

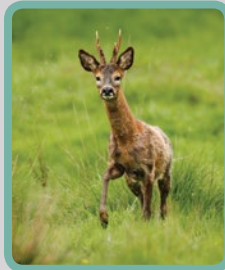
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A Failford KA5 5TF T 0131 312 7765
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Auchalton Meadow

Orchid-rich grassland on the site of 19th Century lime workings, relics of which can be seen. A burn, woodland, marsh and scrub contribute to the site's biodiversity.

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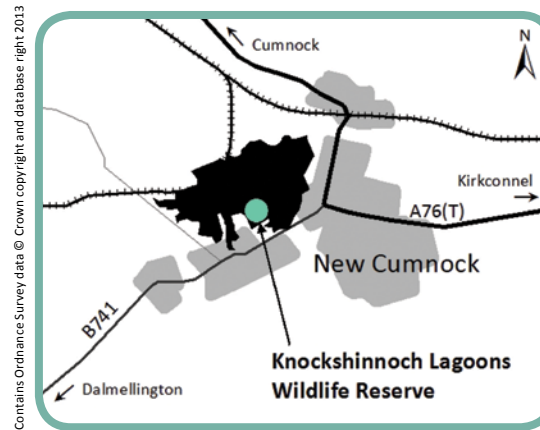
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Knockshinnoch Lagoons Wildlife Reserve

New Cumnock, Ayrshire KA18 4AJ
Grid reference NS611134

T 0131 312 7765 E enquiries@swt.org.uk



On foot

Signposted from the wildlife garden in New Cumnock centre: cross over at the community centre then left into Castlehill. A reserve entrance is at the end of the road.

By car

On the A76(T) from Kilmarnock to New Cumnock centre: take the second exit at the roundabout to Dalmellington on the B741. The reserve car park is 400m on the right (look for the sandstone arch).

By public transport

Trains are from Glasgow via Kilmarnock. From New Cumnock train station, Castlehill is the first right after the bridge. Stagecoach run regular buses from Glasgow, Kilmarnock and Ayr. From New Cumnock centre, follow the directions above.

Support for Knockshinnoch Lagoons



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Unearth a hidden gem in Ayrshire



Knockshinnoch Lagoons

Wildlife Reserve

Knockshinnoch Lagoons

Wildlife Reserve

Visitor information



FUNGI appear beneath the trees in early autumn in large numbers.



WILDFLOWERS such as trefoils, vetches and clovers do well in the bare ground and create a carpet of colour.



WILDFOWL breed and winter on the lochs, which are part-drained in autumn to attract migratory waders.



BUMBLEBEES benefit from the profusion of wildflowers and nesting sites.

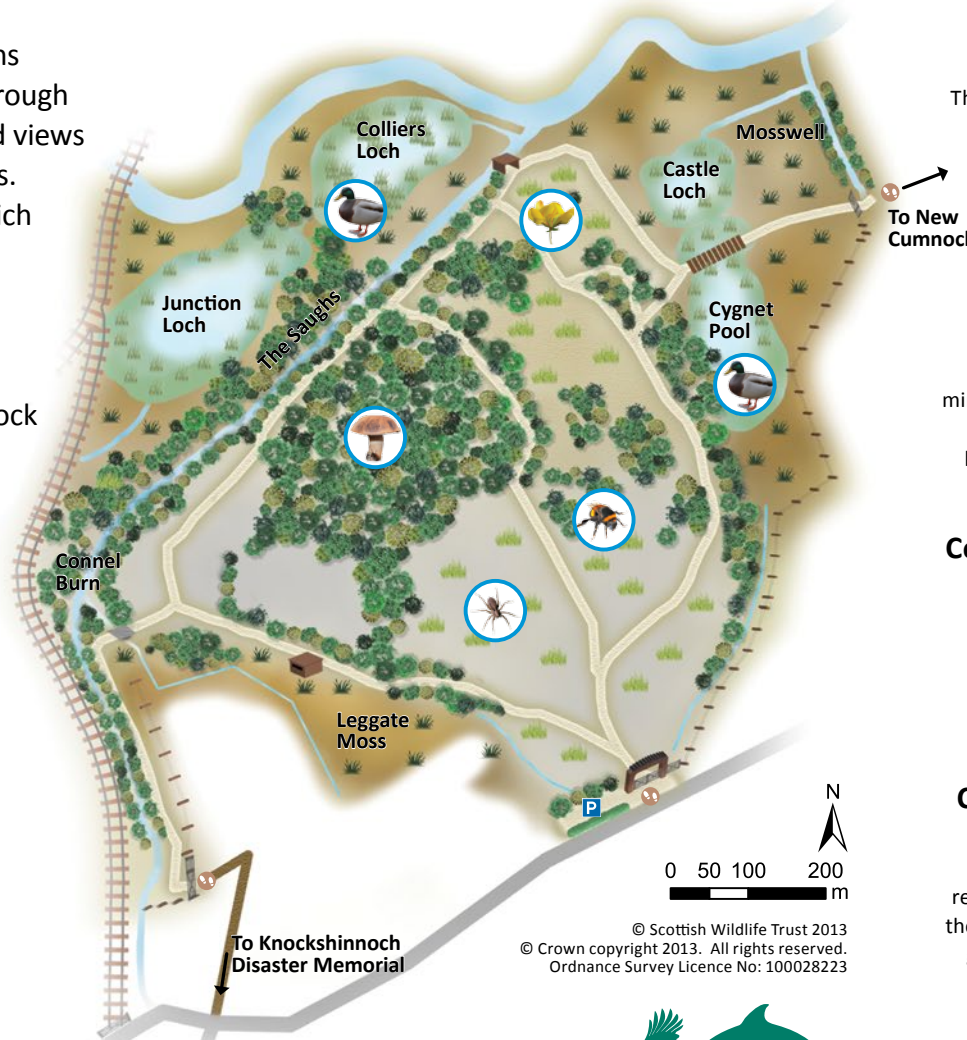


SPIDERS AND BEETLES ambush their prey as it crosses the open ground.

Unearth a hidden gem

Discover the secrets of Knockshinnoch Lagoons Wildlife Reserve

Knockshinnoch Lagoons has good footpaths through varied countryside and views to the surrounding hills. Walk through flower-rich grassland and leafy woodland or pause a while at the hides to scan for birds. You can access the New Cumnock Path Network from this reserve.



Teal

This small, dabbling duck likes the secluded pools on the reserve, where it feeds on seeds and small invertebrates. Large flocks over-winter here.



Downy birch

The birch woodland has established naturally on the mining spoil over the last 50 years. It supports many birds and its light canopy lets heather flower.



Common spotted orchid

This plant has distinctive cone-shaped flower spikes, ranging from the palest pink to almost purple. The name comes from its dark leaf spots.



Common blue butterfly

This is the only blue butterfly species so far to be seen on the reserve. Their abundance reflects the combination of trefoil flowers, grass tussocks and bare ground.



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