



Newsletter August 2025



Letter from the Editor

Hello, and welcome to our August newsletter.

August has been a busy month with locals and visitors out enjoying Loch Ken.

We have held various events in August including our Loch Ken Family Water Safety Day and our Ranger Cookout. Thank you for the support in the community.

Read on to find out more about our Ranger Patrols.



Lindsay Stewart- Editor

Loch Ken Family Water Safety Day

Once again, 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.





Loch Ken Family Water Safety Day

Huge thanks to...

Scottish Fire and Rescue Service
Galloway Mountain Rescue Team

Water Safety Scotland

Drax Group UK

Galloway and Ayrshire UNESCO Biosphere

Galloway Activity Centre

Galloway Fisheries Trust

Loch Ken Trust Ranger Service

Land Notes-Glenkens Festival of Land

New Galloway Golf Club

Galloway Community Transport

Kayakers- Ed, Les and Fred

Dumfries and Galloway Radio Unit

2329 Sqn Air Cadets Castle Douglas

Ballards Butchers

Glen Urr Ice Cream and Sorbets

Wee Messy Crafters

Fancy Faces Facepainting

Reids Amusements

Volunteers

Ranger Cookout



Thank you to everyone who came along to our Ranger Cookout, a Glenkens Food Month event. With kind permission from the landowner, we cooked our tea on the shores of Loch Ken and left no trace. Thank you to all who came along to learn about responsible campfires. All fires were fully extinguished and no trace was left.

Full programme of Glenkens Food Month events can be found here:
<https://glenkens.scot/glenkens-food-month-events>



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

The Youth Water Safety Programme continues after the Summer holidays with sessions lined up during September and October, providing free hands on water safety training. A huge thank you to the funders of this programme, without whom none of this would be possible.





water safety
Scotland

When angling, always let someone know where you are going and what time you expect to be back



**#DrowningPrevention
Follow the Angling
activity-specific advice code**



water safety
Scotland

Ensure you keep yourself hydrated to remain alert and stable

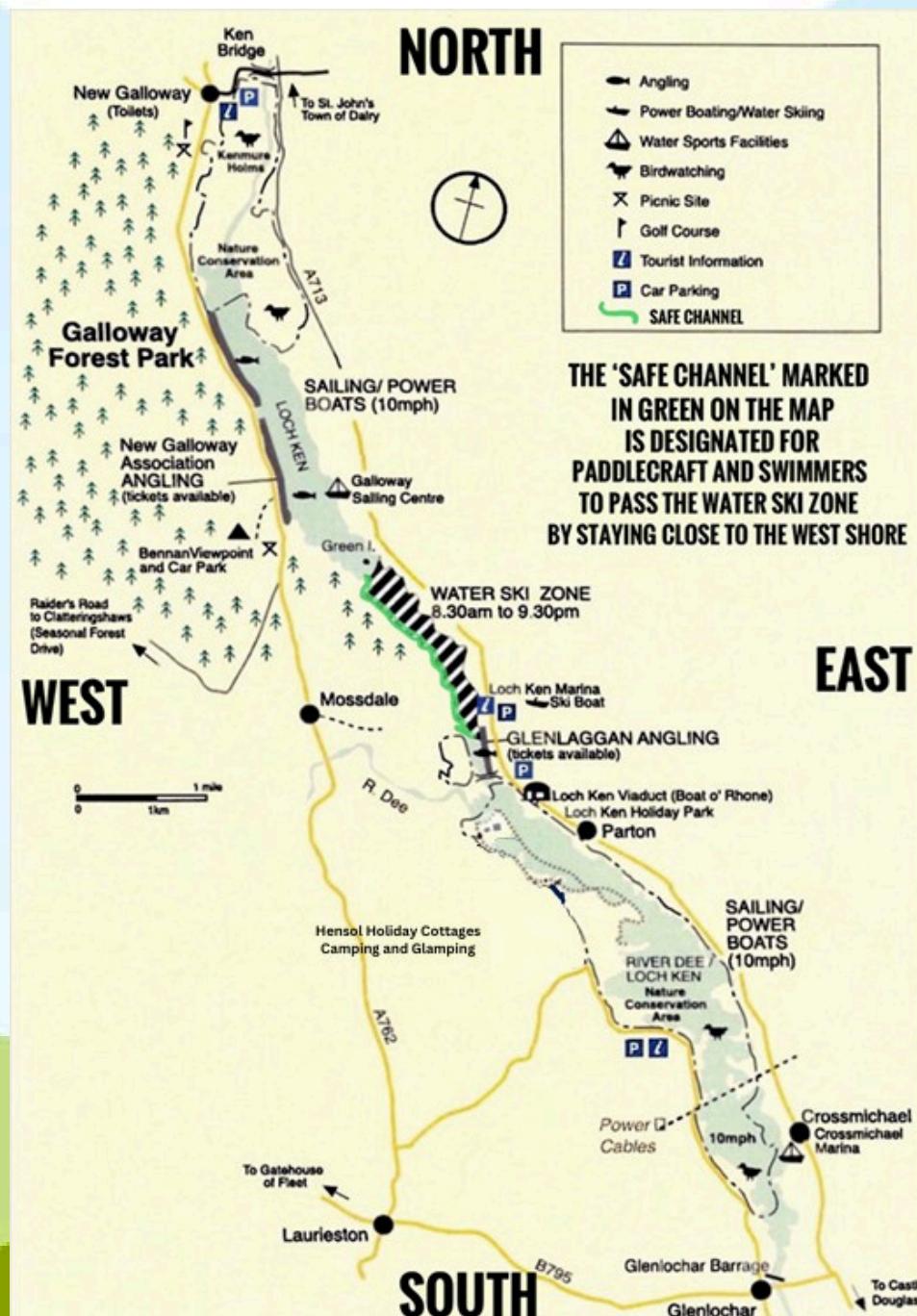


**Know the dangers and follow the
Angling activity-specific advice code**



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
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Ranger@lochken.org.uk

It has been a busy month for our Rangers who have continued patrolling during the holiday season.

We have embarked on joint patrols with Scottish Fire and Rescue Service during the very High Wild Fire Risk, educating loch users on the risks of open fires during these periods.



Joint Patrols



We also continue Joint Patrols with Police Scotland Community Police in a bid to tackle irresponsible behaviour on and around Loch Ken

On patrol, there was a lot of rubbish abandoned in the biosecurity cleaning stations , which has now been cleared.



On Patrol

On patrol this month our rangers have encountered abandoned campsites, with tent and all camping equipment left at the loch side. This site has now been cleared. It is really important to take all your equipment away, even if damaged. It might not be clear whether there are missing persons and if the emergency services need to be alerted.

#leavenotrace



On Patrol



Firepits were also cleared which were full of screws and metal



Loch Ken Wild Swim

Head Ranger Leanne and Volunteer Rangers Guy and Alan, assisted with safety cover at the Loch Ken Wild Swim. Well done to the Galloway Activity Centre on organising such a fantastic event and well done to all the competitors for taking part in challenging conditions!



Ranger Group Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Monday 29th September 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



If you would be interested in volunteering with the Loch Ken Ranger Service, please contact 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.



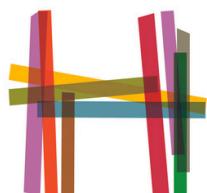
Garfield Weston
FOUNDATION



drax



Foundation
Scotland



The Holywood Trust

Scottish Charity No. SC009942



AWARDS
FOR ALL
SCOTLAND



Funded by

Dumfries and Galloway
COUNCIL