

Value Adding #19



Enjoyable business partnerships

October - December 1998

Kate Ramsay and Des Ryan welcome you to AnD Consulting's newsletter. And, for your records, please note our new mobile number: 0418 164 260.

In this edition, we start with a new topic we are calling **Living with Vision. Learnable Moments** explores choice. In **Did You Know?** we recommend a text which urges the need for a redefinition of success and we promote tax deductible Learning Sabbaticals in the Byron Shire.

LIVING WITH VISION

We believe that having a vision for the future not only gives us something exciting to head towards but also adds meaning to every day.

In keeping with our commitment to walk our talk, Des wrote his vision in Value Adding # 18 and it is now time for me, Kate, to share mine.

My vision is: "I am a lover and a learner on the journey of life and my passion and service is in supporting others to clarify and live their vision and values."

I live my vision through my work as a leadership coach. Each time a client clarifies their vision I shiver with delight, not only from the thrill of seeing them discover new meaning for themselves, but also because facilitating the process itself enables me to live my vision!

With some clients this clarification takes place in the context of Leadership Coaching. Others commit to our Visionary process which, over 3 sessions and with the help of a workbook, enables them to paint the picture of their ideal future then map out, with action plans and timeframes, how to make this dream a reality.

A Melbourne client had this to say about her experience of the Visionary process:

'Vision with action can change the world'

"As learning and life are a journey, so too is the visioning process. I started my vision journey two years ago in a city environment over a series of sessions between the daily rigours of work. I was satisfied with the outcome but it somehow seemed incomplete.

Earlier this year I felt the need to challenge and nurture myself and decided to revisit the visioning process in a new way by booking into Byron Bay for three sessions over five days in September.

The tranquility and beauty of Byron Bay gave me the inner peace and the strength and energy to create a vision with excitement, depth and meaning. Thank you Kate, my visioning journey now moves into a new dimension. Thank you Byron Bay, my creativity is once again inspired."

And this, from a client in Adelaide:
"The work I did with you earlier this year continues to drive me toward my vision.

Then on the day my husband and I decided to move to Perth I read your most recent newsletter about 'outsiders'. (I swear you knew we were making this decision!) Your words about innovation versus reform hit a nerve and I realised that, whilst my vision was achievable, I was continuing to move towards it cocooned in my 'safety net'. Hence, I decided it was time for innovation - I believe it's called freedom of choice.

Thankyou again - this time for awakening me from my culturally induced slumber!"

And a final word from the futurist, Joel Barker, from his video The Power of Vision:

"Vision without action is merely a dream.
Action without vision passes the time.
Vision with action can change the world."



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LEARNABLE MOMENTS

Since the last newsletter, I, Des, have driven right around this wonderful country and in the process I discovered choice. In this newsletter I would like to share my understanding of this concept of choice.

I make the choice of a vision and then I go about making this vision happen. This process sets me free. Freedom is a state of being which I have been searching for all of my days and, until now, had evaded me.

In the context of my journey, my vision was to drive safely around Australia and I felt free to do so by choosing to let go of the baggage of the 'shoulds' and 'oughts' of daily life.

And as I drove along I realised that I didn't need to break the rules of the road by, for example, driving on the wrong side of the road, in order to feel free. But rather that by choosing to drive on the right side of the road I was feeling a sense of freedom in this choice.

During my drive, I also discovered two other aspects of choice. One was that of time and the other was that of confidence.

"Things take time." I remember receiving a poster from a colleague in 1976 which stated this fact and it was not until my big drive that I fully understood what that statement meant.

For example, on the day I drove from Halls' Creek to Broome (700 + km), I chose to drive with patience and steadiness and the kilometres and hours gradually ticked away until I arrived safely in Broome in the fullness of time.

The drive also taught me that it takes confidence to take responsibility for our choices and that with this confidence comes an awareness of one's aloneness.

Having the confidence to drive around Australia on my own reinforced for me my sense of aloneness, yet at no stage did I feel lonely. In fact I have felt far more lonely, and far less confident, in a crowd of people.

A wise person once said, "we are beings of choice". I now understand the sense of freedom and confidence, indeed the exhilaration, of choice.

DID YOU KNOW?

i A Good Read

In Reworking Success - new communities at the millennium (New Society Publishers, Canada, 1997) Robert Theobald calls for the need for fundamental change because of the challenges facing society on the eve of the new millennium. He argues persuasively that, to survive, we must overhaul our whole concept of 'success'.

Theobald is on an Australian tour as we go to print. He imparts his wisdom with humility

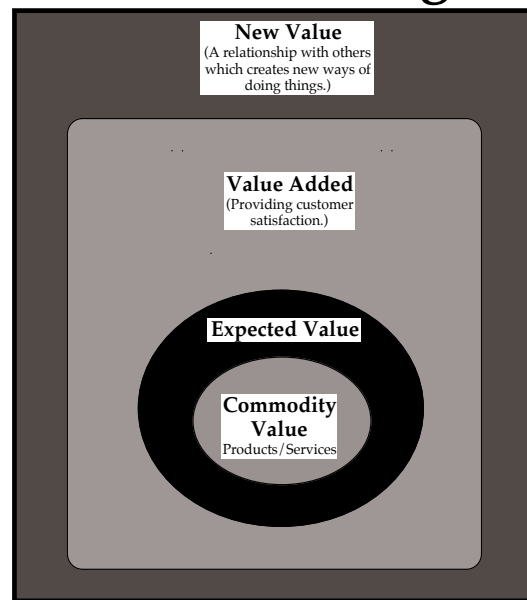
and a deep sense of caring for humanity and the planet. Having been treated for cancer within the last year he is indeed the model of someone with "something significant yet to do in the future" (Victor Frankl in Man's Search for Meaning).

ii Learning Sabbaticals

You too can experience the beauty and tranquility of the Byron Shire with a tax deductible learning experience.

Ansett flies into Ballina (only 25 minutes from here and 9,000 points from Sydney), while Ansett and Qantas both fly into Coolangatta (an hour from here and just over the Queensland border making it 17,000 points). Give us a call for further details.

Value Adding



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