



24 hour emergency facilities always covered by our own veterinary surgeons

Town & Country Veterinary Group

24 Hour emergency facilities

Winter 2015

Winter Newsletter

Merry Christmas and a Healthy New Year

With Christmas just around the corner it is easy to over indulge with all the lovely festive food. Unfortunately we often overfeed our pets thinking we are treating them, BUT did you know obesity in dogs and cats is a very common problem affecting 1 in 3 pets within the UK?

Sometimes we may not be aware that our pets have a weight problem, and therefore, are unaware of the risks to our pets' health. Being overweight can greatly increase the risk of pets developing conditions such as diabetes mellitus, heart disease and arthritis.

Although some diseases can cause obesity, the main reason for pets becoming overweight is that the food they eat contains more energy than they use up. This means that if they eat too much, or eat foods high in calories, or do not do enough exercise, they may become overweight. Other contributing factors include your pets' age, breed and whether or not they have been neutered.

It is very easy for even the most diligently cared-for pet to put on weight.

Along with having a negative impact on your pets' well-being and quality of life, excess weight can also significantly shorten their life expectancy.

So please remember your pet does not know it is Christmas and does not expect all the treats that we associate with the festive season. A nice long walk for your dog and a cosy rug by the fire is all the treats your pet will need.

Everyone at Town & Country Veterinary Group would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Healthy New Year.

Don't forget the wild life!

Putting out bird feed will help wild birds, when natural food supplies are scarce;

Cat food can be left out for any struggling hedgehogs or other wild mammals;

Bowls of water can be left out for wild animals, when natural water supplies are frozen



Finally – take care on the roads! Many wild animals are driven nearer towns during really bad weather and you are more likely to come across them on the roads in winter. Some are even attracted by the salt grit we put on our roads during freezing weather.



Practice News:

We are delighted to inform you that our new Westhill surgery is now open. Don't worry we have not gone far, we are just across the road. Our new address is: Unit 24, Westhill Shopping Centre, Old Skene Road, Westhill AB32 6RL. Our telephone number remains the same: 01224 741685 Karen & her team are looking forward to seeing you all. Pop in and say hello!



Is your pet Microchipped?

It's a sad fact that hundreds of pets go missing every day and many are never reunited with their owners for one simple reason, tragically, they cannot be reliably identified.

However, the good news is that, in addition to the traditional collar and engraved tag (which doesn't always stay in place), you can now have your pet permanently identified with a tiny microchip, giving you the best chance of being re-united with your pet, should they go missing.

A range of pets can be Microchipped including dogs, cats, small pets, and birds. A microchip is hardly bigger than a grain of rice and having it implanted is quick and simple. Like a normal injection, it is inserted under the skin at the back of the neck and once there, it lasts a lifetime. Each microchip carries a unique code which, together with information about your pet and your contact details, are held on a central computer database. Should your pet go missing, when found, the chip can be read using a hand held scanner. Veterinary practices, the police and animal welfare organisations routinely scan all strays, hopefully ensuring that if the unthinkable happens, you and your pet can be speedily reunited. So—don't take any chances! Get your pet Microchipped today.

Special offer in conjunction with Dogs Trust until January 2016 FREE MICROCHIPPING at our Kingswells and Millburn surgery—limited availability so book soon

Banchory: 01 330 822648

Bieldside: 01 224 861161

Kingswells: 01 224 749191

Millburn: 01 224 588770

Rubislaw: 01 224 311555

Westhill: 01 224 741685

SSPCA DRUMOAK

Town & Country Veterinary Group is delighted that the SSPCA has chosen us to look after the animals at the Drumoak re-homing centre



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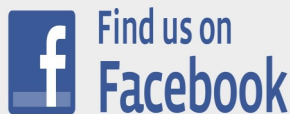
FESTIVE OPENING HOURS

December 2015

24th Dec: Closed 5pm
 25th Dec: Closed
 26th Dec: Open 10am-12noon
 (Kingswells emergencies only)
 27th Dec: Open 10am—
 12noon (Kingswells emergencies
 only)
 28th Dec: Open 10am—
 12noon (Kingswells & Banchory
 emergencies only)
 29th Dec: Open as usual
 30th Dec: Open as usual
 31st Dec: Closed at 5pm

January 2016

1st January: Closed
 2nd January: Open 10am—12
 noon (Kingswells emergencies
 only)
 3rd January: Open 10am—
 12noon (Kingswells emergencies
 only)
 4th January: Open 10am—12
 noon (Kingswells & Banchory
 emergencies only)



Adding a new Pet to the family is never a good idea at Christmas time but if you decide to introduce a pet into the family in spring time here are a few guide line:

Please remember it is a big responsibility:

Vaccination: One of the key reason pets are living longer is that we are able to vaccinate them against a range of infectious diseases that, without regular vaccination, pose a deadly threat to our pets. Regular booster vaccinations, combined with a health check, are the best way of protecting your pet, plus at the same time keeping a watchful eye out for any emerging health issues.

Fleas: most puppies and kittens will arrive with a fair number of fleas, so it is a good idea for us to give them a check over on arrival. Spot on treatments are ideal for treating your pets, whilst household sprays are great for treating your home.

Worming: If their parents were not regularly de-wormed, there is a very high prevalence of roundworm infection in puppies and kittens. As they grow up they are susceptible to infection with both round worm and tapeworm and will require worming treatments. Also, lungworm is posing an increasing threat for many dogs.

Diets: We can now offer pets a tailored series of diets from tiny kittens to puppies, through adult hood and into their senior years. These diets are designed to offer the ideal balance of nutrients for each life stage.

Microchip: It is important to get your pet identified as soon as possible. As well as a collar and tag, we also recommend having your pet Microchipped as a more secure and permanent form of identification. **Pet Insurance:** You might want to consider covering your pet against those unexpected vet bills.

We are here to help, please do not hesitate to ask at reception for further information.

Your pet could become seriously ill because of the rock salt and antifreeze being used during the cold snap. Road clearing gritters and car drivers who have used de-icer, leave substances on the roads. Our dogs and cats can walk through these chemicals and then lick their paws. Consuming rock salt can cause dehydration, liver failure and pancreatitis, while antifreeze contains the chemical ethylene glycol, which can be lethal when ingested. Always clean your pets' paws after walking in a gritted area.

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Our very own Premier Health Plan

Town & Country Veterinary Group Premier Health Plan.

Depending on the breed and size of your pet, you pay a regular, monthly payment by direct debit. This covers the cost of the annual vaccination, a six-monthly health check, a year's 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

