

## Abagold supports CANSA Relay For Life!

March 2011



The CANSA Relay For Life concept was created as an all-night event to represent the fact that cancer never sleeps. A cancer patient endures months and sometimes years of treatment and life changing issues. Staying overnight at the Relay is one small way that participants symbolise and support the struggles of cancer patients and their families.

It represents the hope that those lost to cancer will never be forgotten, that those facing cancer will be supported and that one day cancer will be overcome.



Werner getting ready and blowing his new-found “vuvuzela”!



The Abagold team doing their first lap.



Jolene and Johan with Nina on the hip walking a lap. Right: Nina – the youngest member of the Abagold Relay Team

As part of fundraising and showing support CANSA had a “Shave or Spray” stall, where team members could have their hair either shaved off or sprayed. None of our team members were brave enough to do the shave, but the colourful hairspray went down quite well!



Christo having his hair sprayed with Adele, Jaco, Philip and Tiaan enjoying the moment!



Adele supervising Jaco's creation and Jolene and Werner showing theirs off!



Denis not believing what he's just done, and Janice admiring husband James's colourful hairdo!

The first lap around the track was lead by cancer survivors from the local community, followed by the different teams. After dark, an inspirational Luminaria Ceremony took place where candles placed in bags lined the track in memory of those who lost the fight and in honour of survivors. Throughout the night these candles were a reminder of why we continue to fight.



The first lap was taken by survivors in the community

The Abagold choir, under the leadership of Elizabeth Mabya entertained the crowd with their beautiful voices.



The Abagold choir on stage.



Members of the choir enjoying every moment.



The Abagold Choir in action

The Relay lasted 18 hours, starting at 16:00 on Saturday afternoon the 26th of March and ending at sunrise on Sunday. Some of us took naps inbetween (and some disappeared for a short while!) but for all of us at Abagold, this was one of the most inspirational and moving experiences that will be remembered for a long time.



Left: Participants at the starting point at 16:00. Top Right: Zumba dancers entertaining the crowd. Bottom right: Luminaria bags



The team members doing their last lap at sunrise