



The Ardblair Stones



The Ardblair Stones are nine reinforced concrete spheres ranging in weight from 18-152kg (40-335lbs)

The Ardblair Stones Challenge involves lifting the stones sequentially from lightest to heaviest onto whisky butts (132cm or 52 inches in height). The event is judged on both time and the number of stones successfully completed.

The Ardblair Stones have been a feature at the Blairgowrie & Rattray Highland Games since 2013 and have proven to be a highlight of the Games for many. Participation in the event is free and open to all.

The results of the event are recorded each year and these can be found in the drop down menu above.

72 individual recorded attempts were made at The Stones in 2013 and this number jumped to 98 in 2014. 2015 this number increased to over 105.

2016 was looking to be a record breaking year, but unfortunately due to extremely poor weather the event had to be abandoned in the early afternoon for safety reasons. As The Stones are in their 5th year I thought it might be interesting to list some of the achievements that have been made by individuals up to this point.

The first thing to note is that the current "King of the Stones" is John Pollock from Ayrshire. In 2015 he managed all of the 9 Stones in a time of 58.55s.

It should also be noted that there have been two successful "exhibition lifts" made of the 9th Ardblair Stone which weighs a total of 152kg.(335lbs)

The first of these was Lorne Colthart, Blair Atholl, Perthshire, who with the aid of tacky, (a grip aid forbidden when attempting The Ardblair Stones) managed this tremendous feat in 2013.

The second successful "exhibition lift" of the 9th Ardblair Stone was made by Craig Reid from NSW Australia in 2014. This feat was made all the more remarkable because he achieved this using only chalk - a grip aid - which is still within the rules of The Ardblair Stones.

The greatest number of Stones ever lifted by a woman, and in the fastest time was managed by Mary Anderson (Scotland's Strongest Woman). In 2016 she completed 5 Stones in a time of 20.04 seconds. To date no woman has ever managed to successfully lift the 6th Stone at 107Kg (236lbs) onto its barrel.

Ones to watch: Here are a few individuals (regulars to the Blairgowrie & Rattray Highland Games) worth looking out for. Any of these people stand a good chance of winning The Ardblair Stones and at the very least are guaranteed to put on a good show.

Men



John Pollock, Ayrshire is currently "King of the Stones" and is one of the top four strongest men in Scotland

Luke Reynolds, is a regular competitor in Australia's Strongest Man and has completed the 8th stone (135Kg) in a time of 32.14 seconds.



Lewis McLuckie, Ardrossan has consistently been Scotland's Strongest Man u105Kg for the last 3 years.

Andy Cairney, Dunbarton is a world record holder for powerlifting.



Dean Caldwell, North Lanarkshire is a former Mixed Martial Arts fighter and is currently in training for the GPC European Powerlifting Championships in Finland in 2016.

Women



Mary Anderson, Tranent, Scotland's Strongest Woman is the current "Queen of the Stones" having completed the 5th stone (75kg) in 20.04 seconds

Smudge Thomson, Meikleour is a top Strongwoman and bodybuilder



Cara Price, Glasgow has been accepted to be a competitor in the Women's Scottish Arnold Strongwoman competition.

Lisa Blackley - Perth, Scotland is a top athlete in the field of strength and athletics



2016 Trophy Winners



