

Grooming Equipment

Dogs and cats have a variety of coat types and it is important that the choice of grooming equipment is correct for each type:

- **Slicker Brushes:**

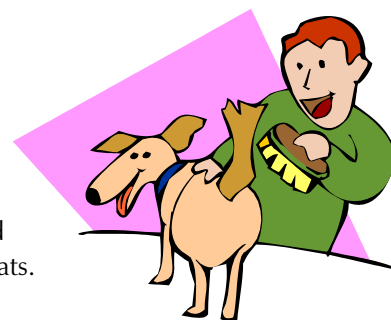
Slicker brushes consist of hooked wire pins mounted on a rectangular pad with a handle. Care should be taken when brushing in areas where hair cover is thin such as under front and back legs. Slicker brushes are excellent for use on matted and tangled coats as their design and shape enables them to pull out dead hair and break down mats.

- **Rubber (Zoom Groom) Type Devices:**

These are available for dogs and cats, they consist of a one-piece handheld rubber grooming device with large bumps along the grooming surface. These grooming aids are very useful, particularly for short coated breeds, and are like a massage, which pets love!

- **De-Matting Comb:**

This type of comb is designed to cut through mats without destroying too much of the coat. These combs usually consist of a series of metal teeth bladed on one side and blunt on the other. The comb is introduced behind the mat, but in front of the skin, with the sharpened side of the blade facing towards the groomer, a firm but gentle sawing motion is adopted. As the blade works through the mat, it breaks down into smaller mats, which can then be combed out. The comb allows the maximum amount of coat to be preserved once the mat is removed.



Buying a Puppy or Kitten



Never take on a pet because you are sorry for it. A poor, shivery, sickly animal is sure to prove a problem. It is best to get a puppy or kitten directly from the home in which it was born when it is between eight to ten weeks of age. By seeing the mother (and the father if possible) you'll be able to judge the kind of temperament the animal is likely to develop and, most importantly for dogs, the size to which it will grow. If you would have liked the parent as your pet, then, and only then, choose a son or daughter. Fish, birds and small mammals such as gerbils, hamsters and guinea pigs, can be bought from a reputable pet shop or breeder. It is also a good idea to bring your new pet to us as soon as possible for a health check to make sure that all is well.

Kennels

In the excitement of preparing for that long awaited break, don't forget to make arrangements for your pets. All boarding establishments must be licensed with the local authority; their addresses are available from municipal offices or local libraries. Remember, like good hotels the best kennels and catteries get booked up early in the year. No properly run kennel or cattery will mind if you want to visit before booking.

Having booked your holiday and that of your pets, you must make sure that booster vaccinations are up to date. The kennel or cattery owner will want to see your pet's vaccine certificate to make quite certain that it is properly protected. After all, they don't want any animals in their care passing diseases to one another. Some boarding kennels ask that dogs are additional vaccinated against kennel cough. Kennel cough is a contagious respiratory disease similar to a human cough which often occurs where dogs are in close proximity. Endell Veterinary Group now offer kennel cough vaccination as a standard part of your dog's vaccination program at no additional expense to you if it is administered at the same time as your dog's other routine vaccination.

Celebrity Support for Scanning Campaign

Vets are being advised to check all new animals being brought to their clinics for a microchip. This is after an increase in the number of stolen dogs being sold on to unsuspecting new owners. Bruce Forsyth and his daughter, Debbie Matthews, have founded 'Vets Get Scanning' to promote the idea after Mrs Matthews' two Yorkshire Terriers were stolen from her car in 2006. Dog theft is one of the fastest growing crimes, with dogs stolen every day. So, please don't be offended if we check your new pet for a microchip when we first see them.



Vet Departing

We are sad to say goodbye to Andrew Thornton, one of our small animal vets, who will be leaving the practice at the end of July. Andrew has been with us for six years and we would like to wish him the very best for the future.



Mobile Surgery Timetable

Please note that we no longer visit Breamore Village Hall on Wednesday mornings, but are at Downton Co-Op Car Park instead, as below:

Location	Day	Time
Bishopstone (White Hart)	Wednesday	1.30–3.30pm
Downton (Co-Op Car Park)	Monday Wednesday Thursday	11am–12.30pm 9.30am–12pm 12.30–2pm
Morgans Vale (Village Hall)	Monday Thursday	9.30–10.30am 2.30–3.30pm
Whiteparish (Parish Lantern)	Tuesday	10am–3.30pm
Winterslow (Village Hall)	Monday Thursday	1.30–3.30pm 9.30–11.30am



Following government medicines regulations that came into effect on 1 November 2005, we would like to advise you of the following changes:

Prescriptions are available from this practice. You may obtain Prescription Only Medicines, Category V, (POM Vs) from your veterinary surgeon **or** ask for a prescription and obtain these medicines from another veterinary surgeon or a pharmacy.

Your veterinary surgeon may prescribe POM Vs only for animals under his or her care.

A prescription may not be appropriate if your animal is an in-patient or immediate treatment is necessary.

You will be informed, on request, of the price of any medicine that may be prescribed for your animal.

The general policy of the Small Animal Department of this practice is to reassess an animal requiring repeat prescriptions every six months, but this may vary with individual circumstances. The standard charge for a re-examination is £15.30 during the day, £17.38 in the evenings or £20.88 at weekends.

The current prices for the ten POM Vs most commonly prescribed or supplied during a typical three month period are displayed in our waiting room.

Further information on the prices of medicines is available on request.

Repeat prescriptions are available at forty-eight hours' notice, Monday to Friday.