



# Newsletter July 2025



## Letter from the Editor

*Hello, and welcome to our July newsletter.*

*We hope you are all enjoying the Summer. It has been great for our ranger service to meet so many locals and visitors enjoying Loch Ken responsibly.*

*We have enjoyed running our Summer Nature Club throughout the holidays.*

*Thank you to everyone who supported our Loch Ken Family Water Safety Day.*

*Read on to find out more...*



Lindsay Stewart- Editor

A huge thank you to everyone who supported our Loch Ken Family Water Safety Day 2025- the emergency services, organisations, stallholders, volunteers and everyone who came along on the day. Full report to follow in next months newsletter



# Glenkens Community Cardiac Responders Group

We are delighted to have received such a great response to the Glenkens Community Cardiac Responders group. Thank you to everyone who has applied so far. There is still time to apply. No experience required as full training will be provided by Scottish Ambulance Service.

Community Cardiac Responders are members of the community trained and supported by the Scottish Ambulance Service to respond to Out-Of-Hospital Cardiac Arrests, on behalf of the Scottish Ambulance Service, as a first response to provide life-saving CPR and Defibrillation to build resilience in our rural communities.

## Requirements

- Must be 18+
- Full Driving Licence
- PVG Disclosure (Assistance Provided)
- One days local training with Scottish Ambulance Service- Friday 29<sup>th</sup> August.

If you are interested, please get in touch for further details.

[Lindsay@lochken.org.uk](mailto:Lindsay@lochken.org.uk)



Scottish  
Ambulance  
Service

Working in Partnership with Universities

Scottish Ambulance Service  
COMMUNITY RESPONDERS

## COMMUNITY CARDIAC RESPONDERS



### WHO CAN APPLY?

No previous experience required, full training and support will be provided

- Must be 18+
- Full Driving Licence
- PVG Disclosure  
(Assistance Provided)

### TRAINING

To find out more or request an application e-mail-

**sas.wildcat@nhs.scot**

Community Cardiac Responders attend Out-Of-Hospital Cardiac Arrests, on behalf of the Scottish Ambulance Service, as a first response to provide life-saving CPR and Defibrillation.



# RANGER COOKOUT



**Join us for our 'Sausage Sizzle' on the banks of Loch Ken on Thursday 4th September from 5-7pm. With guidance from our Loch Ken Trust Rangers, build a fire, cook your tea and safely leave no trace.**

**This event is FREE but places are limited. Booking is essential- please email [Lindsay@lochken.org.uk](mailto:Lindsay@lochken.org.uk) to book**

**Meet on the banks of Loch Ken, at the Ken Bridge.  
Parking available first left before the Ken Bridge (New Galloway side)**

We will be holding our annual Ranger Cookout, a part of the fantastic Glenkens Food Month, on  
**Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> September**  
**5-7pm**  
**Under the Ken Bridge**

Bring some dinner and, with guidance from our rangers, build a fire, cook your food and enjoy dinner in the great outdoors safely, leaving no trace.

Free event- booking essential- please email [Lindsay@lochken.org.uk](mailto:Lindsay@lochken.org.uk)

# Nature Club

It has been great to work with Castle Douglas Development Forum on running our Summer Nature Club. Thank you to everyone who came along to take part in our activities including wildlife recording, nature art and litter picking. It was great to see so many young people enjoying spending time in the outdoors



# Bio Blitz

It was great to have a visit from young people who were taking part on a Duke of Edinburgh environmental residential with [@abernethybarcaple](https://twitter.com/abernethybarcaple) this week. The group were helping our Loch Ken Trust Ranger Service with some wildlife recording, identifying as many species around Loch Ken as part of our baseline ecosystem assessment. Huge thanks to Abernethy Barcaple, it was great to work with you all!



# 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 map available on website

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

# Dumfries and Galloway Youth Water Safety 2025

As part of the Youth Water Safety Awareness Programme 2025, the Galloway Activity Centre ran free drop in water safety sessions on rafted canoes at our Loch Ken Family Water Safety Day this month.

Thank you to Dumfries and Galloway Council #DGCEmpowerment for supporting these sessions.





water safety  
Scotland



**Stand-Up Paddleboarding is a popular way to enjoy the outdoors but do you know how to keep yourself safe on the water?**

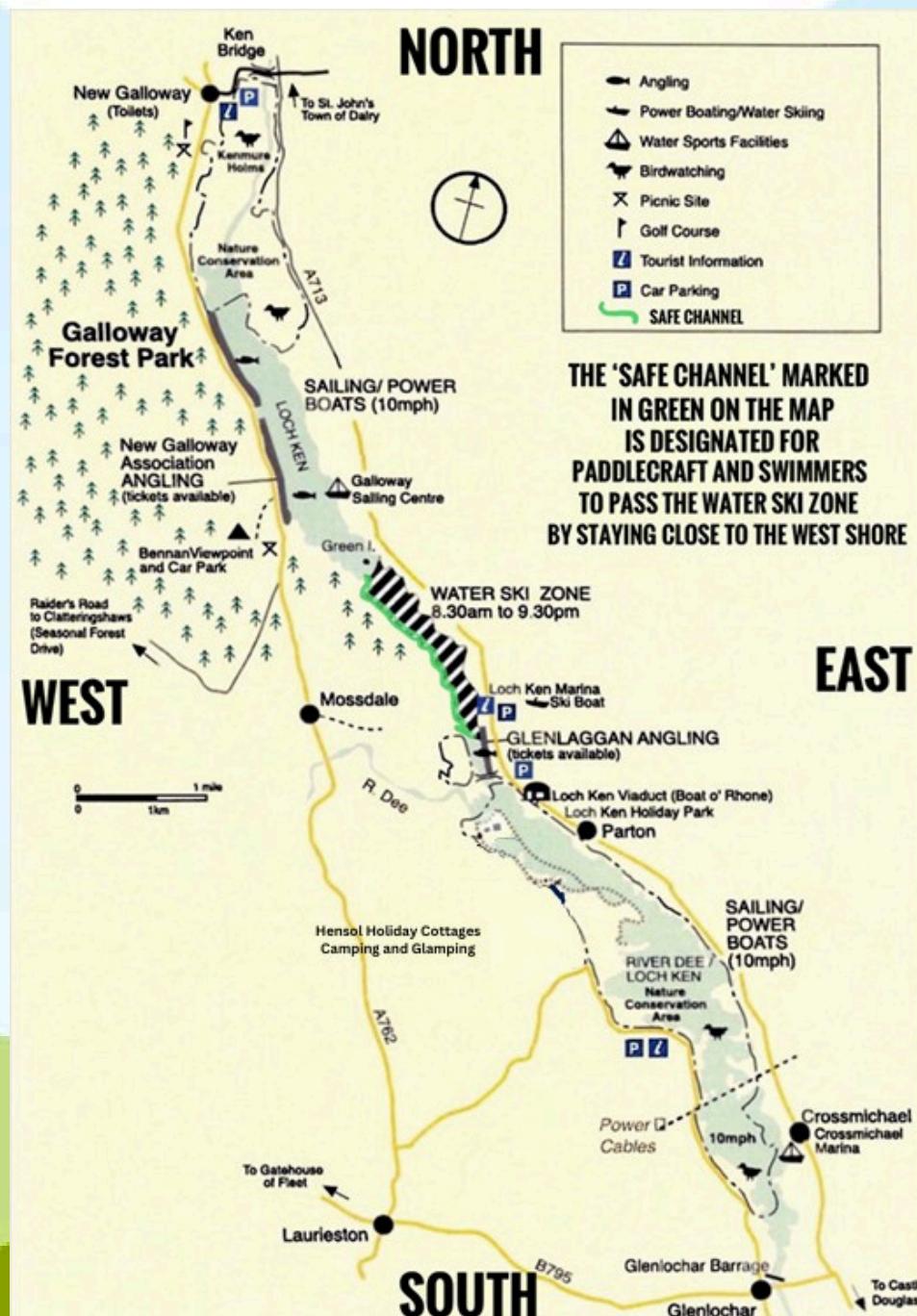
**Whether you are an experienced paddler or heading onto the water for the first time, keep safety in mind, follow the SUP activity-specific advice code**



**COOL DOWN  
SAFELY THIS SUMMER  
BE AWARE OF COLD  
WATER SHOCK**

# 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](mailto:Ranger@lochken.org.uk)

Head Ranger Leanne and our Seasonal Ranger Toni continue to patrol the Loch both on the land and water.

An extreme wildfire warning was in place across Scotland from Friday, 11 July, until Monday, 14 July, following the spell of prolonged dry weather, with Scottish Fire and Rescue Service urging those enjoying the outdoors to avoid BBQs and campfires during this time.

Our Rangers and volunteers worked tirelessly carrying out extended patrols during the latest spell of hot weather and extreme wild fire risk.

It was great to see so many out enjoying the outdoors responsibly and there were no fires found on patrol around Loch Ken during the ban.

We would like to thank our Loch Ken Trust Ranger Volunteers for assisting with patrols and water safety advice during this spell of great weather.

# Ranger Group Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Monday 25th August 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](mailto:office@lochken.org.uk)



If you would be interested in volunteering with the Loch Ken Ranger Service, please contact [Office@lochken.org.uk](mailto:Office@lochken.org.uk)

# 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

Danger  
Dam close

drax

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



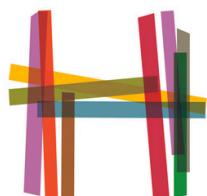
Garfield Weston  
FOUNDATION



drax



Foundation  
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Scottish Charity No. SC009942



AWARDS  
FOR ALL  
SCOTLAND



GALLOWAY GLENS  
Landscape Partnership



Funded by

Dumfries COUNCIL  
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