

McIntosh Dental honours 50 yr heritage



Dentists Dr John Peat and Dr Graeme Tremain were honoured for their service to the community by Dr Alex McIntosh as they celebrated 50 years of dental practice in West Auckland. Dr McIntosh presented both dentists with the Corban Family Centenary book at his practice on Lincoln Road before embarking on a nostalgic tour through past dental practices in Henderson.

In 1953 a young Dr John Peat set up a small family dental practice in Henderson. At this time, Henderson was largely cut off from the rest of Auckland as the North Western Motorway was yet to be built. It was known only for its many vineyards sited at the dead end of a concrete road. Nevertheless Henderson was a rapidly growing district when John and his wife Lana moved in.

Dr Peat set up practice in the Peck building owned by Wilfred Peck (above Moka Restaurant) on the Great North Road. "On the left of Peck's building looking from the road was the newly arrived Commercial Bank of Australia. Beyond was a two storey block housing Max Goodley, medical doctor and then on the corner of Catherine Street was the well-respected butcher's shop of Mr Holborow (now the Westpac bank). Across the road were the old tennis courts (now the BNZ bank and other shops), and close by at the corner of Railside Ave stood the original Falls Hotel owned by Mr Ozich".

"I was fully booked from the day I opened and never looked back. It was a typical suburban practice of the time with many children, who left the dental nurse at Form 1", says Dr Peat. "My mother-in law was my receptionist. For the first month Lana and I slept in the second surgery, and ate our meals in the laboratory as we had nowhere to stay!"

In 1960 Dr Peat sold the practice to Dr Tremain and with this, his connection to Henderson and the dental practice ended. Dr Tremain practiced family dentistry in Henderson while Dr Peat set up an Orthodontic Practice in Remuera. Dr Tremain had just finished three years in the Royal New Zealand Navy and took over the dental practice during a time of huge growth in Henderson. Dr Alex McIntosh joined the practice in Henderson in 1981. In 1987 Dr McIntosh and Dr Tremain moved their practice to where it is currently located at 43 Lincoln Road.

McIntosh Dental Centre, Ph 8372598. Serving West Auckland for over 50 years