

DIMENT TOWERS DUO PLAN GREEN SHAVE FOR GOOD CAUSE

Diment Towers residents have received a green challenge – shave your hair or spray it green on St Patrick’s Day to raise money for the Leukemia Foundation.

The inspiration behind the good cause is one of the village’s most passionate residents, 74-year-old Jean Benson, who has lived at Diment Towers for more than five years.

“I volunteered to teach Camp Quality kids pottery for nine years some time ago and was always inspired by all the kids, including those I met who had leukemia – cancer is such an insidious disease that touches so many lives including members of my own family,” Mrs Benson said.

She said other residents have pledged their support to her brave dare, although mostly by either spray painting their hair green or donating money – except for Diment Towers’ Activities Officer Catherine Jones who will also shave her head.

“Catherine is a great support. We have organised a bus trip for Seniors’ Week the week after our great shave, so we will both venture out bald with Catherine’s husband volunteering to drive the bus,” Mrs Benson said.

The head shave is only one way Mrs Benson actively contributes to village life. She also volunteers part time in the village kiosk, organises the monthly bus trips and is the residents’ representative on IRT’s Resident Council.

Mrs Benson has already started to knit herself a special green beanie, while Catherine will ask the Diment Towers knitting group to whip her up something special.

“We’ll decorate the community room and make a special celebration of it, with our village hairdresser booked to do the big shaves and hair spraying,” Catherine said.

“Now all we need is some sponsorship support from people in the wider community who are inspired by Jean’s challenge – the target is \$10,000.”

As for Mrs Benson, she is not daunted at all by the thought of losing her hair.

“My great grandmother lost all her hair when she was 60 and it grew back in ringlets so it will be interesting but I’m not worried about it – there’s a lot less things to worry about than being bald,” she said.

Anyone interested in sponsoring Mrs Benson or Catherine’s great shave can log on to the Leukemia Foundation’s fundraising web site www.worldsgreatestshave.com or call into Diment Towers, who can issue receipts.

For further information or media interviews please contact:

Amanda Kunkler
Media & Community Relations Officer - IRT
Phone: 4251 3743 or 0414 836417