



## I was left in despair after the breast reduction from Hell

By Bernie Cini, 59, from south London

My big

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hammocks

xpanding waistline, the odd grey hair, a few wrinkles. All inevitable changes that go with

getting older. For me, I wasn't too bothered by those ageing signs.

I had a much bigger problem well two, actually.

My huge great boobs!

With each year that passed, they got bigger

and bigger. Having two kids didn't help, and neither did gaining a few pounds here and there.

By 2006, when I was 54. they were an enormous

40G cup.

'Most women would kill for boobs that big,' mates said. My partner, Martin, 63,

wasn't complaining, either. I was, though.

The strain on my poor back from supporting them was terrible. It ached, morning

and night.

And my big bras were more like hammocks!

I had two deep grooves, running right over my shoulders, from where the bra straps dug in to me.

Sometimes the red marks even became so tender that they'd bleed.

I knew there was only one thing for it.

'I want a breast reduction,' I told Martin.

I'd agonised over it for years. But now, the awful prospect of living with those massive boobs into my old age tipped

## W boo Mere de

me over. I'd finally had enough. I wanted it done quickly but there was a waiting list for the NHS, so I decided to go private.

By June 2006, I'd scraped together every penny of my savings, got the £5,000 I needed.

'See you after the op,' Martin said, kissing me goodbye, as I was wheeled off to theatre.

Of course, I knew the risks. But you never think it'll happen to you, do you? Little did I know... After the two-hour

surgery, I opened my eyes in the recovery room.

I was really groggy and in pain, but just so relieved it

was all over.

Now, my new life as a B-cup could begin.

But - oh, boy, did it hurt! My breasts both felt as if they were on fire, and my

left one was really swollen. 'It's fine,' the doctors reassured

me when I asked them. Was it? I felt awful...

My left boob wasn't draining properly, so the fluid and pus was building up inside.

And the skin was red-hot to The skin

the touch. Still, after two days, I was discharged was red-hot and sent home.

Lying in bed, I could hardly move. Now, even my right breast was infected.

Both of my boobs felt like two

overinflated balloons, about to explode.

And I felt like a zombie, too. Feverish and confused as raging infection gripped me.

'I'm taking you back to hospital,' Martin said, seeing the state of me.

This time, they put me on an

## reast of the times...

to the

touch...

 Purchases of bras for women with size D- to G-cups have risen by 50 per cent every year since 2005.

The most popular UK bra size is now 36D. In 2000, it was 34B!

 This year, Selfridges department stores have started stocking K-size bras for larger-busted ladies.

Surveys show 85 per cent of us still wear an ill-fitting bra. If you're slim or a small build. you may need a larger cupsize than someone who isn't as slim or with a bigger frame. It doesn't mean you have bigger breasts than them, only that your cup-size is bigger.



and forward to to go under hospital, each time the knife being told the same thing.

Nothing to worry about.

I was too weak to argue. Finally, Martin snapped. This isn't normal,' he told

my doctor. 'She's in agony.' In the end

again... time, and had my old, huge breasts back, I'd have done it in a second.

Dr Nduka operated on me, scraping out the mass of infection, cutting away

moment,

if I could've

turned back

dead flesh.

He left the wounds open, so any further infection didn't build up inside.

I was left with a gaping hole in each breast.

Still, at least my boobs were finally on the mend.

I wouldn't let Martin near me, but, lovely man that he is, he never complained once.

By summer 2007. my boobs were feeling much better.

Yet they were so scarred and misshapen, I knew I had to take

the plunge and go under the knife again.

Dr Nduka would do this op for me, too.

When I saw my new boobs for the first time, I could've kissed him!

The scarring was hardly noticeable, and my new breasts were perfectly round.

At long last. I finally had a perfect pair of neat, round D-cup boobs.

Now, I'm a new woman. No more backache, no more brastrap grooves.

There's only one downside, as far as I can tell.

With all the sexy little bras I've been buying, my bank balance has shrunk, too!

## goodtoknow

rebuild you...

normal after

yet another op

Getting back to

'In a study, we found 100 per cent of women at our clinic were wearing the wrong size bra, causing pain in the breast, neck and shoulders. I believe setting up a proper [NHS] bra-fitting service would reduce this problem."

Professor Kefah Mokbel, consultant breast surgeon, St George's Hospital, London

For more info, visit www.goodtoknow. co.uk/rightbrasize

