

Mind Ventures

BULLETIN

LIVE AND LEARN

NOV 09

SOMETHING DIFFERENT...

Whether in the one-day or 'short break' format MindVentures programs provide an opportunity for mature age people to pursue or extend their interests in a wide variety of subjects. And to do so in comfortable surrounds, in the company of a small group of like-minded others.

One-day programs in the first part of 2010 will cover subjects as diverse as American government and politics; the 'business' of selling books in Brisbane; the global financial crisis; Middle-East politics; and the ancient Persian civilisation. Each will be an opportunity to hear from a range of interesting presenters who are experts in the subject as well as to participate – to the extent you wish – in discussion with a small group of enquiring people.

In the short breaks we aim to bring you in contact with presenters who are similarly well-informed and keen to communicate their knowledge and ideas about their community with visitors interested in understanding more about the people and place they have come to – in being, to use an expression we like, 'deliberate visitors'.

The next of these MindVentures (in late February 2010) will be based in Newcastle – a city that offers more than it's often credited with and an easy jumping-off point to the Hunter Valley where we'll spend some time also. We'll use as a base a boutique hotel in the middle of the CBD, close to much of what is interesting about Newcastle, and as usual aim to have you leave feeling that you have both seen and learnt about the place and its people and enjoyed your time there. Enrolments are also open for short breaks later in the year to be based in Maryborough and Cairns.

(These programs were all publicised in the last newsletter. If you have already indicated your interest, or enrolled, thank you. But there are still places available in all of them.)

In planning these programs we try to avoid the more 'manufactured' tourist fare. Pinning presenters down is sometimes difficult too far in advance so we often don't finalise the details of the schedule until closer to the time of the program. But if you indicate your interest we'll keep you informed.

Programs in both formats aim to offer 'something different' in that they bring you into contact with a variety of people who are 'out there' eager to communicate with those who have enquiring minds. Whether it's close to home or in a place you want to visit or return to we seek to give you an experience that combines stimulation and enjoyment.

There's more information about forthcoming programs (and some recent ones) on our website at <www.mindventures.com.au>. Or you're very welcome to give us a call on 07 3878 4077.

Bill Richmond

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
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

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

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).

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 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 (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 2010

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.

MB534 – HERITAGE MARYBOROUGH (from \$875)

4-8 MAY 2010

The city of Maryborough has a prominent place in Queensland history. The character of the colonial and early twentieth century 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 2010

Cairns is a more recognised tourist destination. However, this program will let you 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.

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 2010

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 2010

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 2010

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 2010

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 2010

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.

ENROLMENT AND PAYMENT

Further information about programs may be sought, or provisional enrolment made, simply by telephoning or emailing, or by returning the enclosed/attached form. The MindVentures website (www.mindventures.com.au – go to 'What's on Offer') can also be used to access further information about forthcoming programs (as well as details of some recent programs).

A place may be secured by paying a Booking Fee of \$25. Full payment is then usually

only required a week or two before the program itself. All requirements are set out in Information Sheets and confirmed in Bulletins sent to each person who has enrolled.

The price of each program, and what it covers, is indicated in Information Sheets. MindVentures makes use of high quality facilities and presenters and (MindVentures being a not-for-profit organisation) the price reflects only the associated costs.

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