

## Copperfield Child Care & Paediatricians – a short history

Copperfield Paediatric Practice, established in the southern suburbs of Cape Town since 1979, has a longstanding history and has had many paediatricians working in the practice over the years.

- Copperfield house was purchased in 1977 from the Metcalf family and permission was obtained from council to practice.
- The Practice was opened by Drs *Roy Cook* and *Frans de Groot* in Jan/Feb 1978. *Laurene Bergh* was employed as practice bookkeeper and manager and stayed on until 2010. The practice was supported by 150 local GP's and 22 Obstetricians, and received referrals from Namibia, Beaufort West, George and the West Coast. The Paediatricians continued part-time at Red Cross as senior lecturers.
- In 1981 *Frans de Groot* emigrated to Canada and *Dr Anthony Milne* joined from private practice in Johannesburg.
- *Dr Mike Martin* subsequently joined in 1984.
- With the opening of Constantiaberg Mediclinic (1988) the practice opened up rooms there and *Dr Rob Rifkin* joined the practise in 1989 until he emigrated to the UK in 1996.
- In Jan 1990 *Dr Jo Lund* replaced *Roy Cook* who had left to work in the UK in 1989.
- *Dr Andy Arend* joined the following year.
- In 1998 *Dr Ashley Wewege* took over *Dr Rifkin's* practise in Constantiaberg.
- At that stage, additional rooms were acquired at Fairfield House, at Kingsbury hospital as there were 5 partners, but when *Dr Andy Arend* emigrated to the UK, that need fell away and the rooms were closed.
- *Dr Ant Milne* retired in 2004 and *Dr Hedi van der Watt* took over his practice.
- Tragically *Dr Mike Martin* passed away whilst climbing Mount Kilimanjaro in 2005, and his practice was taken over by *Dr Lara Smith* in 2006.
- *Dr Naisan Samadi* joined the practice part-time in 2014 and currently is job-sharing a practice with *Dr Hedi van de Watt*.
- In December 2014 *Dr Jo Lund* retired and *Dr Jonathan Buckley* replaced him in January 2015.