

# Mind Ventures

BULLETIN

LIVE AND LEARN

MAR 2011

## The times they are a'changing...

An increasing number of those who have asked to be sent *Mind Ventures* newsletters have either requested these be sent 'by email only' or they have given us an email address as well as their postal address.

So we have developed a special e-newsletter. This will be brief – but allow recipients to link easily to more detailed information if they're interested.

Some of you will receive an e-newsletter in the next week or so.

However, we will continue to send printed newsletters by mail to those who have given us a postal address as well as their email address. And if you don't use email at all we'll make sure that the newsletters we send keep you fully informed of *Mind Ventures* programs coming up.

Of course, if you would prefer not to get newsletters in either form please let us know and we'll take your name off the mailing list.



Some of the *Mind Ventures* group on the Kangaroo Island program in Feb 2011 at Reeves Point, site of the first European settlement in South Australia



View from the balcony of the motel where the *Mind Ventures* group had sunset drinks during the Kangaroo Island program, Feb 2011

## How do we choose subjects and venues?

*Mind Ventures* programs are held on a wide variety of subjects and the short breaks are based in different venues in eastern Australia.

Naturally, we're aware that different people find different subjects of interest... or *not* of interest.

For this reason our one-day programs cover a wide variety of subjects so as to cater for all tastes. The programs to be offered in the first part of 2011 reflect this. But if you have an enquiring mind we hope that you'll be attracted not only by 'favourite' subjects, or historical periods, but also by programs which take you into less familiar territory.

At the same time we're responsive to requests. Hence the special half-day program on 19 March on some villas, gardens and hill towns of Tuscany. This will be presented by Susanna de Vries and follow on from her well-received

program on *Art and Architecture in Venice and Florence* held in November 2010.

**If you are interested in this program please let us know as soon as possible as in November the program was full.**

## SUBSCRIBE

Whilst there is no cost associated with simply being on the *Mind Ventures* mailing list – you simply pay for individual programs as you enrol in them – in the case of one-day programs it is possible to reduce the cost of participating by subscribing. A subscription of \$267 entitles you to participate in any three one-day programs in a two-year period (plus claim a \$30 discount on any one short break that you enrol for during that time).

We're also influenced in large part by the availability of knowledgeable and stimulating presenters. And we're often surprised and impressed – as are many participants in these programs – at how many interesting and authoritative people there are 'out there' who are only too pleased to talk to an interested 'general audience' about what they know and find fascinating.

We trawl a variety of sources – universities, other educational institutions, the media, government and the community generally. It's surprising who you can find out about when a few phone calls are made!

*Continued overleaf*

## Mind Ventures

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How do we choose subjects and venues?  
*Continued...*

The nearest we came to being stumped was when we were putting together a program on South America and were searching for someone in Brisbane who knew about the Inca civilisation. But we eventually found someone who turned out to give us a highly stimulating overview.

In the case of the longer *MindVentures* programs we select a variety of locations. Some are more obviously interesting locations which people have probably never been to. In other cases they've lived there, or their family comes from the place, and they're interested in seeing it with fresh eyes. But even if the town and region isn't a recognised tourist destination – or even seen as a very interesting place – there are always notable things to see and people to talk to. (We even ran a very enjoyable program in Goondiwindi once!)

Whatever the location we aim to give you a good overview and insight into the place and its people.

If there's somewhere that *you* would like to see included, let us know.

## Programs coming up – how to find out more and to enrol

There's no cost in being on the *MindVentures* mailing list – you can just enrol and pay for individual programs as you wish.

*MindVentures* programs scheduled for the next few months are summarised in this newsletter.

If you would like to know more you can access detailed Information Sheets on each of these programs from the website – [www.mindventures.com.au](http://www.mindventures.com.au) (where there is also general information about *MindVentures* and details of some recent programs in both formats). Or give us a call (07 3878 4077) so we can send you the Information Sheets and answer any questions you may have.

You can secure a place in a program by submitting an Enrolment Form (accompanying this newsletter) and paying the modest Booking Fee of \$25 per person.

## PROGRAMS COMING UP...

### Short Breaks with a Difference

*Programs over 3 to 5 days providing an insight into the environment and people of the region in which they are based. Cost includes a specially devised program of activities, high quality accommodation, all meals, transport that is part of the program and the services of a MindVentures host... together with sunset drinks before dinner every night.*

#### **RN546 – ROCKHAMPTON AND THE CAPRICORN COAST (from \$1095)**

**3-7 May**

The 'Beef Capital of Australia' and increasingly a centre servicing the coalfields of central Queensland, Rockhampton's colonial wealth and heritage is based largely on gold; explore the city and region and find out more about this important part of Queensland; based at a heritage venue close to the city centre; visits to Mount Morgan and the Capricorn Coast included.

#### **CF551 – THE MID NORTH COAST OF NEW SOUTH WALES: COFFS HARBOUR**

**26-30 June (from \$1035)**

More than just beaches (although they're spectacular nevertheless)... stay at a four-star venue directly opposite the city's main surf beach and spend a few days finding out more about the people and place of this growing city and region in another specially devised *MindVentures* program.

### One-day Courses...

*Lectures and discussions led by expert presenters, which allow you to explore a wide range of subjects in the company of a small group of people who enjoy learning and discussion.*

*The cost for full-day programs is \$99, which includes a substantial buffet lunch and refreshments. Generally held at the University of Queensland from 9.30am to 4.00pm.*

#### **TU600 – VILLAS, GARDENS AND SOME HILL VILLAGES OF TUSCANY**

**19 March – a half day program (\$47)**

Visit Siena along with several of the hill villages and the impressive villas and gardens for which Tuscany is famous.

#### **CH548 – THE HISTORY AND CULTURE OF CHINA**

**16 April**

Another series of presentations on the history and culture of a country of increasing importance to Australia.

#### **CT549 – COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY**

**21 May**

Find out more about the way developments in communication technology are influencing the way we live and communicate; a 'hands-on' program – for both the experienced and novices.

#### **CL550 – THE CELTS IN THE CLASSICAL WORLD**

**18 June**

Aspects of the civilisation of this fascinating people, with special reference to their interaction with the Greeks and Romans.

#### **AR547 – AUSTRALIAN RADIO**

**16 July**

Development of radio broadcasting in Australia; popular radio programs.

\* All these programs will be held in 2011

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