

## Abernethy Highland Games – Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> August 2017

A dull, but promising start to the day certainly didn't dull the enthusiasm of the 3000 plus crowd that attended, or competed in the friendly games on Saturday. Perhaps the clouds did have an impact on numbers, down slightly on last year, but spectators were treated to an outstanding day of sport and entertainment. No less than 9 pipe bands marched around the field in a spectacular display, and junior heavy athlete George Evans smashed Kyle Randall's 2011 record in 44lb weight over the bar, throwing a mighty 18'!

Rain did stop play at around 2.40, a short but heavy cloudburst, sending spectators into the tents for shelter, but the sport continued after 10 minutes, and no doubt the athletes enjoyed the lowered temperature.

As usual there was plenty to see and do around the field with Cadona's funfair, trade and charity stalls, displaying a vast array of tempting items crafted in wood, leather, tweed, and much more. Visitors enjoyed the improved seating arrangements, with benches manufactured of timber generously donated by BSW Sawmill.

Joint Chieftains this year, Neill and Elspeth Allan, have been involved in Athletics judging for over 30 years and have reached the top of their field, culminating in their appointment as 2 of the 6 Chief Field Judges at the 2014 Commonwealth Games in Glasgow. They have judged at 2 World Master Highland Games Championships and are now passing on their skills as tutors for field judges.

Their son Graeme a successful past competitor in heavy events was a very able and enthusiastic announcer, wielding a microphone rather than a caber.

In the main arena, bounded by smart new posts and railings, the athletics events, the start and finish of the road race, and the heavy competitions, cornerstone of the Games, delighted spectators.

Eleven heavies competed in four events. Six competitors fought it out in the local heavy events with Conan Quinn (Nethy Bridge) taking overall first, J. D. Macleod (Newtonmore) came second and Scott Simon (Aviemore) third.

Sarah Cavill was the only lady to take part in the girls junior heavy 17-19 age class event. George Evans (Inverness) won the junior heavy 17-19 age category and Daniel Wilby (Inverness) was second. George broke two games records, the first was putting the shot where he broke the record he set at last year's games. The second record which George broke was a massive throw of 18'6" for the 44lb weight over the bar. The previous record was set in 2011 by another outstanding junior heavy (Kyle Randals) with a throw of 17'3".

The open heavy competition was won by Jamie Gunn (Halkirk) with Jason Young (Ross-shire) and Craig Sinclair (Banchory) coming in equal second place and James Dawkins (Aboyne) in fourth. There was a good field in the athletics competition with fifty seven entrants. The younger age categories continue to be popular but there were fewer middle and senior entrants this year.

Always entertaining, the Pipe Band Tug o' War attracted 6 teams: Buckie & District, City of Inverness Youth, Dufftown, Portsoy, Forres A & Forres B. The final was a close one with Dufftown and Inverness Youth both with 1 win each. Inverness had more team members to make up for their lack of weight and strength and acquitted themselves very well.

The results were: 1. Dufftown, winning the Walter Grant Memorial Trophy 2. Inverness Youth 3. Forres Team A 4. Portsoy

Judged by Sir Patrick Grant of Dalvey, five bands competed for the Pipe Band Challenge Shield, which Chieftain Elspeth Allan presented to Forres and District Pipe Band. Forres were thrilled with their win - last time was in 1950!

Senior Solo Piping Judges Norman Matheson and Duncan Watson of Aberdeen, whose first appearance at the Games as competitors was in 1948 and 1974 respectively, congratulated Abernethy Highland Games Committee on providing one of the most welcoming and hospitable piping competitions anywhere in Scotland and praised the competitors on maintaining their high standard of play. Duncan Watson commented on the small number of pipers in attendance (5) but the playing was good and all acquitted themselves well. The weather was reasonable but did break down mid-afternoon with a heavy downpour and poor Gordon Barclay was caught in it, doing jigs!

Junior Piping Judge Ronald McLean of Inverness commended the young competitors for achieving such a promising standard of play, also giving good advice on how they could improve for next year.

This year's Solo Drumming Competition was a popular spectacle of entertainment for those who enjoyed a keenly fought competition. It attracted the highest number of entrants in both categories in its ten years existence, as well as a much greater than normal crowd of spectators. The Junior Solo Drumming was won by Jamie Wallis (City of Inverness Youth Pipe Band), 2<sup>nd</sup> was Ryan McConnachie (Dufftown Pipe Band), 3<sup>rd</sup> was Liam McIntosh (Huntly & District Pipe Band) and 4<sup>th</sup> was Zara Milne (Buckie & District Pipe Band).

The Open Solo Drumming was also won by Jamie Wallis (City of Inverness Youth Pipe Band), 2<sup>nd</sup> was Scott Dingwall (Portsoy Pipe Band), 3<sup>rd</sup> was Jake Tomkin (City of Inverness Youth Pipe Band), and 4<sup>th</sup> was Liam McIntosh (Huntly and District Pipe Band).

On the Highland Dancing boards, 106 dancers participated in a closely fought competition, with competitors from all over Scotland and further afield including a very talented young dancer from France.

This year's Abernethy 10 mile road race was held in good conditions, despite the heavy shower following the start, the field of 63 runners took the wet and muddy tracks through the forest in their stride and the first 2 finishers Chris Peak and Alex Chepelin both travelled north from Edinburgh and came in with great times of 56.43 and 57.23 respectively. Local "Nethy" mountain biker Chris Godlington won the men's resident trophy in 9th place in a time of 66:58. 1st female local was won by Aviemore's Penny Lawson in 23rd overall in a time of 72.55.

Bernd Meyer a visitor from Germany ran "Barefooted" and finished just behind Penny, Bernd has been barefooted now for 5 years and recently completed the Berlin marathon' not content with this great effort, he then ran the 1500 metre track race. Chris's peak time is still 6 minutes outside the course record, so let's hope that next year we have some of our good locals challenging in the race. Inverness Harriers won the team award.

The morning programme of kiddies events was well subscribed, with many under 5's taking part, all thrilled with their medals. The tattie and spoon races were very popular, and many heats were held,

including a parents race – fiercely contested! Parents also participated in wheelbarrow and running races, much to the amusement of the crowd.

Altogether a very successful and entertaining day!

RESULTS:

Athletics and Heavies Results

Putting the shot (local)

- 1 Conan Quinn 11.80
- 2 Scott Simon 10.56
- 3 J. D. Macleod 10.54
- 4 Harry Hancock 8.96
- 5 Brian Harrold 8.87

28lb weight for distance (local)

- 1 Conan Quinn 13.92
- 2 J. D. Macleod 13.59
3. Scott Simon 12.16
- 4 Harry Hancock 11.83
- 5 Brian Harrold 11.81

Scots hammer (local)

- 1 Conan Quinn 30.09
- 2 J. D. Macleod 25.26
- 3 Brian Harrold 24.72
- 4 Harry Hancock 23.41
- 5 Scott Simon 20.30

56lb Weight over the bar (local)

- 1 Scott Simon 14'6"
- 2 J. D. Macleod 13'6"
- 3 Conan Quinn 13'0"
- 4 Harry Hancock 11'0"
- 5= Brian Harrold 10'3"
- 5= Dave Garman 10'3"

Tossing the caber (local)

- 1 Conan Quinn 1159
- 2 Brian Harrold 1156
- 3 J. D. Macleod 89
- 4 Harry Hancock 75
- 5 Dave Garman 55

Putting the shot (junior heavy boys 17-19)

- 1 George Evans 16.41
- 2 Daniel Wilby 9.94

Putting the shot (junior heavy girls 17-19)

- 1 Sarah Cavill 8.21

Putting the shot (open)

- 1 Jamie Gunn 14.10
- 2 Craig Sinclair 13.93

3 Jason Young 13.77  
4 James Dawkins 11.58  
5 Conan Quinn 11.52

22lb weight for distance (junior heavy boys 17-19)

1 George Evans 21.30  
2 Daniel Wilby 13.87

22lb weight for distance (junior heavy girls 17-19)

1 Sarah Cavill 10.23

28lb weight for distance (open)

1 Craig Sinclair 22.23  
2 Jason Young 19.25  
3 Jamie Gunn 15.21  
4 James Dawkins 14.77  
5 Conan Quinn 13.16

Scots hammer (junior heavy boys 17-19)

1 George Evans 37.66  
2 Daniel Wilby 26.00

Scots hammer (junior heavy girls 17-19)

1 Sarah Cavill 21.05

Scots hammer (open)

1 Jamie Gunn 37.66  
2 James Dawkins 36.80  
3 Craig Sinclair 36.70  
4 Jason Young 34.29  
5 Conan Quinn 29.34

44lb weight over the bar (junior heavy boys 17-19)

1 George Evans 18'  
2 Daniel Wilby 13.0

44lb weight over the bar (junior heavy girls 17-19)

1 Sarah Cavill (awarded)

56lb weight over the bar (open)

1 Jason Young 14'0"  
2= Jamie Gunn 13'0"  
2= Craig Sinclair 13'0"  
4 James Dawkins 11'0"  
5 J. D. Macleod 10'3"

Tossing the caber (junior heavy boys 17-19)

1 George Evans 1200  
2 Daniel Wilby 70

Tossing the caber (junior heavy girls 17-19)

1 Sarah Cavill 30

Tossing the caber (open)

- 1 Jason Young 1200
- 2 Craig Sinclair 1200
- 3 Jamie Gunn 1159
- 4 James Dawkins 70
- 5 Harry Hancock 50

100yds (boys 12yrs and under)

- 1 Lucas Challis 14.0
- 2 Bobby Russell 14.3
- 3 Ryan Johnston 14.6

100yds (girls 12yrs and under)

- 1 Mica McCloud 14.6
- 2 Lauren Abbott 15.0
- 3 Kate Fagan 19.3

100yds (boys 14yrs and under)

- 1 Gaspard Lecrivain 13.0
- 2 Blair Milne 13.0
- 3 Joshua Milne 13.1

100yds (girls 14yrs and under)

- 1 Poppy Flockhart 13.3
- 2 Eve Gardiner 13.7
- 3 Bethany Evans 13.9

100yds (boys 16yrs and under)

- 1 Calum Hardy 12.4
- 2 Archie Morris 15.0

100yds (ladies)

- 1 Jennifer Gordon 16.5

100yds (Men)

- 1 Ross Fraser 11.7
- 2 Edward Lecrivain 12.0
- 3 Bruce Donald 12.3

High Jump (Boys 14yrs and under)

- 1 Madtis Milgeman 1.20
- 2 Joshua Milne 1.35
- 3 Ben Sharpe 1.35

High Jump (Girls 14yrs and under)

- 1 Poppy Flockhart 1.28
- 2 Eve Tulloch 1.20
- 3 Zoe Sharpe 1.10

High Jump (Men)

- 1 Ross Fraser 1.45
- 2 Archie Morris 1.45
- 3 Peter McCloud 1.40

800mts (men)

- 1 Edward Lecrivain 2.18.6
- 2 Tom Bisset 2.19.5
- 3 Bruce Donald 2.23.3

200mts (boys 14yrs and under)

- 1 Blair Milne 28.7
- 2 Gaspard Lecrivain 29.0
- 3 Max Johnston 29.6

200mts (girls 14yrs and under)

- 1 Poppy Flockhart 31.7
- 2 Eve Gardiner 31.9
- 3 Charlotte Morrison 31.9

200mts (ladies)

- 1 Bethany Evans 32.6

200mts (men)

- 1 Ross Fraser 26.4
- 2 Edward Lecrivain 27.7
- 3 Bruce Donald 28.3

1500mts (boys 14yrs and under)

- 1 Blair Milne 5.03.8
- 2 Joshua Milne 5.11.4
- 3 Gaspard Lecrivain 5.12.2

1500mts (girls 14yrs and under)

- 1 Eve Gardiner 5.45.5
- 2 Charlotte Morrison 5.22.6
- 3 Zoe Sharpe 6.03.7

1500mts (ladies)

- 1 Emma Hageman 6.10.2
- 2 Bethany Evans 7.43.7

1500mts (men)

- 1 Edward Lecrivain 4.51.1
- 2 Tom Bisset 5.11.5
- 3 Hugh Naylor 5.22.8

400mts (ladies)

- 1 Emma Hageman 1.21.4
- 2 Bethany Evans 1.35.5

400mts (men)

- 1 Edward Lecrivain 1.01.2
- 2 Bruce Donald 1.02.0
- 3 Ross Fraser 1.02.7

## **Solo Piping Results, 2017**

Event 1 Chanter (1 competitor)

1<sup>st</sup> Alexander Scott, Newtonmore

### **Junior Local**

Event 2 14 years & under, March

1<sup>st</sup> Finn Nott

2<sup>nd</sup> Anna Cox, both from Nethy Bridge

Event 3 15 – 17 years March (1 competitor)

1<sup>st</sup> Lyall Kinnaird of Grantown on Spey

Event 4 17 years & under March, Strathspey & Reel (1 competitor)

1<sup>st</sup> Lyall Kinnaird

### **Junior Open Piping**

Event 9 March 4 part 17 years & under (7 competitors)

1<sup>st</sup> Angus Robertson Nairn

2<sup>nd</sup> Liam Brown Montrose

3<sup>rd</sup> Karla Stewart Aberdeenshire

4<sup>th</sup> Patrick Tibbs Inverness

Event 10 Strathspey & Reel for the George Centenary Trophy (5 competitors)

1<sup>st</sup> Liam Brown Montrose

2<sup>nd</sup> Angus Robertson Nairn

3<sup>rd</sup> Ross Nicholson Inverness

4<sup>th</sup> Angus Duffy Nairn

Event 11 Jig 17 years & under (5 competitors)

1<sup>st</sup> Liam Brown Montrose

2<sup>nd</sup> Patrick Tibbs Inverness

3<sup>rd</sup> Angus Robertson Nairn

4<sup>th</sup> Ross Nicholson Inverness

The David Grant Blyth Cup for the most promising piper 17 years & under was awarded to Liam Brown of Montrose.

### **Senior Piping Event**

Event 5 Piobaireachd for the Lord Strathspey Cup (4 competitors)

1<sup>st</sup> Alan Clark, Bridge of Don, Lament for Capt MacDougall

2<sup>nd</sup> Anna Kummerlow, Germany, Kings Taxes

3<sup>rd</sup> John McDonald, Bridge of Don, Too Long in This Condition (Angus MacKay setting)

4<sup>th</sup> Gordon Barclay, Inverness, Lament for Partick Og MacCrimmon

Event 6 March (4 competitors)

1 <sup>st</sup>	Anna Kummerlow	Germany
2 <sup>nd</sup>	John McDonald	Bridge of Don
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Alan Clark	Bridge of Don
4 <sup>th</sup>	Gordon Barclay	Inverness

Event 7 Strathspey & Reel, for the Banks Brothers Centenary Trophy (4 competitors)

1 <sup>st</sup>	Alan Clark	Bridge of Don
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Anna Kummerlow	Germany
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Gordon Barclay	Inverness
4 <sup>th</sup>	John McDonald	Bridge of Don

Event 8 Jig for the Ibbertson Memorial Cup (5 competitors)

1 <sup>st</sup>	John McDonald	Bridge of Don
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Alan Clark	Bridge of Don
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Gordon Barclay	Inverness
4 <sup>th</sup>	Anna Kummerlow	Germany

The Gordon Cup was awarded to the competitor who accumulated most points in the Senior Open Piping, Alan Clark of Bridge of Don.

Highland Dancing results, 1<sup>st</sup> placed only

Primary 4yrs

Pas De Basques - Alexa Cuiffers, Inverness; High Cuts, Swords – Megan Ross, Inverness

Primary 5yrs

Pas de basques, Fling – Ellan Guthrie, Cambuslang

High Cuts – Aila Murdoch, Carrbridge; Swords – Alison Grace Schofield, Carrbridge

Primary 6yrs

Pas de basques, Swords – Ellie Laurie, Harris

High Cuts – Ann MacPherson, Udney; Fling – Evie Jones, Invergordon

Beginners 8yrs and under

Fling, Sean Truibhas, Flora – Brooke Leakie, Inverness - Trophy

Swords – Sky Simpson, Munloch

Lilt – Farrah Watkins, Buckie

Beginners 9 and under

Fling, Swords, Sean Truibhas, Flora, Lilt – Abigail Ross, Inverness – Trophy winner

Beginners 10 and under

Fling, Sean Truibhas – Aimee Munro, Inverness

Swords, Flora, Lilt – Niamh Hogg, Elgin – Trophy

Novice, 9 years

Fling, Swords, ST, Flora, Lilt – Lucy Milne, Aberdeen – Trophy



Novice 10 & 11 years

Fling, Swords, ST – Isla MacGillivray, Dalcross - Trophy

Flora, Lilt – Kiera Whittingham, Loch Carron

Novice 12yrs and over

Fling, Swords, ST, Flora, Lilt – Fanny Aubret, France – Trophy, Best Overall Novice

Intermediate 9yrs

Fling – Louisa Milne, Huntly

Sword, Flora, ST, Lilt – Isla Gauld, Aberdeen – Trophy, Best Overall Intermediate

Intermediate 10yrs & over

Fling, Swords, ST, Lilt – Anna MacGruer, Muir of Ord - Trophy

Flora – Ava McGowan, Carluke

Premier 10yrs

Fling, ST, Highland Laddie, Jig – Emily Chapman, Inverness – Trophy

Hornpipe – Ross McTaggart, Inverness

Premier 11yrs

Fling, Highland Laddie, Jig – Scout Knight, Huntly, Trophy

Swords, Hornpipe – Eva Seaton, Inverness

Premier 12yrs

Fling – Rianne Nicolson, Inverness

ST, Highland Laddie, Jig, Hornpipe – Suzanne McDonald, Elgin - Trophy

Premier 13yrs

Fling, ST, Highland Laddie, Jig, Hornpipe – Aimee Shannon, Aviemore, - Trophy

Premier 14yrs

Fling, Jig – Anna Morrison, Inverness

ST, Highland Laddie, Hornpipe – Sophie Baker, Isla - Trophy

Premier 15 years

Fling, Sean Truibhas, Highland laddie, Jug, Hornpipe – Molly Smith, Cairnie - Trophy

Premier Adult, 16 yrs and over

Fling, ST, Highland Laddie, Jig, Hornpipe – Laura Smith, Nottingham – Trophy

Abernethy Games Trophy for best overall premier Highland – Aimee Shannon

Clan Grant Society Cup for Overall Premier National – jointly to Suzanne McDonald, Aimee Shannon

Kimberley Trophy for best Overall Local Dancer 11 yrs & under – Jenna Allan, Aviemore

Culreach Challenge Cup to best Overall Local Dancer 12 yrs & over – Rhianne Smart, Craigellachie

Elsie Ross Trophy for best Overall Premier – Aimee Shannon

James Philpot Trophy for best Overall overseas dancer – Fanny Aubret, France

Spey Vale Challenge Cup to Most Successful Dancing School, Claire Bryce, with 3897 points

**Abernethy 10 mile Race results**

1	56.43	196	Chris Peak	Waverely Harriers	M
2	57.23	295	Alexander Chepelin	Edinburgh Uni Hare & Hounds	M
3	61.29	280	Andrew Brown	Noutam Running Club	M
4	62.15	286	Angus Wardlaw	Edinburgh A C	M
5	62.33	193	Daniel Mitchell	Dark Peak Fell Runners	M
6	63.33	188	Douglas Allan		MV
7	64.02	178	Stuart Gardiner	Inverness Harriers	M
8	65.03	170	Balluet Mickael	Janze Athleteishe	MV
9	66.58	200	Chris Godlington	Nethy Phat Boys	MV
10	67.26	172	David Naughton	Deveron Harriers	MV
11	68.29	303	Colin Fagan		MV
12	68.30	299	Peter Loveless	Abernethy Allsorts	M
13	68.39	192	Martin Bain	Moray Road Runners	MV
14	69.00	279	Lesley Hansen	Inverness Harriers	FV
15	69.36	185	Ally Sutherland	Inverness Harriers	MV
16	69.48	302	Jessica Haworth	Forres Harriers	F
17	70.14	177	Matt Allbeury		M
18	70.24	164	Frank Montague		MV
19	70.38	186	Ben Fiddes	Inverness Harriers	M
20	71.03	294	Frazer McCuaig		M
21	71.20	191	JJ Tait	Parkryn	MV
22	71.28	171	David Jolly		MV
23	72.55	304	Penny Lawson		FV
24	73.01	174	Bernd Meyer	Barefoot	MV
25	73.07	184	Katrina Rowe		FV
26	73.10	287	Scott Jervis		MV
27	73.45	298	Sara Henry	Deeside Runners	FV
28	74.36	300	Sandy Grigor	Cairngorm Runners	MV
29	75.09	284	Alex Kinninmonth		M
30	76.08	199	Alison Wilson	Inverness Harriers	FV
30	76.08	296	Roma Shepherd	Inverness Harriers	FV
32	76.31	182	Tony Broatch		M
33	76.46	167	June Jessop		FV
34	77.23	293	Olivia Churchfiel		F
35	77.51	183	Hugh Marwick	Inverness Harriers	MV
36	78.39	166	Neil Mitchell	Mac Attack	MV
36	78.39	168	Nick McLaren	Mac Attack	MV
36	78.39	169	Katie Mitchell	Mac Attack	FV
39	80.15	189	Andy Whittall		MV
40	70.16	176	Neil Kennedy		MV
41	80.24	288	Morgane Artacho	Cairngorm Runners	FV
42	81.20	180	Jodi Sharpe		FV
43	81.22	165	Robbie McLaren	Mac Attack	M
44	81.23	181	Amy Low		FV
45	81.32	290	Neil Gauld	Cairngorm Runners	MV
45	81.32	291	Kevin Milne		MV

47	82.15	281	Fraser Connal	Abernethy Allsorts	M
48	84.38	190	Stephanie Shearer		F
49	85.16	285	Stuart Pottie		MV
50	85.23	292	Jim Haig	Cairngorm Runners	MV
51	85.33	187	Sarah Clements	Fitstuff	F
52	86.51	175	Andrew Lilley		M
53	90.02	289	Christian Graf		MV
54	91.01	194	Calum MacLean		MV
55	91.57	283	Paul Singleton	Abernethy Allsorts	M
56	92.32	297	Rachel Cornish		FV
57	93.04	301	Karen Mackenzie	Stornoway R & AC	FV
58	96.26	195	Jack MacLean		M
59	100.06	179	Julie Ellis	Jog Scotland	FV
60	101.06	197	Catherine Henderson		FV
60	101.06	198	Caroline Thompson		FV
62	102.48	173	Doug Kennedy		MV
63	106.23	282	Karen Connal	Abernethy Allsorts	FV