

Editors: Phil Beckett and Anne Rothera

September 2021 Edition 49

WELCOME BACK!

After many months of not being able to meet, we are now in a position to see our friends and colleagues from Halifax and District Branch.

The Committee and others have been working hard to arrange activities for you. There is a wide range, something for everyone, we hope. The table below contains the details. All sessions are weekly unless there is a note saying otherwise. If you would like to take part or would like more detail, please contact the appropriate person.

DAY	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	TIME	CONTACT	NOTES
Monday	Conductive Education	Elim Church	10:30 - 12:30 or 12:45 - 14:45	Phil 07748 121444	Usually second Monday of month
	Singing Group	Elland Golf Club	11:00 - 12:30	Eileen 01422 373566 Anne 01422 253368	
	Tai Chi	Maurice Jagger Centre	10:15 - 11:30	Ray/Linda 01422 354242	
Tuesday	Exercise class	Maurice Jagger Centre	10:00 - 11:00	Ray/Linda 01422 354242	
Wednesday	Coffee afternoon	Sainsbury's Café, Halifax	14:00 - 16:00	Sue C 01274 883113 Sue M 01422 362303	Last Wednesday of month
Thursday	Dance with Izzy	Elim Church	10:30 - 11:30	Sue C 01274 883113	
	Games hour	Elim Church	11:30 - 12:30	Ian 07967 419880 Anne 01422 253368	
Friday	Golf tuition	Bradley Park Golf Club	10:00 - 10:45	Linda 07738 021834	May - September
Saturday	Saturday Club	Elim Church	14:00 - 16:00	Sue Morris 01422 362303	Usually Second Saturday of month



RADIO PHOENIX FM

Did you know that there is a radio station specifically for communities in Calderdale? It is called Phoenix FM, and you can tune your radio to 96.7fm to listen, or if you have a suitable device and an internet connection, you can listen online from anywhere in the world.

On Tuesday afternoons from 2 pm to 4 pm you might recognise the voices of the presenters. Phil Beckett has been broadcasting for some time, but the radio station has been in lockdown and has only recently returned after an enforced silence. Caz Ibberson has joined forces with Phil and now you can hear their banter and music on Tuesday afternoons. Why not send them a request? Phil said "we have access to a huge database of music. We cannot guarantee to have every song, but if by chance we don't have the song you asked for we will play you an alternative and give you a mention. Although Phoenix is aimed mainly at Calderdale residents, the station has listeners from as far afield as Australia and Texas!

Hello from your new Area Development Manager

My name is Helen Sturman and I've recently started working for Parkinson's UK as the Area Development Manager for Greater Manchester and West Yorkshire (taking over West Yorkshire from my colleague Tracy Westgarth).



I'm looking forward to meeting you all, getting a better understanding of what is happening in the Halifax area.

I will be working on the **three main priorities** that Tracy worked with you to identify for Yorkshire:

- Making sure people have the right support at the right time, at all stages of the condition
- Improved care for people in hospital settings
- Reaching under supported communities e.g., BAME community, care home residents

[An important update on your Parkinson's nurse service](#)

As you're aware Paula Roberts, Parkinson's nurse for Calderdale, is taking early retirement. This inevitably leaves a gap in the support available in the local area. On 18th August, I arranged a meeting with Sue Scrivens, Matron of Specialist Services at Calderdale & Huddersfield Foundation Trust. My colleague Lynda Poole, Service Improvement Adviser (England wide) and your vice chair Ian Barraclough were also able to attend. Sue manages the Parkinson's nurse service and gave us an update on the service.

We're pleased to let you know that recruitment is already under way for an Advanced Practitioner position, with interviews planned to take place on the 23rd September. All being well Sue hopes to have the new person in post in the next few months.

Sarah Higgins, Parkinson's nurse for Huddersfield will be assisting with the interviews and will provide support to the new person as part of their induction programme, alongside Sheryl McGinn (currently covering the service).

[Future plans for the Parkinson's nurse service](#)

At the meeting we also discussed the Parkinson's service across Calderdale & Huddersfield as a whole. Having a service in Calderdale run by a single nurse has meant that annual leave and sickness haven't been covered, which has meant that there hasn't been support available to you for long periods of time.

We discussed the possibility of an additional nurse post, who could potentially work across Calderdale and Huddersfield, to support Sarah and the new nurse. Sue was very much open to this idea and acknowledges that increased nurse capacity would greatly improve the service they are able to offer.

In order to get an additional nurse, Sue needs to present detailed evidence about the demand/need for the service in the area. Sue and colleagues are currently gathering the data that could be used to evidence this- not a quick or easy job. Myself and colleagues at Parkinson's UK will support them with this and keep you updated.

The priority in the first instance is to recruit and train the replacement nurse, but we will continue to work with Sue and colleagues to ensure that the service is sustainable and that there is continuity for patients in the future.

[If you would like to be involved in working with our NHS colleagues to develop the nurse service in the future or if you have a particular interest in any of the 3 priorities for West Yorkshire, listed above, then please do get in touch.](#)

[Similarly, if there are any ideas or projects that you would like support to get off the ground or if there are any other local issues that you would like help with, please do get in touch.](#)

My contact details are: hsturman@parkinsons.org.uk **0300 123 3672 or 07768 834115**

Farewell from Paula

"After 10 years I am moving on to pastures new and taking early retirement. I would like to say I have enjoyed my time at Calderdale NHS as the Parkinson's nurse specialist and will miss all my clients enormously. I have learnt so much and met great people along the way. Special thanks to Janet Edmunds for her contribution to the service. I am also grateful to Ian Barraclough for all his hard work with the local branch. Best wishes, Paula"