



# NEWSLETTER

November 2025

## CELEBRATE

**Relay for Life Japan 2025 Ogaki was the first to be held in Ogaki City on October 26, 2025.**

There were many participants and committee members. Volunteers were full of smiles and high expectations. The Relay theme was Let's Connect, Connect, Not Alone!

The Opening Ceremony began with a powerful speech from the Executive Committee Chairman. This was followed by the Survivor and Caregiver laps where participants smiled and laughed through rain one step at a time, showing strength and kindness of people who face cancer and their caregivers.

As the sun set, the luminaria bags that lined the venue were lit. The soft light enveloped the entire venue and feelings for family and friends who had passed and wishes for those living today quietly overlapped.

A new glimmer of Hope has come to all those who took part in this first event. Relay For Life Ogaki Japan started in the rain and ended with warm light. It was a day when all were able to see and feel a bond of support for each other and the for the region.



## REMEMBER



**2025 RFL Global Forum**

Representatives from over 30 countries attended the 2025 RFL Global Forum in Central London from 5-9 November and celebrated 30 Years of Global Relay.

Delegates engaged in a wide variety of sessions including Community Involvement, Volunteers, the Global Hero of Hope Programme, AI and Fundraising. They learned about huge Relays in Belgium and Canada, and Relay For Life Youth Programmes. They discovered the value of telling stories and how they can be used to engage with local communities.

On Saturday attendees were entertained by The Big Choir, a group from the UK who raise funds for CRUK by singing. On Saturday evening there was a contemplative Candle of Hope/Luminara Ceremony staged by Relay For Life Twyford and Wargrave.

Everyone was able to make connections, share experiences, successes and failures, had help to solve issues and make friends with from all over the world. All with a shared passion and hoping to one day make the world cancer free through Relay For Life.

## FIGHT BACK

**Trio aims to revive Relay for Life for 2026**

#RevivetheRelay is a hashtag that will soon be trending in Prince George, Canada when word spreads that three University of Northern British Columbia (UNBC) students have taken up the challenge to restart Relay For Life in 2026.

In it's heyday, Prince George Relay For Life was ranked Number 1 in the country four years running. Reaching a peak in 2017 with more than \$500,000 raised locally.

Ready to resurrect the Relay to its former glory are Victoria Bleeker, a first year medical student, Maleen Barry, a registered ocology nurse who studied at UNBC and Zoe Younghusband, a fourth year medical student.

"I know there are many people who are eager for the 24 hour Relay to come back." Zoe said, calling it a passion project for all her friends. "It brought people from all across Canada to walk and remember and I am ecstatic it's coming back. This is great news. It gave us an opportunity to rally around those who have fought or battled cancer and won or those who were in the battle at that time and to life those who have lost loved ones."



### November Relays

Australia 5, India 1, Japan 1, Malaysia 1

**TOTAL 8**