Dr. Guy Squires.

Dr. Guy Squires and his wife Daphne, moved to Woodbury in 1962. They had both worked at Poltimore House Hospital where they were the Doctor and Surgeon in charge and the Matron.

They set up home in Broadpark, Town Lane with their three daughters and in 1965 their son, Andrew, was born there.

Dr. Squires came to be the Junior Doctor to the existing village doctor, Dr. Tony Austin who lived at Springhayes where the village surgery was also based.

Very sadly, soon after Dr. Squires' arrival, Dr. Austin died and Springhayes was sold, along with the doctor's surgery.



Dr. Squires then set about finding a replacement surgery and bought a small, corrugated iron bungalow at the bottom of Pollybrook. This became the new doctor's surgery, where he continued to work until 1986.

His wife, Daphne also worked there as a SRN. Dr. Austin's wife, Dr. Phyllis Austin helped with holiday locum cover.

During a blizzard in 1978, when the village had been cut off by snow for a week, Dr. Squires was called upon to deliver a baby in Yettington. He was transported across Woodbury Common in the loader bucket of a tractor by Roger Stokes.



As the years went on, the population of the village increased quite dramatically, and one of Dr. Squires' dreams was to be able to operate from a purpose-built building large enough for the greater number of people he had to tend to. In the mid 1980's when the 'Golden Heart' was built, Dr. Squires negotiated a corner of land for the new surgery to

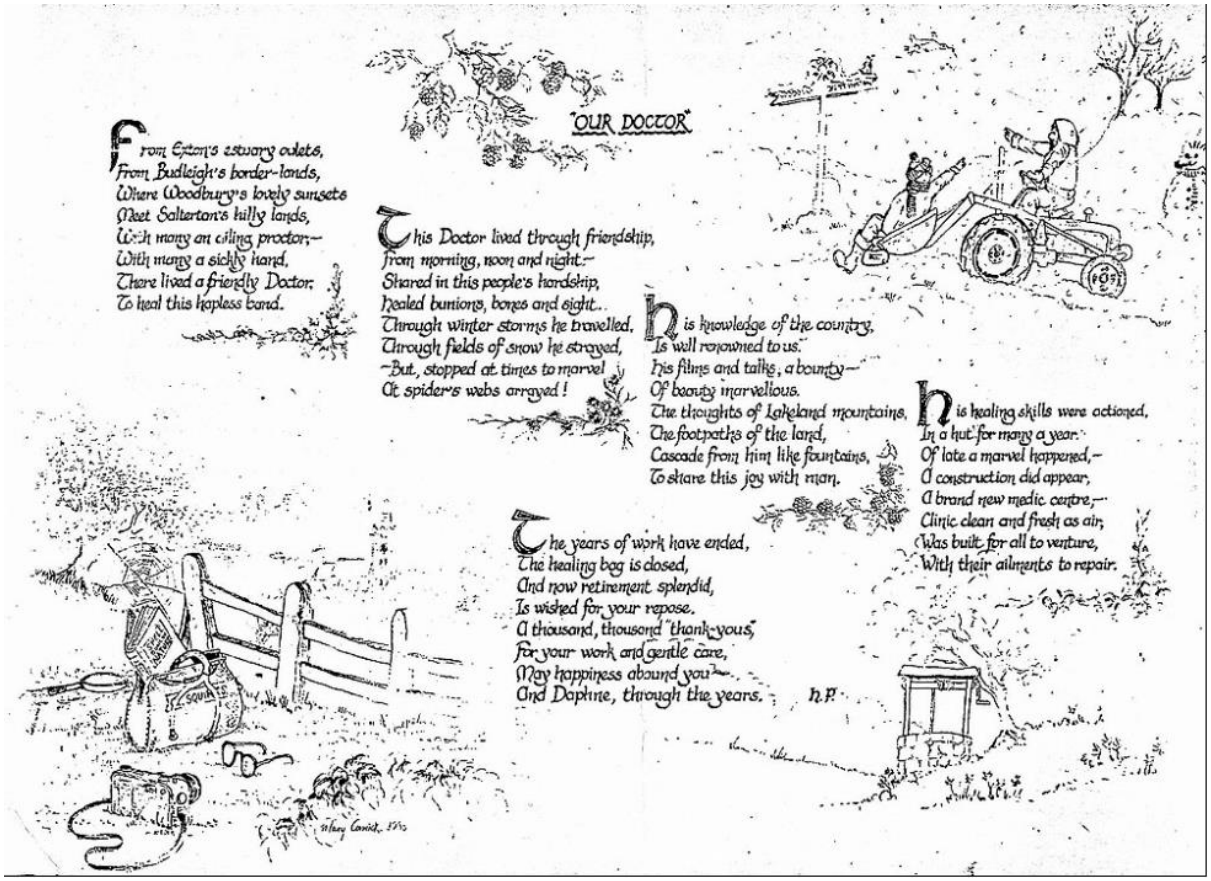
be built, which remains to this day. The new surgery was opened in 1986 and Dr. Squires worked there until his retirement in 1988.

Dr. Angela Douglas later joined the practice as a partner.

Mrs Daphne Squires died in July 1989 and Dr. Squires in November 1990. After a lifetime of serving the community, they had just six months of healthy retirement together.

The article below was taken from an article written by Roger Stokes:

The Press said.... A Devon village turned out in force last night to say a remarkable farewell to its favourite doctor who was retiring after more than a quarter of a century in practice. In that time Dr. Guy Squires has dealt with more than 365,000 consultations in Woodbury and surrounding villages, and has become a friend to a huge rural community. More than 300 people packed into the village hall for an emotional retirement presentation, and many hundreds more contributed to a farewell cheque of £2829.29. A further tribute to the popular GP's many years of service will be paid later this week when the village church rings out a quarter peal on its bells. To mark the occasion, villager Hamish Palmer penned a poem, and Mary Cornick illustrated it with memorable scenes from the doctor's long career. Dr. Squires said that most of the time he had worked single handed, and it had been a hard slog, but he would not have swapped it for anything. He was now delivering children to children that he brought into the world when he first arrived as the village GP 26 years ago. There was hardly anyone he did not know by their christian name.



After Dr. Squires retired, the surgery was taken over by Dr. Noel Lawn.

Many people within the community will remember the ‘tin shack’ surgery and Dr. Squires’ cold hands.