

A Day in the Life of.... A Mobile Dog Groomer

Over the past five years I have had great adventures in and with my van, all I need is to be able to park outside your home and have access to a power point for a long extension lead and I am ready to groom!

I come across a vast range of breeds, from a tiny Yorkshire terrier no bigger than my hand to a 12 stone St Bernard who was only eight months old and filled the bath completely.

I think I was wetter than him at the end! I have also been pinned against the van door by an Irish Wolfhound - luckily it was playing and I still kept grooming! One owner had a Schitzu of which he was terrified. He would feed it treats after it had bitten him! It went for me once - I shouted at it and we are now best friends! Another customer has a nasty dog he only handles with leather gloves, "but don't worry it only has one tooth left". I was



supposed to trim its face - I think I managed one side and still have ten fingers left!

I have some owners I have to call ten minutes before I arrive so they can catch their dogs as they can recognise the sound of my van coming up their driveway. The opposite of this are the dogs that pull me into the van in eager anticipation and are reluctant to return to their owners!

Some days I wonder why am I doing this job - especially when there are icicles hanging from the van roof, frozen water pipes and fuses blowing at every other dog but I have survived four winters and am looking forward to spring.

It is a very rewarding and satisfying job and I wouldn't change it at all!

Becky Hird

Dial a Dog Wash

01993 845360 or: 07754 039665

Annaliese Retires

Annaliese Niebuhr almost notched up 40 years service as dispenser at the Wychwood Surgery before she retired on January 6th. Back in 1972, pills and potions were dispensed individually, no packs of 28 tablets to lift off the shelf in those days. Everything was hand-written. What a change



now when everything is just a key stroke on the computer. We all have our own memories of Annaliese and I am sure that everyone will wish her a long and happy retirement.

Christine Halliday

She is going to hate me for this and it could be the end of a beautiful friendship!