



### **National Arena League 2009.**

Fleetwood Swimming Clubs young and relatively inexperienced team went into Round 2 of the National Arena League at Leigh Sports Village knowing a good performance could see them make the Final in December. It would be a tall ask with many of the swimmers swimming up 1 and even 2 age groups. This did not deter the team from their task and a rousing performance against teams from City of Carlisle, Everton, Copeland and Holywell saw them storm into 2nd place with a mammoth 202 points. Beaten only by Carlisle both teams will now join 6 other teams in Decembers final.

Fleetwood's sizeable travelling support and an unsurpassed team spirit on poolside coupled with the teams 'do or die' mentality in the pool meant the outcome was never in doubt.

Rebecca Faussett was as reliable as ever winning both the 100m Individual Medley and 100m backstroke events whilst Martha Hirst showed her pedigree to win the 15/u 100m freestyle. Alex Jones-Wright, Harry Prestwich, Liam Sutcliffe and Alex Ward totally dominated the 13u boy's team events, and with some intelligent swimming from Ward in particular, they won both the freestyle and medley relays. Jacob Hancock continues to have a splendid National League season and remains unbeaten with wins in the 15/u 100m freestyle and 100m fly events. Probably the performance of the night came from James Parkinson in the open age 100m freestyle. He recorded a great win in a fantastic time which was all the more remarkable considering he competed in a pentathlon in Wolverhampton earlier in the day before driving hastily north to represent Fleetwood. Awesome commitment and a testament to the strength of the Club. Team Manager Barrie Rayner was jubilant at the result.