

Chilterns MS Centre to start providing services to stroke survivors

Earlier this year, the Chilterns MS Centre began a pilot programme to open up its services to people with neurological conditions other than MS, starting with Parkinson's Disease. Due to its success, the pilot has now been extended and from this month the Centre will also be opening up its services to stroke survivors.

Being diagnosed with a neurological condition can be a daunting experience but the Chilterns MS Centre provides a wide range of treatments and services that support people on their journey, services that go beyond what the NHS is able to offer. These services include physiotherapy, hydrotherapy, occupational therapy, speech and language therapy, counselling, dietician advice, acupuncture, a range of leisure groups, not to mention the provision of a supportive community. All of which help empower people with neurological conditions to live their life to the full.

Over 500 people with MS make use of the services offered by the Wendover-based charity and, since the pilot began, over 30 people with Parkinson's Disease have taken advantage of it.

Stroke survivors can often face the same or similar challenges to people with MS or Parkinson's so the Centre is keen to use the skills and experience it has built up over its 37-year history to enhance their quality of life too.

"We are really excited about the success of the pilot programme so far," said Amy Smissen, Head of Integrated Clinical Services at the Chilterns MS Centre. "The really positive feedback we've been getting from our MS members is being echoed loud and clear by our new Parkinson's members so

we are really thrilled to be able to do more for more people.”

If anyone who has experienced a stroke, or anyone with MS or Parkinson's, feels they would benefit from the services offered then they should get in touch with the Chilterns MS Centre by phoning 01296 696133.