



## Relay For Life - bringing people together

More than £2.6 million was raised as a result of the Relay For Life 2008 series. Relay events couldn't take place without the dedication and hard work of our volunteers, as they take the lead in organising and running them. These events can be truly inspirational, as experienced by CR-UK's James Sommers:



When I arrived at the Sawbridgeworth Relay last year, music was playing and there was a wonderful carnival-like atmosphere. While I was walking a few laps of the track I met Joan who had survived an extremely rare form of cancer and she talked about the last 6 months being a very difficult time. While walking around the track, we noticed one lady wearing a message on her back saying that she has survived the same form of cancer. I introduced them both and catching up with Joan after the event she told me "if only we had met each other 6 months ago, we could have really helped each other and I can't thank Relay For Life enough for bringing us together." The two ladies are now very close and are considering setting up a support group within their community. The event made me realise how powerful Relay can be, particularly in celebrating survivorship. I felt very proud to be able to bring these two ladies together and privileged to be part of this very special event.

## Dinner and dance raises £28,500

Local supporter Ashwin Bedi recently hosted a fabulous fundraising dinner and dance in memory of his mother, and with the support of family and friends, raised an amazing £28,500! The event held in March was in tribute to his late mother, who

passed away from cancer last year before reaching her 75th birthday. Ashwin, who had been organising her birthday celebrations before her death, decided to go ahead and hold the event to honour and remember his mother.



## Residents in marathon effort

The residents of Fuller Court senior citizens complex in Bishops Stortford held a pool marathon in March, which took place over an astonishing period of 24 hours. The group, who had previously raised funds with a 24 hour darts marathon, were organised into teams by resident Patrick Buttle and battled it out over several pool matches.

Other residents were also on hand to provide refreshments and

encouragement well into the early hours. They were joined by their local mayor who opened and closed the proceedings. The group were motivated to organise the event by, in some cases, their own personal experiences of cancer and, for others, in memory of friends and family members. After a mighty effort they were able to raise the fabulous sum of £2500.

