Mum revitalised by pioneering surgery

SARAH DUNN
Health Reporter

A MULTIPLE sclerosis patient from Sheffield is enjoying a new lease of life after undergoing pioneering treatment abroad.

Sylvie Wright travelled to Poland for a procedure to clear a blocked vein in her neck.

She has also had a stent fitted to keep her left jugular vein open - it was originally 80 per cent blocked.

Although the treatment, which is designed to open up blood flow, has not yet been clinically approved, Sylvie said the anecdotal evidence that it could help MS patients was enough to make her determined to try it.
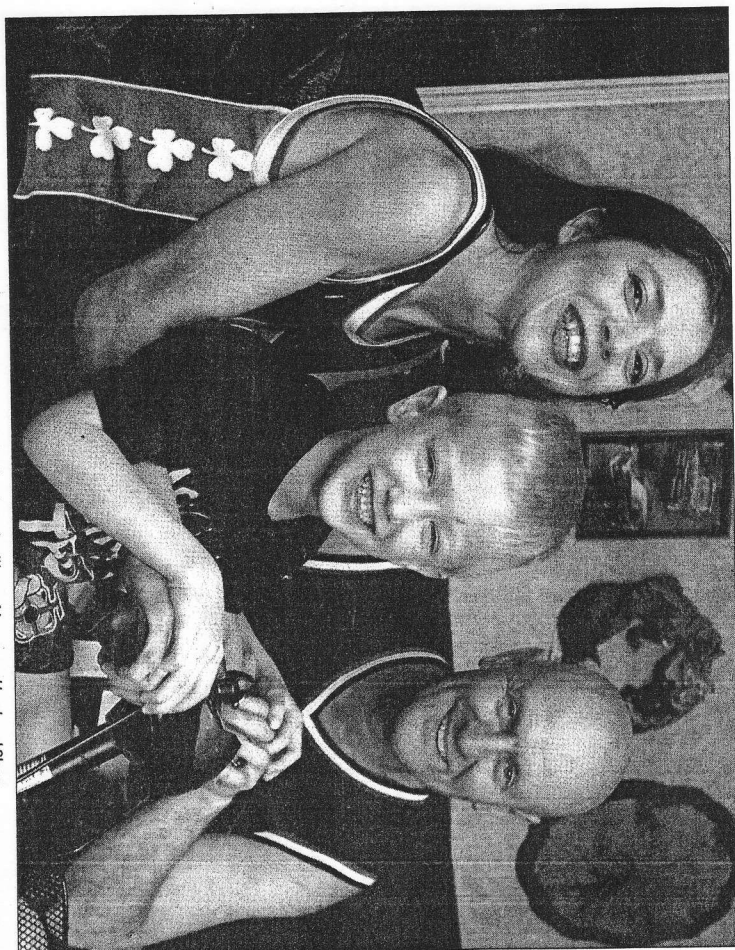
The 37-year-old from Upperthorpe paid £5,000 to travel near Krakow and believes it has been money well spent.

She said: "The way I saw it was if I had any blocked veins they shouldn't be blocked and they wanted unblocking irrespective of any connection with MS - although that link seemed highly likely to me.

"I felt I had nothing to lose as my MS is progressing and my life is a constant struggle with severe disability, and particularly against the debilitating fatigue.

"I think the procedure has already paid itself back because my fatigue reduced by 50 per cent immediately. This has improved my quality of life enormously. Most importantly, I have hope for the future."

Sylvie, mum to four-year-old Marcus - a 'miracle' child she and husband Steve, 54,

New lease of life: Sylvie Wright, who underwent the pioneering treatment with son Marcus and husband Steve.   *Picture: Barry Richardson*

she immediately felt more energetic and able to do more.

"I just felt so much better," Sylvie said. "I knew there had to be something in it."

Angioplasty was carried out on her left jugular vein - a main vein in the neck. When it collapsed again, a stent was

thought they would never have because of her health problems - first began taking a tablet called vitamin B3 to increase her blood flow.

She said the impact on her main vein in the neck. When it collapsed again, a stent was

inserted to keep it open.

A month on, Sylvie said she feels amazing.

"We don't know what will happen in the future with this procedure because it's not amazing. Before I had it done I felt like an old woman I was so tired all the time."

down the line. I could have been dead by then.

"Since I had the treatment, I've only had one day where I felt really rubbish which is amazing. Before I had it done I felt like an old woman I was so tired all the time."

Fancie cooks up a treat for annual fundraising drive

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Perry added: "We are honoured to support such a fantastic national charity as

Charity cash presentation

THE £45,000 raised at this year's Music in the Gardens event will be handed over to selected charities at a special event.

Sheffield, Hallam, Vulcan and Abbeydale rotary clubs helped organise the event which saw 10,000 punters enjoy four nights of themed music.

The performances were staged against the stunning backdrop of Sheffield's Botanical Gardens.

Among the charities set to share the cash are the Rotary Foundation, Botanical Gardens Trust Fund, Sheffield Kidney Research Foundation, Shelterbox, Western Park Hospital Cancer Charity and Sheffield Children's Summer Holidays.

The presentation is at the Hotel Victoria at 6.30 pm on Monday September 14.

Summer fun for children

DOZENS of youngsters from the Rother area of Chesterfield attended a celebratory event to mark the end of a summer programme of activities organised for them by local police.

The children, who attended the event at St Augustine's Church, Derby Road, had taken part in daily sports activities organised to keep them busy over the summer months.

Cricket, archery and arts and crafts sessions were among the activities put on for them.

The sessions, funded by the local Safer Neighbourhood Policing Team, Sure Start Children's Centre and a local councillor, were provided to offer youngsters something to do and prevent them from getting involved in nuisance behaviour.

During the sessions, which were run by the Rother Sports Action Group, there was a 19 per cent drop anti-social behaviour.

Erin's flying high again

MOUNT St Mary's college student Erin Williams achieved a top ten place when she represented Great Britain at the Pony European Champion