

Mind Ventures

Insights

We hope that every participant in a *Mind Ventures* program enjoys the opportunities it presents to interact with others of like mind, to enjoy new experiences and perhaps to see new places.

But the over-arching aim of *Mind Ventures* is to let you gain new *insights* – whether it's into a subject area, a locality or the people who live there... or all three.

We were pleased that our final program in 2007 met this objective ... and we're grateful to those participants whose generous comments affirmed that we fulfilled this goal.

The program incorporated a concert by the Brisbane Philharmonic Orchestra and allowed us to gain an insight into the people and activities of the orchestra – through a meeting with a member of the orchestra who is also its manager – and to have the unique experience of meeting and interacting with the composer of one of the major works in the concert program.

One-day programs in 2008

The schedule of one-day programs for the first part of this year presents the opportunity to delve into a wide range of other subjects, including the **philosophy and practice of Islam**, **Australian popular culture in the 1950s** (do you remember the Carter Brown novels?), the **'way of thinking' of economists**, the **history and culture of Spain**, and **daily life in Ancient Rome**.

The presenters of these programs are all experts in the field. But they're people who at the same time enjoy communicating with a general audience. The presentations and discussions are not esoteric and no special background or knowledge is assumed. To participate, all you need is an interest in the subject.

'Short breaks'

Or if you enjoy the stimulation that different places offer there's a number of 'short breaks' also scheduled for the first part of the year. These will be held in different parts of Queensland – **Toowoomba**, **Maryborough**, **Cooktown** and the **South Burnett**.

The first of these – in Toowoomba – will be held next month. There are places still available so you're still able to register. We have an interesting program of activities and meetings lined up – including a visit to the refurbished Empire Theatre, a guided tour of the Japanese Garden at the University of Southern Queensland, and a meeting with Toowoomba's Mayor – which will be stimulating and enjoyable and give you a good overview of the city and its people.

Later programs will offer similar opportunities to 'get away' and be a 'deliberate visitor' to a town or region.

So, whether in a one-day program or 'short break', we hope that you can join us in 2008 – and find that's it an interesting and enjoyable experience.

Best wishes

Bill Richmond

SUMMARY OF PROGRAMS COMING UP

Short Breaks with a Difference	
FEB	TB506 – THE GARDEN CITY: TOOWOOMBA
MAY	MB508 – HERITAGE MARYBOROUGH
JUL	CK509 – TRAVELLING NORTH: COOKTOWN
AUG	SB514 – THE SOUTH BURNETT: MORE THAN JUST PEANUTS
One-day Courses	
MAR	IS505 – ISLAM: PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICE
APR	AU510 – AUSTRALIA IN THE 1950s
MAY	EC511 – ECONOMICS: IS IT REALLY A DISMAL SCIENCE?
JUN	SP512 – HISTORY AND CULTURE OF SPAIN
JUL	RO513 – DAILY LIFE IN ANCIENT ROME

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Save Money by Subscribing to One-Day Programs...

A Subscription of \$276 allows you to enrol in any three programs over a two-year period (plus deduct \$30 from the cost of any one of the short breaks). For details see the Enrolment Form or enquire.

PROGRAMS COMING UP...

Short Breaks with a Difference

Longer programs, generally of three days/four nights, 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 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.

TB506 – THE GARDEN CITY: TOOWOOMBA (\$785)	18-22 FEBRUARY
MB508 – HERITAGE MARYBOROUGH (\$765)	6-10 MAY
CK509 – TRAVELLING NORTH: COOKTOWN (from \$985)	8-12 JULY
SB514 – THE SOUTH BURNETT: MORE THAN JUST PEANUTS (\$780)	28 AUG-1 SEPT

One-day Courses

One-day programs, 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.

IS505 – ISLAM: PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICE **15 MARCH**

Explores the philosophical basis of Islam (including a female perspective) with visit to the Kuraby Mosque and meeting with the imam, **Dr Mohamad Abdalla** (who is also the Director of the Griffith University Islamic Research Unit).

AU510 – AUSTRALIA IN THE 1950s **19 APRIL**

Do you remember the Carter Brown novels and the Larry Kent radio serials? Analyse these and other icons of Australian life and popular culture in the 1950s. Program coordinated by **Dr Toni Johnson-Woods** who teaches in the University of Queensland's Bachelor of Contemporary Studies.

EC511 – ECONOMICS: IS IT REALLY A DISMAL SCIENCE? **17 MAY**

Or really an optimistic science? Hear from **Professor John Quiggin** and other economists about how economics plays such an important part in our daily lives – and why there's no such thing as a 'non-economics question'.

SP512 – THE HISTORY AND CULTURE OF SPAIN **21 JUNE**

Another *MindTravel* program that will give you a fuller appreciation of Spain and things Hispanic. Presenters include **Professor Alfredo Martinez** from the University of Queensland's School of Languages and Contemporary Cultural Studies.

RO513 – DAILY LIFE IN ANCIENT ROME **19 JULY**

Presentations and discussions led by **Professor Bob Milns** and **Associate Professor Dorothy Watts** of aspects of daily life in Ancient Rome, including social status and class structure, religion (including early Christianity); entertainment and social life; and law and order.

FURTHER INFORMATION

If any of the above programs is of interest you can obtain further information by returning the Enquiry Form that is enclosed/attached or contacting us by phone or e-mail.

Alternatively, if you have access to the internet, you can refer to the website (go to 'What's On Offer' then click on the program title).

The 'What's On Offer' page also contains details of some previous programs so you can see the typical content and format of *MindVentures* programs.

HOW WOULD YOU LIKE TO RECEIVE NEWSLETTERS?

in printed form or by e-mail?... let us know if you'd like to change. We're happy to send them by post, but if you use e-mail (and if you haven't heard from us recently) let us have your e-mail address also, so we can send you updates in between newsletters.

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