWSEIC for his presentation on the importance of wildlife recording and support with the bioblitz. In the afternoon we covered water safety, the dangers of cold water shock and how to help someone who may be struggling in the water. Huge thanks to funders Drax Group UK,. Thanks also to Castle Douglas Development Forum and Galloway Activity Centre for the assistance.

Thank you for coming along and we hope you enjoyed your day of discovery.





Meet our Seasonal Ranger

We are pleased to announce we have appointed Toni Lamont as our Seasonal Ranger for 2025. Welcome to the Team, Toni!

"When I was 16, I began volunteering with my local countryside ranger service which sparked my love of nature and led to my work in conservation. I started off as a Junior Ranger, where I got my first opportunity to learn about the many species that exist in our woodland habitats, which kind of blew my mind and opened up a whole new world of possible careers for me. That experience encouraged me to become a modern apprentice ranger for the North Ayrshire Ranger Service. I then went on to study and get a degree in Wildlife and Conservation Management. Since then I have worked as a ranger all over Scotland, from the bonnie banks of Loch Lomond to the beautiful caledonian pine forests of the Cairngorms. I find rangership to be a very rewarding job as I get to be the link that supports each person's connection to nature. That could be from leading a guided bat walk to conducting a citizen science project or patrolling to increase people's awareness of the Scottish Outdoor Access Code. I can't wait to start my season with the Loch Ken Trust. Having recently moved to Galloway, I am looking forward to putting down roots and contributing to my community. Keep an eye out for me around Loch Ken, don't be afraid to say hello!"



IMPORTANT UPDATE

Boat Registration



Loch Ken Trust have ceased to run a boat registration scheme from the Loch Ken public slipway, Boat O Rhone, from April 1st 2025, due to increased multi usage and safety concerns.

Other launch points are available.

There will be a boat registration scheme on Loch Ken for the 2025 season- please contact any of the launchpoints; Loch Ken Marina, Crossmichael Marina or Galloway Activity Centre for further details.

Further information and a map available on website

<https://lochken.org.uk/boat-registration/>

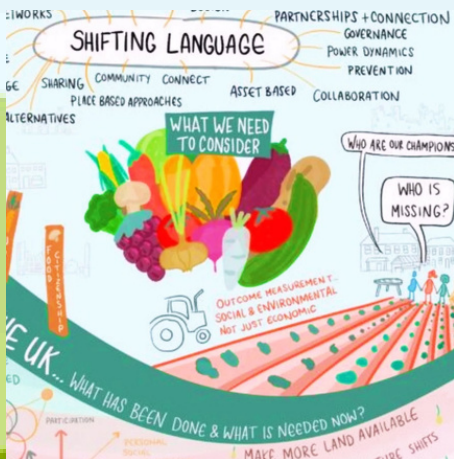
Local Food Resilience



Thank you to everyone who came along to 'Local Food Resilience', an interactive workshop provided by Propagate.

It was a very thought provoking and interesting evening, exploring community responses to food system shocks through a role playing game.

Thank you to Abi from Propagate for delivering this workshop.



Dumfries and Galloway Youth Water Safety 2025



We had a great Easter Holiday Water Safety Activity Day at The Cranog. Thank you to everyone who came along to take part. Great partnership working with Galloway Activity Centre, Csstle Douglas Developmet Forum and Stewartry Active Schools and Community Sport. It is great to have the opportunity to promote water safety with fun activities. Thank you to the funders for supporting this programme- it is great that young people can receive this free hands on water safety training.





**Are you
aware of
Scotland's
three step
Water Safety
Code?**



**water safety
Scotland**



**Stop and Think,
Spot the Dangers**



**Stay Together,
Stay Close**



**In an Emergency,
Call 999**



**In an Emergency,
Call 999**

**Look for a throw line or life ring
to help whilst you wait for the
emergency services**

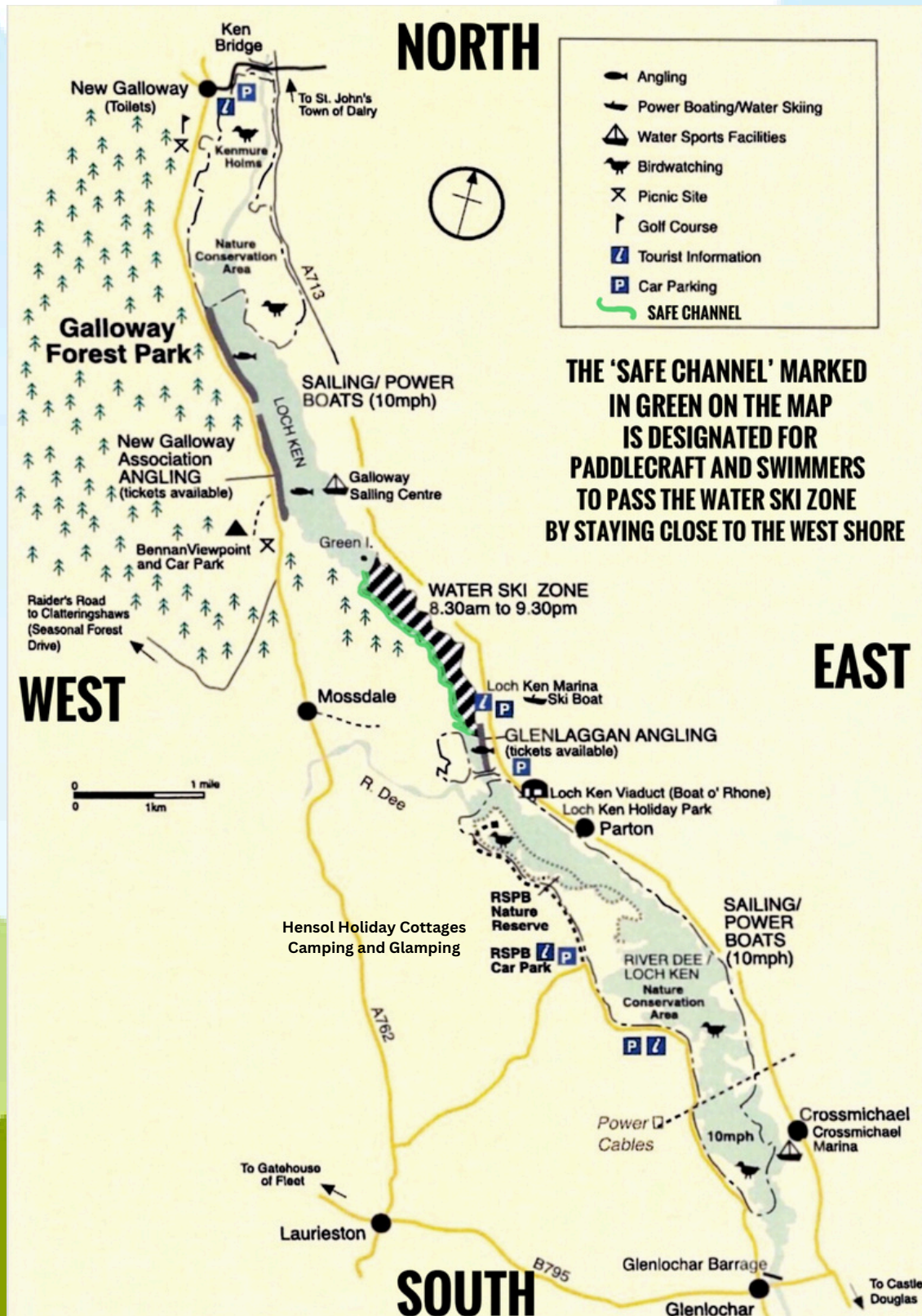


**water safety
Scotland**



High Speed Zone

Please be aware that there is a High Speed Zone on Loch Ken. There is a designated channel where paddlecraft can pass, avoiding the High Speed Zone by staying close to the West Bank.



On Patrol with the Loch Ken Trust Ranger Service



CONTACT NUMBERS

07539029175 / 07918300889

Ranger@lochken.org.uk

It has been a busy start to the season with such lovely April weather. Our new Seasonal Ranger, Toni will join the team from 1st May- please say hello if you see Leanne or Toni out and about on patrol.

We are currently looking for volunteers for the season ahead. Please get in touch if you would be interested in volunteering with us- full details can be found on the link below

<https://lochken.org.uk/volunteer-with-us/>

Could you be a Loch Ken Volunteer Ranger?



Visit www.lochken.org.uk or
scan QR code for full
details of our volunteer
scheme



Ranger Group Meeting

Thank you to everyone who came along to the first Ranger Group meeting of the season. The next meeting will be held on Monday 26th May at The Crannog at 6:30pm.

All welcome to come along and find out about our community ranger service and how you can get involved.



WeBs core counts

We continue to carry out the monthly Wetland Bird counts.

If you would like to get involved please get in touch
office@lochken.org.uk



drax

WATER SAFETY

Be safe around water

Don't swim in the water

**Don't enter the water if
someone is drowning**

**Use a rope if
someone is
drowning**

Help

**I'm
drowningggg**



**Listen
for sirens
Look out for
strobe lights**

**Take care of
your dogs**

**Stay with an
adult**

**Watch out for
changes in
water levels
or flows**

Be water Smart

**Obey all
warning signs
and keep out of
restricted areas**

**Stay clear of dams,
power lines and all
electrical equipment**

**If someone is in
the water call 999
or you can throw
a rope to them**



**Never swim in the
water**



drax

We would like to extend our thanks to all of the funders who support us. We are extremely grateful for your support.

