

**Headline [make it catchy]**

**[Day Month] 2016**

**People living with the condition multiple sclerosis (MS) have a new avenue of support thanks to the initiatives of a [town] charity.**

The [name] group of the MS Society has started a new [insert activity/name of support group] with the hope the [sessions/service] will help people with MS to [maintain a healthy lifestyle? Meet others with the condition? Find peer support? Insert purpose].

The sessions are for anyone [or insert specific details i.e. age, men/women etc. criteria] living with MS in [town / city] and will be held every [week/month/date details] at [venue].

MS affects more than 100,000 people in the UK and symptoms typically appear in people in their 20s and 30s. MS attacks the nervous system, causing a range of unpredictable symptoms, including problems with balance and mobility, fatigue, cognitive issues and pain.

[Full name], group [volunteer role] has helped set up the new activity. They said: “We’re pleased to be able to offer this new service. The group offers a variety of support including information, emotional support and [include further details, if necessary]. This latest offering will go a long way in helping us to better support the needs of people with MS.”

[Full name] is from [location] and has had MS for [number] years. They said: “insert a quote here from a group member who is planning to use the new service”.

To find out more about the service, call [name] on [telephone number].

**ENDS**

For media enquiries please contact [name] on [telephone number].

**Notes to Editors:**

**About multiple sclerosis**

* MS affects more than 100,000 of us in the UK
* MS symptoms typically appear when people are in their 20s or 30s
* MS attacks the nervous system. Symptoms include sight loss, pain, fatigue, incontinence and disability
* MS is unpredictable - one day you can be fine, the next you might lose your sight or be unable to move

**About the MS Society**

* The MS Society is here for people with MS
* We have a free helpline - 0808 800 8000 and information can be found on our website [www.mssociety.org.uk](https://www.mssociety.org.uk/)
* We’re funding research to stop MS, and working to find more and better treatments for everyone
* With your help we’ll stop MS