

Mind Ventures

BULLETIN

LEARNING + LEISURE FOR RETIRED AND SEMI-RETIRED PEOPLE

JAN 05

PROGRAMS COMING UP...	
ONE-DAY PROGRAMS	
FEB	SOUTH AMERICA*
MAR	FRANCE* JUDAISM HOMER AND THE TROJAN WAR
MID-YEAR	BUDDHISM WRITING YOUR STORY ITALY*
* <i>MindTravel</i> programs... on aspects of the history and culture of different countries/regions	
LONGER PROGRAMS	
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Being a 'deliberate visitor' ...

The notion of being a 'deliberate visitor' is one we have spoken of before.

The term was used (perhaps coined?) in the 1940s by the well-known Australian writer Nettie Palmer when reflecting on American journalist and historian C. Hartley Grattan.

Grattan travelled frequently to Australia delving into and writing about an extraordinarily wide range of Australian social, literary and political life.

MindVentures programs cater to those who, like Grattan, have the mindset – plus the advantage of time at their disposal and the life-experience – to profit from being a 'deliberate visitor', whether literally or in a metaphorical sense.

'People and place' programs, such as those that have been conducted in previous years in places as diverse as Gympie, Roma and Byron Bay – and the program in June 2005 that will be held in Maryborough – allow people to spend a few days in a place getting to know it better by looking around and talking to members of the community about the region's history and their activities and preoccupations

In a less literal sense, *MindTravel* programs – there are two coming up shortly on South America and France, plus the opportunity to register your interest in a program on Italy – provide the opportunity to immerse yourself in aspects of the history and culture of more distant countries or regions. Whether you're planning a visit, have been there and would like to understand more about the place and its people, or are simply interested you can transport yourselves there without leaving town.

And by taking part in other MindVentures programs – whether the subject is art, history, religion, literature, science or whatever – you can be a 'deliberate

visitor' in a different sense again. Expand your horizons, hear from interesting presenters and put yourself in an environment that takes you out of the familiar, whether it's close to home or somewhere further afield.

Programs are designed for groups of between 10 and 20. In our experience there's always interesting and like-minded people. But you don't need to feel in any way 'locked in' to the group... the extent and way that you participate is up to you.

And no particular background or knowledge is assumed or required. All you need is an enquiring mind.

There are places available in all of the programs advertised in this newsletter. So if you want to keep your mind active, learn new things and enjoy yourself at the same time here's the opportunity. We look forward to seeing you, whether you're one of the growing band of MindVentures regulars or considering participating for the first time.

You can enrol, obtain more information about an advertised program, or register your interest in one of the subjects on which programs are currently being planned, by returning the enrolment/information form accompanying this newsletter.

Or simply give us a call or send us an e-mail.

With best wishes for 2005
Bill Richmond

A Frequently Asked Question...

What is included in the cost of a MindVentures program?

The answer is: once you're at the program, everything... the program itself (lectures, presentations, field trips – including any transport associated with field trips); all meals and refreshments during the time that the program runs (our 'happy hour' before dinner is one of the features of the programs running over two or more days); and, where relevant, accommodation of at least 3.5/4-star standard whether the program is based at a motel, conference centre, university college or wherever.

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SO461 – SOUTH AMERICA: ASPECTS OF HISTORY, CULTURE AND SOCIETY

February 26 (one-day program)

Brisbane (Women's College, University of Queensland, St Lucia)
\$99 (includes lunch/refreshments)

Focusing particularly on the countries of Chile, Peru and Bolivia this program will consist of a number of presentations on aspects of the geography, history and culture aimed at enhancing participants' understanding of this part of South America and its people. Another *MindTravel* program aimed at enhancing a visit – or for anyone who is just interested in learning more about this part of the world.

FR462 – FRANCE: ASPECTS OF HISTORY AND CULTURE

March 10 (one-day program)

Brisbane (Alliance Francaise, George Street)
\$99 (includes lunch/refreshments)

Have you been to France or are you planning to go? Are you a Francophile? Or just interested in the place and its people? Whatever the case, here is an opportunity to spend a day in France without leaving Brisbane. Coordinated for *MindVentures* by Jerome Richalot and Sophie Laurenceau of the Alliance Francaise of Brisbane, this program will let you immerse yourself in 'things French' including art, cinema and language (though you will not be expected to speak French!). Refreshments will have a French flavour and lunch will be prepared by a French chef who will discuss matters culinary.

JD463 – JUDAISM

March 11 (one-day program)

Brisbane (Women's College, University of Queensland, St Lucia)
\$99 (including lunch/refreshments)

Aspects of the principles and practice of Judaism and its evolution from origins as the way of life of an ancient people. Introducing Rabbi Uri Thernal who will discuss Jewish history and contemporary Jewish principles and practices. The program will include a guided visit to the Brisbane synagogue.

HT464 – HOMER AND THE TROJAN WAR

March 17 (one-day program)

Brisbane (Women's College, University of Queensland, St Lucia)
\$99 (including lunch/refreshments)

If you are interested in ancient history you'll know something about the Trojan War. The Iliad and the Odyssey of Homer deal with a part of the War and the struggle of one of the greatest Greek heroes to find his way home after the end of it. They are the first works of European literature (and, many would say, still the greatest). But was there really a Trojan War or is all the creation of a poet's imagination? Coordinator of the program will be Professor Bob Milns from the University of Queensland Department of Classics and Ancient History.

VA465 – EXPLORING THE VISUAL ARTS

April 20–22 (3-night program, from 3pm Wednesday to 4pm Friday)

Toowoomba (University of Southern Queensland and the Comfort Inn on the Park)

\$349 – non-residential (includes *all* meals/refreshments during the time of the program);

\$539 – residential (includes also 3 nights accommodation and breakfast)

The program will be hosted by staff, students and associates of the Visual Arts Department of the University of Southern Queensland. The Department provides an environment for both undergraduate and graduate students in discipline areas including Textiles, Ceramics, Sculpture, Printmaking, Painting, and Gallery Studies. Participants will be able to take part in a number of lectures and studio workshops that are part of the Department's teaching program. The program will include a visit to both the Toowoomba Art Gallery and the USQ Gallery, where participants will meet the Education Coordinator and curator respectively, and participation in a number of lectures and studio workshops in all of the areas covered by the Department, plus a discussion of Public Art in Queensland. There will also be an opportunity for participants to speak informally with Visual Arts students and staff about contemporary visual art practice.

MB466 – HERITAGE MARYBOROUGH

June 6-10 (3-day/4-night program from 5pm Monday to breakfast on Friday)

Maryborough (Parkway Motel and Maryborough District Family History Society, Heritage Building)

\$596 (includes 4 nights accommodation and *all* meals/refreshments during the time of the program) – non-residential enrolment available at lower cost

A *MindVentures* 'people and place' program that will focus particularly on the history of Maryborough and its people, and the fine examples of public and private architecture in the city and region. Offered in conjunction with the Maryborough District Family History Society the program will be of interest both to participants with a particular interest in genealogy and to those with a more general interest in the people and place of Maryborough.

One-day programs scheduled for mid-year...

- Buddhism – principles and practice
- Writing your Story – what to do... and not do
- Italy – a *MindTravel* program... what's the essence of *la dolce vita*?

(let us know if you are interested in these subjects)