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Sunday, 2nd November 2008

SPLASH CASH AND PROFESSIONAL SUPPORT IN PERU



Karen Gilmour (right) of Kirriemuir is pictured at work in the temporary clinic of OSA, in the shanty town of Collique, Peru.

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Published Date: 17 September 2008

A KIRRIEMUIR Splash charity located in a poor shanty town area of Peru has not only benefited from Splash funds but has also received personal support from three Angus professionals.

The project is Operacion San Andres in a district of Lima - with nursing, medical and dental help volunteered by Karen Gilmour, Dr John Gilmour and Dr Jim Estill - all from Kirriemuir.

Besides medical care, the project provides community medical and education facilities, nutritious food, financial assistance and leisure opportunities to both children and their parents.

This charity is typical of the deserving organisations chosen by Splash organisers over the past 19 years.

To date, over £80,000 has been raised by successive annual swims, donated by a generous local community, Angus firms, schools, clubs and hotels.



All of the money raised is sent without delay, directly to beneficiaries as Splash officials and helpers are all unpaid volunteers.

Team entries for the latest Splash event - to be held at Webster's pool on Saturday, September 27 from 1.30 pm - closed this week, with a full complement of over 300 swimmers of all ages.

Team members are asked to register at Webster's pool 15 minutes before their swim time - and to bring their sponsor money with them.

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This year's record list of commercial contributors to Splash includes many well-known Angus firms and clubs - some of which have given generously for many years.

Their cash brings the event's ambitious annual fund-raising target within reach.

Main sponsors are Visocchi's Ice Cream Factory and the Rotary Club of Kirriemuir.

Individual lane sponsors are as follows:- Angus County Press Limited, Milnbank Developments, Colin M. Smith, Maryton Garage, M. & D. Powell, Bertram Butchers, Kerymor Tavern, Autosales, Wm. Stevens, Drovers Inn, Peel Farm, The Blue Shop, Thrums Hotel, David Sim, EQ Accountants, Pathhead Equestrian Centre, Irvine Adamson Accountants, Joseph Aitken & Sons Limited and The Wendy House.

Splash is now one of the Tayside's major charity events. It is enjoyed by hundreds of spectators - mostly family and friends of swimming teams - as an exciting, fun afternoon, and one with some real competition between schools and swimming clubs.

But the real importance of Splash is its vital support for disadvantaged people with limited horizons in Scotland and overseas.

The Splash organisers receive their thanks each year, and heart-warming reports of how funds have been used to improve lives.

This year's sponsor funds are destined for Scotland, Rumania, Peru, Bosnia, Brazil and West Africa.

2008 Splash trophies will be presented at 5.30 pm on Saturday, September 27, by representatives of the main sponsors.

Only one question remains - can the outright 2007 distance record of 132 lengths (in a 25 minute swim) be beaten?

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- **Last Updated:** 17 September 2008 10:43 AM
- **Source:** n/a
- **Location:** FORFAR