

## TELETOTS SEASON STARTS AT HOME

Forest Feast sponsored Banbridge ASC junior swimmers participated in the first home gala of 2010 on a bitterly cold Saturday 9th January. This was not only the first gala of the new year but the first competitive event for many of our youngest swimmers and the clubs first time participating in Section 1 of the Teletots League, after promotion at the end of last season. Banbridge welcomed visiting team Ards from their frosty journey, with a warm reception, and the event kicked off promptly.

The opening Medley Team relays were fraught with anticipation and the visiting team commenced the gala in impressive style winning Groups A, C and D. Banbridge Group B swimmers consisting of Alex Donnelly, Eunan Quinn, Olivia Knox and Bethany Wilson-Parry put in an impressive performance to take 1<sup>st</sup> place for Banbridge.

25M Backstroke, the first individual event, saw local swimmers Lois Lyttle and James Whan put in strong performances to each take 3<sup>rd</sup> place in Group A. In Group B Olivia Knox took a very convincing 1<sup>st</sup> place for the girls with Alex Donnelly in 1<sup>st</sup> and Ryan Porter 2<sup>nd</sup> for the boys. In Group C Jodi Doyle and Elli Robinson kept hopes alive for the home team with 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> place for the girls and Adam Bell was third for the Group C boys. Group D saw new team captains Poppy Robinson and Lewis Houston in action where Poppy secured 2<sup>nd</sup> place for the girls and Lewis 3<sup>rd</sup> for the boys.

25M Breaststroke opened with the youngest Banbridge Group A competitor Julia Knox, at just 6 years old, securing her first Teletots points with 4<sup>th</sup> place. Harry Farson was 3<sup>rd</sup> and Patrick Doyle 4<sup>th</sup> for Group A boys. In Group B Olivia Knox was third and Alex Donnelly continued in winning form with 1<sup>st</sup> place for the boys followed by Eunan Quinn in 2<sup>nd</sup>. Jodi Doyle had the Banbridge win of the evening with a three second lead over her nearest competitor with Elli Robinson in 3<sup>rd</sup> and Michael Rafferty was fourth for the boys. In Group D Poppy Robinson was third and Christopher Burns fourth for the boys.

25m Butterfly was a difficult event for our young Group A girls but again Julia Knox was in the points in 4<sup>th</sup> place for the girls and Harry Farson took 3<sup>rd</sup> for the boys. In Group B Olivia Knox was 2<sup>nd</sup> and Alex Donnelly had a very strong swim to once again secure 1<sup>st</sup> place. In Group C Jodi Doyle and Elli Robinson demonstrated teamwork at its best taking 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> place by a comfortable margin and Caolan Quinn was 2<sup>nd</sup> for the boys. In Group D Poppy Robinson and Emer Doyle secured 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> places and Lewis Houston was 3<sup>rd</sup> for the boys.

25M Freestyle kicked off with Group A's Caitlin Kearney in 3<sup>rd</sup> place and a great win from Daniel Kilpatrick in 1<sup>st</sup> place for Group A Boys. In Group B Olivia Knox and Alex Donnelly both completed the individual events with a win for Banbridge. In Group C Jodi Doyle and Elli Robinson were again impressive with 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> place and Caolan Quinn was third for the boys. The Group D individual events finished with Poppy Robinson in 2<sup>nd</sup> place and Emer Doyle third for the girls and Lewis Houston 4<sup>th</sup> for the boys.

This fast moving gala came to an end with the 4 x 25M Freestyle relays in which the visiting side had a clean sweep and a win in all sections. The competition on the night proved too much for Section 1 newcomers Banbridge and the event closed with the announcement of a convincing win for Ards

with 236 points to 164 for Banbridge. The home side had many outstanding performances on the night and all swimmers, especially new squad members are to be congratulated for their team spirit.

The Banbridge Senior Squad will compete in the next PTL gala, at home, on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> January with a 6.00pm warm up. For further information on Banbridge Swimming Club please visit our website on [www.banbridge asc.co.uk](http://www.banbridgeasc.co.uk).