

# Mind Ventures

LIVE AND LEARN

JUNE 09

MindVentures has recently formalised its status as a not-for-profit organisation.

Our aim in doing so is to affirm our primary goal of building up a community of mature people committed to the active pursuit of learning, discussion and social interaction with those of like mind – and, if they wish, to combine it with the exploration of different parts of Australia.

We seek to achieve this by offering programs – whether in the one-day or ‘short break’ format – that allow older adults to pursue and extend their interests on a wide range of subjects and to engage in experiences not otherwise possible.

If you haven’t already become part of the MindVentures community by taking part in one of our programs we would be very pleased if you could join us in the future – or at least maintain your connection by keeping yourself on our free mailing list. (If you have taken part, or are one of our regular participants, we look forward to your continuing involvement. We hope that MindVentures programs continue to be of interest and that you can help us expand the community by ‘spreading the word’ about MindVentures.)

In order to maintain high standards we use venues which provide quality facilities, and pay our highly-qualified presenters to ensure that experiences are always informative, stimulating, enjoyable and comfortable. But our non-profit status ensures that our programs are always priced so as only to cover the direct costs of arranging programs. And the programs are accessible to anyone. No particular background is assumed or required. All you need is to be interested in the subject.

Coming up shortly are two programs, one in each format, where there are still places available if you would like to join us.

On 20 June, in a one-day program, we will again be introducing Professor Bob Milns (formerly Head of the Department of Classics and Ancient History at the University of Queensland) who, along with a colleague, will present a program on the influence of the literature and architecture of the ancient civilisations of Greece and Rome.

In early July there’ll be a MindVentures short break based in Longreach where we’ll spend a few days exploring the place and meeting the people of the region. This is an opportunity to do more than just be a regular tourist. While the formal enrolment date has passed there are places available and you can still register now.

The schedule of programs for the following months is set out below (one-day programs will be about the diverse subjects of the history and culture of Cuba, General Douglas MacArthur in wartime Brisbane, and the music of a number of Russian composers; while there’ll be a short break in another iconic inland location – Broken Hill – in September).

If you would like more information about any of these please visit our website ([www.mindventures.com.au](http://www.mindventures.com.au)) – where you can also see details of previous programs – or feel free to give us a call on 07 3878 4077.

Bill Richmond

## SUMMARY OF PROGRAMS COMING UP

Short Breaks with a Difference	
JUN/JUL	LR524 – OUTBACK HERITAGE: LONGREACH
SEP	BH527 – SILVER CITY: BROKEN HILL
One-day Courses	
JUN	GR525 – ANCIENT CIVILISATIONS: GREECE AND ROME
JUL	CU526 – THE HISTORY AND CULTURE OF CUBA
AUG	MM528 – GENERAL MACARTHUR IN BRISBANE
SEP	MU529 – MUSIC OF THE RUSSIANS

## SUBSCRIBE

You can pay for individual programs as you enrol in them, or in the case of one-day programs **subscribe** at a reduced cost.

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).

## Mind Ventures

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## PROGRAMS COMING UP...

### Short Breaks with a Difference in 2009

Longer programs providing an insight into the environment and the people of the region in which they are based. The cost of each program 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 (twin share, with single accommodation if desired 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.

#### LR524 – OUTBACK HERITAGE: LONGREACH (\$1090)

30 JUNE – 5 JULY

Spend four days/five nights in Longreach based in a high-quality motel and gain an insight into the Queensland Outback. Meet local pastoralists, scientists and historians. Learn about water supply and plant life in the arid zone. Discuss education in the outback and visit the School of the Air. See the pastoral industry in action by visiting working stations. Cruise the Thomson River. Take part in a personal guided walk around the town itself.

#### BH527 – SILVER CITY: BROKEN HILL (\$935)

25 – 29 SEPT

A three-day/four-night program in one of the great centres of the Australian mining industry. Learn about the history of Broken Hill and its role in the development of Australian mining. Visit places of interest (including nearby Silverton), explore the unique architecture and local environment, and meet with members of the community who have been and are connected with mining and the past and present activities of the city. Based at a high quality motel close to the heart of the city.

### 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 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.

#### GR525 – ANCIENT CIVILISATIONS: GREECE AND ROME

20 JUNE

Professor Bob Milns, formerly Professor of Classics and Ancient History at the University of Queensland and coordinator of a number of previous MindVentures programs, will be joined by colleagues to discuss aspects of ancient Roman and Greek civilizations, focusing on literature, art and sculpture.

#### CU526 – THE HISTORY AND CULTURE OF CUBA

18 JULY

A MindTravel program which will introduce a number of presenters, including Sue Monk of Griffith University and Anne Hudson of the Queensland University of Technology, who have first-hand experience of modern Cuba. Topics covered will range over the history and geography of Cuba and aspects of its culture and society including music, politics and education.

#### MM528 – GENERAL MACARTHUR IN BRISBANE

22 AUGUST

Presentations and discussions will analyse General MacArthur as a man, and wartime Brisbane from where MacArthur exerted a decisive influence over conduct of the final stages of the Second World War. Includes a guided visit to the MacArthur Museum in Brisbane hosted by historian Faye Schutt, curator of the Museum.

#### MU529 – MUSIC OF THE RUSSIANS

(SUNDAY) 20 SEPTEMBER

Includes attendance at a performance by the Brisbane Philharmonic Orchestra of well-known pieces by Russian composers Mussorgsky, Rachmaninoff and Borodin in the Old Museum building. Preceded by discussions of the composers and their work and the activities of the community orchestra itself. Includes transport between the venue of the concert and the Women's College at the University of Queensland where earlier sessions will be held and lunch taken.

### FURTHER INFORMATION

You can obtain further information on any of these programs by returning the Enquiry Form that is enclosed/attached or by phoning or emailing MindVentures (07 3878 4077; mindventures@uqconnect.net). Or visit the website: [www.mindventures.com.au](http://www.mindventures.com.au)

### RECENT PROGRAMS

The April and May one-day MindVentures programs were on the very different subjects of Buddhism and Volunteering Abroad.

In the first of these, after a morning spent exploring the history, philosophy and practices of Buddhism with Antonio Jardim (not himself a practising Buddhist but a student and enthusiast of ancient religions who is undertaking a PhD through the University of Sydney), we spent the afternoon at the Langritangpa Buddhist Centre in Camp Hill Brisbane.

In May we heard over the day from four people who have recently undertaken volunteer work on projects which where they were able to apply their skills and expertise to assist communities in Nepal, Cambodia and Vietnam. They shared their insights on these diverse cultures and what can be gained from volunteering.

If you would like to see the detailed programs visit our website (go to 'What's On Offer') or phone us and we'll send printed copies.

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