

Mind Ventures

LIVE AND LEARN

SEPT 09

ABOUT MIND VENTURES

If you have taken part in a *Mind Ventures* program – in either format – you'll be familiar with what's offered and how you can participate. We look forward to seeing you again in the future – perhaps at one of the programs publicised in this newsletter.

Incidentally, if you would like further information it's available via the website (just click on the program title) or in printed form (just give us a call and we'll send it to you... and answer any questions you may have).

But if you don't 'know the ropes' here are answers to a few Frequently Asked Questions:

- You don't have to be a 'member' of *Mind Ventures*. If you like the idea of what we do we're pleased just to have you on our mailing list. Then, if the subject/location of a program is of interest and it fits in to your other commitments you can enrol and pay the program cost.
- What do you get for your money? The opportunity to: explore a subject and, in the longer programs, a place, its people and their experiences; hear from a range of presenters (including many internationally-renowned experts) who enjoy interacting with an interested general audience; enjoy the company of other like-minded participants; and relax in comfortable and secure physical surroundings. All meals and refreshments (including, in our longer programs, the always-welcome sunset drinks!) are included. Where travel is involved you arrange it yourself, using your preferred form of transport, taking advantage of any discounts and concessions that may be available to you, and incorporating side trips and visits if you wish. (But all transport that is part of a program is included.) There are costs of course in securing quality accommodation and facilities – and the services of expert and entertaining presenters – but because *Mind Ventures* is a not-for-profit organisation the price of programs is set only to cover the costs of offering them.
- How to Enrol? There's an Enrolment Form accompanying this (and each) newsletter. But in the first instance you can just send us an email or give us a call. A 'Booking Fee' of \$25 is payable on formal enrolment. Details of any further deposits required and payment of balance are set out clearly in Information Sheets.
- Who participates in *Mind Ventures* programs? Anyone who is interested in the subject and/or location. A fairly equal mix of couples, friends, and singles (both men and women). The typical age is probably 60s/early 70s but there are plenty who are older – and younger (youth is not a barrier!).
- Is it possible to avail yourself of just some parts of a program (a question we're often asked about the short breaks)? Yes. If you are able to provide some or all of your own accommodation or meals for example, that's fine... we'll adjust the price accordingly.

Do you have other questions? Give us a call or email. Read on to see what's on offer now. We hope there's something there of interest and look forward to seeing you soon.

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	
SEP 2009	MU529 – MUSIC OF THE RUSSIANS
NOV	SH530 – PERFORMING SHAKESPEARE
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

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WIN tickets to a forthcoming Queensland Theatre Company production...

by returning the *Mind Ventures* Survey accompanying this newsletter. (Yes, we know, surveys are a pain; but we'd be grateful for your views.) Surveys received by 14 September will go in a draw to win a double pass to *The Year of Magical Thinking*. Directed by Cate Blanchett and starring Robyn Nevin, this heartfelt memoir is a love-letter to a child, and a tribute to an extraordinary marriage. The season runs from 16 September to 17 October.

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).

MU529 – MUSIC OF THE RUSSIANS

(SUNDAY) 20 SEPTEMBER 2009

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. Accompanied by discussions of the composers and their work and the activities of the community orchestra itself.

SH530 – PERFORMING SHAKESPEARE

21 NOVEMBER 2009

The Queensland Shakespeare Ensemble explores aspects of the work of William Shakespeare and its performance. The program will cover the historical and cultural context of Shakespeare's work, and the use of voice and body in performance.

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

15 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.

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