

Dr Cave

From March 1st 2012 Dr Cave will be reducing the number of days he works in the practice to three a week. This is to give him time for other projects and reduce the workload he currently has.

Dr Cave has always been involved in areas of health outside the practice and recently began working with a group of GPs producing courses for GPs to keep them up to date with new clinical knowledge and guidelines.

We are pleased to say that **Dr Bernadette Clarke** has agreed to increase the time she works in the practice to make up number of appointments.

What does this mean if I am one of Dr Cave's patients?

Dr Cave will be reducing his list size from 2100 to about 1600 as part of this move. If we do not do this, waiting times for patients to see Dr Cave will become too long. It will therefore be inevitable that some patients currently on Dr Cave's list will be asked to move to another doctors list. We hope that patients already seeing other doctors will be happy to change and Dr Cave will stop taking any new patients from now, so the actual numbers of patients being asked to change will be small. If you currently are on Dr Cave's list but prefer to see another doctor please let us know so we can alter your notes accordingly.

What if I am already on Dr Cave's list and seeing him regularly about a problem and don't want to move?

We will do our utmost not to disturb the ongoing care you are receiving and keep you on Dr Cave's list if we can. However it is inevitable that Dr Cave will be seeing fewer patients from February 1st than he is seeing now.

If I am moved to another doctor does it mean I cannot see Dr Cave ?

No, we operate a policy that says you can ask to see whichever doctor you wish. However it means that you may have to wait longer to see the doctor of your choice and Dr Cave will not be responsible for any paperwork or administration related to your health.

Dr Cave says,

" I recently turned 50 and after 20 years at the Downland Practice felt I ought to make some changes to my working life. I am doing this to keep my interest in medicine and ensure I enjoy the next 10yrs of general practice as much as I have enjoyed the last twenty. As part of this I am planning a sabbatical in May next year too. I am hoping to join the Ghurkhas in Nepal for a month and do some trekking in the Himalayas. I am aware that these moves may be disruptive and apologise for this but I am really please Dr Clarke is increasing the hours she works in the practice to help out."