

### ***ST PATRICK'S DAY GREAT GREEN SHAVE FOR GOOD CAUSE***

Today is not only about being green, but going bald, for a brave Diment Towers duo who have hand-made green beanies at the ready thanks to a 101-year-old resident.

IRT resident counsellor Jean Benson and Activities Officer Catherine Jones will have their heads shaved by the resident hairdresser before donning their new green “lids” hand crocheted by 101-year-old Dot Holmes.

Meanwhile, other almost-as-brave residents will have their hair spray painted green, all to raise money for the Leukemia Foundation.

Mrs Benson said the worthy cause was easy to support given the number of people who are touched by cancer, including the children she met while volunteering for Camp Quality.

“I taught Camp Quality kids pottery for nine years 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,” the 74-year-old Mrs Benson said.

She said St Patricks Day represented a perfect opportunity to put a twist to the Diment Tower event and promote the active contributions of older people in the lead up to Senior’s Week next week.

“We have organised a bus trip for Seniors’ Week next week, so Catherine and I 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 Diment Towers’ representative on IRT’s Resident Council.

She said it wasn't too late to support the Leukemia Foundation and donate money for the Great Shave by clicking on the web site [www.worldsgreatestshave.com](http://www.worldsgreatestshave.com) or call into Diment Towers and make a donation (receipts available).

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.

**Media Photo Opportunity: Jean and Catherine's Great Green Shave will take place at 2pm today at Diment Towers, 39-45 Staff St, Wollongong.**

**To organise interviews or photo opportunities please contact:**

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