

BALINT SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND

2025 BALINT WORKSHOPS

Call for Proposals for Workshops in 2025

There is no deadline for proposals but we are only accepting proposals for workshops to be held in 2025.

Please forward all proposals and enquiries to

Tracy Barling, administrative secretary

admin@balintanz.org

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In 2025, in lieu of an annual binational intensive workshop, BalintANZ is inviting proposals for a series of lower-key and locally-organised workshops.

This is a new approach to offering an in-person ‘intensive’ experience and responds to feedback about recent binational intensive workshops from organisers, leaders and group members. We intend to pilot this approach in 2025 and then review whether to consider with this model in future. Feedback on this approach will be sought from all those involved.

We certainly do not intend to abandon the binational intensive workshop. Planning is already under way to offer a binational intensive workshop along the traditional lines in 2026.

We hope to support opportunities for like-minded professionals to gather and enjoy the Balint community, and ongoing training opportunities for those people on the LAP and LTAP.

We hope that during the second half of 2025 leader pairs or groups will offer these intensive group experiences in different locations around New Zealand and Australia, either in person or online. We suggest that the workshops would best be run on one or two days over a weekend but leaders are free to propose their own dates, times and programme.

*To that end, we invite proposals for workshops
to be held anywhere in Australia and New Zealand during 2025.*

Proposals will be considered by the board in discussion with the training committee. A simple framework has been developed to assist with BalintANZ's decision-making about accreditation of these events, particularly where they are for leadership training purposes – see the separate 'framework' document. Some workshops might run at the same time but this is not the specific intention and it is more likely that workshops will be offered in different centres at different times. Participants would be free to participate in more than one workshop.

Co-ordination of the groups will be in the hands of local organisers and they will be free to determine the group membership, venue, catering, fees and other arrangements.

The society's role will be:

- to support publicity and marketing of these events
- to accredit the workshops for training purposes where appropriate
- to provide collegial support. It is likely that we will offer a leaders' group for those coordinating or leading at these workshops during the year.

Once proposals have been received and the workshops finalised, the society will develop publicity materials with details of all the workshops being offered including dates, times, fees and contact details for the local organiser/s. The arrangements will

then be in the hands of the local organisers. Organisers are also free to publicise their workshops within their own networks.

Proposals need not be long or complicated but we ask that the following information be included:

1. Contact details

- Name and contact details of the organiser/s. We ask that no more than two people be nominated as ‘organisers’ for each local workshop, although there might be more group leaders depending on the number of groups being offered at the workshop.
- Names and contact details of all proposed group leaders. Please note the leader requirements in the accreditation framework document.

2. Programme and group plan

- A draft programme for your proposed workshop.
- How many groups will be offered at this workshop.
- How many participants would be welcome in each group. (Note a minimum of six participants in each group, in addition to the leaders.)
- Whether the groups will be ‘classic’ or ‘leadership’ groups; otherwise, what will happen in your proposed groups.

3. Venue, catering and fees

- Details of the proposed venue. Venues might include private consulting or group rooms or hired spaces.
- An undertaking that appropriate public liability insurance will be in place.
- Brief description of catering arrangements (if any) and whether there will be any opportunity for a dinner or similar social event at your workshop.
- An indicative fee structure for participants. (See below.)

4. How can BalintANZ help?

- How could BalintANZ help you plan and prepare for this workshop? This is a new initiative and we are keen to know how we can best support those who are organising and leading.

- There is an established model in the American Balint Society's 'Balint on the Road' project and we could explore deepening our connections with US colleagues as we pursue this new approach.

Other information

Information for participants

The group structure should be made clear to participants in advance of their registration. That is, if a group is to be a case-only group, that should be clear from the information provided about the group; if there are to be leadership opportunities within the group, that should also be clear. We are aware that intensive workshops appeal to those who are new to Balint work (and who might not want to participate in a 'leadership' workshop) but also to those who are specifically seeking a training or professional development experience. It is therefore important to be clear about what is being offered at each workshop.

Setting fees for the workshops

Given that the arrangement of the workshops will be the responsibility of the local organisers, they will also be free to set their own registration fees for the workshop. Depending on venue and other factors, fees are likely to vary between proposed workshops. If fees for the workshops proposed vary widely, we will discuss this with the organisers of any 'outlier' (in terms of fees) workshops to try to achieve some general consistency. However, ultimately, support and accreditation of the workshops will not be dependent on the fee structures decided by the organisers.

We encourage leaders to consider the realistic costs of their time and expertise in setting the registration fee for participants, particularly noting that most participants will save significantly compared with the registration, travel and accommodation expenses associated with a four-day binational intensive workshop.