

Craig is nominated for national vets' title

A BANGOR vet has been nominated for a national award equivalent to a veterinary 'Oscar'.

Craig Reilly from Cedarmount Veterinary Clinic is in the running to be Petplan's Vet of the Year.

The father-of-two is one of three vets nominated from across the UK for the award.

Craig has jointly owned Cedarmount Veterinary Clinic since 1994 along with his partner Norma Bailie.

It is said he has created a thriving practice with an excellent reputation with both clients and colleagues alike.

Known for his "calming ability and hands on

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approach" when dealing with pets and their owners, he has recently created a new website for the surgery.

This includes articles and advice on bereavement, referrals and pet passports.

There are even video clips of some small surgical procedures and pictures of some common complaints for different animals.

When Craig is not in the practice or spending time with his two children, he is climbing Ben Nevis for charity, sailing a boat around the Greek Islands and more recently, drawing up plans for the reconstruction of the clinic.

Fiona Pinkney, communications manager of Petplan, said the awards had grown from strength to strength each year.

She added that the nominations received for 2006 had been of the highest calibre.

"Craig is a well loved local vet with exceptional clinical excellence," she said.

"His professionalism when dealing with pets and their owners is remarkable.

"We wish him the best of luck in the Vet of the Year Award."

Craig said he was delighted to be nominated for the award.

"It's a vote of confidence for the whole practice and for all the staff at the clinic, not just me," he said.

The winner will be announced at a ceremony in Birmingham on April 20.