

Balint Society of Australia and New Zealand

Balint Bulletin No. 20

The electronic newsletter of the Balint society of Australia and New Zealand published quarterly for interested people.

September 2012

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The Balint Bulletin is your conduit to information about Balint work in Australia, New Zealand, and worldwide.

[New places are available for the Queensland Noosa Intensive Workshop, 18-21 October 2012](#)

[The organizing committee has decided to offer four groups at this Intensive Workshop in October](#)

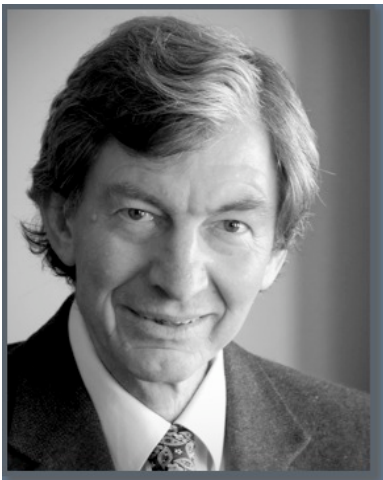
No prior Balint experience is required.

Participants will be credited with CPD (Australia) and CME/GPEP (New Zealand) points

The workshop can be included as part of the BSANZ Leadership Accreditation process.

Please contact Chel Quinn chelquinn@bigpond.com for registration.

The latest information brochure about the workshop is attached to this email.



[John Barton on Balint in 2012:](#)

I am delighted to have this chance to reflect on the BSANZ and Balint work in our two countries. It is very heartwarming to see the changes in the Society which reflect the spread of Balint work and our growing professionalism.

The new president of our Balint Society of Australia and New Zealand, Frank Meumann, recently spoke to me about an explosion of Balint work. He is right. Today I do not think it is possible for one

person to keep track of all that is happening, whereas three years ago it was quite possible. There are now Balint groups in all the major cities and several in smaller centres. Most groups are for GPs, although there is a burgeoning of groups for psychologists, psychotherapists and other professionals. There is also work in medical schools, in GP training programs, with nurses, with chaplains, in community health centres, by teleconferencing for rural and remote GPs in hospices, and in many other places.

The BSANZ has matured during the time of Sally Manuell's presidency. We now have a Board of Governance rather than a committee of management, and we have an accreditation pathway for leaders who wish to become formally accredited with the BSANZ. Both these developments are the result of a huge amount of thought and work by a few dedicated people.

The BSANZ is about to run its fifth leadership training intensive workshop in Noosa Heads in October. For me the most exciting aspect of all in the growth of Balint work has been to watch people (many of whom have attended these workshops) become enthused by the Balint process, start to run Balint groups, and within two or three years change from being enthusiastic learners to being competent leaders. I remember this process happening in me and to be part of bringing it to many others is a great joy.

It is clear to me that the accreditation pathway will accelerate and strengthen this process.

Finally I would like to acknowledge the Australasian Balint leaders who are making a name for us overseas. Many have attended Balint events in UK, Europe and USA with the result that several people have been invited to lead groups at the International Balint Federation Congresses. Also, Laurie Lovell-Simons and Leonie Sullivan have introduced Balint work to China and to Kazakhstan.

Our work and our Society are doing well.

John Barton, September 2012

BALINT LEADERSHIP is taking off, there is a steady stream of enrolments in the leadership accreditation pathway.

Contact: Dr Frank Meumann, frankm@netspace.net.au

The Board is evaluating a proposal to establish a Training Committee which would oversee and coordinate Balint leadership training in Australia and New Zealand.

Leadership training and Balint group participation is approved for RACGP QA and CPD points and RNZCGP CME and peer review points

The BSANZ Diary of Balint Society Events 2012

Intensive workshop

Noosa Heads,

Queensland

18th to 21st October 2012

New places are available, see above.

Stay in the RACV resort, bring the family for a reasonably priced holiday weekend

See <http://www.racv.com.au/resorts>

Scientific Meetings:

Attendance is free at all seminars. Registration is required.

Tuesday 18th September, 1.30pm– 5pm
Royal North Shore Hospital
Sydney

“Caring for Self, Caring for others : Experiential Learning in Medical Student Balint groups - An International Perspective”

Featuring Dr Peter Shoenberg

Psychiatrist & psychotherapist from University College, London, an international expert on Balint work with medical students, and in psychosomatic medicine.

Lecture: Wednesday 19th September 3-5pm
Royal North Shore Hospital

“Psychological Approaches to the treatment of Psychosomatic disorders :- Different Voices”

A free seminar for mental health professionals:

Featuring: Dr Peter Shoenberg, psychiatrist & psychotherapist from University College, London with expertise in Balint work & psychosomatic medicine:

There are places available in both the Sydney seminars

Registration: please contact: sarah-jane.hartnett@sydney.edu.au

Melbourne Seminar: Friday 14th September 2012, 2 – 5 pm
207 Bouverie Street Carlton

“Caring for Self, Caring for others : Experiential Learning in Medical Student Balint groups - An International Perspective”

Featuring Dr Peter Shoenberg – a workshop for medical educators

Registration: the Melbourne seminar is full, please contact s.warmington@student.unimelb.edu.au for waiting list cancellations

DIARY OF INTERNATIONAL EVENTS 2012

The Balint Society UK balint.co.uk/

The Oxford Balint Weekend 2012 will be held from 28-30 September at Corpus Christi College

Further information from the Hon. Sec. Dr. David Watt

See 2012 events calendar at <http://balint.co.uk/index.php/news/>

IBF Second International Conference on Balint Leadership 4-6 October 2012, Charleroi-Ransart, Belgium

Info: <http://www.balintinternational.com/>

American Balint Society Intensive. 8-11 November 2012, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

For information about the intensive, to register, or to view the full programme

see: [2012 Pittsburgh Balint Leaders Intensive](#) or [The American Balint Society website](#).

The Belfast Balint Weekend, Northern Ireland. 16th-18th November 2012.

The International Ascona Prize for Medical Students, 2013

3 prizes of 5000 SFR (= CHF) each for the three best essays, submitted by 31st December 12, and in addition, reasonable travel expenses paid, congress fee waived, and free accommodation provided for a trip to Heidelberg in September 2013 for a short presentation to the Heidelberg Congress!

Papers must be in English. They should describe a student-patient relationship, an experience, or experiences, from the student's medical studies and include critical reflection on personal meetings with patients. The papers should be between 3,000 and 10,000 words.

For details and examples of winning essays see
<http://www.balintinternational.com/asconaprize.html>

[General Information re International Events:](#)

Two intensive leadership training workshops are held in the US each year, a spring workshop on the west coast and a fall workshop on the east coast.

Info : americanbalintsociety.org/

Enrollment is open and no prior Balint experience is required.

The United Kingdom Balint Society schedules joint study days, lectures, and 4-5 weekend workshops per year. Some are leadership training workshops, and all are a great way to meet others involved in the Balint work, and to experience the work.

Info: balint.co.uk/

The International Balint Federation holds a congress every 2 years.

Contributions to this newsletter are welcome. If you do not wish to receive this newsletter, please contact us at and we will remove you from the mailing list.

Attached to this Bulletin email:

Noosa Heads Workshop brochure, updated

Flyers re September Peter Shoenberg seminars in Sydney

