

## NEWSLETTER

July 4, 2008

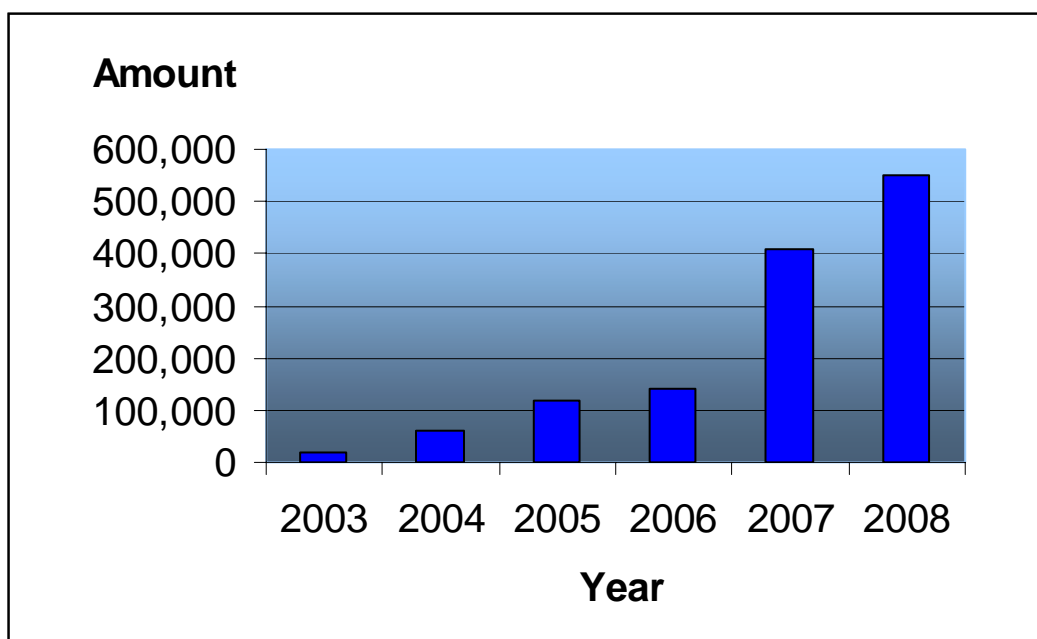
### Expanded Team Brings Steady Progress

Our July 4, '07 Newsletter, <http://www.mannkal.org/downloads/newsletters/newsletter070704.pdf> gave the story of Mannkal Foundation's beginnings.

This past year has seen three key staff appointments, enabling effective expansion of our activities.

As a tax-exempt Prescribed Private Fund (PPF), Mannkal operates within tight audited deadlines and the current capital base of A\$6.8 million is generating an ever-expanding number of Mannkal Scholars and activities.

One of the pleasures for our team is to work on collaborative projects with Australia's leading free-market think tanks, the Centre for Independent Studies (CIS) and the Institute of Public Affairs (IPA), and also to draw inspiration from the many international free-market think tanks with which we are affiliated.



Mannkal's Annual Scholarship Budget

## 10th Anniversary Website:



We have finally finished the remodeling of our website. Our aim is to improve functionality and access to useful information. For example, by clicking on "Scholarships" this takes you to Scholarship opportunities and details of our programs with six universities plus C.I.S. and I.P.A.

Other features, increasing the effectiveness of our site, includes a calendar of events which can be used to enable registration.

The website's make-over has meant that it portrays a fresh and modern look and, most importantly, it is more "user-friendly", as well as carrying forward archived material from its ten years of content.

Please visit [www.mannkal.org](http://www.mannkal.org) and we welcome your thoughtful input.

## Mannkal Coming Events - 2008

- ❖ July 28 "Fanning the Fragile Flame of Western Civilization" - boardroom lunch with Hal Colebatch
- ❖ Aug 7 "Health Paper" for our Project WA series - public lunch.
- ❖ Aug 14 "Will China Fail?" - Dr John Lee - public lunch.
- ❖ Oct 2 "Harold Clough Lecture" - Mannkal / IPA .
- ❖ Dec 5 "P.J. O'Rourke" - public lunch, Perth.

For further details and invitations to these events please visit our website [www.mannkal.org](http://www.mannkal.org) or telephone (08) 9322 6777.

## Expanded Team



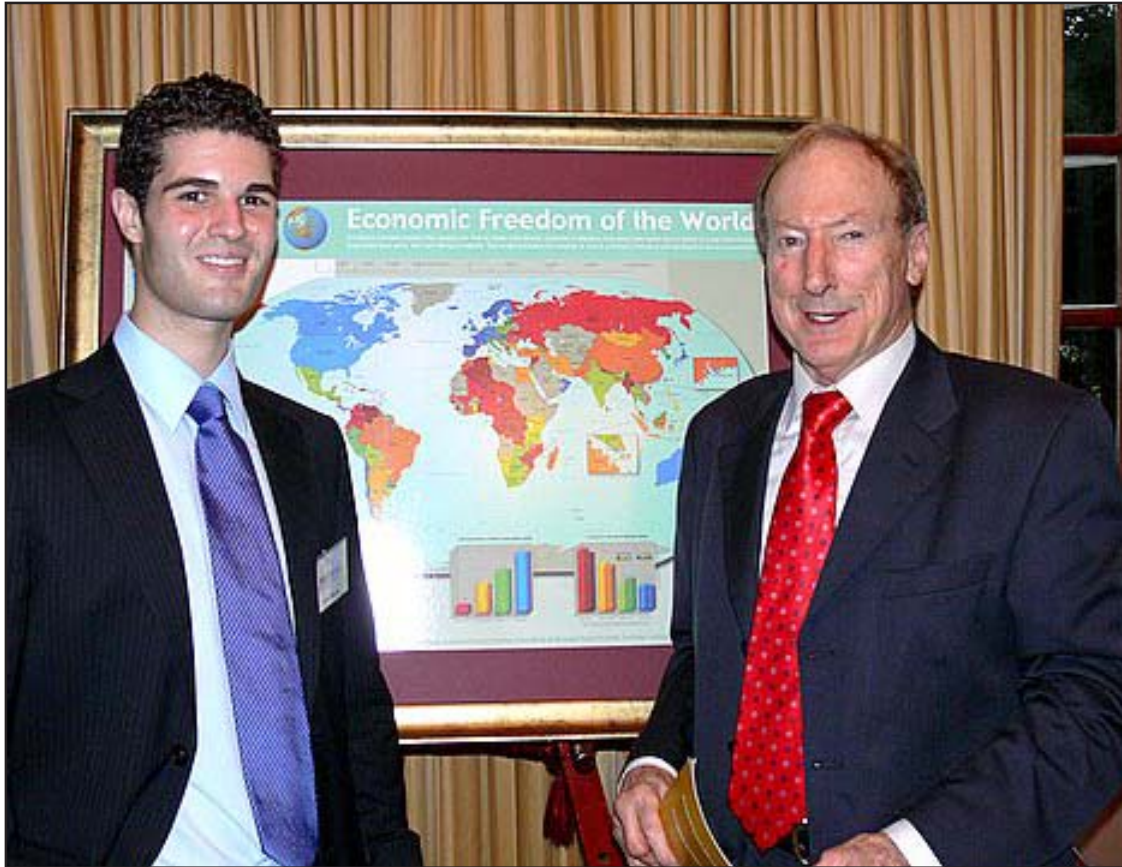
*Mannkal Foundation's Team L-R: Jenny Manners, Judy Carroll, Jessica Pendal (Research Assistant), Cassandra Brennan (Events Co-ordinator), John Hyde (Director), Gavin Doig, John Corser (Director), Robert Sceales (Joint Trustee), Melissa Rasmussen (Education Co-ordinator), Ron Manners (Chairman) [absent Henri Hitie]*

## New Staff Appointments

- ❖ **Melissa Rasmussen** is a secondary and tertiary economics educator who is currently completing a Masters in Curriculum at The University of Notre Dame. Her role as Mannkal's Education Co-ordinator, will see her continue to develop the relationship between Mannkal and our six universities. As a former Mannkal scholar Melissa shares Mannkal's vision.
- ❖ **Cassandra Brennan** our Events Co-ordinator is also the Executive Officer for the Events Industry Association and the Events Co-ordinator for the W.A. Mining Club. She had been working in the events industry for many years and is a believer in the events industry and gets great satisfaction when she has co-ordinated a successful event. Cassandra is passionate about being part of the process in making Perth a more vibrant city to live – not just intellectually but in every way.
- ❖ **Jess Pendal** our Research Assistant is currently studying at the University of Western Australia where she is currently in her fourth year of a Law and Commerce degree. She has an active interest in economics and business and aspires to pursue these in her career on completion of her degree.

## Liberty & Society

Jason Pasqua's Mannkal Scholarship involved undertaking a research project on the "Efficient Release of Public Land in Western Australia" and attending a Liberty & Society Conference.



*Above: Jason Pasqua (University of Notre Dame)  
accepting his Mannkal Scholarship from Ron Manns*

## CIS Liberty & Society Conference - August, 2008

The Centre of Independent Studies have advised that their second Liberty & Society Conference for 2008 will be held on 29 - 31 August, 2008.

A wonderful opportunity for students from Australia and New Zealand.

Further details and application form can be found at the Liberty & Society Conference website:

(<http://www.cis.org.au/L&s/HTML/home.htm>).

We recommend attendance for any young person interested in issues surrounding freedom and liberty.

## Project Western Australia (as a collaborative venture with IPA).



Left: Matthew Ryan presenting his Education paper “Top of the Class” (Making the most of Western Australia’s school system)

‘During 2007/08 the Mannkal Economic Education Foundation supported the Institute of Public Affairs to initiate a major joint research project entitled ‘Project WA’. ‘Project WA’ is a forward-looking joint project aimed at stimulating policy discussion and development on the major issues facing Western Australia. The need for a new approach to policy formulation in Western Australia is abundantly clear. If Western Australia is to fully profit from the opportunities presented by its natu-

ral wealth and the rise of Asian economies, a new attitude is needed

‘Project WA’ involved policy experts conducting original and innovative research to provide a policy blueprint for future Western Australian governments. During the year ‘Project WA’ produced four major research papers which attracted wide media interest and provoked lively debate throughout the state.

The four ‘Project WA’ papers published during 2007/08 were:

### **‘Moving in the Right Direction: Transport Reform in Western Australia’ launched on 18 July 2007’**

As Western Australia continues its rapid growth, the state increasingly needs the transport infrastructure and services that enables individuals to move around the city of Perth and minimise the costs of congestion to both the economy and to the quality of life. Three public policy issues stand out as the ones within the transport sphere that demand the most urgent attention - the metropolitan rail network, infrastructure funding for road services, and the taxi industry. (full paper - <http://www.mannkal.org/downloads/projectwa/moving.pdf>)

### **‘Creating a Liveable City: How Perth can capitalise on the resources boom’ launched on 22 October 2007’**

For Perth, the “dullsville” tag is mentioned almost as often as the “laid-back lifestyle.” Perth would benefit from being more vibrant, more diverse and with greater options. People should, as far as possible, be allowed to choose how they live their own lives and that letting them do so will bring additional prosperity to Perth. (full paper - <http://www.mannkal.org/downloads/projectwa/livable.pdf>)

### **‘Reshaping the landscape: The quiet erosion of property rights in Western Australia’ launched on 11 December 2007’**

The gradual removal of property rights in Western Australia by excessive regulation will have extremely harmful effects on the economy. *Reshaping the Landscape* details how the Western Australian government is eroding property rights in the crucial fields of farming, housing, and mining. The report recommends the adoption of a legal system which protects property rights based on four principles: compensation, consistency, openness and a right of appeal. (full paper - <http://www.mannkal.org/downloads/projectwa/reshape.pdf>)

### **‘Top of the Class: Making the most of Western Australia’ school system’ launched on 20 February 2008’**

Policy makers now have a deeper awareness of the importance of good schools in underpinning economic prosperity. Western Australian schools enjoy a relatively high level of public funding support. On the other hand, WA has higher cost pressures related to a relatively large proportion of indigenous and/or remote area students. Of all the things that influence student outcomes and that we can do something about, the quality of teaching is the most important. If we have to make a choice between improving student outcomes and keeping teachers happy - it shouldn’t be controversial to state that students must come first. (full paper - <http://www.mannkal.org/downloads/projectwa/topofclass.pdf>)

## What is the difference between employees & independent contractors?

Ken Phillips spoke at a public Mannkal Foundation lunch in Perth on June 24th, '08. Ken is the Director of IPA's Workplace Reform Unit and co-founder and Executive Director of Independent Contractors of Australia.



Above - Ken Phillips

The old left-right battle is now no longer primary to understanding the fundamentals of Australian politics. Deeper analysis and deeper meaning must be investigated.

The shift is blunt. The central plank of left politics has always been that the capitalist system necessitated war between two classes; the workers and the bosses.

The bosses (capitalists and managers), would always seek to exploit the workers. The economic system required this and concentrated power with the bosses. Consequently, workers had to bond collectively to prevent being exploited. This inevitability of class warfare is the core of the left's economic and political world view.

But in the past few years the left has accepted the falsehood of this assumption, particularly as it applies to Australia. That's a huge step for the left. It recognises and accepts that market-based capitalism clearly delivers sustained economic growth and maximises equitable distribution of wealth. Exploitation is not inherent in market capitalism. The left no longer hates market capitalism. It has embraced it.

More - <http://www.mannkal.org/downloads/guests/kenphillipstheagereview.pdf>

His new book, *Independence and the Death of Employment* is being released now and is available for \$39.95 ([www.connorcourt.com](http://www.connorcourt.com))

### The regiments of left and right now march to market

• **Ken Phillips : May 29, 2008 : The Age**

THE left has lost. So say the left! This is not a point-scoring statement from someone from the right but the words of the people from the left themselves. They say that market-based capitalism has proven it works. They no longer hate it.

This may seem simple but it is staggering in its consequences for politics in Australia. It is seminal and all embracing.

**Ken Phillips** stimulated an interesting question-time, following his comments such as this ....

"Part of the reason the ALP have changed and become heavily pro business is because the very structures of the business community in Australia have changed. At the core of this business shift are the industry superannuation funds, which together with the retail super funds control \$1.2 trillion of investment funds.

This massive investment clout has cut a swath through the traditional 'old money' influence in Australia changing the dynamics and political perceptions of the investment industry and the lawyers and accountants who service them.

The key to understanding the industry superfunds, is that they are controlled and 'owned' by partnerships of union and industry associations as trustees. The arrangements are stipulated in industry industrial agreements. In addition the industry funds are not subject to the same rules of disclosure that apply to retail funds.

The outcome is a massive change in the dynamics affecting relationships between business and politics in Australia in which non-labor political parties are heavily marginalised. It's one demonstration why it can no longer be said that the Liberal party is the party of business in Australia."

## Opportunities for Scholars



*Left: John Corser, Mannkal Director -presenting an award to scholars, Shelbey Walquist and Tyler Forbes.*

The Mannkal Economic Education Foundation offers opportunities to students and graduates to consider the concepts and virtues of free societies and markets.

It is refreshing to be reminded that ideas really do matter!

Mannkal Scholars have the opportunity to attend conferences, events and seminars in a wide range of fields and Mannkal is fortunate to have

strong links to leading free market tanks in Australia and abroad.

We are proud to be associated with scholars like Shelbey Walquist and Tyler Forbes and we wish them well in their future studies and discoveries.

## Keeping Our Nerve

The sub-prime crisis may, as some predict, bring on the recession that ends Australia's long economic boom, or it may merely cause a couple of years of inconveniently modest economic growth during which those who over extended during even better times beg for taxpayer assistance. Either way, in the longer run, it will be serious only if we reverse the economic reforms that, after a century of relative economic decline from being the wealthiest nation on earth, allowed Australians to start climbing back up the tables of per-capita wealth. Faced with much doom-saying and a growing increase in demand for economic privileges (featherbeds) it has become particularly important to revisit the "dry" or "economic rationalist" ideas that were substantially adopted by the Hawk Government and extended by the Keating and Howard Governments.

These ideals called for less intrusive but stronger government that concentrates on protecting the "institutions" by which individuals cooperate and compete voluntarily. The habit of following rules of conduct is quite different from the knowledge that one's actions will have certain outcomes. The ideals, practised most in nations to which people choose to migrate, are thus not an end but a way by which an optimistically-viewed future may be discovered. They are not any longer under threat from collectivist ideology, which the Labor Party long since abandoned, but are threatened by vested interests and weak populist politicians of all Parties who will not lead but forever concentrate on opinion polls in marginal seats.

Order has many sources beside government—think of the written and unwritten codes of cricket, courtship and shopping for instance. Embracing all, there is that sense of right and wrong we once called morality and sympathy for other people once called charity. The ideals thus accord moral status to individuals who are entitled to choice but cannot escape the consequences of their choices. In the classically liberal tradition (once called "left wing") the powers of the Crown, parliaments and courts are held in trust to the public, who are of one class. Politicians who too often honour them in the breach.

*John Hyde*



*Above: John Hyde, Mannkal Director*

# Mannkal's Mission Statement

We aim to strengthen the free market system in Western Australia and Australia, by promoting ideals of voluntary co-operation, choice, personal rights, limited government, and resourcefulness of individuals. Mannkal finances and organizes:-

- Events that allow individuals to exchange ideas defending free markets.
- Seminars and student scholarships to promote the greater understanding of the concepts that underpin free societies.
- Policy papers on relevant topics pertaining to Western Australia.

## Background

Western Australia was settled by pioneers with deeply entrenched beliefs in political freedom. To maintain that freedom in the new colony, our pioneers established important institutions - courts, universities, parliaments, churches, a free press and other public and private organizations which they believed were necessary to preserve their way of life.

The freedom of average citizens to pursue their own ambitions has been dramatically curtailed - primarily through the inordinate growth of government regulation and taxation.

The collapse of the Soviet Union saw socialism as an economic doctrine completely discredited. However, its various social permutations and its central planning devotees are still in existence and are active within many of Australia's educational institutions - including those in Western Australia.

Because national prosperity and other forms of well-being are driven and sustained only by the resourcefulness and creative energies of its citizens, it is essential for Australia's future that these traditions of freedom are rediscovered and re-established.

The Mannkal Economic Education Foundation will employ its resources to assist in the rediscovery and refurbishment of the traditions which form the basis of national prosperity and personal freedom.

Or, as Nobel Laureate, F.A. Hayek said, "We must make the building of a free society once more an intellectual adventure, a deed of courage."



Ron Manners  
**Chairman**