**Bromley care worker honoured with surprise retirement celebration to mark
5 incredible decades of service**

(29th March 2021) Nathan Pathmanathan, was honoured for his prodigious 49 years of service as a mental health care worker at a celebration where he was presented with a commemorative potted tree, gardening vouchers and a memory book with photos and messages from well-wishing staff.

Surprised by work colleagues at charity care provider [Ambient Support](http://ambient.org.uk/), Nathan, who is 71, celebrated his commendable career spanning 5 decades, an achievement the whole team at Ambient were delighted to officially recognise.

Nathan left his family in Malaysia in 1972 to pursue a career in psychiatric nursing in England. As a young man, he witnessed first-hand the effects of institutionalisation and how the system was negatively impacting peoples’ mental well-being. So, he gladly took an opportunity to work as a community psychiatric nurse for Bromley Care Services, giving him the chance to care for people in the community. A true pioneer, Nathan was at the forefront of deinstitutionalisation and worked passionately to help enable the integration of people living with mental health issues into their communities.

Based in Bromley but working across multiple Ambient services, over his 49-year career, he has helped, supported and improved the lives of thousands of people. **Speaking of what it takes to have a lifelong career in care, Nathan says:**

*“It’s all about understanding and talking to people. Sit down and give people your time, engage with them, believe and respect people as individuals. You must have honesty and integrity.”*

**And of his time at Ambient Support:**

*“I am most proud of the staff. The team are constantly developing and training to find ways to improve services to positively impact the people we support. If you show your staff respect and support, they will in turn show that to those they care for. I have seen the incredible development of all of the people in positions today at Ambient and it makes me very proud.”*

**Sarah Hearne, Locality Manager at Ambient, who works alongside Nathan, says:**

“*Nathan is a great mentor, leader and a peoples’ person. He has been a great asset to this charity over many years of service in the Health & Social Care sector and will be hugely missed by me and everyone that has had the pleasure of working alongside him over the years.”*

**Mark Milton, CEO, commented on Nathan’s incredible milestone. He says:**

*“Nathan’s outstanding commitment and dedication to his career in care is truly commendable. His passion and person-centred approach, to help people to live the fullest life they can, is at the very essence of what Ambient believe and strive for every day. He is a true inspiration.”*

**Nathan will remain involved with Ambient Support, supporting their Bromley based volunteer horticulture project, ‘Branching Out’. He added:**

*“If you can support people to get out and about in the world, they will see the brightness of life. I will continue to keep calling people, checking in and being social. That is what makes the rivers of our lives flow.”*

**Find out about the Mental Health services provided by Ambient in London,** [**here**](https://www.ambient.org.uk/mental-health-services/search-services/)

**See Nathan being surprised by the Ambient team,** [**here**](https://youtu.be/F1BtPM5RG5E)

***IMAGE CAPTION 1-4:* Ambient Support congratulate Nathan Pathmanathan on his outstanding five-decade career in social care**

**IMAGE CAPTION 5: Nathan supporting people in the community**

**IMAGE CAPTION 1974: Nathan in 1974**

**~~ENDS~~**

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**About Ambient Support:** [www.ambient.org.uk](http://www.ambient.org.uk) @ambientsupport

* One of the Top 20 generic Not-For-Profit Health & Social Care Providers in the UK Ambient Support (formerly known as Heritage Care and Community Options) is a registered UK charity with over 25 years’ experience
* They deliver services that meet the needs of some of the most vulnerable adults in our society. Operating in over 130 locations, they provide over 30 thousand hours of care to people on a weekly basis to support a range of needs due to the ageing process, learning disability or mental illness
* Their wide range of quality specialist services are delivered by dedicated, professional, and passionate staff and their success is built on supporting people to live a full and meaningful life.
* Ambient currently employs around 1,325 people across the UK in a number of settings
* Ambient can also help young adults who are transitioning from Children’s to Adult Learning Disability Services
* The Charity has an above industry average with 85% Registered Services rated as Outstanding and GOOD by CQC.
* To find out more about Ambient’s volunteer gardening and horticulture service Branching Out visit: [Branching Out - Horticultural Project | Ambient - Passionate About People](https://www.ambient.org.uk/services/horticultural-project/)