



myself th **I** thought



got a gastric band – in my head!

By Marion Corns, 35, from Whiston, Merseyside

pooning another delicious pile of paella onto my plate, I grinned guiltily. Last helping! I vowed. It'd been like this ever since we'd moved to Spain in 2005.

I thought sun and salads would help me lose weight. It'd had the opposite effect! I'd been a size-18. Now I

struggled to fit into size-20s. T feel awful, I moaned to my husband Simon, now 44. My self-confidence was at rock bottom.

I wanted a gastric band but I couldn't afford the £7,000!

Then a friend said hypnosis stopped her smoking and the clinic helped with weight loss.

They hypnotise you into believing you've had a gastric

band fitted!' she told me. What? Sounded mad! Still, it had to be worth a go! I made an appointment to see saw hypnotist Marion Shirran at the Elite

Clinic in Fuengirola. It was expensive – £680 for five sessions but much cheaper than surgery

And safer, too. 'It'll never work,' Simon sniffed But on 1 July

2008, I had my first session. And when I had my

dinner... Tm. stuffed,' I said, after just a few

spoonfuls. I hadn't even had my 'band' fitted yet - I needed three weeks of hypnosis first. And Marion explained that, as with surgery, I must

diet for

three weeks before my big 'op'. And, in that time, I'd lost 9lb. Now it was time for my mind

band to be fitted! As Marion put me under, I slipped into the darkness.

I heard the sounds of a hospital, smelt that sterile smell, just like I was being prepped for theatre... When I woke up 30

minutes later, my stomach felt tight. Just as if I'd had surgery. And, like No surger

equired!

surgery, I could hardly eat a thing. The

veight fell off. Ten months on, I've lost three stone. I wear a size-12/14 and have loads of energy. I'll need more hypnosis to have

the 'band' released so I can eat normally again. But I'll never go back

to the weight I was. Not now I know... It's all a case of mind

over fatter!

by Heather Mayer/Georgina Horton/Christa Caped

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