



# KELVIN HOUSE DENTAL PRACTICE

## “word of mouth”

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### NASA use \$3 toothbrush to fix space station

Resembling a story line from the fated Apollo 13, NASA has recently reported how one of their inventive astronauts saved the day onboard the International Space Station.



The crew had been battling to fix a major electrical malfunction but were unable to repair it using their high-tech tools. Eventually, some one came up with the ingenious idea of using a \$3 toothbrush to improvise one of their tools and, amazingly, the repair worked!

NASA was quick to point out that no-one's teeth were sacrificed for the cause - there was a spare toothbrush on-board!

### The Horrible History of Tooth Care

- Almost 5000 years ago, the ancient Egyptians were using a form of toothpaste. It consisted of a mixture of powdered ashes of oxen hooves, pumice and a powdery mix of burnt eggshells. They probably used their fingers as toothbrushes.

- The Greeks and Romans favoured more abrasiveness and their toothpaste ingredients included crushed bones and oyster shells.

- During the Middle Ages people cleaned their teeth by rubbing them with a cloth. Mixtures of herbs or abrasives were also used including the ashes of burnt rosemary.

- The first toothbrush was invented in China in 1498. It was made from the stiff hairs from a hog's neck and a handle made from bone or bamboo.



Just to let you know that we now have a small foldable wheelchair available for patients who find it difficult to get in and out of the surgery.

If you are a carer, please let the receptionist know as it can also be used to help patients from the car into the practice, without having to load up your own wheelchair.

Paul Downes | BDS MGDS LDS DGDGP  
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Call 01227 **771323** now to make your routine check-up appointment