



Balint Bulletin No. 9

September, 2006

Balint groups are a well established and unique approach to training GPs in psychological aspects of general practice. This is an electronic newsletter circulated by the Balint Society of Australia. Its purpose is to disseminate information and news about Balint work to interested people in Australia. Contributions are welcome. If you do not wish to receive this newsletter, please let us know and we will remove you from the mailing list. To contact us, email Dr Marion Lustig at mlustig@optusnet.com.au 03 95715111

Website

Our new website is now operating at www.balintaustralia.org and contains lots of information about Balint groups and the Balint Society of Australia. Thanks to our member Kerri Boase-Jelinek in Perth and to her husband, Daniel Boase-Jelinek. Together they designed the logo, and Daniel has provided invaluable and generous assistance with the website.

Scientific meetings

There will be two scientific meetings with visiting German Balint experts Heide Otten (President of the International Balint Federation and Secretary of the German Balint Society) and Ernst Petzold, who is the President of the German Balint Society:

Melbourne meeting on September 28: A participatory workshop: "The Benefits of Balint Groups ". Begins at 8-10 p.m. preceded by light refreshments at 7.30 p.m. 18 Erin St., Richmond. Please note change of date.

Sydney meeting on Tuesday evening, October 3. An interactive lecture: "Balint groups and their value in medical practice". 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. AMA House, Ground floor Conference Room, 69 Christie St., St. Leonards. Co-sponsored by the Balint Society of Australia and the Doctors Health Advisory Service (NSW). For flyers and to RSVP for both meetings. go to <http://www.balintaustralia.org/events.htm#meetings/>

RACGP Brisbane, 2006

For the third successive year, we will be offering a Balint workshop and a Balint leadership workshop at this annual national GP conference, to be held from October 5-8, 2006. There are still a few vacancies in the Balint workshop at which the group leaders will include our visiting German Balint experts Heide Otten (President of the International Balint Federation) and Ernst Petzold (Secretary of the German Balint Society) together with Australian leaders. To register, go to <http://www.racgp.org.au/asc2006/>

AGM

Our first AGM was held on July 12 in Melbourne. The officeholders remain the same:

Marion Lustig (President), John Barton (Vice-President), Larry Osborne (Secretary) and Ruth Dunn (Treasurer). The ordinary

members of the Committee of Management are Bill Betts and Ann-Marie Diggins. Lynette Chazan and Mike Hampton have resigned from the COM.

Article

An article by Marion Lustig entitled “Balint groups: an Australian perspective” appeared in a recent edition of Australian Family Physician

<http://www.racgp.org.au/Content/NavigationMenu/Publications/AustralianFamilyPhys/2006issues/20060805/20060805lustig.pdf>.

Press

Articles about Balint groups appeared in recent editions of Medical Observer: Group therapy for GPs (sic)

<http://www.medicalobserver.com.au/displayarticle/index.asp?articleID=6614&templateID=105&url=http://Lock:87%2Fsearch%2Fsearch%2Easp?keywords%3Dbalint%2Bgroups%26x%3D12%26y%3D8>. And 'Look who's talking'<http://www.medicalobserver.com.au/displayarticle/index.asp?articleID=6629&templateID=105&sl=1>

Balint group opportunities

Please contact state representatives to enquire about joining or starting a Balint group in your area. These are listed on the website at <http://www.balintaustralia.org/contacts.htm>

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