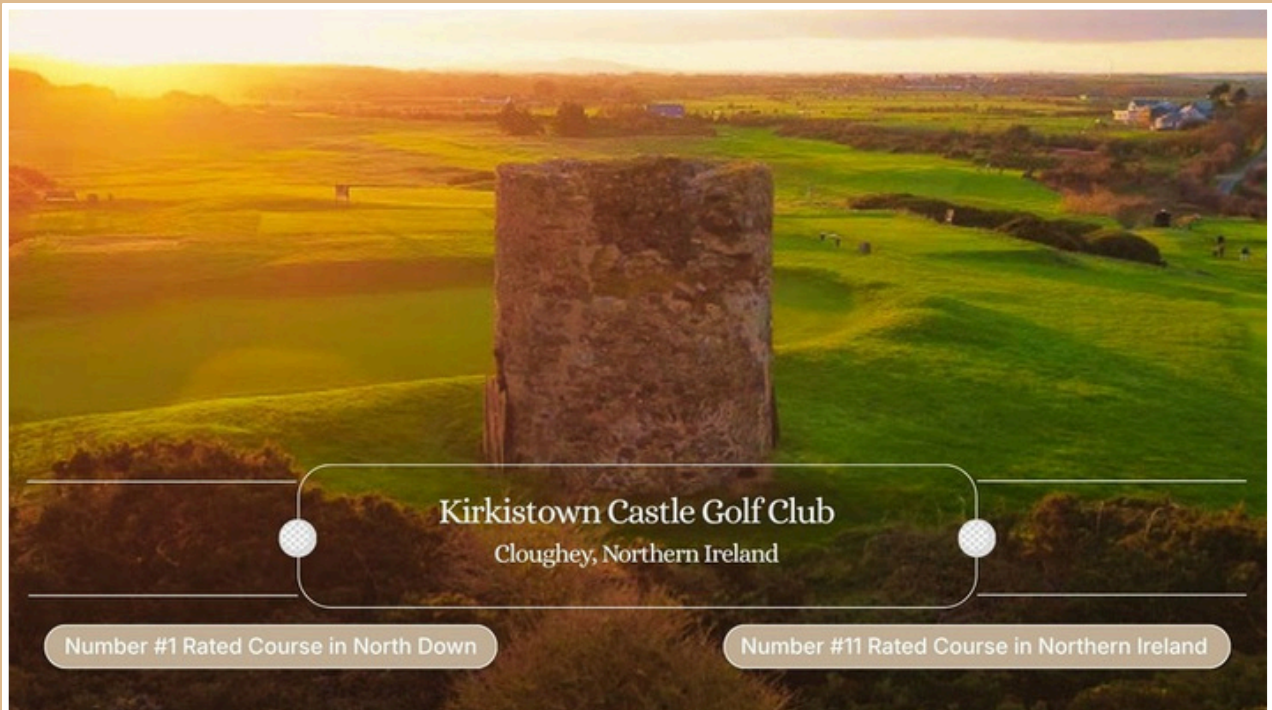


Monthly Newsletter

KIRKISTOWN CASTLE GOLF CLUB

OCTOBER 2026



The Monthly Rundown

September has come and gone, bringing another productive and enjoyable month at Kirkistown Castle Golf Club.

As we say goodbye to the summer series on the course and welcome the arrival of autumn, attention now turns towards the winter months, with the Winter League just around the corner. Behind the scenes, preparations are already well underway, with continued course improvements helping to ensure the links remain in excellent condition throughout the winter.

A huge thank you once again goes to our dedicated volunteers, who continue to give their time and work tirelessly around the course. Their efforts are greatly appreciated and play a huge part in keeping Kirkistown looking its best.

The clubhouse has also continued to thrive, with another successful Flavours of Friday – Seafood Night, followed by a fantastic Music Bingo Night, expertly organised by our Lady Captain, Alison Gowdy. Both events were a great success and provided plenty of fun, food and entertainment for members and guests.

Thank you to everyone who continues to support the club, whether on the course, in the clubhouse or behind the scenes. Your continued support is what helps make Kirkistown Castle Golf Club such a special place. Here's to a busy, enjoyable, and successful winter ahead!

What to expect?

Clubhouse
Updates

Upcoming
Events

Course Updates

Member
Spotlights

Results



Upcoming Events

Friday 2nd October

*Chilled Fridays with **John McMullan** 5-8pm*

Friday 6th October

*Flavours Of Friday - Japanese Night **"TOKYO NIGHTS"***

Saturday 24th October

*80s Themed Night with **Lisa Herbinson***

TICKET ONLY - £15.00

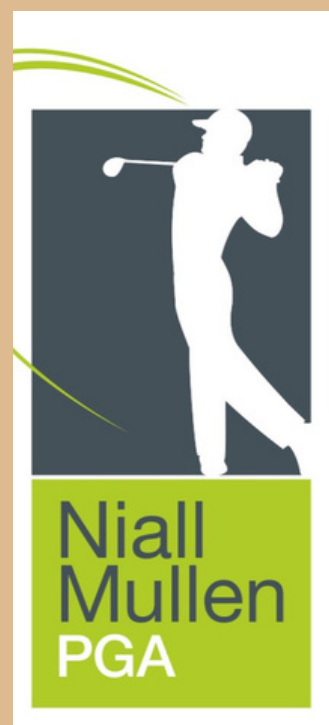
TICKET & MEAL - £30.00

Sunday 1st November

*Chilled Sundays with **Eimear Dynes** 4-6pm*

Upcoming Competitions

- PGA Tankard
- Philip Dynes Memorial Trophy
- Ladies Autumn Stableford
- Gents Autumn Stableford
- Play in Pink 3 Ball Team Event
- 9-Hole Fun Competition
- Winter League



GOLF OVERVIEW



Competition Winners

Rea Rose Bowl - Gary Coffey & Katie McKee 41pts

Peggy Nelson Veteran's Salver - Monica Savage 38pts

Diamond Jubilee Trophy - Liz Charleton 36pts

Club Professional's Prize - Reece Dempster 42pts

Ladies Greensomes - Sheila McConnell & Janet Ross 43pts

Richard Ingram Memorial Trophy (Stroke) - Michael Fitzpatrick 79 - 15 = Total 64

Past Lady Captains - Mary Gallagher 34pts

Barbara McCaughey Foursomes - Claire Hunter & Sinead Boyle 33pts

Gogarty Cup - Kenny Brown 42pts

Medal Winners' Tankard (Stroke) - Penny Thornberry 91 - 21 = Total 70

Gents Autumn Stableford - Noel Fitzsimmons 42pts

Wednesday "HAT" Competition Winner - Kevin Fitzsimmons

Croley Cup Winners - Vice-President, Jane Compton & John Dynes

McMaster Fourball - Gavin McBride & Michael McCarthy

Trustees Cup - Stevie Millar

Ladies' Club Foursomes - Mary Gallagher & Vice-President, Jane Compton

COURSE UPDATE



CONVENOR'S REPORT

THE COURSE HAS PRESENTED WELL THROUGHOUT SEPTEMBER. AS TEMPERATURES BEGIN TO EASE, DAYLIGHT HOURS SHORTEN AND RAINFALL INCREASES, GROWTH RATES AND GROUND CONDITIONS ARE NATURALLY CHANGING. AGAINST THIS SEASONAL BACKDROP, THE GREENS TEAM HAS CONTINUED TO DELIVER CONSISTENT PLAYING SURFACES WHILE PREPARING THE COURSE FOR THE DEMANDS OF AUTUMN AND WINTER.

AROUND THE COURSE

- **GREENS:** THE PUTTING SURFACES REMAIN IN SATISFACTORY CONDITION FOR THE TIME OF YEAR. OVERSEEDING WAS COMPLETED EARLY IN THE MONTH TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF Milder WEATHER, WHILE MOWING HEIGHTS ARE BEING RAISED GRADUALLY AS GROWTH SLOWS. AERATION, BRUSHING AND LIGHT TOP-DRESSING HAVE ALSO CONTINUED TO SUPPORT DRAINAGE AND LONG-TERM TURF HEALTH.
- **TEES AND APPROACHES:** DIVOTING, FEEDING AND OVERSEEDING HAVE CONTINUED, WITH PARTICULAR ATTENTION GIVEN TO THE AREAS RECEIVING THE HEAVIEST PLAY. PREPARATIONS TO THE WINTER TEES ARE WELL ADVANCED, ENSURING THEY WILL BE READY FOR USE WHENEVER REQUIRED.
- **FAIRWAYS:** OVERALL PRESENTATION REMAINS GOOD, WITH SEEDING THE MAIN PRIORITY DURING THE LATTER PART OF THE MONTH. LOCALISED WEAR IS BEING TREATED BY HAND THROUGH POT SEEDING, WHILE LARGER DAMAGED AREAS ARE BEING REPAIRED WITH A ROOT-ZONE AND SEED MIXTURE. FOLLOWING THE DROUGHT CONDITIONS EXPERIENCED IN JULY AND AUGUST, SOME LOSS OF TURF STRUCTURE IS INEVITABLE. THE EARLY-AUTUMN SEEDING PROGRAMME IS THEREFORE INTENDED TO RESTORE ROOT DEVELOPMENT AS QUICKLY AS CONDITIONS ALLOW.

THE TRIAL OF A ROBOTIC MOWER ON SELECTED FAIRWAYS HAS BEEN BROADLY POSITIVE. HOWEVER, FURTHER REVIEW IS STILL REQUIRED TO ADDRESS INTERMITTENT SIGNAL RECEPTION AND TO ASSESS THE CONSISTENCY OF CUT ACROSS THE COURSE'S UNDULATING TERRAIN.

- **BUNKERS:** ROUTINE RAKING, EDGING AND SAND REDISTRIBUTION HAVE CONTINUED. THE AUTUMN AND WINTER PROGRAMME WILL DEVOTE CONSIDERABLE TIME TO BUNKER REPAIRS AND IMPROVEMENTS.
- **ROUGH AND SURROUNDS:** THE SURROUNDS ARE GENERALLY BEING CUT TWICE EACH WEEK. ONCE FAIRWAY SEEDING IS COMPLETE, EXTENSIVE AREAS OF ROUGH WILL BE SCARIFIED TO REDUCE DENSE UNDERLYING GROWTH AND ENCOURAGE THE FINER, WISPIER GRASSES THAT GIVE THESE AREAS THEIR DESIRED CHARACTER.

LEE EAGER CONFIRMED AS COURSE MANAGER

THE CLUB IS PLEASED TO CONFIRM THAT LEE EAGER HAS SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED HIS SIX-MONTH PROBATIONARY PERIOD AS COURSE MANAGER. LEE IS NOW CONFIRMED IN THE PERMANENT ROLE, LEADING THE CLUB'S GREENKEEPING TEAM. WE CONGRATULATE LEE ON HIS APPOINTMENT AND LOOK FORWARD TO HIS CONTINUED CONTRIBUTION TO THE PRESENTATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF OUR COURSE.

REPLACE YOUR DIVOT | REPAIR YOUR PITCH MARK | RAKE THE BUNKERS

Steve Hewlett | Greens Convenor | Kirkistown Castle Golf Club

KIRKISTOWN CASTLE GOLF CLUB



KIRKISTOWN CASTLE
GOLF CLUB

BECOME A MEMBER

WINTER 2026-27

5 DAY MEMBER

MON - FRI ONLY | MEMBERS' DISCOUNT

FROM

£325*

MOST POPULAR

7 DAY MEMBER

FULL ACCESS | MEMBERS' DISCOUNT

FROM

£418*

FROM 1ST OCTOBER 2026 TO
31ST MARCH 2027

TERMS & CONDITIONS APPLY

* SUBJECT TO ANCILLARY CHARGES



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VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT



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VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT



IAN MCCLEMENTS



Thank You

**THANK YOU FOR CONTINUED
SERVICE AND SUPPORT TO KCGC**

Our volunteers are the heart of Kirkistown Castle Golf Club.

Your time, dedication, and passion help keep our course in exceptional condition and our club thriving.

We are truly grateful for all that you do for our members, guests, and community.

THANK YOU FOR MAKING A DIFFERENCE!

KCGC

DR IAN MCCLEMENTS BSC (HONS), PHD, MBPR

Dr Ian McClements is an experienced and widely respected sports turf agronomist, with over 30 years' expertise in the planning, design, construction, and management of natural and artificial sports surfaces worldwide.

A longstanding member of Kirkistown Castle Golf Club, with strong family ties to the local area, he brings both professional expertise and a genuine understanding of the club and its course.

Ian's expertise extends from golf-course and sports-surface development or remodelling to practical agronomic advice on sustainable maintenance and tournament preparation. He has supported the delivery of playing surfaces at the highest level, including four FIFA World Cups, the Rugby World Cup and, on behalf of The R&A, The Open Championship, and The Walker Cup.

Alongside his work with these and other leading organisations Ian has, through close collaboration with the club's greenkeepers, past and present, shared practical insight and expert guidance that have supported the care, development and presentation of the course for the lasting benefit of the club and its members.

Kirkistown Castle Golf Club extends its sincere thanks to Ian for his unstinting support over many years and for the unassuming, behind-the-scenes contribution he has made alongside the Greenkeeping Team, the Greens Committee and the Club Council. His generosity, expertise and enduring commitment to the club are greatly valued and appreciated.

OCTOBER 2026



KIRKISTOWN CASTLE GOLF CLUB



**02
FRI**

CHILLED FRIDAYS WITH
JOHN MCMULLAN

FLAVOURS OF FRIDAY
JAPANESE NIGHT
"TOKYO NIGHTS"

**06
FRI**



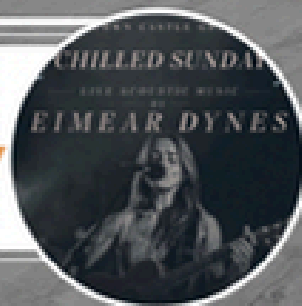
**24
SUN**

80S THEMED NIGHT WITH
LISA HERBINSON

TICKETS AVAILABLE AT THE BAR

CHILLED SUNDAYS WITH
EIMEAR DYNES

**01
NOV**



ALSO AVAILABLE THROUGHOUT THE MONTH

DRINKS PROMOS | FOOD PROMOS | WEEKLY SPECIALS



KIRKISTOWN CASTLE
GOLF CLUB

FLAVOURS OF FRIDAY

Tokyo Nights

9th October

STARTERS

Gyoza Pan-fried Japanese dumplings filled with pork and vegetables, served with a soy dipping sauce	£8.95
Tempura Prawns Lightly battered prawns fried until crisp, served with tempura dipping sauce	£9.95
Yakitori Chicken and scallion skewers with sweet Japanese BBQ sauce	£8.95

MAINS

Chicken Teriyaki Grilled chicken glazed with a sweet soy teriyaki sauce, served with steamed rice and seasonal vegetables	£14.95
Salmon Donburi Freshly grilled salmon served over rice with pickled vegetables, spring onions, and sesame seeds	£17.95
Beef Katsu Curry Crispy breaded beef cutlet served with Japanese curry sauce and steamed rice	£16.95
Pork Ramen Pork broth with noodles, Asian vegetables, crispy pork belly, soy-marinated egg and Kimchi	£16.95

DESSERTS

Matcha Cheesecake Matcha cheesecake served with vanilla ice cream	£6.95
Yuzu Tart Citrus tart made with fragrant yuzu fruit and fresh cream	£6.95
Selection of Ice Cream A choice of our seasonal ice cream flavours	£6.95

Vegetarian options are available
Allergen information is available upon request



Charlie's
BAR & BISTRO
— Est 2026 —



SPECIAL MENTIONS



ANOTHER HOLE-IN-ONE AT KCGC - RONNIE WATSON

A very special congratulations to Ronnie Watson, who joined the hole-in-one club with a fantastic ace on the 8th hole at Kirkistown. It has been a remarkable run of hole-in-ones from our members recently, and Ronnie has now added his name to the list. A brilliant achievement and one that will no doubt be remembered for a long time!

Well done, Ronnie!

CLUB COMPETITION WINNERS

Croley Cup - Vice-President, Jane Compton & John Dynes

McMaster Fourball - Gavin McBride & Michael McCarthy

Trustees Cup - Stevie Millar

NORTH DOWN SIXES LEAGUE WINNING SQUAD - REGIONAL QUALIFIERS - TOP 3 ULSTER FINISHERS

Maddie Dynes, Tara McClements, Rosa Wray, Jack Quigley, Seth Dorrian, Shea Watson, Eoin Quigley, Sabastein Simpson, Fionn Lennon, Shane Caughey, Noah Gibson & Ollie McVea.



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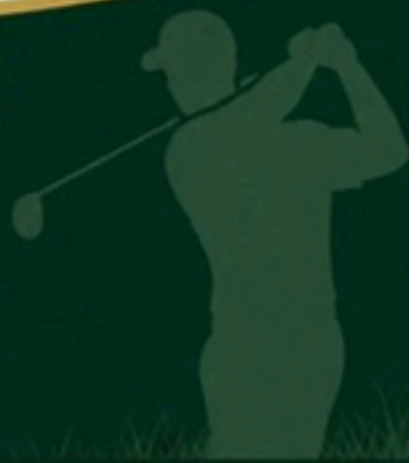


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FOR MORE INFORMATION



MONTHLY RECAP IN PHOTOS



KIRKISTOWN CASTLE GOLF CLUB
NEWSLETTER