

PRE FESTIVAL EVENTS

Ardglass in Colour

Photography Competition 22nd June-26th July

This event is suitable for all ages and running from 16th June to 26th July. Our photography competition will be judged & shortlisted by multi-award-winning photographer Raphael Mason. Entrants will be notified, and the winner will be announced at our Summer Festival 2026. Send photos of Ardglass in colour to ardglassfestival@gmail.com.



Raft Building Workshop

Sunday 26th July @ The Harbour 1.00pm

Come along to the festival raft-building workshop and get ready to create your perfect design. All oars must be handmade and ready on the day.



Ardglass GAC U6.5 Blitz

Mon 27th July 6.30pm-8.00pm @ The Meadow

Join Ardglass GAC's youngest members as they display their skills against other local teams. Come along and support the next generation of stars in Ardglass 🌟.



Beavis Memorial Cup

Tuesday 28th July @ The Meadow 6.00pm

Ardglass FC will be organising a charity football match at The Meadow, with the Community Ballers taking on an Ardglass Select team. Contact: Lee Murphy 07923 811535



Scavenger Hunt

Available from Milligans Shop Monday 27th July

The competition is in two parts. In Section A, there is a list of common items which you must collect. Section B is a number search in which you must identify a number relating to each site mentioned.



WEDNESDAY 29TH JULY

Sponsored by

EUROSPAR 

Your Community Supermarket

Ardglass Festival 5/10k Run

From 6.30pm-8.30pm

7pm start at St Nicholas School

Online entries @www.sientries.co.uk



Following the great success of the Ardglass Festival 5/10K Run in 2025, we are back for 2026, again sponsored by Ardglass Eurospar. Both routes are scenic as well as challenging. Runners will receive a finisher medal, as well as food and refreshments.

Hot Smoked mackerel Barbecue

7.00pm-8.00pm at the school

On completion of the Ardglass Festival 5/10K Run, we will have our fantastic kipper and hot smoked mackerel barbecue, with music from the C&L Disco Roadshow to finish the event in style. All pricing for the barbecue will be displayed on the day.



Open Air Cinema

From 9.00pm at The Marina car park

We have a fantastic outdoor cinema this year at the Marina — perfect for a night out with family and friends. Featuring a large 14.5ft screen, high-powered HD projectors for sharp, clear, bright movies, and a state-of-the-art sound system. Come along and join us for a night of fun and popcorn.



THURSDAY 30TH JULY

Junior Golf Academy

From 11.00am @ AGC Practice Area

The staff from the Ardglass Golf Club pro shop will make golf fun for children while teaching techniques and drills to help them learn the game in an engaging and effective way.

Cycle Race

Cycle Race – 2.00pm start at Cedar Grove

Starting at Cedar Grove, young cyclists will compete in numerous categories around the green to see who will be festival champions.

Colour Fun Run

Fun Run – 3.00pm at The Meadow

Back by popular demand, kids will complete a two-lap Colour Fun Run at The Meadow, with refreshments provided on completion. Participants are encouraged to wear WHITE SHIRTS during the activity so the colorful powders will stand out and make the experience more vibrant and memorable!

Festival Frenzy

Starts 5.00pm-8.00pm at The Meadow.

A fun-filled evening for all age groups. We have an XL assault course, toddler zone, punchball boxing game, lazer tag zone, Urban Excel (BMX assault course 11+) foam party (bring towels!). Mully's Donuts, pizza, Penny's for Candy, an ice-cream van, Benzo Snacks, a chip van, Don Ballon, Kellies Coffee, a slush cart, and music throughout.

Ardglass Festival Quiz

8.30pm @ The Old Commercial Bar & Lounge

After a very successful night in 2025 Join us for Ardglass Festival Quiz Night with quiz Master Michael Howland. All proceeds from the quiz will raise much-needed funds for Ardglass Festival 2027.



FRIDAY 31ST JULY

Bears & Bubbles Bash

St Nicholas Primary School, 12pm–2.30pm

Pre-school & primary children come along to the school for our funfair circus activity castle, toddler zone, kite making, bubble making, hula hoops, sensory area in the gym hall, face Painting & various food vendors.



Paint & Sip with Orlagh Milligan

Sessions: 10.30am–12pm & 2pm–3.30pm

Join local artist Orlagh Milligan at Ardglass Golf Club for two Paint & Sip workshop sessions running throughout the day. Refine your creativity over a glass of wine or a cup of tea while supporting emotional wellbeing.



Float Parade & Fancy Dress

5.30pm sharp, leaving from St Nicholas PS

Starting from St Nicholas Primary School, our Heroes & Legends themed floats will travel through the village to Bath Street and Quay Street, finishing at the harbour area.



Blessing of the Boats

@ The Harbour 6.30pm

This cross-community blessing of the fishing fleet acknowledges the lives of those lost at sea while blessing all those who go to sea professionally or for leisure.



Ardglass Festival Ball Run

7.00pm at Castle place

Starting at The Meadow this year and moving around the village, six teams of six will battle it out to become the 2025 Community Champions. Who will be this year's champions?



Family Entertainment

7.30pm–10.00pm at The Marina

We have a punch ball machine, climbing wall, trailer trampoline, and traditional funfair teacups. We also have music from Lorraine at 6pm & the fantastic Parcel of Rogues from 8pm to finish off the night in style.



SATURDAY 1ST AUGUST

Ardglass Festival Fourball

At Ardglass Golf Club

This year's Festival Fourball competition will be run by the pro shop, with tee times available on request from the pro shop.



Hang Tough

Starts from 1pm - 2.00pm at the Harbour

The Hang Tough challenge is a test of willpower and endurance. The clock starts when competitors' feet leave the ground and stops when the last person falls. Time will be recorded and the best time wins.



Raft Race

Starts from 2.00pm at the Harbour

The same course as last year, with rules requiring homemade rafts and paddles only. Life jackets are required, and all rafts must be left at the slipway by 12 pm sharp.



Family Fun & Entertainment

@ The Meadow 2.30pm to 5.30pm

This year we have bouncy castles, a toddler zone, an assault course, bumper cars, a climbing wall, a rodeo bull, bungee trampolines, bumper boats, a sensory bus, spinning teacups, pony rides, face painting, a football dartboard, and coffee and food stalls.



Community Games

Starting at the Meadow 5.00pm

Starting at the Meadow and moving around the village, six teams of six will battle it out to become the 2026 Community Champions.



Dj Tombo

Starts from 7.00pm-10pm at The Marina

Finally, disco the night away with family and friends as the fantastic DJ Tombo puts on another great performance for Ardglass.



SUNDAY 2ND AUGUST

Morning Yoga, Swim & Sauna

@ Coney Island Beach 9.00am - 11.00am

Experience the mind and body connection through a series of disciplined physical postures and relaxation, followed by a dip in the sea and use of the outdoor sauna. A great event to improve your overall mental wellbeing. We also have Kellies Coffee providing refreshments.



Gerry Casey Sandcastle Design

@ Coney Island Beach from 11.30am

Channel your creative skills and build a sandcastle or a design of your choice. Prizes will be awarded for the most original, topical and creative designs. The winning designer will receive a trophy in memory of our dedicated Committee member Gerry Casey.

(Please remember to keep the beach tidy!)



Ardglass Festival Yard of Ale

@ The Green Heights 3.00pm start

Our final event is one made famous by the fishermen of the village at the Yard of Ale. Using traditional 17th-century English drinking glass measuring exactly one yard. It features a trumpet-shaped mouth and a bulbous base, typically holding about 2 1/2 imperial pints of beer. Contestants will attempt to drink the contents continuously against the clock to become festival champions.

