

# Mind Ventures

BULLETIN

LIVE AND LEARN

APR 2010

## Location, Location....

The distinctive characteristic of *Mind Ventures* programs is their content. While they're not intended to be highly 'academic' they are directed nonetheless at those with an enquiring mind. Our presenters – sourced from a variety of places ranging from universities, the media, government and local communities – are people who know what they're talking about and keen to share their knowledge.

But we're very mindful also of comfort...and the location of the venue is an important part of that.

In the usual base for the one-day programs – The Women's College on the University of Queensland St Lucia campus – we've found an ideal setting... a comfortable meeting room, and food and refreshments that are a far cry from what many older people equate with 'college fare'.

The venue is easy to locate (we'll give you directions) and readily accessed by public transport. Car parking (on a Saturday) is also readily available at no charge only metres away.

In the case of the 'short breaks' – whether in Cooktown, Heron Island, Longreach, Newcastle or Lorne (all places in which *Mind Ventures* programs have been held in the last few years) we try to find venues that provide the optimum combination of location, quality, and price so the venue can serve as a good base for spending a few days in a place and getting to know it thoroughly.

This sometimes involves a trade-off. We frequently reject quite fabulous 'retreats' that offer a very high standard of hospitality but (apart from being quite expensive!) are located well away from centres of interest and community activity.

However, we always maintain minimum standards and seek to base the short breaks in a centrally located venue of at least (or very close to) four-star standard. Our aim is for *Mind Ventures* programs to offer the best possible combination of accommodation, food, facilities and location at a reasonable cost.

The next short break (in early May) will be held in Maryborough, a city where Queensland's colonial heritage is particularly well preserved. As in the case of previous *Mind Ventures* programs in the city we will use a high quality, well-located, motel as our base and again spend some of our time at the Heritage Centre in the city, headquarters of our hosts the Maryborough Family and Local History Society.

Later in May a one-day program will introduce a number of Brisbane scholars to analyse the political situation in the Middle East – from a Palestinian perspective (but including also a contribution from an Israeli). It promises to be a stimulating day of presentations and discussions.

At this point there are places available in both of these programs and we'll be pleased if you can join us. There's a summary of programs over the page. If you would like further information about any aspect please give us a call or email, or visit the *Mind Ventures* website at [www.mindventures.com.au](http://www.mindventures.com.au)

Bill Richmond

### SUMMARY OF PROGRAMS COMING UP

Short Breaks with a Difference	
MAY	MB534 – HERITAGE MARYBOROUGH
JULY	CN537 – TROPICAL QUEENSLAND: CAIRNS
SEP	CB541 – THE NATIONAL CAPITAL: CANBERRA
FEB 2011	KD542 – 'AUSTRALIA'S GALAPAGOS': KANGAROO ISLAND
One-day Courses	
MAY	PA535 – THE MIDDLE EAST: A PALESTINIAN PERSPECTIVE
JUN	EF536 – THE GLOBAL FINANCIAL CRISIS AND YOU
JUL	AN538 – ANOTHER JOURNEY INTO ANTIQUITY: THE PERSIANS
AUG	RU540 – THE HISTORY AND CULTURE OF RUSSIA
SEP	NT543 – 'WE ARE WHAT WE EAT...': THE SCIENCE OF NUTRITION

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### 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).

## 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. The cost of each includes a stimulating program of presentations and field visits, all meals, and the support throughout of a MindVentures host, in addition to high quality accommodation (single accommodation if desired is generally available at an additional cost). And yes (as always) we'll celebrate each day's activities with a get-together and a few drinks before dinner each night.

#### **MB534 – HERITAGE MARYBOROUGH (from \$875)**

**4-8 MAY**

The city of Maryborough has a prominent place in Queensland history. The character of colonial and early twentieth century character of the city is preserved in an impressive collection of homes, churches and commercial and public buildings. Here again is an opportunity to participate in a specially devised MindVentures program of meetings and visits which let you immerse yourself in the city and its past while experiencing it in 2010.

#### **CN537 – TROPICAL QUEENSLAND: CAIRNS (from \$1085)**

**12-16 JULY**

Cairns is a more recognised tourist destination. But here is an opportunity to not only 'see the sights' but delve below the surface to explore aspects of the history, geography and social fabric of the place and its people. We'll base ourselves in a luxury resort on The Esplanade, but in a specially devised MindVentures program also seek to give participants an insight into the place and people of Queensland's northernmost city.

#### **CB541 – THE NATIONAL CAPITAL: CANBERRA (from \$1095)**

**3-7 SEPTEMBER**

This program will allow you to spend a few days in Canberra and take part in a program of visits and meetings to experience both the natural environment of Canberra and what it offers as the centre of the nation's political and cultural life. Based in a heritage hotel close to the city centre the program will include visits to the Australian War Memorial, the National Gallery, National Museum, both the Old and New Parliament House and other locations to give a comprehensive appreciation of Canberra in 2010 and how the city has developed. The program is in the week immediately prior to the city's Floriade Festival.

#### **KD542 – 'AUSTRALIA'S GALAPAGOS': KANGAROO ISLAND (from \$1045) 21-25 FEBRUARY 2011**

A land mass approximately 150km long, located about 45 minutes off the Australian mainland 110km south-west of Adelaide, Kangaroo Island allows the visitor one of the most diverse and spectacular experiences of Australian wildlife, flora and natural beauty. Based in a quality motel right on the waterfront in Kingscote, the island's main community, this program will let you experience the island's natural environment along with its rich history and culture, and the wide variety of natural produce for which the island is becoming increasingly famous. Transport to and from Adelaide is included.

### One-day Courses...

One-day programs, generally held in the congenial surroundings of the University of Queensland's Women's College and 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.

These programs are generally on the third Saturday of each month (unless otherwise indicated). The cost for each is \$99, which includes a substantial buffet lunch and refreshments. A saving on this price can be made by subscribing (any three programs for \$267).

#### **PA535 – THE MIDDLE EAST: A PALESTINIAN PERSPECTIVE**

**22 MAY**

Scholarly analyses, from a Palestinian perspective, of the origins of the conflict between Israel and Palestine, its recent and current manifestations, major current issues and possibilities for resolution.

#### **EF536 – THE GLOBAL FINANCIAL CRISIS AND YOU**

**19 JUNE**

Starting with an analysis of the global financial crisis which precipitated the recent economic downturn this program will introduce a number of economists and financial analysts and advisers to give their interpretation of how those affected should respond.

#### **AN538 – ANOTHER JOURNEY INTO ANTIQUITY: THE PERSIANS**

**10 JULY**

An exploration of different aspects of the ancient Persian civilisation set in the context of the place and the people in its modern-day location.

#### **RU540 – THE HISTORY AND CULTURE OF RUSSIA**

**21 AUGUST**

Presentations on the history of Russia (including both the pre-Revolutionary and Soviet periods); Russian culture; the Russia-Australia connection; and places which the twenty-first century visitor should experience.

#### **NT543 – 'WE ARE WHAT WE EAT...': THE SCIENCE OF NUTRITION**

**18 SEPTEMBER**

Spend a day learning about how the food we eat affects our life and activities. In addition to discussion of some general nutritional issues, presenters (all qualified health scientists) will address some specific aspects of nutrition including allergies/intolerances, food and specific disorders, and weight control issues.

**MORE INFORMATION** about these programs is available via the website ([www.mindventures.com.au](http://www.mindventures.com.au)) – go to 'What's On Offer' – or by giving us a call on 07 3878 4077