



# Wow! What an amazing experience!

Left: Debbie before. Top to bottom: The cut! and Debbie afterwards. PHOTOS: HOWARD MULLEN

by HOWARD MULLEN

**Pollensa.**—What a great experience! Once again people from the North of the island came together to support cancer charities.

A few weeks ago the Puerto Pollensa hosted a very successful "Dip" for cancer charities.

After "The Dip" one person decided to take the fund-raising for charity a step further.

Debbie Felstead decided that she would have her head shaved to support the charities. Despite pleas from her friends and family Debbie had decided that the event would happen, and sister Sarah volunteered to do the dirty deed!

Can Balache offered the accommodation for the event, and a percentage of their food takings on the day. Niki Liles became the compere, and others involved in the dip, including Nickie Baylis took on all sorts of organisational tasks.

The day dawned on Saturday and pessimists were saying that it looked like rain again, (It rained for

"The Dip") Debbie already had 1000€ of sponsorship.

Would the event attract a decent group of supporters? Would the weather hold? Nobody need have worried After 4.00pm dozens of people had started to arrive at Can Balache. More tables had to be brought to the outside terrace, and raffle tickets were being bought and donations made.

Just before Debbie had her head shaved, we managed to get the "before" photograph. It was impossible to get through the crowd at Can Balache, and the count-down began. The atmosphere was wonderful. Everybody was there to support Debbie, and through her the cancer Charities.

There were moments of dead silence as Sarah wielded the clippers, but there were lots of shouts of support for what Debbie was doing. Eventually the deed was done. There were lots of hugs and kisses and Debbie emerged, actually looking very good with her locks removed. We managed to get the "after" photograph, amongst dozens of people who wanted a photograph of the very brave Debbie.

The excitement did not stop there. Nickie Baylis produced a big cheque for 2648€ for the Cancer Support Mallorca group. It was a cheque from the proceeds of "The Dip". People were impressed by the size of the cheque, but Nickie Baylis amazed everyone when she told them that "This isn't all of it. This is only half of what "The Dip" raised. We promised to support two cancer groups, so this is exactly half of it for Cancer Support Mallorca."

The raffle continued and people were treated to lots of promises of help from local sources. Raffle prizes included Sunday Lunch for two; a Spanish, or English lesson; 3 hours baby sitting, and a cut and blow-dry from a local hairdresser (More than one person suggested that perhaps it should be offered to Debbie "for later".)

The event was inspirational. The people of the north of Majorca came together again to support charities, but also to give their 100% support to Debbie Felstead, a wonderful lady.

CONGRATULATIONS to everyone involved.

