

### Preparing to say goodbye to our Senior Partner Dr Stephen Ledger who is retiring on 30th September 2014!

After a great deal of thought, I have decided to retire from the Practice on the 30<sup>th</sup> September 2014, after 30 years of very hard, but extremely enjoyable and fulfilling work in providing care for my patients in Morley.

I qualified in 1979, so the vast majority of my medical career has been spent here – and I would not have wished it any other way. Family Medicine was always what I had set my heart on from the very outset of Medical School.

The satisfaction of looking after people by dealing with the *whole* person: the physical, psychological and social aspects of life and health is what continues to interest and motivate me right up to retirement. This often includes caring for several generations of families whom I have known for decades and whose “stories” (through good and bad times) I know without recourse to the computer record. It is a privilege to work in this way.

Medicine, government policy/(interference!), computer systems, protocols, guidelines and even buildings may change, but the one constant is the doctor-patient relationship. This is based on mutual trust and respect, through which individuals come to be listened to and understood when they are worried, ill or vulnerable. That is the element I have found the most rewarding on a personal and professional level – and it is the aspect of my work I will miss the most on retirement.

It has been 30 years of quite amazing change and development for the Practice – from sharing cramped premises at Morley Health Centre looking after 6,000 patients with 2 partners, to working in a fine purpose-built building, delivering a wide variety of services to over 16,500 patients, by a fantastic set of doctors, highly trained and committed nurses, nurse practitioners and health care assistants. All are backed up by really hard-working and dedicated managers, office and reception teams, so one of the hardest things to do for me is to walk away from such brilliant people. However, I do so, knowing the Practice will be in very good hands and that makes me content and very proud. Everyone knows there are always things we can do better, but I leave knowing the underpinning ethos of the Practice is as I would wish it.

On my retirement as senior partner I recall with great affection MY senior partner when I arrived in Morley as a young doctor back in 1984. Geoffrey Dekeyser was of a different age and style as a GP, but he was someone whom I greatly respected as a physician and as a man of great intellect and wisdom. He was a wonderful mentor to me, probably without ever realising it, and he was really committed to his patients. I cannot hope to emulate Geoffrey’s standing after his amazing 43 years service in Morley. However, hopefully I might be remembered as somebody who cared, who worked hard for his patients, and who tried to understand and empathise with whoever walked in through my door. There will always be a piece of Morley, of this Practice and my patients in my heart: 30 years of commitment guarantees that.

I plan to stay very active in retirement, which I suspect will be a misnomer. Though she may regret it, I intend to see more of my wife Jan, learning a second language, travel, football/golf and hopefully contributing positively to the wider community in other ways are all on the agenda. I don’t want to leave it too late to do these things, because none of us know what is around the corner in life, and frankly I don’t want to look back thinking “if only.....”

It has been a wonderful 30 years for me in this town and in this Practice. As my patients, I thank you all for your consideration, (especially of my always running late and waiting patiently for my appointments!) kindness and thoughtfulness in so many different ways. It has made my tenure here so enjoyable, to the point where I have no idea where all the years have gone. Only the grey hairs – and lack of hair – give the game away!

I wish everyone the very best of health and good luck in the future. With kind regards. Dr Steve Ledger

**We have a team of experienced clinical staff at the practice who are happy to look after Dr Ledger’s patients  
please see over page for details.**



# Our Doctors

	<p><b>Dr Alison Best</b> Part time GP Partner. Special interests in young people's health, mental health, women's health (including IUD &amp; IUS fitting), and care homes. Responsibility for prescribing.</p>		<p><b>Dr Francis Perez-Carral</b> Part time GP Partner. Special interests in minor surgery and ear nose and throat (ENT) medicine.</p>
	<p><b>Dr Sabodh Gogna</b> Part time GP Partner. Responsibility for prescribing and safeguarding vulnerable children &amp; adults.</p>		<p><b>Dr Suzie Henstock</b> Part time GP Partner. Special interests in chronic heart disease and contraceptive health.</p>
	<p><b>Dr Danny Hurwitz</b> Part time GP Partner. Special interests in gastroenterology, minor surgery, cardiovascular disease and respiratory disease. Responsibility for Finance, Premises Management and Health, Safety and Security.</p>		<p><b>Dr Karen Logan</b> Full time GP Partner. Special interests in paediatrics, gynaecology, drug addiction, contraception and weight management. Responsibility for personnel, young people and the patient reference group.</p>
	<p><b>Dr Phillipa Barnes</b> Full time salaried GP. Special interest in women's health.</p>		<p><b>Dr Nick Hall</b> Full time salaried GP. Special interest in women's health.</p>
	<p><b>Dr Lee Cuthbertson</b> Full time salaried GP. Special interest in women's health.</p>		<p><b>Dr Bryony Mathew</b> Part time salaried GP. Special interests in paediatrics, women's health (including contraceptive implants) and minor surgery.</p>
	<p><b>Dr Sapna Vadher</b> Part time salaried GP. Special interest in paediatrics.</p>		<p><b>Nurse Practitioner Jayne Dalziel</b> Provides an extended nursing service which incorporates some aspects of care previously provided by doctors. This includes physical examination and treating a full range of health problems and diseases. She is able to issue prescriptions when necessary.</p>
	<p><b>Nurse Practitioner Sally Wilson</b> Provides an extended nursing service which incorporates some aspects of care previously provided by doctors. This includes physical examination and treating a full range of health problems and diseases. She is able to issue prescriptions when necessary.</p>	<p>Our senior nurses run <b>minor illness clinics</b> and are able to provide prescriptions where appropriate. <b>Please advise the receptionist when making an appointment if you think you have a minor illness.</b> This will leave our GP and Nurse Practitioner appointments for the patients who need them.</p>	