

BRIEFING

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IN THE PAPER



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Elsa brings happiness to hospital children



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Don't forget, your New Year's edition is available from: **Wednesday, December 31**

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Murder probe after man fatally stabbed in Oaklands Park, Chelmsford

12-year-old girl from near Southend missing

Manhunt after stabbing at Oaklands Park, Chelmsford

Oaklands Park murder probe: two arrested

Latest online



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Operation Christmas Child: Treats are delivered to Romanian orphans

Essex set for wet rather than white Christmas

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Mum's delighted to have her breast reduction surgery

Clinic helps woman for free after NHS refusal

By Peter Walker
peter.walker@essexchronicle.co.uk

A PLASTIC surgeon has reduced a mother-of-two's breasts by five cup sizes for free after the NHS refused.

Kim Mills, 32, from Trenchard Crescent in Springfield, Chelmsford, lost consecutive appeals for NHS-funded reduction surgery for the 38KK breasts that were "ruining her life".

But Aurora Clinics, based at Baddow Hospital in West Hanningfield Road, stepped in to fund the £7,000 operation after reading her story in the Chronicle.

"I can now live a normal life without the horrendous pain and embarrassment of having such huge breasts," said the single mother and office worker.

Miss Mills went under the knife of renowned South African surgeon Garrick Georgeu at Baddow Hospital on November 25, making Miss Mills the latest to benefit from Aurora's community scheme launched this year.

Grateful

After fully recovering from the surgery by the New Year, she hopes to be an E-cup. "I will forever be grateful to Baddow Hospital and Aurora Clinics for giving me my life back," said Miss Mills. "Without their help I couldn't see a way forward, I honestly thought I was going to be facing a life of excruciating pain and endless embarrassment."

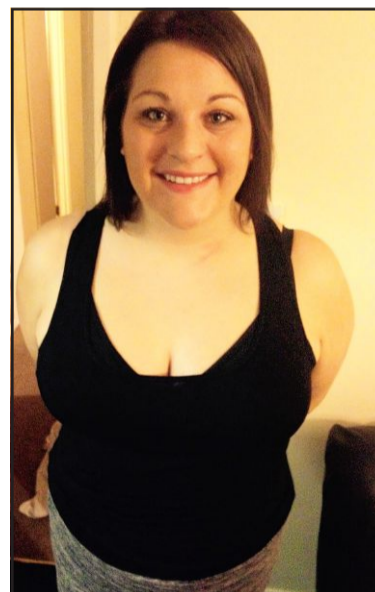
"I'm over the moon to have been chosen for the Aurora Community Scheme, I can now look forward to being a normal mum for my beautiful children, to wearing the clothes I want to wear and to rebuilding my confidence."

Miss Mills, who suffers from arthritis of the spine, said her chest was so heavy she struggled to bathe her four-year-old daughter, push her on a swing or even sit down at times.

She was denied funding and stood in front of the Mid Essex Clinical Com-



BEFORE: Kim Mills with her 38KK breasts, which caused her pain

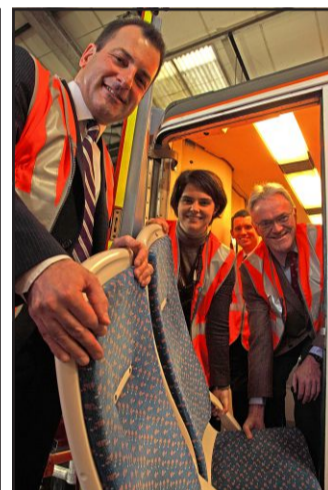


AFTER: Kim Mills pictured after her breast reduction surgery



missioning Group Exceptional Cases Panel to argue her case in July, but was turned down as funding would "set a precedent".

In a whirlwind of frustration and



REFIT: Jamie Burles, left, starts work on the carriages' overhaul

Carriages are being given an overhaul

WORK has started on the refurbishment of train carriages on the Norwich to London line.

Monday saw the start of Abellio Greater Anglia's programme to upgrade its intercity MkIII carriages at the company's depot in Norwich.

The revamp will see all of the train operator's MkIII fleet enhanced, with improvements throughout for both first class and standard carriages, including plug points, new LED lighting, new carpets, new tables, new seat covers, upgraded environmentally-friendly controlled emission toilets with new floors and new taps, repainting of the carriage interior saloon and vestibule panels, walls and ceilings.

The exterior of all the carriages will also be repainted.

The first refurbished carriages are due to enter service in February, with the full programme timetabled for completion by October 2016.

The upgrade will also increase seating capacity.

Abellio Greater Anglia's managing director, Jamie Burles, said: "We are delighted to begin this major refresh for our MkIII carriages."

anger she even considered taking her battle to the European Court of Human Rights as she said the decision robbed her of a chance at a normal life.

In the end, all she had to fund was the cost of the anaesthetist and external medical fees.

Mr Georgeu said: "After meeting and hearing about Kim's struggle over the last few years to get NHS-funded treatment, we all felt compelled to help her."

"The size of her bust was extreme and significantly affecting every aspect of her life, to the point that in her early 30s she has already developed changes within her spine caused by this excessive weight."

"We hope that this breast reduction surgery gives Kim a new lease on life, bringing about a positive change for her and her young family."