



## Click Go The Shears

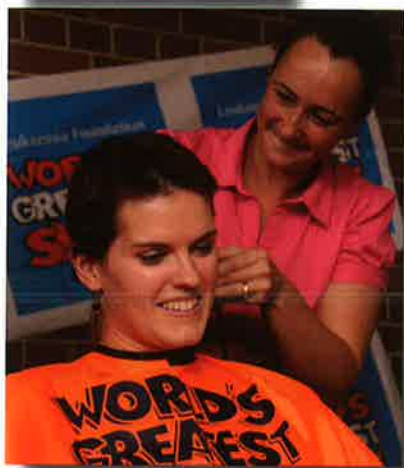
### MMRI Supports World's Greatest Shave



On March 12th, MMRI became a registered shave venue for the Leukaemia Foundation's World's Greatest Shave. MMRI's Leukaemia Scientist, Dr Hannah Cullup (pictured) raised just under \$4,000 to lop her locks.

This shave venue, which also attracted support from local company Bees Nees Realty, Mater Pathology, the general public and Leukaemia Foundation supporters, raised a combined total of around \$7,000.

MMRI would like to thank: Mater Hair Studios, Chalk Hotel, Stones Corner Halal Butcher, and Mater Hospital's Cafe on Three and Jacob's Well for their generous support and assistance on the day.



## MMRI Leukaemia, Graft Versus Host Disease Antibody Work Published in Nature's J Exp Med and SciBx

MMRI graft versus host disease research has been featured as the cover story in the internationally recognised commercialisation-business publication *SciBx*, published by the Nature Publishing Group.

The original MMRI paper, titled *Antibody to the dendritic cell surface activation antigen CD83 prevents acute graft versus host disease (GVHD)*, appeared in the *Journal of Experimental Medicine* in January.

*SciBx*, which only features new science that has the potential for developing real commercial value, reviewed and featured MMRI's research as their cover commercialisation-business story.

MMRI Dendritic Cell Researcher, Dr David Munster says, "What makes this research interesting is the development of a new antibody based drug that targets the body's immune system dendritic cells.

"When some people with leukaemia do not respond to chemotherapy, they may require a bone marrow transplant.

"When a leukaemia patient has to undergo a bone marrow

transplant they often suffer from a complication called GVHD, which can be fatal," says Dr Munster.

This MMRI research explores a new antibody treatment designed to bind to a molecule called CD83 which is found on activated dendritic cells (dendritic cells are a type of white blood cell).

In GVHD, dendritic cells cause T lymphocytes, from the donated bone marrow, to attack the patient's body. MMRI's antibody stops this reaction from occurring by killing the activated dendritic cells, thereby promoting a successful bone marrow transplant and eradicating the patient's leukaemia.

MMRI is a world leader in dendritic cell research with Co-researcher and MMRI Director, Prof. Derek Hart having worked towards targeting dendritic cells for GVHD and other medical problems for more than 25 years.

"Our new discovery, with help from Mater Pathology and collaborators from Newcastle University, UK, is very exciting and we are very pleased to have our work featured in *SciBx*," says Dr Munster.