

Mind Ventures

BULLETIN

LIVE AND LEARN

OCT 2010

THE MINDVENTURES OBJECTIVE

We'd like to continue building up a community of mature age people who are stimulated by hearing from interesting and authoritative people on a range of topics; who enjoy the company of others of like mind; and who like to experience different places – whether for the first time or by returning to a familiar place and seeing it with new eyes. And who like to do all this in comfort and in the knowledge that there are MindVentures hosts always on hand to keep everything running smoothly.

Not everyone has the same interests and priorities of course – but we try to provide the context for a range of enjoyable and stimulating experiences.

If you have any suggestions about topics and places, or would like to be more closely involved in MindVentures, we'd be very happy to hear from you.

ONE-DAY PROGRAMS IN LATE 2010

The next one-day program (on 16 October) will be on the subject of Christianity.

Taking us beyond the specific aspect of its history (which is the title of the program) a number of interesting speakers, including the Academic Dean of St Francis Theological College in Brisbane, will also explore the implications of Christianity for contemporary society.

In November we'll travel (in spirit) to Tuscany and Venice to explore the cities' art and architecture.

The one day programs will be held on a Saturday at the Women's College

at the University of Queensland – a venue easily accessed by both public transport and private car.

KANGAROO ISLAND (February 2011)

Kangaroo Island, off the South Australian coast, is the location of the next MindVentures short break, in February 2011.

By being isolated from the mainland, the island (often called 'Australia's Galapagos') has remained a haven for an extraordinary diversity of native wildlife and boasts a vast range of flora.

The MindVentures program will aim to let participants experience different aspects of both the island's environment and the current activities of its people.

CANBERRA (September 2010)

The recent short break, earlier this month (a week before *Floriade*), was based in Canberra.

We were personally conducted around venues such as the Australian War Memorial, Old Parliament House, the National Portrait Gallery, and the Australian Botanic Gardens, as well as visiting a working sheep property just outside (but being encroached on by!) the city.

Our visit to Parliament House came on a significant day in Australian politics and allowed us, by good fortune, to witness some historic events.

If you couldn't make it this time are you interested in a possible future program in Canberra? Let us know.



A few of the group who braved a fine, but cold, Canberra afternoon for the guided tour of the Australian Botanic Gardens

SUBSCRIBE

Whilst there is no cost associated with simply being on the MindVentures 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).



PHOTO: BARRY GILBERT

The flagpole atop Parliament House as seen from the central foyer

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INTO DOUBLE FIGURES

We are pleased and gratified that several participants in each program are 'MindVentures regulars'.

A quick survey of our records showed that seven of the participants in our very first program back in 2000 have participated in one or more MindVentures programs since that time – and that one of them actually came with us to Newcastle earlier this year!

Our 'prize' goes to Alison Robson from Ashgrove in Brisbane who came to two of our programs in that first year – and has since participated in 22 programs, in both modes. Alison is also booked for the Kangaroo Island program in February 2011!

TRAVEL AND TRANSPORT

The 'short breaks' involve participants arranging their own travel to the venue where the program is based, or to a nearby easily-accessed point from which we provide transport (thus for example the previous programs in Cooktown and Heron Island included transport from Cairns and Gladstone respectively, and transport from Adelaide will be provided for the forthcoming program on Kangaroo Island).

This allows participants to use their preferred mode of transport, including their own cars in many cases, and to incorporate other travel either before or following the program.

However, all transport that is part of the MindVentures program is provided and included in the cost.

Our one-day programs are held at a venue that provides ample car-parking as well as being easily accessed by public transport.

LOOKING AHEAD... 2011

In the summary of programs below you will see that we have already scheduled one-day programs, on a range of subjects, for March to June.

Our short breaks, after the visit to Kangaroo Island in February, include a program in Rockhampton in May and in Coffs Harbour on the northern coast of New South Wales in June.

We hope you can join us.

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

KD542 – 'AUSTRALIA'S GALAPAGOS': KANGAROO ISLAND

(from \$1045)

21-25 February 2011

Experience the island's spectacular natural environment (its flora and fauna having been described as "the closest to what temperate Australia was like at the time of European settlement") along with a rich history and culture; based at Kingscote, the island's main centre; transport to and from Adelaide is included.

RN546 – ROCKHAMPTON AND THE CAPRICORN COAST

(from \$1095)

3-7 May 2011

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 2011

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 each is \$99 (or you can subscribe – see page 1), which includes a substantial buffet lunch and refreshments. Generally held at the University of Queensland from 9.30am to 4.00pm

CX544 – THE HISTORY OF CHRISTIANITY

16 October 2010

The Bible in the context of the more general study of the development of Christianity as a religion.

IT545 – ART AND ARCHITECTURE IN VENICE AND TUSCANY

13 November 2010

A virtual tour of Venice and Tuscany, focusing on art and architecture

AR547 – AUSTRALIAN RADIO

19 March 2011

Development of radio broadcasting in Australia; popular radio programs.

CH548 – THE HISTORY AND CULTURE OF CHINA

16 April 2011

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

CT549 – COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY

21 May 2011

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 2011

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

WOULD YOU LIKE TO KNOW MORE?

For more information about any of the programs, in both formats, you can return the form that is enclosed/attached, visit the MindVentures website (www.mindventures.com.au), email (mindventures@uqconnect.net), or give us a call (07 3878 4077)

If you do not wish to continue receiving information about MindVentures please let us know and we'll take you off the mailing list.