

Abernethy Highland Games 11 Aug 2012

As the day drew closer all doubts about the weather disappeared and it became evident that the spectators and participants in the Abernethy Highland Games would again enjoy a magnificent day. Indeed they did, and although numbers were slightly down on last year (something going on down south?) well over 3000 visitors enjoyed a full programme of testing events. It was well after 6pm, under a still blue sky, when the last caber was tossed, winning both Bruce Robb and Jason Young, both newcomers to the Nethy Games, a bottle of Glen Grant whisky for having successfully thrown the mighty Nethy caber!

A contingent of youngsters from Bavaria, staying at Nethy House Hostel delighted the crowd when they marched round the field, after the Clan Grant, wearing their National costume. They were active participants in many of the events, and won the tug 'O' war, pulling against a team from Dufftown and District Pipe Band. In all, 7 pipe bands took part in the parades, and the Pipe Band Challenge Shield was won by Elgin and District Pipe band.

The programme of children's races in the morning drew a massive entry, and the number of heats and semi finals extended the event up to 1pm, just before the massed pipe bands made their first entry on to the field. Races involving parents were particularly popular with the three legged race and wheelbarrow races well contested, much to the amusement of the crowd. All competitors were delighted to be rewarded with a commemorative badge, as well as the usual sweets and lollies, all kindly sponsored by Nethybridge Stores.

The crowd were relieved when, in his opening address, Games Chieftain, Jim McEwan, always ready with a humorous quip, confirmed that he had indeed picked up the right piece of paper, and it wasn't Sunday's sermon. Echoing Games President Neil Sutherland's sentiments, Jim, whilst modestly belittling his own part in the organisation, warmly praised the efforts of the entire community in mounting such an enjoyable and well organised event.

On the field, 23 heavies competed in the four events, and provided some great sporting entertainment. The open heavy competition was won by Bruce Robb from Fife, with Jason Young from Tain in second place and Kyle Randalls from Edinburgh, no longer competing as a junior, in third place. The strong field in the athletics competition saw two records broken by competitors from Inverness Harriers. Adam Hobson broke the 19 year and under 100yds race with a time of 10.6 seconds breaking the previous record set in 2010 (10.8), and Ian Coghill broke a long standing high jump record from 1990 (1.76) with a jump of 1.77m.

The 66 runners in the RSPB Abernethy Road Race enjoyed the glorious sunshine and the dappled shade provided by the scenic route through the Abernethy Forest and hamlets. Winner, Geraint Watkins of Forres Harriers led from gun to tape, however he was challenged all the way by 2nd placed Paul Miller, although the warm conditions meant that the course record of 50.56 was never threatened. A special mention is due to Walter Ryder from Cromarty in 83.00 the oldest competitor aged 74.

With so many of last year's junior pipers now competing in senior events the turnout for the junior piping events was this year lower than usual. At the same time there is the promise of a new and enthusiastic set of competitors for next year when a real contest between Badenoch and Strathspey and Elgin is likely. The judge, Jim Hamilton commended Scott Hay, now of Forres, in particular for his strong consistent playing and Sean McHugh of Elgin for his careful presentations.

The Highland Dancing drew a good entry, with 97 dancers competing in a very busy programme. The judges commented on the high standard of the dancing, and on the fantastic atmosphere of the games. Many dancers came from south of the border, and an Australian, Shannon Reinhard was a strong challenger to Duncan Slessor in the 17 yrs Premier group. Sinead Scobie from Glenrothes scooped the Overall Premier Dancer title and the Elsie Ross Trophy, as well as the Abernethy Games Trophy, and the Clan Grant Society Cup.

The trade stands surrounding the field this year were particularly attractive; as well as the usual tartans, T shirts and toys, locally hand crafted Harris tweed accessories, locally grown plants, stunning and reasonably priced jewellery, there was a wide variety of interesting items on offer. The many stallholders loved the glorious weather, and the interaction with the enthusiastic crowd, who were all bent on enjoying themselves, wandering round or sitting back in the sunshine, cheering on the athletes.

Altogether a grand day for everyone, athletes and visitors alike!

Track and Field 2012

23 heavies competed in the four events. Seven competitors fought it out in the local heavy events with John Cameron taking overall first, Brian Harrold and Scott Simon were equal second. The overall competition for the 15-16 age category was won by heavy Aidan Finnie and Conan Quinn came in second. The overall competition for the 17-19 age category was won by Jamie Gunn with Sam OKane in second place and J D McLeod in third. The open heavy competition was won by Bruce Robb from Fife, with Jason Young from Tain in second place and Kyle Randalls from Edinburgh in third. There was a strong field in the athletics competition. Two records were broken by competitors from Inverness Harriers. Adam Hobson broke the 19 year and under 100yds race with a time of 10.6 seconds breaking the previous record set in 2010 and Ian Coghill broke a long standing high jump record from 1990 with a jump of 1.77m.

Putting the shot (local) - 1 Scott Simon 11.07; 2 John Cameron 11.06; 3 Conan Quinn 10.76; 4 John MacLeod 9.19; 5 Brian Harrold 8.76

28lb weight for distance (local) - 1 John Cameron 15.30; 2 Brian Harrold 12.01; 3 Scott Simon 11.92; 4 Conan Quinn 11.52; 5 John MacLeod 10.56

Scots hammer (local) - 1 Brian Harrold 28.18; 2 John Cameron 26.87; 3 Conan Quinn 26.54; 4 Harry Hancock 23.88; 5 Scott Simon 22.21

56lb Weight over the bar (local) - 1 John Cameron 14.0; 2 Scott Simon 13.0; 3= John MacLeod 11.0; 3= Conan Quinn 11.0

Tossing the caber (local) - 1 John Cameron 55'; 2 Brian Harrold 50'; 3 Harry Hancock 40'; 4 Scott Simon 25'

Putting the shot (junior heavy 15-16) - 1 Conan Quinn 12.71; 2 Aiden Finnie 12.33

Putting the shot (junior heavy 17-19) - 1 Jamie Gunn 12.91; 2 Sam OKane 12.50; 3 John MacLeod 10.20

Putting the shot (open) - 1 Jason Young 14.41; 2 Bruce Robb 14.09; 3 Willie Falconer 12.87; 4 Kyle Randalls 11.15; 5 Neil McKenzie 10.80

16lb weight for distance (junior heavy 15-16) - 1 Aiden Finnie 19.41; 2 Conan Quinn 19.26

22lb weight for distance (junior heavy 17-19) - 1 Jamie Gunn 17.29; 2 Sam OKane 13.73; 3 John MacLeod 12.20

28lb weight for distance (open) - 1 Bruce Robb 20.72; 2 Kyle Randalls 19.75; 3 Jason Young 18.62; 4 Willie Falconer 18.45; 5 Neil McKenzie 15.69

Scots hammer (junior heavy 15-16) - 1 Aiden Finnie 32.44; 2 Conan Quinn 31.15

Scots hammer (junior heavy 17-19) - 1 Jamie Gunn 37.36; 2 Sam OKane 35.80; 3 John MacLeod 21.79

Scots hammer (open) - 1 Kyle Randalls 40.53; 2 Bruce Robb 37.87; 3 Jason Young 37.83; 4 Neil McKenzie 32.62; 5 Jim Blackhall 32.20

32lb weight for height (junior heavy 15-16) - 1 Aiden Finnie 14'6"; 2 Conan Quinn 14'0"

44lb weight over the bar (junior heavy 17-19) - 1 Jamie Gunn 14'6"; 2 Sam OKane 14'0"; 3 John McLeod 11'0"

56lb weight over the bar (open) - 1 Bruce Robb 15'0"; 2 Kyle Randalls 14'0"; 3 Jason Young 14'0"; 4 Willie Falconer 12'0"; 5 Jim Blackhall 11'5"

Tossing the caber (junior heavy 15-16) - 1 Conan Quinn 85'; 2 Aiden Finnie 88'

Tossing the caber (junior heavy 17-19) - 1 Sam OKane 12'00; 2 Jamie Gunn 12'01

Tossing the caber (open) - 1 Jason Young 12'01; 2 Bruce Robb 11'58; 3 Willie Falconer 85'; 4 Kyle Randalls 80'; 5 Neil McKenzie 75'

Athletics:

100yds (under 13 boys) - 1 Archie Morris 13.60; 2 Sean Rudolf 12.02; 3 Calum Robertson 14.45

100yds (under 13 girls) - 1 Lara Garret 18.33; 2 Georgia Corbett 19.90; 3 Eve Morrison 21.4

100yds (under 15 boys) - 1 Alasdair Stark 11.64; 2 Gordon Rudolf 12.02; 3 Ally Velzian 12.23

100yds (under 15 girls) - 1 Siobhan Kingham 12.37; 2 Mary Flockhart 13.07; 3 Rebekah Bryan 15.69

100yds (under 17 boys) - 1 Christoff Eggarsdorfer; 2 Jasper Koopmans; 3 Philipp Jaboes

100yds (under 17 girls) - 1 Bhffon Kinghorm 12.63; 2 Mary Flockhart 12.86; 3 Linda Schowee 14.05

100yds (under 20 men) - 1 Adam Hobson 10.6; 2 Tobias Kieraaier 10.83; 3 Ross Fraser 11.47

100yds (handicap ladies) - 1 Rebecca Bryon 15.24; 2 Beth MacLean 15.93

100yds (Men) - 1 Alastair Beaton 10.71; 2 Adam Hobson 10.89; 3 Tobias Kiermaer 11.04

High Jump (handicap men) - 1 Eoghan MacNamara 1.88; 2 Ian Coghill 1.77; 3 Ross Fraser 1.65

High jump (handicap ladies) - 1 Mary Flockhart 1.10

Putting the shot (ladies) - 1 Siobhan Kingham 8.13; 2 Mary Flockhart 7.50; 3 R Bryan 5.65

800mts (handicap ladies) - 1 Siobhan Kingham 3.06

800mts (handicap men) - 1 Ross Fraser 2.17.34; 2 Eoghan MacNamara 2.18.09; 3 Ally Velzian 3.04.18

200mts (under 15 boys) - 1 Alisdair Stark 27.62; 2 Ally Velzian 27.98; 3 Gordon Rudolf 30.36

200mts (under 15 girls) - 1 Siobhan Kingham 29.40; 2 Mary Flockhart 29.76; 3 Rebekah Bryan 36.42

200mts (ladies) - 1 Siobhan Kingham 31.77; 2 Linda Shenwee 31.99; 3 Mary Flockhart 38.45

200mts (junior men) - 1 Adam Hobson 25.46; 2 Jasper Koopmans 26.08; 3 Huder Maximillion 26.77

200mts (men) - 1 Alistair Beaton 25.46; 2 Adam Hobson 25.67; 3 Timo Valerius 35.58

1500mts (under 15 boys) - 1 Ally Velzian 5.18.21; 2 Alasdair Bisset 5.31.99; 3 Alex Philip 76.21.53

1500mts (men) - 1 Tom bisset 5.08.81; 2 Ian Coghill 7.09.04; 3 Eoghan MacNamara 7.09.04

400mts (handicap ladies) - 1 Siobhan Kingham 1.17.74; 2 R Bryan 1.18.82; 3 Mary Flockhart 1.26.20

400mts (handicap men) - 1 Ross Fraser 52.96; 2 Eoghan MacNamara 54.04;

ABERNETHY HIGHLAND GAMES 2012 -

PIPING AND DRUMMING RESULTS

In the Senior Open events Colin Campbell of Aberlour almost swept the trophy board but for the successful challenge of Anna Kummerlow of Germany in the Strathspey & Reel. The Gordon Cup – awarded to the competitor who accumulates the most points in the Open Piping went to Colin Campbell of Aberlour.

The David Grant Blyth Cup – awarded to the most promising player under 18 years went to Sean McHugh of Elgin. The Solo Drumming competition saw several newcomers with Gemma Henderson of Elgin excelling.

Senior Open

Pibroch (choice of three) *competing for the Lord Strathspey Cup* - 1 Colin Campbell, Aberlour; 2 Alan Clark, Aberdeen; 3 Anna Kummerlow, Germany; 4 Fraser Maitland, Aberdeen; 5 Gordon Rowan, Edinburgh; 6 Hamish Munro, Elgin

March (choice of three) 1 Colin Campbell, Aberlour; 2 Alan Clark, Aberdeen; 3 Anna Kummerlow, Germany; 4 Hamish Munro, Elgin

Strathspey & Reel *competing for the Banks Bros. Centenary Cup* – 1 Anna Kummerlow, Germany; 2 Colin Campbell, Aberlour; 3 Alan Clark, Aberdeen; 4 Fraser Maitland, Aberdeen

Jig *competing for the Ibbertson Trophy* – 1 Colin Campbell, Aberlour; 2 Hamish Munro, Elgin; 3 Anna Kummerlow, Germany; 4 Gordon Rowan, Edinburgh

Junior Open

March (four-part) under 18 years – 1 Scott Hay, Forres; 2 Sean Mc Hugh, Elgin; 3 Jordan Neil, Aviemore

Strathspey & Reel under 18 years *competing for the George Centenary Trophy* – 1 Scott Hay, Forres; 2 Sean Mc Hugh, Elgin; 3 Jordan Neil, Aviemore

Jig under 18 years – 1 Scott Hay, Forres; 2 Sean Mc Hugh, Elgin; 3 Jordan Neil, Aviemore

Junior Local

March 15 to 18 years *competing for the Bank of Scotland Trophy* – 1 Jordan Neil, Aviemore

March, Strathspey & Reel *competing for the McGillivray Cup* – 1 Jordan Neil, Aviemore

DRUMMING EVENTS

Open Solo March tune 2/4 time in four parts - *competing for the AHG Senior Solo Drumming Trophy* 1 Gemma Henderson, Elgin; 2 Ronald Hastie, Huntly; 3 John Hyndman, Elgin

Junior Solo March tune 2/4 time in four parts - *competing for the AHG Junior Solo Drumming Trophy* 1 Gemma Henderson, Elgin; 2 Fraser Nicol, Elgin; 3 Emma Hyndman, Elgin; 4 Kirsten Barrett, Banff

ABERNETHY HIGHLAND GAMES 2012 HIGHLAND DANCING RESULTS

DANCING RESULTS: (first placed only)

4 years Primary: Pas de Basque and High Cuts, Fling, [Rhianna Grant](#)

5 years Primary: Pas de Basque, High Cuts, Fling & Swords Phoeba Goodall

6 years Primary: PDB, High Cuts, Fling and Swords, Naimh McGirr

8 years Beginners: Fling, Swords & Reel Rianne Nicholson; ST, Orlaith McGirr; Flora & Lilt Cerys Goodall

Section Winner - Rianne Nicholson, Inverness

9 years Beginners: Fling, Rianne Nicolson; Swords, Kirsty Stephen; ST, Reel, Flora and Lilt, Rebecca McConnachie

Section Winner - Rebecca McConnachie of Inverness

Overall Beginner - awarded the **AHG Highland Dancing Trophy** Rhianne Nicholson

9 years Novice: Fling, Calum Ross; Swords, ST, Flora & Lilt Ellina Duthie; Reel Laura Wilson

10 years Novice: Fling, Swords, ST & Lilt, [Chloe Watson](#); Reel, Lauren McKenzie; Flora, Alicia McKenzie

Overall Novice - awarded the Jessie Watt Scroll, Ellina Duthie, Buckie

10 years Intermediate: Fling, Sophie Baker; ollie Lewis; ST & Jig, Megan Collins; Highland Laddie & Hornpipe, Alexandria Andrew

11 years Intermediate: Fling, ST & Hornpipe, Laura Smith; Swords, & Jig, Nicole Henderson; Highland Laddie, Katie Munro

Section Winner - Laura Smith, Nottingham

Overall Intermediate awarded the G.D.Gray Silver Salver, Alexandria Andrew, Huntly

9 years Premier: Fling, ST, Highland Laddie, Jig & Hornpipe, Caitlin Graham

Section Winner, Caitlin Graham of Inverness

10 years Premier: Fling, ST, Highland Laddie, Jig & Hornpipe, Georgina Andrew

Section Winners - Georgina Andrew of Huntly

11 Years Premier: & Hornpipe, Elisha Scobie

Section Winner, Elisha Scobie

12 Years Premier: Fling, ST & Highland Laddie, Anna Mackado; Jig & Hornpipe, Fiona McGowan

Section Winner - Anna Mackado, Glenrothes

13 Years Premier: Fling, ST, Highland Laddie & Jig, Veronica Duthie; Hornpipe Catriona Dempster

Section Winner - Veronica Duthie, Fraserburgh

14 years Premier: Fling, Chloe Ross; ST, Highland Laddie, Jig, and Hornpipe, Heather Nelson

Section Winner, Heather Nelson from Blyth

15 years Premier: Fling, ST, Highland Laddie, Jig, and Hornpipe, Becky Dempster

Section Winner - Becky Dempster of Huntly

16 Years Premier: Fling, ST, Highland Laddie, Jig, and Hornpipe, Sinead Scobie

Section Winner - Sinead Scobie, Glenrothes

17 Years Premier: Fling, Stephanie Duthie; ST, Shannon Reinhard; Highland Laddie, Jig and Hornpipe, Duncan Slessor

Section Winner - Duncan Slessor

Overall Premier Highland awarded the Abernethy Games Trophy, Sinead Scobie

Overall Premier National awarded the Clan Grant Society Cup, Sinead Scobie

Overall Premier Dancer awarded the Elsie Ross Trophy, Sinead Scobie

Overall Overseas Dancer awarded the James Philpot Trophy, Shannon Reinhard, from Australia

Most Successful Dancing School awarded the Spey Vale Challenge Trophy, Fraser School, with 3995 points

Abernethy Forest 10 mile race results:

The race was won by Geraint Watkins of Forres Harriers in a time of 61.21, having led from the start, closely followed by Paul Miller, 1st vet home. Ellis McKechanie from Edinburgh was the 1st female in 5th position. 19th home was 1st female vet S Evans. The team award went to Inverness Harriers, Paul Miller 2nd, Grant Hassan 11th, Alison Wilson 20th, Andrew Gordon 25th The prizes for 1st local male went to former race winner Alan Riach, Aviemore and 1st local female was ELspeth Grant, Nethybridge

1 G Watkins, Forres Harriers, 61.21; 2 P Miller, Inverness Harriers, 62.24; 3 R Paterson, Forres Harriers, 63.35; 4 A McKechanie, H.Bog Trotters, 65.00; 5 E McKechanie, H.Bog Trotters, 65.58; 6 K Mortimer, Edinburgh AC, 66.40; 7 J Robertson, Peterhead, 67.17; 8 L Cartmell, Moray RR, 67.33; 9 A Riach, Cairngorm RR, 67.48; 10 S Garland, UA, 68.57; 11 G Hassan, Inverness Harriers, 69.12; 12 A Anderson, Carnethy, 69.18; 13 T Logie, UA, 70.26; 14 L Grant, Forres Harriers, 71.01; 15 F Koopmans, Netherlands, 71.43; 16 M Brummer, Germany, 72.05; 17 A Smith, Deeside, 72.25; 18 T Watson, UA 72.32; 19 S Evans, Forres Harriers, 74.07; 20 A Wilson, Inverness Harriers, 74.12; 22 G Jessop, UA, 75.49; 23 T Litterick, Aberdeen, 76.02; 24 R Gordon, UA, 76.04; 25 A Gordon, Inverness Harriers, 76.45; 26 D Bryan. East Sutherland, 78.13; 27 J Neal, Forres Harriers, 78.45; 28 H Oxenham, UA, 79.29; 29 K Mackenzie, UA, 79.45; 30 R Miller, UA, 79.50; 31 D Anderson, UA, 80.31; 32 N Kennedy, UA, 81.01; 33 C Reilly, Moray RR, 81.09; 34 L Sutherland, Giffnock North AAC, 81.39; 35 A Cameron, UA, 82.11; 36 P Kyle, UA, 82.30; 37 W Ryder, Morpeth Harriers, 83.00; 38 A Hames, Cairngorm RR, 83.43; 39 H Grant, UA, 83.55; 40 T Morris, Gairloch RR, 84.20; 41 J Sharpe, UA, 85.00; 42 M Christie, Elgin AAC, 85.30; 43 E Grant, UA, 85.38; 44 S Rae, UA, 85.40; 45 C MacLean, Huntly Nordic SC, 88.27; 46 A Fraser, Cairngorm RR, 90.26; 47 R Taylor, UA, 91.34; 48 D Oxenham, UA, 92.26; 49 A Shepard, UA, 92.35; 50 R Shepard, Inverness Harriers, 92.37; 51 I Von Der Heiden, Dufftown JS, 93.55; 53 C Seonbuchner, Germany, 94.05; 54 C Laybourn, UA, 94.25; 55 G Currie, Milburn Harriers, 95.38; 56 J McPhee, UA, 96.05; 57 G McAllister, UA, 96.14; 58 M Reynolds, UA, 96.35; 59 J Bell, Moray RR, 99.32; 60 H Verney, UA, 103.01; 61 C Verney, UA, 103.01; 62, H Braden, UA, 108.15; 63 B Paul, Cairngorm RR, 109.52; 64 C Alexander, Gladiator Fit Lossiemouth, 125.41; 65 D MacFadyen, UA, 131.55