

## Get out and about and enjoy Brimmond Hill Country Park

Spring is on its way. Fancy getting out into the countryside without having to get into the car? Kingswells is surrounded by some glorious walks and Brimmond Hill Country Park (connecting to the Four Hills Walk) is on our doorstep.

A member of the public has contacted Kingswells Community Council (KCC) to highlight a core path (CP) identified as CP42 from Kingswells Crescent, which could connect up the village to CP33 at Brimmond Hill. CP33 is a pleasant route up the hill. However, CP42 is overgrown, muddy and not very useable. KCC have contacted Aberdeen City Council expressing our support for CP42 to be upgraded and signposted. There are land ownership issues to be overcome and KCC understands that, although ACC has limited resources at present, our request has been noted and ACC have raised this route higher in their priorities of routes to be considered for planning in future years.

KCC would be keen to promote *some* upgrading work to improve the path. However, we have expressed a wish for a full consultation, with residents, on the scale of any upgrade. ACC's aspiration is that CP42 will be suitable for multi-use, but actual specifications have not been planned yet. It is KCC's own view that CP42 is a rural path and should be upgraded as such in a similar way to paths to Gillahill and along the Bucks Burn valley, for example. KCC do not consider tarmac and lighting to be appropriate. However, we will welcome other residents' views on this.

One complication is that the new road layout planned for the major Kingswells North junction of the AWPR could potentially remove this access route to Brimmond Hill. Campaigning for improvements to CP42 could help to ensure that planners maintain good access to Brimmond Hill once the AWPR is built.

Kingswells Community Council would be delighted to hear your views on the upgrading of CP42.

Please email [kcc@kwells.org](mailto:kcc@kwells.org)

Or

Write to –  
Kingswells Community Council:  
3 Corse Avenue, Kingswells, Aberdeen AB15 8TL

Or

Post your letter into the post box on the wall between the two notice boards in the village centre.



## KIPPIE LODGE - HAIR & BEAUTY NON-MEMBERS WELCOME



SPRING TIME FEET!  
HOW ARE YOUR FEET LOOKING?  
NAILS PAINTED?  
SOFT, SILKY FEET?

IT'S TIME TO GET YOUR FEET LOOKING GREAT.  
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PEDICURE PROMOTIONS NOW ON.

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**GRAMPIAN**  
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*Keeping our communities safe*

## **POLICE NEWS**

The low crime figures for Kingswells remain excellent in comparison to all other areas within Aberdeen City; however, it is disappointing to find that there are still a number of thefts from insecure motor vehicles.

In response to this, Bucksburn Local Policing Team have been conducting extra patrols in the area and also, with the assistance of the Aberdeen City Wardens, conducting another leaflet drop to further raise awareness of this issue.

Letters have also been distributed to the Primary School for all Primary one pupils to take home to their parents, which outline simple and straightforward crime-prevention advice.

The Community Council have been consulted and asked to assist with this in distributing the message to all community contacts within the Kingswells area. It is important to re-iterate that there is not a great volume of crime, however the thief is still being offered 'easy pickings' which can easily be avoided.

Speeders in and around Kingswells continue to be monitored. Bucksburn Local Policing Team and our Roads Policing colleagues continue to conduct ad hoc speed checks to educate and prosecute offenders.

Two of our officers recently delivered a talk to all nursery school children at Kingswells Primary School, which was very well received and they plan to return and deliver it to all primary ones.

Please in touch with us should you have any concerns you think we ought to know about.

We can be contacted by telephone on 0845 6005700  
or you can e-mail us at  
[mylocalpolicingteam@grampian.pnn.police.uk](mailto:mylocalpolicingteam@grampian.pnn.police.uk)

Kev Murray, Sergeant

### **Scoop the poop ... please!**

Dear fellow doggies

It all happened a couple of weeks ago when my Mum took me to dog classes in Kingswells. Just before we started, she walked me along the road outside the old Church Hall. Then suddenly..... Mum was frantically rubbing and scrubbing her shoes on one of the rare clean grass patches. You can all imagine what happened.....DOG POOP!

Back in the hall, she did not want to spread that disgusting, smeary and smelly stuff all over the floor. She was forced to take her shoes off and train me in her socks! Mum was not too pleased about that! After driving home in her socks (to avoid the stuff sticking to the pedals), it took her hours to clean her shoes (whilst I was waiting to go out for a walk).

It could all be so easy. Please let your mums and dads know, a little bit of extra effort in cleaning up after us may not make the world a better place but may help to prevent heart-rates peaking. So please.... SCOOP THE POOP! Thank you

Robin (with Mum Ellen), Inverurie

# **Kingswells Medical Practice**



Kingswells Medical Practice, on Kingswood Drive, is registering new patients, please come along, or call us on 01224 745800 for information. Have a look at our new website at [www.kingswellsmedicalpractice.co.uk](http://www.kingswellsmedicalpractice.co.uk) where you will be able to find out more about our practice. We hope to make the website more interactive in the near future.



# MD

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Reliable  
& Friendly  
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Private &  
Commercial

Mike Duffus  
Tel: 01224 732872  
Mobile: 07742 761 763

E-mail: [mdgardenserv@btinternet.com](mailto:mdgardenserv@btinternet.com)

## Proposed Residential Development at OP42 Huxterstone, Kingswells

Stewart Milne Homes and Graham Homes invite you to attend a second public exhibition which will provide further information on the masterplan and proposals for the site. The site is identified as OP42 Kingswells D and West Huxterstone in the Aberdeen Local Development Plan for 120 homes.

### Public Exhibition

**Tuesday 22nd May 2012**  
**3:00pm – 8:00pm**  
**Fourmile House,**  
**Old Skene Road, Kingswells**

At the exhibition you will have the opportunity to discuss the proposals with representatives of Stewart Milne Homes and Graham Homes and provide feedback to the team via questionnaires which will be provided.

We look forward to meeting you on the 22nd May 2012.

**For further information please contact:**  
**Ms Natasha Douglas**  
**Ryden LLP**  
**25 Albyn Place**  
**Aberdeen**  
**AB10 1YL**  
**Email: [Huxterstone@ryden.co.uk](mailto:Huxterstone@ryden.co.uk)**  
**Tel: 01224 588866**

## WESTHILL BOWLING CLUB

**DID YOU KNOW THERE IS A BOWLING GREEN  
IN WESTHILL?**

**DO YOU KNOW WHERE IT IS?**

Westhill Bowling Green is situated in the Denman Park beside the tennis court. Members are now looking forward to the 2012 season with the opening of the green on Saturday 14 April, only a few weeks away.

For anyone interested in bowling who has never bowled before, the club has a number of coaches who are available to help encourage new members of all ages (age 10+) Bowls are available for coaching sessions and these sessions are free. The club has a number of members who started bowling at a young age and have achieved considerable success. There is the opportunity for more experienced bowlers to get involved with a number of competitions within the club and for the club against other clubs.

An open day is being held on Saturday 5 May, 10.00am - 4.00pm, come along and have a go !!

Anyone interested in knowing more should contact our secretary, Mrs Margaret Cruickshank, Tel: 744544 or email [mgt.c@talktalk.net](mailto:mgt.c@talktalk.net)

## Culter Theatre Club Presents 'ALLO 'ALLO

**Tickets :-**  
**£15 (adult)**  
**£12 (OAP)**  
*Over 18's only*

**Tel :-**  
**Culter**  
**Village Hall**  
**01224**  
**734371**

**Dates :-**  
**Wed 23<sup>rd</sup>,**  
**Fri 25<sup>th</sup> &**  
**Sat 26<sup>th</sup> May**



**A Comedy**  
**By**  
**Jeremy Lloyd &**  
**David Croft**



**At :-**  
**Culter**  
**Village Hall**  
**7.30pm**

**Pssst...I shall**  
**say ziss only**  
**once ...You will**  
**be seated at**  
**tables in Café**  
**Rene. We will**  
**bring you**  
**nibbles but you**  
**must bring your**  
**own drinks -**  
**after all , zer is a**  
**war on !!**

Culter Theatre Club is proud to announce this year's Summer Show "'Allo 'Allo" a comedy by Jeremy Lloyd and David Croft. The hall will be set out as part of Cafe Rene so the audience feel part of the show (fancy dress is welcome). Rehearsals are well under way and we have a fantastic show in the making featuring everyone's favourite characters from the acclaimed TV series.



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[www.ardenehouse.co.uk](http://www.ardenehouse.co.uk)



## NEWS FROM BUCKSBURN ACADEMY

### **Bucksburn Academy Rock Challenge Success**

Bucksburn Academy 's entry this year was " Through the looking glass." The concept of what lies behind the "Beautiful People" came from the ideas that interested the group. The choreography was led by S4/5/6 pupils who finally saw it all come together on stage with set, costumes, light and our soundtrack on Feb 18th in A.E.C.C. We are very proud of our performance to "Be the best that we can be" and delighted to be awarded;

- **Rock Challenge Award for Positive Inclusion**
- **Grampian Police Award for Performance Skill**
- **Youth Link Scotland Cash Back for Communities Award for Soundtrack**
- **Aberdeenshire Alcohol and Drug Partnership Award for Achievement in Drug Awareness**

We wish to thank all the families and friends who supported us on the evening which was the end of a great day with 7 other schools. Our thanks also to all the pupils, staff and parents who supported our fundraising this year along with support from Fugro, Asda, Aberdeen FC and Councillor Mark McDonald.

### **Rethinking Energy Conference**

Bucksburn Academy is developing links with a number of local and European schools to carry out case studies on alternative energy. As part of this, senior pupils from the school will lead a conference bringing together local community representatives, business partners, representatives from Aberdeen City Council and national bodies to explore the issue in more detail and consider how they can support the pupil's work in this area. The school is gaining a growing reputation for its work on pupil leadership in this area, community engagement and sustainability and has been invited to share its work at two national conferences in March.

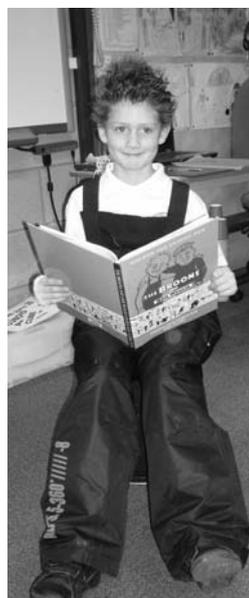


## NEWS FROM KINGSWELLS PRIMARY SCHOOL

On Tuesday 28th of February it was World Book Day. We got to dress up as our favourite characters from our favourite book. We all loved it. It was really fun. We shared with the class who we came as and we nearly all had different characters. We had 30 minutes of ERIC time (Everyone Reading in Class), we entered a book mark competition and we are going to send them off. We also did a book swap when we took in books we didn't want from home and swapped them in class. We had a really good day and it was cool to dress up.

In Primary 5 we are taking part in Grow Well Choices. We do it every Tuesday. We do different activities every week like Zap and hockey games. We have been doing it for eight weeks and on the first week we got our height and weight taken and we are getting it done again on week eight. We learn about the Eatwell plate and there are five different sections. They are protein, dairy, fruit and vegetables, high fat/high sugar and carbohydrates. We have been learning how to make healthy choices like what foods to eat and how much exercise we need.

P5GB went to the art gallery to see the exhibition Van Gogh to Vetriciano. It was very exciting! We went and saw the pictures with the artist Debbie and the lady from the art gallery, Lindsey. Then we went to make our own collages with the self portraits we drew and the photos Mrs Buchan took of us. We had great fun!



# NOTES FROM THE COMMUNITY CENTRE

The Heart of the Village

## NEW BABY MASSAGE CLASS

We have a new baby massage class starting in April by an experienced Health Visitor. Suitable for babies from 6 weeks 'on the move.' 5 x weekly sessions, come along and learn to massage your baby whilst making new friends. For information and to reserve a place, contact Vera on 07725876731 or e-mail [babymassageclasses@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:babymassageclasses@hotmail.co.uk)

## CENTRES to CLOSE?

Its coming to that time of year again for our AGM. Please come along and support your local Community Centre on Tuesday 24th April at 19.45. If we don't get more members for the Management Committee and good attendance, the Centre could close.

## SUMMER ACTIVITIES

Jean Darker is doing a week of Jazz and Exercise week commencing July 16th for P1-P3, P4-upward and adult exercise. Please register your interest at the main centre as soon as possible.

Alison McLeod is doing football on week of 13th August. For more information contact her on Tel: 314669.

## CLEANER REQUIRED

We are currently looking for a part time cleaner. If anyone is interested, please contact Caren or Mike at the centre on 741806.

## 1st Kingswells Scout Group

It's always a pleasure to report that the sections within our Scout Group continue to flourish. Our Cub section has been very busy with one of the highlights being a very interesting and enjoyable visit to Aberdeen Mountain rescue Centre in Westhill. As well as gaining an insight to the work done by the volunteers in the rescue service, great fun was had by all being wrapped up in stretchers and setting off the vehicle siren. The boys are working enthusiastically towards several badges including their fitness challenge, many thanks to Nicola Crawford who came in and put the boys through their paces.

Our younger section, the Beavers are also working towards their fitness challenge badge. The success and popularity of Beavers within Kingswells has left us with the problem of how to accommodate everybody on the waiting list who wishes to join. We would like to start a second section but really need somebody to come forward to help run it. Also, at present we have no Scout section in Kingswells for the Cubs to move on to. We are making plans to rectify that but in order to move forward we need more adults willing to help out. If you can help with any of our sections, whether the parent of an existing or future member or not, please contact us on the number below.

John Robertson  
Tel. (01224) 279488

## KINGSWELLS SCHOOL PTA - SPRING TIME EVENTS

Spring is fast approaching, and for anyone having a clear out of wardrobes, the PTA have organised a bags2schools collection on April 25th. Any unwanted clothes, shoes, belts, bags, curtains and bedding are accepted and the PTA receives money based on the weight of the items. Please drop any bags outside the community centre before 9am on this date.

The planning for the PTA's main annual family event is now well underway. The Mayfair will be taking place on Saturday 19th May and is already looking to be another fantastic day for all the family. There will be games, stalls and hot food, all guaranteed to make this a thoroughly enjoyable event. Last year, due to the amazing support received, we managed to raise over £9,000 for the school funds, which was incredible. Please help us to make this year even better by coming along and supporting us between 11am and 2.30pm. We are looking for donations for the bottle stall, chocolate tombola and raffle prizes. These can be handed in at the main school office any time after the Easter holidays. Donations for the cake and candy stall will be accepted at the school reception on the afternoon of Friday 18th or between 9am and 10am on the 19th May. We look forward to welcoming you on the day.

If you would like to contact the PTA regarding any matters, please leave a message through the PTA box in the school reception or by email at [kingswellsPTA@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:kingswellsPTA@yahoo.co.uk)

Thank you for your continued support.

## AFTER SCHOOL FOOTBALL KINGSWELLS COMMUNITY CENTRE SESSION 2012-13

MONDAY		FRIDAY	
1.30-2.00	Pre School	9.30-10.00	Pre School
2.00-2.30	Tiny Tots	10.00-10.30	Tiny Tots
3.30-4.15	P1\2	1.30-2.00	Pre School
		2.00-2.45	Pre School Plus
TUESDAY			
3.30-4.15	P1\2		
4.15-5.00	P1\2		

[www.aberdeenfootballfun.co.uk](http://www.aberdeenfootballfun.co.uk)

Places can now be booked for Session 2012-13 starting in August  
Contact Alison McLeod on 314669 for further details.

## Chance

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For an appointment please call: 744707  
or pop in to see us at the salon in Kingswells Village Centre

# Councillors' Corner

Hello again,

This April 2012 issue is my final "Community Voice" contribution as your Councillor.

Many people in Kingswells and District will know that I do not seek re-election on 3rd May, but I would like to say it has been a pleasure and a privilege over the past ten years to be your representative on the City Council.

Over the years, the Kingswells area has always been a great attraction to the residential property developers, and inevitably finding consensus between what they want to build and what our Community will accept, can be difficult. Much trauma can be avoided, however, if meaningful dialogue has taken place before plans are submitted – such has been the case with the Drum Business Park Development along side the Park and Ride on which three major Companies in the Oil and Gas World are siting their administration headquarters. A development such as this should be reflected in house values over the next year or two.

In connection with this development, plans will have been presented to committee prior to you reading this article, which should make for improved pedestrian movement on the A944 at the roundabout, and will also reduce the speed limit to 40mph on this section.

This past month or two has involved correspondence and meetings re:

**Bus Services – First Bus and Stage Coach**

**Broadband**

**Road surfaces**

**Dog poo and Bins**

**Trees**

**Zebra Crossing**

**Traffic Signals etc etc etc**

Much of it routine, but it does require to be dealt with.

Thank you all for your support since 2002.

Regards, Peter

**Lord Provost**

**Councillor Peter Stephen  
Kingswells/Sheddocksley  
(Ward No 3)**

**Address: 11 Coldstone Avenue,**

**Kingswells AB15 8TT**

**Home Tel: 522637**

**Work Tel: 522637**

**e-mail: [lordprovost@aberdeencity.gov.uk](mailto:lordprovost@aberdeencity.gov.uk)**



## Kingswells Community Newsletter team are urgently looking for support with the production of this newsletter.

Are you a budding editor?  
Do you have graphic design skills?  
Could you help deliver the newsletters to all the distributors?

If you have any spare time - any help, in any way,  
would be most appreciated.

**Please phone Colleen Manson for a chat -  
Tel: 744762 or e-mail: [colleen.manson@btopenworld.com](mailto:colleen.manson@btopenworld.com)**

Here are the main live items I have been dealing with:

### Community Centre

At a recent visit to Kingswells Community Centre, I was impressed at how well run it is. A great tribute to the volunteers and staff involved. The frontage of the Centre had glass and cigarette ends lying around which needs to be cleaned up. I am aware there is an issue about whose responsibility it is. But I would suggest we get the council to do it and issue the bill to the landlords. I am pursuing this.

### School Pupils travel

A recent problem arose with Stagecoach/bluebird in the re-routing of the No. 218 which would have affected those pupils travelling to Westhill Academy. It would have meant them risking their lives to cross the A944 dual carriageway at a very busy time of day. However, representations were made to Stagecoach and they were extremely helpful. On hearing the concerns raised, they have revised their timetable to accommodate the school pupils.

### Old Kingswells School

This has been reopened as an outdoor activity centre for young people. It's a tremendous facility and good use of the old school.

### Broadband

I am disappointed to see that neither BT, Scottish Government, nor the Councils programme for improved broadband facilities in Aberdeen, includes Kingswells. I feel this whole matter is still totally unsatisfactory. There has been a change in key personnel in BT and I am still determined to pursue a meeting with senior officers from BT and the people who have suffered this for too long.

Thanks for all your support over the last 5 years. And a Happy Easter.

Cllr Len Ironside CBE

**Councillor Len Ironside,  
Kingswells/Sheddocksley,  
239 North Anderson Drive,**

**Aberdeen AB16 7GR**

**Tel: 780929/523059**

**e-mail: [lironside@aberdeencity.gov.uk](mailto:lironside@aberdeencity.gov.uk)**



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The views expressed by contributors in this newsletter are the views of that individual and do not necessarily represent those of the Community Project Team, its office bearers or members. The acceptance and publication of newsletter items and adverts does not indicate editorial endorsement of them.

## News from Westminster

The Government has recently announced plans to close all local DVLA offices, including the Aberdeen office at Greyfriars House, and centralise operations at headquarters in Swansea.

In the last 3 years Aberdeen has dealt with around ¼ million customers. The service is particularly valuable to local garages and motor traders who have new vehicles registered over the counter on the same day. Aberdeen also has one of the highest numbers of "cherished transfer" applications for personalised number plates (over 18,000 in the last 3 years).

The existing service is well used, reliable and efficient. The new service, which will depend on postal and online applications, will have to deal with the 2.4 million people who presently use the 39 local centres around the UK.

A massive change in operations will inevitably take time to 'bed down'. Of course there will be the online option, but I am told that it will take at least 3-4 years for the online system to be adapted to the new arrangements. This is going to mean a severe reduction in service for customers. All of this to save £28 million from an organisation which brings in £5.7 billion of revenue to the Treasury annually, and which has consistently made a profit in its operations.

To highlight the need for retention of the local service, I submitted an objection as part of the consultation exercise, and had the opportunity to take the matter up direct with the Minister during an Adjournment Debate.

Yours sincerely

**Frank Doran MP Aberdeen North**  
01224 252 715  
e-mail: [frank.doran.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:frank.doran.mp@parliament.uk)  
69 Dee Street,  
Aberdeen, AB11 6EE



I recently met with the Drum group – developers of the Prime 4 business park to discuss working together on broadband provisions in the area. I believe it was a productive meeting, and I hope that we will be able to work together to deliver for the area.

Several constituents from the Kingswells area have contacted me in recent times with regards to speed limits on the Old Lang Stracht Road. It appears that some motorists were abusing the bus only road at speeds of up to 50-60mph. Concerned constituents were right to note that regular motorists should not be using that route at all, and that such driving is dangerous. Aberdeen City Council has since amended the speed limit to 30mph. In other news on Aberdeen's roads, the Scottish Government recently awarded £3million towards designing of improvements towards the Haudagain roundabout. This bottleneck affects most motorists in the city regularly.

In other news in the city, NHS Grampian is to be commended for their work to reduce delayed discharges. Credit must go to local care homes and to the city council for their interventions and assistance. Working together, the various stakeholders have helped the health service meet targets, and improve patient care.

Yours sincerely,

**Brian Adam**  
MSP for Aberdeen North  
825-827 Great Northern Road  
Aberdeen AB24 2BR  
Tel: 01224 789457  
Fax 01224 695397  
e-mail: [brian.adam.msp@scottish.parliament.uk](mailto:brian.adam.msp@scottish.parliament.uk)  
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## Town & Country Veterinary Group

### Easter Bunny can get toothache!

Easter is nearly upon us again and our focus this time is on the domesticated rabbit. Did you know that one of the most common health problems we see in rabbits is dental disease? Rabbits' teeth continually grow, with both the cheek teeth and the incisors (front teeth) growing as much as 1 – 2mm per week!

The incisors (front teeth) should meet, ensuring that as your rabbit chews, these teeth will wear down. If they become misaligned, they will continue to grow, and will overgrow past each other leading to eating problems.

The cheek teeth are grinding teeth. If they overgrow, they can develop sharp spikes, which can cut the tongue and cheeks, making it very painful. If this happens, you might see drooling, or wetness around your pet's mouth, loss of appetite and often weight loss.

Feeding your rabbit the correct diet is very important. Their ideal diet should include plenty of hay, together with a selection of fresh food and a small amount of commercial rabbit food. Hay, which is high in fibre promotes dental health, reduces obesity and keeps your rabbit busy for hours.

If you are worried about your rabbit's teeth, we would be happy to check them for you and advise on a diet aimed at promoting the best possible dental health for your pet.

## Derbeth Bus Shelter Migrates South

Was it my imagination??? Or had the Derbeth Bus Shelter slipped 10 feet southwards???????????

Thankfully, before I completely lost my mind, First Bus explained all.....

*"Unfortunately there were a number of occasions where buses were colliding with the shelter and it was extremely difficult for drivers to avoid doing so without stopping some distance from the kerb.*

*Following discussions with the city council they agreed to move the shelter ensuring the bus can safely park alongside the bus stop pole/raised kerb. This therefore allows the bus to be accessible to customers without the risk of the shelter or debris coming down on them.*

*First Bus appreciate that this is not the perfect scenario, but hope everyone understands the reasoning given concerns surrounding safety of passengers/staff."*

## Easter/Spring Holiday Bus timetable

First in Aberdeen will be operating a holiday timetable on Monday 16th April 2012 which is the local Aberdeen Spring holiday.

Full timetable information on every First service for 16th April is now available within the Forthcoming Timetables section of our website - [www.firstgroup.com/aberdeen](http://www.firstgroup.com/aberdeen)

Customers are reminded that First Aberdeen will be operating a normal service on both Good Friday and Easter Monday.

## Town & Country Veterinary Group



is delighted to announce our **New Premier Health Plan.** Depending on what kind and size of pet you have, you pay a regular, monthly payment by direct debit.

This covers the cost of the annual vaccination, a six-monthly health check, a yearly supply of wormer and flea treatment, and up to 15% discount off the cost of some other services and products.

This Health Plan is greatly discounted, amounting to a **huge saving** over the year and is open to existing and new clients.

If you would like any further information please contact us.

[www.townandcountryvet.co.uk](http://www.townandcountryvet.co.uk)



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