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Teacher admits to shoplifting spree

COURT: Supervision and unpaid work orders for 43-year-old

By Elliot Furniss

A TEACHER has been given a year's supervision and ordered to carry out 200 hours unpaid work after admitting stealing from fashion boutiques.

Imogen Parker, of Sudbury Road, Bures St Mary, stole goods worth more than £3,000 from Walkers, of Pottergate, Norwich, and Upstairs Downstairs in Woodbridge last January and in September 2008.

She pleaded guilty to a further four counts of possessing criminal property and one count of selling stolen property on the internet auction site eBay.



ADMITTED CHARGES: Teacher Imogen Parker

The court heard that she had acquired property from several boutique outlets including Angela Fashions, Long Melford, and Colleen and Clare, Southwold, but had told police she was unable to account for how she obtained them.

Parker, 43, appeared at Ipswich Crown Court yesterday morning after

pleading guilty to all counts at an earlier hearing.

The court heard that she had been suffering from stress at the time of the thefts and had been diagnosed with depression by her GP.

The judge was told that Parker's husband had been unwell at the time the shoplifting happened while friends and other family members had suffered from illness.

The court was told that "it all became rather

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Photo: SARAH LUCY BROWN

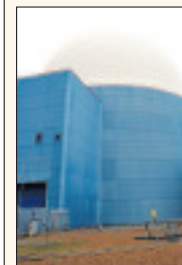
Flying start for new hospice appeal

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Teatro Kismet in association with Warwick Arts Centre

THE MERMAID PRINCESS

"shiveringly beautiful and frequently spellbinding"
The Stage

A spectacular family fairytale for ages 8+

Written and directed by Teresa Ludovic
Inspired by Hans Christian Andersen's *The Little Mermaid*

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Wed 14 Sat 17 April
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www.wolseytheatre.co.uk

ref - slb 010 hospice site 3



ref - slb 010 hospice site 4



WORK UNDER WAY: East Anglia's Children's Hospices chief executive Graham Butland, far left and above, on site with Melanie Chew and Mark Loades Photos: SARAH LUCY BROWN

Hospice appeal tops £160,000

CHILDREN'S FACILITY: Work begins on £3million project

By Jo Thewlis

DOUBLE celebrations were in order as an appeal for a new children's hospice in Suffolk topped £160,000 on the day diggers moved in to start building work.

The foundations for the £3million centre off Bixley Road in Ipswich were being sunk yesterday as East Anglia's Children's Hospices (EACH) project took another leap forward.

Thanks in part to donations from *East Anglian Daily Times* readers, EACH's Treehouse Appeal has reached £160,000 in just three weeks.

Melanie Chew, director of fundraising at EACH, said: "It is immensely exciting to see the building work coming along.

"We are so excited to be able to announce such an exciting total on the day we really start seeing work take place."

Thanks to generous pledges, coffee mornings, charity runs and fundraising ideas from supporters, the Treehouse Appeal is gathering steam.

Watching the work take place, Melanie thanked EADT readers for their vital efforts



HOW THE FUTURE LOOKS: A model of the new hospice now being built off Bixley Road, Ipswich

to boost the campaign. "We have been overwhelmed by the support from *East Anglian Daily Times* readers," she said. "People are filling in their coupons and ringing the office with their fundraising ideas.

"The momentum is growing and I hope people continue to support us throughout the coming year."

Graham Butland, EACH chief executive, got behind the controls of a massive pile driver to help sink some of the 149 augured piles which are being buried eight metres deep in the soil to support the final structure.

He said: "It is great to see it taking shape.

"It is going to be a tranquil haven which, for some families, is so important."

Barnes Construction is undertaking the work, which will take around 15 months to complete.

Mr Butland said he was delighted with the fantastic support the campaign had received.

"It's very encouraging. We are absolutely delighted with the response because these are difficult times for some people. The generosity of people in Suffolk and the east is really coming through," he said

Editorial Comment - Page 24 jo.thewlis@eadt.co.uk

Here's how you can help the appeal

East Anglia's Children's Hospices (EACH) provides care and support for life-threatening children and their families across Suffolk and North Essex, either in families' own homes or at the EACH hospice in Walker Close, Ipswich, which the charity has outgrown. There are not enough beds and rooms to meet needs, and there are no dedicated spaces for the specialist services required by families. Initially intended for a maximum capacity of 40 families, the current hospice now cares for more than 89 families.

EACH has been donated a four acre woodland plot in Ipswich by a local charitable trust on which the charity will build a new hospice. The new building will allow end of life care to be delivered in greater privacy, provide more bed spaces for life-threatening children, and overnight accommodation for other family members and include dedicated areas for specialist therapies including hydrotherapy, physiotherapy, music and play therapy.

EACH needs to raise £3 million through the Treehouse Appeal to build and equip the new hospice, and throughout 2010 there will be many ways to get involved, as an individual, company, school or community group. Every single contribution helps, no matter what size. You can sponsor a brick in our woodland path, buy our lovely merchandise, join us on the Orwell Walk or hold your own event - such as a Butterfly Day coffee and cakes. For more information visit: www.eadt.org.uk/treehouse or call: 01473 276115.

Yes, I want to support the Treehouse Appeal

Please tick:

I enclose a donation of

£.....

(please make cheques payable to EACH Treehouse Appeal).

If you would like to donate by credit or debit card please call us on 01473 276115

I would like a fundraising pack to get some ideas and tips.

Title:

First name:

Surname:

Address:

.....

Postcode:

Tel No:

We are very grateful for your support, but to save vital funds we only acknowledge donations on request. Please tick if you would like an acknowledgement.

Gift Aid Declaration

I am a UK tax payer and would like EACH to treat all donations I make from this date as Gift Aid donations, until I notify you otherwise, so that EACH receive an extra 28p for every £1 I donate. N.B. You must pay sufficient tax to cover the amount we will reclaim on your donation. Please let us know if your circumstances change.

We would like to send you occasional updates on the Treehouse Appeal. If you do not wish to receive this, please tick this box.

Please return this coupon to:

EACH Treehouse Appeal, Room 23 Epsilon House, West Road, Ransomes Europark, Ipswich IP3 9FJ



Registered Charity No - 1069284