



2m obese Brits to get gastric ops on NHS

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MIRROR EXCLUSIVE

HERE KIMS THE BRIDE

» Andy to wed his sweetheart
» Engaged after eight years

**SMASHING
COUPLE**
Andy Murray
with fiancée
Kim Sears



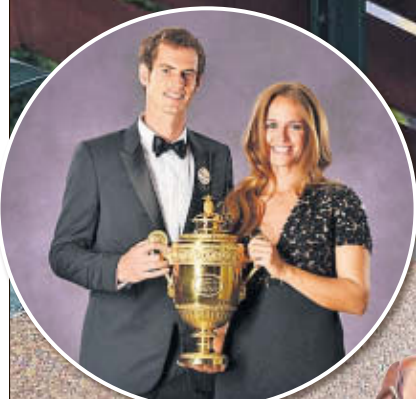
FULL STORY: PAGE 3

Kim, set & match

Tennis ace Murray pops the question to long-term love



LATTE LOVERS Kim and Andy share a tender moment in a coffee shop during Paris trip last month



ACE Pair with Wimbledon trophy

3am EXCLUSIVE
BY HALINA WATTS



ANDY Murray has just played the biggest match of his life - getting engaged to long-term girlfriend Kim Sears.

Britain's top tennis star lobbed the question last Wednesday and managed to keep it secret for more than a week.

The fiercely private couple first met nine years ago, but the 2013 Wimbledon champ has always flicked away questions about when they'd wed.

Earlier this year a fan asked when he was going to pop the question and Andy replied: "We are getting married just after Wimbledon, should be a great day." Kim denied it on Twitter, writing: "Nobody is getting married. His tweets need a sarcasm disclaimer."

Andy, 27, finally did the deed with a pricey diamond sparkler. A source revealed: "Andy spent ages thinking about the ring, chose the design and picked it up last week. He proposed on Wednesday and Kim said 'yes' immediately.

"They are completely besotted and have been there for each other through thick and thin. Now they are going to enjoy themselves before they plan their big day."

Andy's family - including mum Judy, 55, who starred on this year's *Strictly Come Dancing* - are said to be overjoyed. Last night Andy, the first British man to win

Wimbledon since 1936, flew to the Philippines for the International Premier Tennis League. But he made no hint at his really big news, instead tweeting: "Should be a fun trip... Anyone got suggestions for first time tourists in Manila?"

Kim, 26, has stuck by Andy as he rose to stardom and regularly sits by Judy cheering him in matches. The couple met in 2005 at the US Open when Kim was travelling with her tennis coach dad Nigel.

It was before he acquired global fame and a £30million fortune. She was 17 and Andy became her first serious boyfriend. He said: "I'm lucky. I know she isn't with me because I'm in the spotlight."

Their relationship was cemented when, for Kim's 21st birthday present, Andy bought her their border terrier, Maggie. He gushed: "Getting her was probably one of the happiest days of my life."

They split for six months in 2010 and Maggie was rumoured to have featured in their reconciliation.

The couple now share a mansion in Oxshott, Surrey, with Maggie and other terrier Rusty.

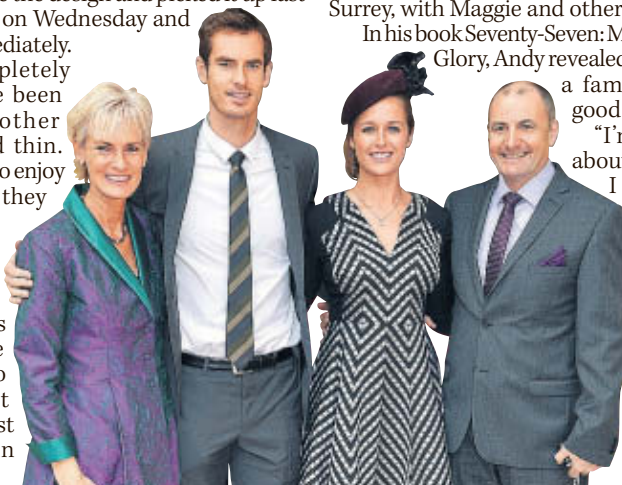
In his book *Seventy-Seven: My Road to Wimbledon Glory*, Andy revealed: "I would like to start a family and try to be a good father.

"I'm starting to think about it because Kim and I have been together eight years."

Last night Andy and Kim were unavailable for comment.

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FAMILY AFFAIR
Andy with mum Judy, Kim and dad William



ANDY'S NO.1 FAN
Kim arrives to watch match

“They are besotted and have been there for each other through thick and thin

SOURCE ON KIM'S ENGAGEMENT TO ANDY