

Dear Friends and loyal Bluff Road patients,

It is with a sense of sadness that I am retiring from my regular general practice work at the end of June. I am well, but do not have the same energy that I used to have. I am looking forward to slowing down a bit!

I chose my profession as a GP very carefully, having spent many years in the hospital system, and I have loved my career. I was very lucky to have excellent hospital training with great mentors. My time in general practice (with a few subspecialties) has been wonderfully rewarding. I have worked in many practices in Australia and the UK, but my three decades at Bluff Road Medical Centre have been my most satisfying and enjoyable.

I want to thank Dr Jim McDonald for taking me on in 1988, just after the birth of my first son, and for his mentoring and passion for medicine that he instilled in all of us. I also want to thank my work partners, and all at Bluff Road (my second family) for their skill, care and passion for medicine.

I would like to thank you for your loyalty to me as your GP. I have many patients doing well in their late 80s and 90s, and have cared for 4 generations in some families. I have learned a great deal from many of you and you have moulded me as a GP and as a person. I will miss you all.

I am leaving behind the best skilled professionals with whom I have worked. I am truly in awe of them. As for your ongoing medical care, you will be in very good hands.

I wish you and your families all the best for the future.

With love and best wishes,

Joan Kaaden