

Mind Ventures

BULLETIN

LIVE AND LEARN

FEB 2010

Mind Ventures in 2010

Welcome to those people receiving their first *Mind Ventures* newsletter. We hope that you will find that the programs scheduled for the next several months – whether in the one-day or ‘short break’ format – will provide what you’re looking for.

As participants in previous programs will know, *Mind Ventures* present the opportunity for mature age people to maintain and pursue intellectual interests – to the extent and in a way that you wish – in the company of what is invariably an interesting small group of like-minded others, and in a high quality environment.

The ‘key words’ are stimulation, enjoyment and comfort.

‘Short breaks’ in the coming months are scheduled in places as diverse as Newcastle, Maryborough, Cairns and Canberra. Whether you’ve visited (or even lived in) these places or not our aim in each case is to have you leave the program having gained a good appreciation of the place and its people in 2010, along with the nature of both past and future development.

Thanks to those who have already enrolled, although there are places still available in each of the programs – including the Newcastle program (one day of which will be spent visiting the Hunter Valley) at the end of this month (22 -26 February). So if you would like to join us in a couple of weeks (or to have further information about this program) please give us a call or email. As is usually the case we’ll base ourselves in a well-located venue which gives easy access to all that’s interesting – in this instance a boutique hotel close to the Newcastle CBD and waterfront.

The one-day programs (held at the University of Queensland at St Lucia, typically using the high quality facilities of the Women’s College) are on a wide variety of subjects and will introduce a range of entertaining and authoritative presenters. These present an opportunity to spend a day immersing yourself in topics as diverse as US government and politics, the ancient Persian civilisation or the history and culture of Russia.

If you would like to see the typical format of programs and details of some that have previously been offered they can be accessed via the website (www.mindventures.com.au... go to the end of ‘What’s On Offer’). And if you have any queries please feel free to call or email.

SUMMARY OF PROGRAMS COMING UP

Short Breaks with a Difference	
FEB 2010	NH531 – NEWCASTLE AND THE HUNTER VALLEY
MAY	MB534 – HERITAGE MARYBOROUGH
JULY	CN537 – TROPICAL QUEENSLAND: CAIRNS
SEP	CB541 – THE NATIONAL CAPITAL: CANBERRA
One-day Courses	
MAR 2010	US532 – GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS IN THE UNITED STATES
APR	BS533 – SELLING BOOKS
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

Mind Ventures

director Dr Bill Richmond

telephone 07 3878 4077

mobile 0412 354 722

e-mail mindventures@uqconnect.net

website www.mindventures.com.au

postal PO Box 1491, Toowong Qld 4066

Cost and Payment

As *Mind Ventures* is a not-for-profit organisation the cost of programs is kept as low as possible. In order to keep your financial commitment to a minimum as well, a Booking Fee of only \$25 is required upon enrolment, with full payment only required immediately prior to the program itself.

However, in the case of the short breaks a deposit (generally of \$200 per person) is required 45 days prior to the date of the program to cover payments and deposits which *Mind Ventures* has to make. Details of payment requirements are set out in the Information Sheets available for each program, and if you enrol we will ensure that you are notified in good time. The Information Sheets clearly specify what is included in the quoted price together with any accommodation options that are available.

Despite rising costs, the price of one-day programs has been maintained at \$99 (which includes lunch and refreshments) – and even less per program if you subscribe. Payment of \$267 entitles you to participate in any three programs within a two-year period. You can subscribe using the enrolment form enclosed/attached, or alternatively enrol for one-day programs and pay on an individual basis.

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.

NH531 – NEWCASTLE AND THE HUNTER VALLEY (from \$975)

22-26 FEBRUARY

Don't rule this out just because you have an image of Newcastle as simply a steel works town! Sure it's a place where most people seem to say (without a lot of regret) 'I've never actually been there'. Yet the city is the second largest in Australia outside the state capitals. It boasts an impressive harbour and beaches and is the gateway to the famous Hunter Valley. Here's an opportunity to spend a few days experiencing what the city and region has to offer. One day will be spent visiting the Hunter Valley.

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.

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).

US532 – GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS IN THE UNITED STATES

20 MARCH

A review of the U.S. political scene including the Constitution, the roles and powers of the Congress and the President, the main political parties, congressional and presidential elections; and contemporary foreign and domestic policy under President Obama.

BK533 – SELLING BOOKS

17 APRIL

Discussions with a number of different owners/managers of Brisbane bookshops about the business of selling books, set in the context of a review of the current debate about the Copyright Act and its implications for book writers, readers, buyers - and sellers.

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.

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