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FOUNDER: Professor Bhaskar Dasgupta is heading up an awareness campaign for two rheumatic conditions.
Photo Martin Dalton

Disability campaign launch

A CONSULTANT rheumatologist from Southend Hospital is behind an awareness campaign over two conditions that can lead to blindness and physical disability.

Professor Bhaskar Dasgupta is one of the founders of charity PMRGCAuk, which is starting the campaign in Southend on February 15 to raise understanding of Polymyalgia Rheumatica (PMR) and Giant Cell Arteritis (GCA).

Both PMR and GCA are linked rheumatic conditions that can lead to blindness if untreated. Prof Dasgupta said: "Many people with GCA are needlessly losing their sight due to low awareness and late diagnosis and this must change.

The event is taking place at St Peter's Church hall on February 15 at 12.15pm and is free to attend. Visit www.pmr-gca.co.uk/news/roadshow-launch/.