

DONALD DINNIE DAY, THE GATHERING V

Sunday 8th August 2021 @ The Lodge on the Loch,
Aboyne
Schedule

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Session 1 – 12 noon – 12.30pm

Welcome and opening remarks by David Webster Jr & MC Steve Gardner followed by Event 1 of the Donald Dinnie Games – **The Dougie Edmunds Ballogie Stone Challenge** (Original Stone provided by Brett Nicol).

The athletes competing are:

1. Ben Carlin
2. Chris Beetham
3. Conor Curran
4. Fraser Love
5. Jamie Gorrian
6. John Gibb
7. Michael Brown
8. Sean Peatfield

The running order for event 1 will be by random draw of competitor's names from a hat and then in ascending points order for the remaining events. 8 points will be awarded to the winning athlete in each event, 7 points to the second placed athlete and so on down to 1 point for 8th place.

Named after the Godfather of Strongman and World's Strongest Man co-founder, Dougie Edmunds, the Ballogie Stone Challenge is a strategy event designed to replicate all 5 phases of a natural stone lift. Each athlete will have 75 seconds to amass as many points as possible using the 123kg Ballogie Stone. Points will be awarded as follows:

1. Breaking the ground with the stone – 1 point
2. Lapping the stone – 5 points
3. Standing up with the stone – 15 points
4. Shouldering the stone – 25 points
5. Pressing the stone overhead – 100 points

Points will be recorded and agreed by the judging panel. The lifter must remove his hands from the stone between each lift. The lifter must set the stone down under control between each lift. No points will be awarded for a stone that is dropped from above knee height, however for safety a lifter may drop the stone under control if he is successful in pressing the stone overhead.

Session 2 – 12.30pm – 1pm

Large Nicol Stone attempts group 1

Session 3 – 1pm – 1.30pm

Event 2 of the Donald Dinnie Games – **The Nicol Walking Stones Challenge** – (Stones provided by Brett Nicol).

Created by Brett Nicol, this event replicates the side by side technique used in carrying the Dinnie Stones. It requires the athlete to pick up two ringed stones similar to but lighter than the Dinnie Stones and walk with them as far as possible. The stones are approximately the same height as the Dinnie Stones from the ground to the top of each ring at its highest point and weigh 138kg & 114kg. Each rings is made from different diameter steel. Athletes are allowed a maximum of 2 pickups. Once either of the stones touches the ground the first pickup is over and the athlete will have 10 seconds to commence their second pickup from that point. Following the second pickup once either of the stones touches the ground or if the lifter fails the second pickup the attempt is over and the distance will be measured from the starting line to the front of the stone farthest from the starting line.

Session 4 – 1.30pm – 2pm

World Record attempts on the Nicol Walking Stones

Session 5 – 2pm – 2.30pm

Event 3 of the Donald Dinnie Games – **The Terry Todd Sword and the Stone Challenge** – (Original Stones provided by Simon Truesdale).

This event features a 20kg natural stone with an embedded ring. The event is related to a feat of strength for which Donald Dinnie was credited at many exhibition events over the years. It is said that he could hold a 56lb weight at arm's length with his palm facing up for times around one minute. For this event lifters will face off in pairs. Each lifter will hold the stone with both hands by the ring with palms facing down and suspend it horizontally at arm's length 6" above the pommel of a Claymore sword which will be placed in the ground directly under the stone. The lifter will stand upright with his back to a vertical steel post and must maintain contact with the post throughout the event. This is a timed event and the clock will stop when the stone touches the pommel of the sword or if the athlete breaks contact with the post. The lifter may not lift the stone above the horizontal position, nor may he bend his arms. Terry Todd was a key figure in the Arnold Strongman Classic and had a glittering career in strength sports. Along with his wife Jan Todd they founded the Stark Center for Physical Culture & Sports in Austin, Texas.

Session 6 – 2.30pm – 3pm

Inver Stone display by Martin Jancsics & Jamie Gorrian. The Inver Stone and the McGlashen Stones are the historic forerunners of the modern day Atlas Stones which are now lifted in competitions all over the world. This is will be the first time ever that both will have been in the same location. (Subject to confirmation of the McGlashen stones)

Session 7 – 3pm – 3.30pm

Event 4 of the Donald Dinnie Games – **David Webster's Steen Tossen** (Original Rendrag Stone provided by Steve Gardner).

The Rendrag Stone is an ancient Viking Mill Stone acquired over 30 years ago by our MC, Steve Gardner from a farm in the Channel Islands. The stone weighs 16.5kg. It is 11" long, 9" wide & 7" deep. This event replicates an ancient Viking practice known as 'Steen Tossen'. It is also similar to putting the shot which Dinnie held many records in. The object is to throw the stone as far as possible from behind a stop board on the ground. Named after Donald Dinnie historian, highland games author and worldwide ambassador for strength culture David Webster OBE, this is probably one of the oldest forms of competition using a stone (seen in Braveheart set in the 1300s). The athlete may adopt any throwing style and may use one or two hands. A run up is permitted as are overhead throws from a reverse position. Athletes will have 3 attempts each. The distance will be measured from the stop board to the first point of contact that the stone makes with the ground. The athlete may not cross the stop board during or after the throw.

Session 8 – 3.30pm – 4pm

Large Nicol Stone attempts group 2

Session 9 – 4.30pm – 5pm

Event 5 of the Donald Dinnie Games – **The June Richard Stone Wall Challenge** (Original Stones Provided by Brett Nicol).

This event (named after Inver Stone keeper June Richard) replicates the original historical challenge of loading a heavy stone onto a wall at waist height. It will feature 5 progressively heavier natural stones which have to be carried and loaded onto barrels at waist height. The first and lightest stone will be placed 5 feet from the barrel wall, the second stone will be placed 4 feet away and so on until the final heaviest stone which will be placed 1 foot from the barrel wall. This is a timed event and will be an exciting final event of the games.

5pm – 5.30pm prize giving and event close

Organising Body

David Webster Jr – Event Chieftain

Jack Shanks – Guest of Honour

Stevie Shanks – Event Manager S

Brett Nicol – Event Manager XL

Jim Splaine – Photography M

Rosemary Splaine – Photography M

Jan Todd – Head Referee

Mark Haydock – Dinnie Games Events Co-Ordinator / Referee

James Grahame – Dinnie Games Events Co-Ordinator / Referee

Gordon Ingram – Dinnie Games Events Co-Ordinator / Referee

Mark Sherriffs – Dinnie Games Events Co-Ordinator / Referee

Steve Gardner – M/C

Martin Jancsics – Inver Stone Display / Referee