

# St Abban's Athletic Club News

30th January 2013

## **Thanks**

Special thanks to everyone who turned out last Thursday night to support our 5th Annual table quiz. Everything appeared to go well on the night with the lead changing on several occasions and a very tight result. Mr Farrell as usual did a fine job with the questions and Pat Whelan and his team ensured all ran like clock work. Special thanks to the Behan family for the facilities and to those that looked after the refreshments and donated spot prizes. Your support is much appreciated and hopefully it was an enjoyable night for you.

## **Maire takes silver**

Newcomer to St Abban's AC Maire Griffith showed she has plenty of class when finishing a game 2nd in the county novice road championships on the Turra circuit on Sunday. She had the satisfaction of leading her team to bronze just 1 point behind silver with Mary Boylan 9th, Catriona McDonald 13th, Carol Brennan 15th, Laura Buggy 18th and Sharon Buggy 24th providing the back up.

## **It's Gold for Cormac**

The men's county novice road championships had 34 finishers and a very tight team contest. Cormac Kelly returning after injury had a brilliant run to record a fine victory with 13 seconds to spare over Portlaoise AC Cyril Cuddy. With good support it was silver for the team just 2 points behind Ballyroan and 2 points ahead of Portlaoise. James Nolan in 7<sup>th</sup> position was our second scorer with Michael O'Connor 11th and Martin Kelly 12th the other scoring members. They were well supported with Peter Baldwin 18th, Matt Moore 23rd, Francis Fleming (snr) 24th, Arnie Mahon 27th and Liam Delaney 33rd. Many thanks to those who gave a hand and helped out on the day.

## **Athlone a Paradise**

The new state of the art athletic arena in Athlone hosted it's first competition last weekend. In a truly wonderful facility the sport will certainly move on another step or two over the next few years. The club had six representatives taking part in the AAI games and the honour of being the first club athlete to take part in the new facility went to Katie Brennan in the very first race of the day heat 1 in the ladies 60m. Katie didn't get the greatest of starts but finished strongly to record a P.B. of 8.50 seconds. Paul Byrne led his 400m for most of the way just tying up down the finishing straight to finish 3rd in 51.75 seconds. Conor Daly was disappointed not to break 13 metres in the triple jump, never-the-less he finished 3rd with three attempts in the 12.90's with a best of 12.98m.

Brian Kelly decided to start his indoor season over 1500m and let the pacemaker open too big a gap early on. Never-the-less he came with a strong finish over the final 3 laps to record an indoor P.B. of 3 minutes 56.70 seconds and 2nd place. Sprinter Barry Regan left the blocks like a hurricane to win his heat comfortably in a big new P.B. of 7.21 seconds for the 60 metres and a new club record. All in all a satisfactory start to the indoor season and no doubt many trips to Athlone from here on, with the Universities and Day 1 of the Leinster championships on this weekend.