

A Day in the Life of Stow Vets

I've worked at Stow Veterinary Surgeons for over a year now and live very happily in Milton-under-Wychwood with my boyfriend, beautiful spaniel and gorgeous cat.

My job is far from glamorous,

however despite the inevitable splattering with something stinky, the day is always varied and the highs make up for the lows. My day begins at the main hospital at Stow, examining the inpatients staying with us, and deciding on the day's treatments. Today's patients include Annie who had an operation to repair a broken pelvis. She's now making real progress. This morning I'm operating, which I absolutely love, and then in the afternoon I head to the new Milton



Annie under observation

surgery. Today, a rather lovely but lethargic lurcher hasn't been eating for a few days. After a blood sample and an ultrasound scan of her tummy, we are able to diagnose a uterine infection, which is a relatively common yet life-threatening condition.

She needs an urgent operation, as well as a drip line to provide fluids, antibiotics and pain relief. She recovers well and hopefully will be able to go home tomorrow. The end of the day arrives and tonight it's my turn to respond to emergency calls, then hopefully time for some sleep before starting all over again in the morning.

Amy Mills.

Handy Hints From 'Mr Fix It'

Filleting and Flashing

Anthony Hemming can turn his hand to almost anything in the home maintenance area. Here he gives us some hints on keeping a building in good order

Many old and traditional buildings in the Cotswolds have concrete fillets covering the area where a roof joins a vertical wall. In former times these were applied carefully and normally over two stages so that the first level was thoroughly dried out and keyed before the final top level was put on.

Today some roofers will take a short cut and put the whole fillet on in one go. If this is on a hot day then, shortly afterwards, the first cracks will appear. When the next heavy downfall occurs

water can start to leak into these cracks and drip below the new roof! An effective solution can be to replace the concrete fillet with lead flashing or even place it over the ineffective fillet. A small area of the wall is ground out above the fillet to about $\frac{3}{4}$ " depth so that the edge of the flashing can be inserted. The flashing is then fixed with some of the new mastics which are like lead in appearance. Result a long lasting repair and you can put those buckets away!

Anthony Hemming