

different Strokes

Support for Younger Stroke Survivors

London North Group Newsletter May 2011

Lakshman Sarkar

We are very sorry to tell you that, following an operation on 19 April, Lakshman Sarkar died suddenly on 28 April at University College Hospital. Before the operation, we had all been reassured by Lakshman's optimism that the planned keyhole surgery would enable him to recover from his recently diagnosed colon cancer and be active again soon after Easter. We were so shocked when we heard that he had died, apparently as a result of complications following surgery.

Lakshman joined our group shortly after having a stroke in June 2002. He was thus an early member, as the group had only been established in May 2001. He quickly became effective in the running of the group. He was also active in Enfield stroke groups. Lakshman was always supportive. He encouraged other members to be as persistent as he was in his determination to recover as much as possible. From the beginning Lakshman was an enthusiastic supporter of our Massage therapy. He also regularly attended Chi Kung and Exercise classes. He was always ready to try out new therapies and we have attended many fairs and exhibitions with him over the years. Lakshman encouraged us to attend events celebrating Asian and Indian culture such as the annual London Mela in Gunnersbury Park.

Lakshman was trained as a Mechanical Engineer and worked for Standard Telephones and Cables in New Southgate until 1991 when they closed down. He then decided to become a teacher and returned to college to study for a PGC in Maths, teaching in Haringey until his stroke in 2002. We benefited from his mathematical skills; the system which we still use for providing a monthly check on our petty cash was developed by him.

Lakshman's family held a private funeral in the second week of May. His colleagues in Enfield will be arranging a commemoration event, probably towards the end of July. They will let us know the date as many of us will wish to attend to pay our last respects to a valued friend.



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Marjorie, Lakshman, Navin, Siddique and John at the 2006 Mela in Gunnersbury Park.