

Hair-raising support from Blenheim man

Posted by Ellwood Shreve, The Chatham Daily News

Blenheim resident Brian Pearce has been saving money on the cost of haircuts, but he hopes it will raise money and make a difference in the life of a young person.

Pearce, 50, spent the last two years growing his hair for the purpose of donating it to the Angel Hair for Kids program, which provides wigs and hair loss solutions to financially disadvantaged children who have lost their hair due to a medical condition or treatment.

He was finally able to make his donation Thursday (Sept 11) when he had his hair cut at Angles Professional Hair Care Centre in Chatham.

Pearce, who normally sports a “police-style’ haircut, said he decided to grow his hair after seeing a media story about a youngster whose family couldn’t afford a wig after the child was badly burned.

With the permission of his employer, Transportation Health and Safety Association of Ontario, Pearce let his locks grow.

While his employer required him to keep his long hair in a ponytail, he said “they knew it was for a good cause and they were behind me 100 per cent.”

A trainer with the company, Pearce said a lot of people commented on his hair style.

“A lot of people said, “Where’s your Harley coat,” he joked, adding people were supportive of his efforts.

His locks will need to be combined with the hair of up to 11 others to make a wig.

However, Pearce said it takes \$800 to \$1200 to manufacture a wig. He has collected \$300 from family, friends and colleagues towards this cost.

Anyone interested in making a donation can contact him by e-mail at brian.pearce@thsao.on.ca.