

MANNKAL

ECONOMIC EDUCATION
FOUNDATION



15TH ANNIVERSARY REVIEW
1997–2012

Events in 2012

2012 has already been a bumper year for Mannkal, with plenty of events still to come as we approach the New Year. To keep up to date on the latest and to receive information about scholarships, please subscribe to our monthly newsletter *Focus* by visiting: (<http://mannkal.org/subscribe.php>)

Mannkal ECOMS Student Dinner
Threats to Freedom of Speech 2012
Conference
...and more!

Mission Statement

The Mannkal Economic Education Foundation encourages the free market system in Western Australia and Australia, by promoting ideals of voluntary co-operation, choice, personal rights, limited government and responsible resourcefulness of individuals. Mannkal encourages:

- 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.
- An alternative book store for economic and Australian history books.

Contact Us

Mannkal's social media base has grown exponentially over the past year. In 2012, we connect with:

- 5,340 friends on Ron's Facebook
- 383 'likes' on Mannkal's Facebook page
- 3,170 connections on Ron's LinkedIn
- 3,864 subscribers to our *Focus* newsletter

Our team and "Mannkal's Man in New York", Luke McGrath, is constantly updating our media pages with interesting articles and videos (visit mannkal97 on YouTube).

Check us out at www.facebook.com/Mannkal, and Ron Manners on LinkedIn and www.facebook.com/RonManners.

Ron's Mannerisms

Each month Ron shares his thoughts on a range of topics in a section of our website entitled "Mannerisms". For recent columns of Ron discussing his adventures abroad and much more, please go to www.mannkal.org/mannerisms.

Mannkal Staff

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Advisory Council

Bill Stacey (Hong Kong)

Paul McCarthy

Sarah Basden (UK)

Brad Walmsley (Switzerland)

The First Fifteen Years



To celebrate the 15th anniversary of Mannkal.org, this publication is constructed around a timeline which shows our continuing evolution.

No need to cover my early involvement (from age 16) with the world of “Free Market Ideas”, as this was detailed on pages 8–11 of my last book, *Heroic Misadventures*

(*Australia: Four Decades – Full Circle*) – www.HeroicMisadventures.com.

The challenge remains: to explain how ‘less government and more individual responsibility’ beats the hell out of socialism when it comes to improving the human condition for all people.

Working under the various banners, first as the Foundation for Economic Education (Australia) from 1976, and then as the Mannkal Economic Education Foundation Limited (1997), we were early adopters of the Internet—our www.mannkal.org website was registered on 25th November 1997—and it is this 15th anniversary that we are celebrating this year.

Mannkal.org takes on all the tasks which fall outside the very limited functions permitted by our tax exempt foundation which was registered in May 2002 as the Mannkal Economic Education Foundation.

That Foundation has the specific focus of supporting scholarships, internships and economic conference participation in Australia and internationally.

We have now financed over 600 of Western Australia's brightest young people to avail themselves of such opportunities, and many of them have continued their relationship with us. Their feedback and assistance has improved the nature of these scholarships. This has been invaluable. So much so that we now see students from all of Western Australia's five universities enthusiastically seeking such opportunities for future years.

As well as working with our universities we also work on a collaborative basis with both the Institute of Public Affairs (IPA) and the Centre for Independent Studies (CIS).

It's convenient having Mannkal.org to ‘pick up’ the challenges that lie outside the Mannkal Foundation's guidelines—particularly as the Foundation is not ‘permitted’ to have ‘opinions’, but simply provide scholarships.

Personally, travelling to over eight economic conferences this year (including New York, Turkey, Hong Kong, Israel, Shanghai and Prague) it would be

impossible for me *not* to form some personal opinions on Australia's current predicament.

As I write this (on the plane) returning from a week-long conference in Prague, it is easy to summarise how we look from a distance.

Australia is a first-rate country, currently being run by a second-rate bunch of union thugs, dispensing toxic economic policies, combined with corrosive rhetoric.

There is absolutely no mystery about why Australia's competitive position in the world is falling like a rock, at a time when other countries realise the importance of lifting their game in a global environment where success can no longer be taken for granted.

There is no mystery about why our nation's productivity is slipping and our ability to attain our true potential may remain forever a mirage shimmering in the distance.

Meanwhile, our challenges here at Mannkal.org remain: primarily to explain the benefits of shrinking government to its few legitimate roles, not simply by ‘putting the government on a financial diet’. The real challenge is to starve governments of the responsibility for doing things best left to individuals to do for themselves.

Anyone collecting examples of bureaucratic waste when governments step outside their legitimate functions could quickly make a full-time job of it.

From a Federal Government perspective, let me draw attention to the \$500 million of taxpayers' money being sent to Indonesia to build Madrasahs (Islamic schools). From a State Government perspective, in mid-August it was the \$1.5 million State Government sponsorship to a basketball team (previously this has always been an easily explicable commercial sponsorship). And during September, we have the talkback radio programmes running hot with news about the \$1.5 million advertising campaign deemed necessary to explain why we should enjoy the “new look” of Perth.

No, there is never a shortage of people willing to spend other people's money, particularly when elections loom.

However, through all this gloom shines the ‘next generation’, and an encouraging sign is their increasing dissatisfaction at being burdened with the debts we are building up for them.

Please enjoy this publication which was prepared by our past and present participants, co-ordinated by our Hannah Berdal. It is a pleasure to work with, and learn from, our youthful team.



Ron Manners,
Chairman

Ron Manners *circa* 1975

In the 1970's I became alarmed at the style of

economics being taught to

students. As a businessman,

I felt that populist

Keynesian economics

was no way to run a

business or a nation's

economy. I was

asked to submit some

positive comments to

a State Government

Inquiry and here is the

original submission.

After exactly 37 years,

we have evidence in

the form of a so-called

Global Financial

Crisis, that economic

illiteracy brings with

it a high price. For

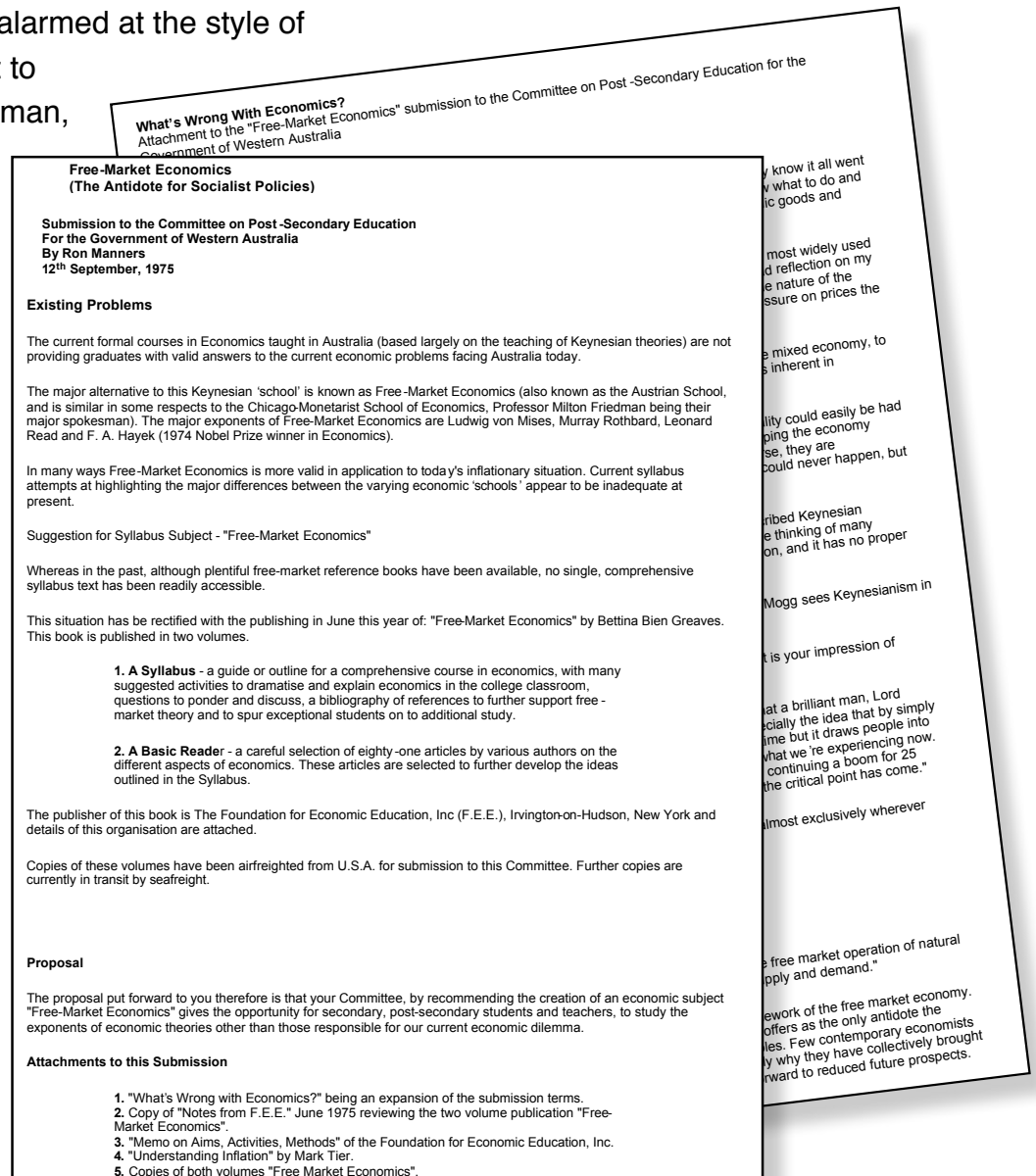
the full three-page

submission, go

to: [www.mannkal.org/downloads/](http://www.mannkal.org/downloads/submissions/sub19750912.pdf)

[submissions/](http://www.mannkal.org/downloads/submissions/sub19750912.pdf)

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But some progress is now being made...

Austrian economics takes another step forward in Australia

Julie Novak, *The Political Economist*, 5 July 2008

I was recently made aware of the existence of a course unit at the University of Notre Dame, Western Australia, on the 'The History of Austrian Economics' (thanks to Ron Manners for pointing this out to me).

Given that Austrian economic teaching in Australia traditionally tended to be subsumed within broader history of economic thought courses, the availability of a dedicated course unit on Austrian economics is a welcome step forward for the discipline in this country.

It would be remiss of me not to mention that the course is funded by the Mannkal Economic Education Foundation, which is a great supporter of free market causes in Australia. So, I think students who take up the course are very lucky indeed, given that previous generations of Austrian economic scholars in this country either received minimal training through university courses or had to teach themselves.

Bill Stacey

From the West the road East heads North

The world in 1987 was on the verge of a period of dramatic change. Within two years the regime in China would be shaken to its core, the Soviet empire would fall and everywhere people would see this as a triumph for freedom and the philosophy of free markets.

There were few signs of that change in the Perth throughout 1987. A left wing government (that looked pretty good in retrospect) dominated an opposition that was moving further from “dry” classically liberal principles in a desperate attempt to recover power. The stock market crash of that year dented confidence in markets. To support free markets and individual liberty at the time was to be part of a remnant so small that to call it a minority would be an exaggeration. Yet that minority was increasingly winning the battle of ideas and becoming more widely heard.



Bill Stacey (on right) at the launch of the Foundation for Economic Education (Australia) Essay Contest in Perth, 1989.

At that time I was researching the development of libertarian ideas in Australia for an honours thesis at UWA. There had been ingenious attempts to promote liberty, in electoral politics with the Workers Party in the early 1970's and in the battle of ideas through think tanks like Centre for Independent Studies and a reviving Institute of Public Affairs, and struggling with a not always receptive Liberal party. This issue of whether to promote liberty through electoral politics, established political parties or directly through promoting the ideas and ideals seemed a crucial question to me.

Searching for answers to this question led me to the welcoming door in Kalgoorlie of Ron and Jenny Manners. In the days before email and privatized low cost telecommunications and airline travel, a trip to Kalgoorlie on the strength of Ron's encouraging correspondence seemed quite an adventure. In a town famed for gilded riches, I found another treasure. Being remote, the archives Ron had of letters, newsletters, meeting minutes and brochures were an aspiring researcher's delight. That trove was vital to a well received thesis, academic options and by 1989 the coming of age world tour that started with a Mont Pelerin Society regional meeting (supported by Ron) in Christchurch New Zealand, crossed the Pacific to a reviving United States and remarkably to Berlin as the wall was being torn down. Last stop on the trip was Hong Kong, intersecting with libertarian Mark Tier and my libertarian in spirit father.

Having travelled around the world, seen freedom reviving and tyranny fall, it was Hong Kong that showed the spirit of liberty like no other place. It was the home for a remnant who sought a haven from collectivist tyranny and “under the Lion Rock” created a commercial city like no other from barren rocks, the common law, low taxes, little government and enormous human enterprise.

The first Mannkal Scholar had found his future home, although it would take some years to find the path to settle there more permanently. A restless spirit seeking freedom was nurtured in the wild west of Australia, but found its home due north under the Lion Rock in Hong Kong, more convinced than ever that it is ideas, not electoral politics, that sustain liberty.

Bill Stacey is currently Managing Director of a U.S. Stockbroking firm in Hong Kong and Chairman of the Lion Rock Institute, Hong Kong's foremost free-market think tank.

Subject: MANNKAL.ORG Has Been Approved!

Date: Tue, 25 Nov 1997 09:34:52 -0800 (PST)

From: sales@TABNET.com

To: mannwest@IBM.NET

Congratulations on your new DOMAIN NAME, your unique address on the Information Highway! You'll be happy to know your Domain registration is complete and your complimentary "Under Construction" web site will appear within one business day.

To check your new Domain Name's information on the InterNIC data base, please visit our special lookup at: <http://www.tabnet.com/lookup>.

TABNet is the world's largest Website Hosting Facility. From starting your first web site, to multimedia and electronic commerce, we have the reliable services and experience to help you succeed.

Complete business solutions
(That's less than a year ago)

You get the service you need, reliable service, our Silicon Valley speed connections, fastest in the world, none.

Left: Not to be caught napping, Mannkal was quick to take advantage of the opportunities offered by the World Wide Web.

Mannerisms – 3 December 1997

Perhaps this could be the last year that a "pen" features in our communications and in readiness for the fading out of regular mail services, we have established our own Web Page and e-mail address so we can maintain contact in the new digital world.

This past year is one in which we would have preferred to be spectators instead of participants, however it is interesting to watch people and groups still behaving as though we are in the midst of a "boom" and demanding unsustainable rewards.

Kalgoorlie is a good place to witness the world go by, with ten plane loads, per day, of people from all over the world arriving and leaving, all with their own view of what's about to happen next.

This creates a non-stop environment, especially if it demands communicating with other parts of the world where they choose to live in "bizarre" time zones. This includes so many of our friends who are finding it easier to explore elsewhere.

Apart from all that we had a busy year with Ron taking three breaks from "battling for gold" to evaluate Dubai as a base to seek African opportunities, to participate in the Hong Kong Hand-over and is currently seeking votes in the Constitutional Convention Election as a candidate on the "Elect the President (O'Brien) Team".

With three books in progress and the Australian Mining Hall of Fame Project, and an Economic Education Foundation being established to "defend our Civilization against Intellectual error", there is no "room for boredom".

Mannerisms – December 1998

Our year has been one of "unbundling" the past and preparing for some new challenges (we all have to do this to ourselves from time to time.)

This has given us some time for quiet reflection on how life is like a good book; the further you get into it, the more it begins to make sense.

One of the highlights of our year was attending economic conferences in Charlottesville and Washington DC where we studied the moral and ethical foundations required for the effective operation of free-enterprise and how the lack of these foundations has recently derailed the economies of so many countries.

We appeared to be more concerned about the "fall-out" than many of the other international attendees. The Europeans are so full of the E.U. and its positive effect on them that they appear unconcerned. The US has its "booming economy" and confidence that this will carry them through any short-term downturn.

Those of us left out of these two giant blocks are being buffeted by the savage realignment that has taken place in the Asian region.

Wisdom gathered included interesting comments from Vaclav Klaus (former Prime Minister of the Czech Republic) who asked us not to refer to any "Global Economic Crisis", reminding us that this is a collection of separate country crises, each with a different cause and solution.

This gives considerable challenge for our newly formed Mannkal Economic Education Foundation in drawing attention to the real cause of economic disasters and how these missing moral and ethical structures are invariably linked with governments stepping beyond their few legitimate functions, leading to the fictional belief that everyone can live at someone else's expense.

Mannkal's first *Mannerisms*, best described by the *Sydney Morning Herald* as 'a miner's approach... to sensitive issues', is a written reflection on topical issues by Mannkal founder Ron Manners. Mannkal prides itself on its active role in public discussion and *Mannerisms* is only one of many forums Mannkal now engages in. Here are the first two writings published in 1997 and 1998 – the first of many.



As joint host for Lady Margaret Thatcher when she delivered the keynote speech at the 50th Anniversary Celebration of the Foundation for Economic Education, New York, 1996.

Over the years we have admired the way some political leaders have been able to successfully incorporate free-market ideas into political agendas, the results having reinvigorated their economies. One such leader was Britain's Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, and more recently President Vaclav Klaus of the Czech Republic.



'Well Jenny, I hope you get more sense out of him than I do!' London, 2002.



Mannkal Scholars meeting another global leader, who has used free market ideas to bring prosperity to his nation, Czech President Vaclav Klaus after a Mannkal-IPA lunch in Perth on 21 July 2011.



Ron arm-wrestling the Prime Minister, John Howard, 1998.



Hernando de Soto, from Peru, one of the world's greatest development economists, when he delivered the Lang Hancock Memorial Lecture at Notre Dame University, 2003.

The Institute of Public Affairs
in conjunction with the Mannkal Foundation
invites you to a
Climate Change Conference

***Costs and Benefits of Ratifying
the Kyoto Agreement***

Wednesday, 5 March, 2003
from 9.00 am to 12.00 noon
Western Australian Club
101 St Georges Terrace, Perth, WA

This conference brings together leading experts, with the latest data, to explore the costs and benefits associated with ratifying the Kyoto Agreement.

SPEAKERS

Dr Alan Moran, Institute of Public Affairs
Welcome

Dr Margo Thorning, International Council for Capital Formation
The Cost of Kyoto and Beyond

Dr Kenneth Green, Chief Scientist, Fraser Institute, Canada
Public Issues Faced by Canada's Decision to Ratify

Alan Moran, Institute of Public Affairs
Renewable Energy Sources: Key to the Future?

Dr Brian O'Brien
The Challenge of Communicating Difficult Science.

has been organised in partnership with the Australian
Electricity Supply Association of Australia
International Council for Capital Formation
sponsored by Miss Joanna Ingram by 17 February 2003
03 9600 4744 or jingram@ipa.org.au

RON MANNERS
INVITES YOU TO
THE FIRST
MANNKAL
ECONOMIC EDUCATION
FOUNDATION
PERTH LUNCH

**THE GLOBAL BATTLE
for
ECONOMIC FREEDOM:
WHO'S WINNING? WHO'S LOSING?**

to be delivered by
PROFESSOR MARK SKOUSEN
at
Western Australian Club
101 St. George's Terrace, Perth, W.A.
on
WEDNESDAY 26th SEPTEMBER, 2001
12.00 Noon for 12.30 p.m. until 2.00 p.m.
\$66 per head (including GST)

Capitalism won the battle over socialism when the Berlin Wall and Soviet Communism collapsed in 1989-90, but who's winning the battle a decade later? In this entertaining and educational lecture Professor Mark Skousen will answer the following questions: Is the U.S. Government's changeable easy money/tight money approach spinning out of control? Has big government spending economics been ever recover? Are tax cuts and deregulation the answer? Will environmentalists?

on the U.S., will there be a new round of government controls and loss

insights into economics. He has recently been elected president of
Education, the oldest free-market organization in the U.S. He is also a
and world-renowned speaker who has made his unique sense of market
and respected in the financial world. Mark Skousen's latest book is titled
as: *The Lives and Ideas of Great Thinkers*.

September, 2001 to Mrs Judy Carroll, tel: (08) 9322 6777; fax: (08)
mannkal.org or mail this section to: Mannkal Foundation, 19 Richardson

Skousen lunch on 26th Sept. 2001: ABN 27008975513

ORGANIZATION _____

CARD TYPE: _____
(Visa/Mastercard/Amex only)

EXPIRY DATE: _____

ATTENDING: _____ TOTAL AMOUNT \$ _____ 10% gst incl.

www.mannkal.org


A CELEBRATORY BIRTHDAY DINNER
To celebrate the birthday
of
The Late Nobel Prize Winner for Economics
F.A. HAYEK
& several of his Australian "Students"

F.A. Hayek is described as "THE COMEBACK MAN" in the March 4, 2004 edition of *The Economist*.

"In 1974 Hayek won the Nobel Prize for economics. The theoretical idea he was proudest of...that only markets, not governments, could gather and disperse price knowledge effectively...helped inspire a wave of deregulation and privatization. His chief political idea...that free markets and political liberty were indissociable...lent strength to the revival of classical liberalism. By his death in 1992, Hayek had joined Milton Friedman and Robert Nozick as one of the three theoretical godfathers of the Thatcher-Reagan revolution." Read article in full ...
http://www.economist.com/books/PrinterFriendly.cfm?Story_ID=2478223

Sat. 1st May, 2004
6.30 p.m. for 7.00 p.m. – 11 p.m.
Moreton Room, Holiday Inn, Roma St.,
BRISBANE, Qld. Australia.


As an established think-tank, one of Mannkal's primary aims has been to engage and provoke public discussion on the libertarian and free market approach to topical issues. As part of this, Mannkal has hosted an extensive number of events in collaboration and partnership with some of our esteemed networks in the Eastern States and abroad.



present the 2006 Harold Clough Lecture and Luncheon

SQUEEZING THE WEST

How governments are making housing unaffordable and hurting economic development in Western Australia




WENDELL COX
INTERNATIONAL URBAN POLICY EXPERT, AND PRINCIPAL OF DEMOGRAPHIA

OUTCOMES BASED EDUCATION:
EDUCATION SAVIOUR OR DUMBED DOWN AND POLITICALLY CORRECT?



Free Event, 6.00pm to 7.30pm, Tuesday, 20 June 2006
Social Sciences Lecture Theatre, University of Western Australia, Crawley

Outcomes Based Education has been surrounded by controversy since its adoption in Western Australia, especially at years 11 and 12. Over the last 12 months or so, barely a week has gone by without OBE being subjected to media scrutiny and public debate. Dr Kevin Donnelly will outline the case against outcomes based education and detail why OBE is flawed and educationally unsound. A number of speakers, both for and against OBE, will then respond. There will also be time for questions from the audience.



KEVIN DONNELLY
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR EDUCATION STRATEGIES

Kevin Donnelly is executive Director of Melbourne-based Education Strategies, and education commentator for The Australian newspaper. Kevin taught in secondary schools for 12 years and has completed a number of national and international projects benchmarking school curriculum. In 2004, Kevin was Chief of Staff to Kevin Andrews, the federal Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations.

Over-Regulation is the Enemy of the Entrepreneur

Ron Manners

3 November 2005

One of the roles of the entrepreneur is to project a vision to themselves, as well as others, that is somewhat larger than reality.

Then, as they take people forward with them, their team, their investors, they proceed to work their “butts off” to make this vision a reality.

This has been the pattern for all great enterprises throughout the history of the civilized world. It’s a world that I’m comfortable with “warts and all” and it saddens me to see entrepreneurship being regulated out of existence.

My friend, Rev. Robert Sirico (Acton Institute) often reflects on the biblical encouragement of entrepreneurship and the many parables drawn from the commercial world of that time.

One that embraces entrepreneurship as a virtue is the parable of the talents (Matthew 25:14-30). The entrepreneur who creates the most value from his gift receives the highest praise, whereas the one who chooses not to earn even a minimal return is rebuked.

The parable for the mineral explorers is the one concerning the hidden treasure in a field, which in our own language says;

“The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field which when a man found, he hid and then went forth and sold all that he had to buy that field.” (Matthew 13:44). This highlights that buying opportunities should be seized, whenever possible.

Apart from its spiritual importance, this parable shows that commerce can be mutually beneficial, even where there exists what economists call “information asymmetries,” i.e. when buyers and sellers bring different assumptions to the table. Even in this case, both parties can benefit. A good and moral economic system is one that creates opportunities for mutual advantage and I view it as a tragedy when we see over-regulation so often getting in the way of so many transactions.



The late Ronald Kitching, with his long term colleagues, Viv Forbes and Ron Manners at the Hayek Birthday Party, Brisbane 2004.



Two students from Kalgoorlie attending a conference hosted by Mannkal.

Moving in the Right Direction: Transport reform in Western Australia

Wednesday 18 July, 12.30pm

Presented by

Richard Allsop

IPA Research Fellow

'Moving in the Right Direction' is a major research paper which examines how transport infrastructure and services are delivered in Western Australia and it considers opportunities for reform.

It is part of the Mannkal/IPA *Project Western Australia* program.

Venue: Celtic Club
48 Ord Street, West Perth

Cost: \$65 per head (incl GST)
includes lunch and drinks

For acceptance and payment

contact Judy Carroll

ph: 08 9322 6777

fax: 08 9322 6788

mannwest@mannkal.org

Fax preferred: See form below

MANNKAL
ECONOMIC EDUCATION
FOUNDATION

IPA Institute of Public Affairs
Australia's Leading Free Market Think Tank

Over a number of years Mannkal has successfully worked with the Melbourne-based Institute of Public Affairs. This has resulted in numerous joint events, publications and projects. Since 2007, Mannkal has progressively shifted to a greater focus on student-focused programs and events. However, the relationship with the Institute of Public Affairs remains strong and continues to produce such material as Project Western Australia which is highlighted later in this edition.



Brad Lips, CEO Atlas (left) and Alex Chafuen, President of Atlas Foundation, Washington DC (right). Mannkal values its relationship with the Atlas Network. Atlas has assisted in the creation and operation of 393 Think Tanks around the world.

LW 442: DIRECTED RESEARCH PROJECT MANNKAL SCHOLARSHIP PAPER

HERITAGE LISTING: WHO SHOULD BEAR THE COSTS?

BY
ELISABETH COSTA
ALYCE CASSETTAI

School of Law Supervisor: Robyn Honey
School of Business Supervisor: Greg Moore

Due Date: September 2007
Student Numbers: 20030297, 20040436
Word Count: 6 569

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NEWSLETTER

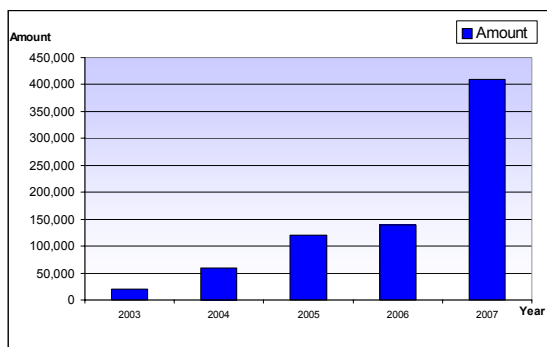
July 4, 2007

Small Steps Create Building Blocks to the Future

Our Australian "think tank" activities were commenced in 1976 when Leonard E. Read, the President of the Foundation for Economic Education Inc. (New York), gave a group of Australians permission to use the name Foundation for Economic Education (Australia) to promote free-market ideas in Australia (specifically without any taint of politics). Having been a subscriber to FEE (Inc.) and having exchanged many letters with Leonard Read since the early 1950s, it gave me a useful background to the "free market, private property, individual responsibility, limited government, way of life", as an alternative to the heavy hand of ever expanding government control that socialists had "sold" as an illusion of "living at the expense of everyone else."

In 1997 the Western Australian end "morphed" to Mannkal Foundation as a registered business name and promotional activities continued through until June 14, 2002, when Mannkal Economic Education Foundation became one of the first Prescribed Private Funds (PPFs) in Western Australia, following the Federal Government's passage of enabling legislation.

As a tax exempt PPF, Mannkal operates within tight guidelines, i.e. restricted to Australian activity but the current A\$6.3M capital base is generating an expanding number of Mannkal scholars and activities.



In 2007, Mannkal began to strengthen its engagement with high school and university students – the next generation of leadership for Australia. This has become one of our key objectives as a think-tank and our youth investment has grown exponentially since then.



Mannkal Economic Education Foundation
 and the Institute of Public Affairs
 are pleased to invite you to a luncheon function
 and the launch of

Creating a liveable city

How Perth can capitalise
 on the resources boom

Monday 22 October, 12.30pm

Presented by

Louise Staley

Research Fellow, Institute of Public Affairs

Perth has too long been dismissed as merely a service centre for the resources boom. In this presentation, Louise Staley offers an array of policy options to release the potential of Perth as a global destination city.

Venue: The West Australian Club
 101 St Georges Terrace, Perth

Cost: \$70 per head (incl GST)
 includes lunch and drinks

For acceptance and payment

contact Judy Carroll

ph: 08 9322 6777

fax: 08 9322 6788

mannwest@mannkal.org

RSVP 17th October

MANNKAL
 ECONOMIC EDUCATION
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IPA Institute of Public Affairs
 Australia's Leading Free Market Think Tank



No. 2

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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.

Lon

Year	Amount
2003	~50,000
2004	~100,000
2005	~150,000
2006	~200,000
2007	~450,000
2008	~550,000

Mannkal's Annual Scholarship Budget

Mannkal Economic Education Foundation and the Institute of Public Affairs are pleased to invite you to a breakfast function and the launch of a major new report

Top of the class?
Making the most of Western Australia's school system

This report examines the performance of schools in Western Australia and recommends reform options.

Wednesday 20 February 2008
7.00am for 7.30am to conclude at 9.00am

Presented by
Matthew Ryan

Matthew Ryan is a public policy expert on human capital issues. He was a senior official in the Commonwealth Treasury. He was Australian delegate to the GrowthProject of the OECD which examined the links between education and economic growth.

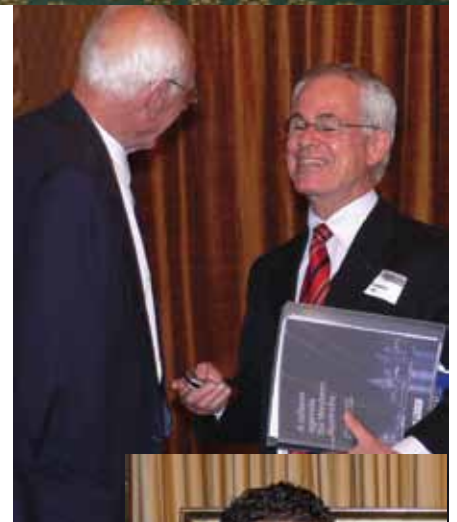
Venue: The Western Australian Club
101 St Georges Terrace, Perth

For acceptance and payment
Cassandra Brennan
ph: 08 9315 3413
fax: 08 9315 1343
cassandra@mannkal.org
RSVP 18th February

Cost: \$35 per head (incl GST)
includes breakfast

MANNKAL
Economic Education Foundation

IPA
Institute of Public Affairs
Australia's Leading Free Market Think Tank





Mannkal has slowly built up an extensive collection of books and resources which has become one of the focal points of the Mannkal office. Pictured here are two of the oldest books, dating back to 1912, featured in the Mannkal Library.

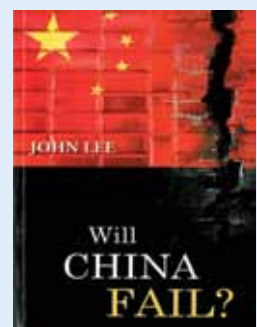


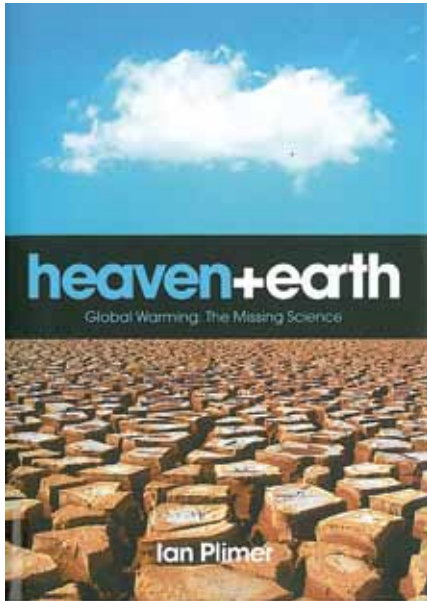
Professor Gary Becker with Mannkal Scholar Callum Jones at the Mont Pelerin Society meeting in Tokyo.



Will China Fail? In a provocatively titled book, Centre for Independent Studies Visiting Fellow John Lee posed the question about the future of this seemingly inevitable Asian superpower. Speaking at the Perth launch of this book in 2008, attendees had a keen interest to understand how this country of over one billion individuals would navigate a mixed economy with significant curtailments on individual rights and liberties. While relatively unscathed during the Global Financial Crisis, some of the fundamental structural problems of China's economy are now becoming evident in

2012. Aside from questioning the orthodoxy of continued high growth, the book also queried the apparent wisdom of a centrally co-ordinated economy. At present, those suggesting a “soft” or perhaps “hard landing” for China are now not viewed as heretical. John Lee's book and program in Perth opened a window to the future in which China would not continuously buy ever more amounts of our resources at higher prices.





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IPA Institute of
Public Affairs
Free people, free society

IAN PLIMER

The 2009 Mannkal & IPA Harold Clough Lecture and Lunch

The 2009 Mannkal and IPA *Harold Clough Lecture* will be presented by Ian Plimer, Professor of Mining Geology at the University of Adelaide.

Professor Ian Plimer is Australia's pre-eminent academic geologist, and prominent critic of the theory of human-induced global warming. His most recent book, *Heaven + Earth - Global Warming: The Missing Science*, Professor Plimer examines the science of climate change, argues that current changes in global climate are due to natural variability over time and rejects claims that these changes in climate can be stopped by reducing carbon dioxide emissions.

Heaven + Earth is already a publishing phenomenon, having sold over 30,000 copies since it was first published.

Where: Hyatt Regency Perth, Terrace Ballroom
99 Adelaide Terrace, Perth

Date: Thursday, 9 July 2009

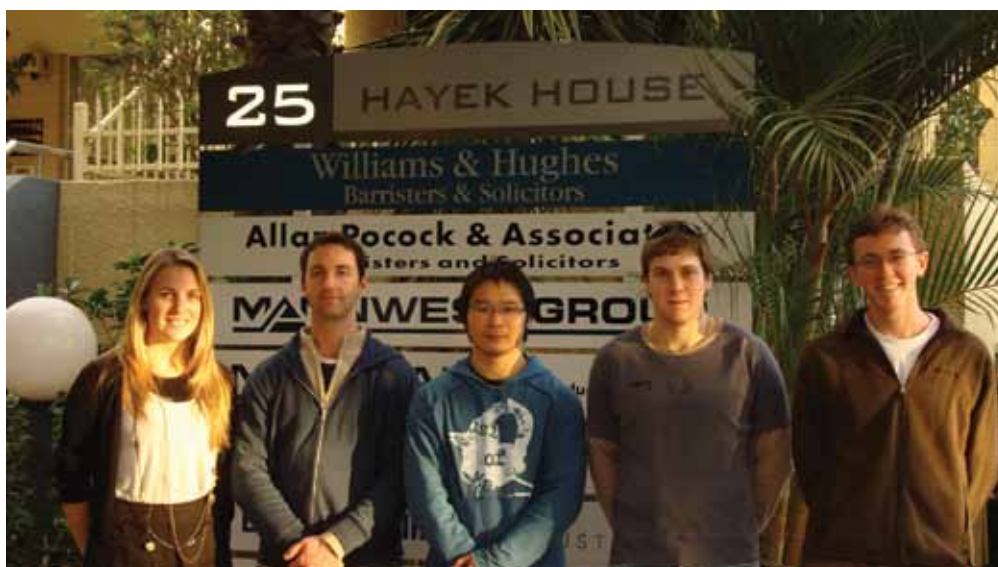
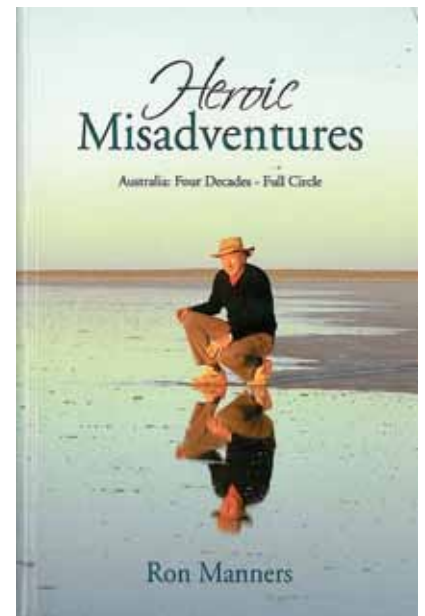
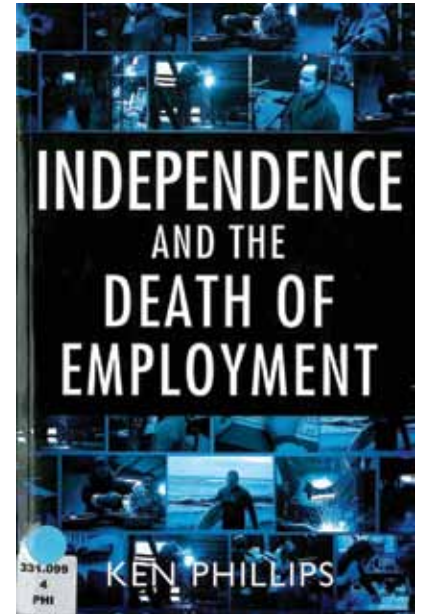
Time: 12.30pm – 2.00pm (prompt)

Price: \$95.00 (\$85.00 for IPA members)
\$680.00 for a table of 8

Tickets for this exciting event, which include the lecture, lunch and drinks, can be secured by <http://www.mannkal.org/register.php?event=63> or by phoning Cassandra Brennan on (08) 9315 3413.

The lunch will be hosted by the Mannkal Economic Education Foundation and the Institute of Public Affairs.

We hope to see you at this important event.

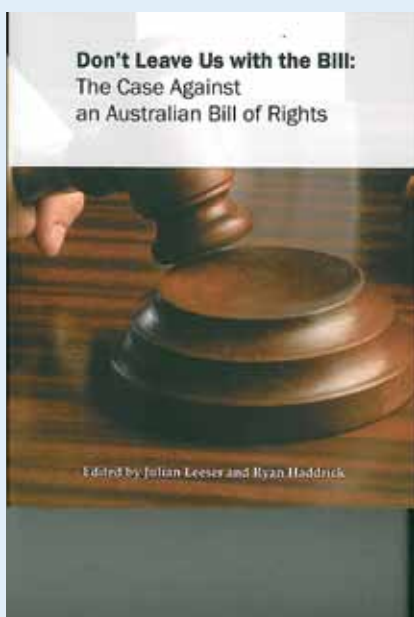




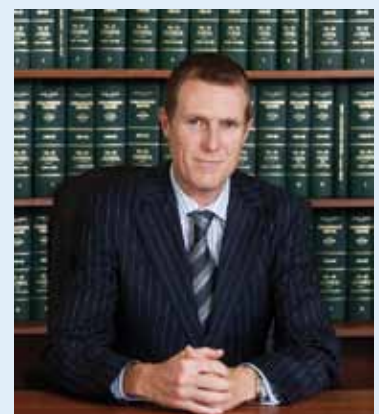
Jess Pandal and Mac Nichols, Board member.



President Vaclav Klaus (Czech Republic) in New York.



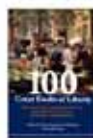
Don't Leave Us with the Bill. Working with the Menzies Research Centre, in 2009, Mannkal helped launch a significant study which rebutted the growing calls for a bill of rights. Launching the book (as well as being a contributor) the then Western Australian Attorney General, the Hon Christian Porter MLA, gave a forceful argument of the pitfalls of shifting power away from parliaments and toward the courts. Aside from the now aspiring federal politician, the contributors ranged from senior judges, political leaders and eminent academics.





Mannkal Economic Education Foundation and the Institute of Public Affairs are pleased to invite you to the launch of:

100 Great Books of Liberty



The essential introduction to the greatest idea of Western Civilisation

5:30pm to 7:00pm, 12 April 2010

Special Guest Speaker:
Tom Switzer
Editor, *Spectator Australia*
Research Fellow, IPA

This event is complimentary, but RSVPs are essential. Copies of the book can be purchased at the launch.

Venue: The Western Australian Club
Governor Stirling Room
101 St Georges Terrace
Perth

To RSVP:
Judy Carroll
ph: 08 9322 6777
mannwest@mannkal.org
Please RSVP by 7 April



100 Great Books of Liberty

100 Great Books of Liberty is a comprehensive and accessible guide to the books which made liberty the most important idea of Western Civilisation.

100 Great Books is the essential guide to:

The Republic • Two Treatises on Government
The Wealth of Nations • The Western Canon
Reflections on the Revolution in France
The Rights of Man • On Liberty • Leaves of Grass
Democracy in America • The Federalist Papers
The Civilisation of the Renaissance in Italy
Animal Farm • Witness • Capitalism and Freedom
The Tyranny of Distance • The End of History
A History of the English-Speaking Peoples
Darkness at Noon • The Fountainhead
...and eighty other great books of liberty.

To purchase your copy, visit:
www.ipa.org.au

or
www.mannwest.com/bookshop.php



Ayaan Hirsi Ali and Jessica Pental at the Sydney Mont Pelerin Society meeting, October 2010.







Riyad Hammad (Mannkal Scholar from Dubai), Ron Manners and Greg Lindsay attending the Mont Pelerin Society meeting in Turkey.







Mannkal Team, London Reunion (from left) Judy Carroll, Sarah Basden, Jess Pandal and Emma Crisp, 16th September 2012.



Mannkal Foundation/Lion Rock Institute Meeting in Hong Kong, 2012. From left: Ron Manners, Bill Stacey, Dan Ryan, Simon Lee, Kris Mauren (Acton Institute), Charles Pym (Mannkal Intern), Rev Robert Sirico (Acton Institute), Dr Don Turkington.



John Hyde

Fifteen years ago Ron asked me to join Mannkal. For a long time, I had thought that the most effective way to improve the wellbeing of a lot of Australians was to improve the way all of us were governed. Here was a guy wanting to invest his own money in improving democratic government, a great deal more of it than I realised at the time, and he was asking for my help. Nine years in parliament and thirteen years running political-economic think tanks encouraged me and provided me with the hope that I might actually be able to do so.

While I did not know Ron well, I knew enough about him to think that working with him might be rather fun, and I knew that John Corser, the other invited trustee, was in the Thatcherite sense, “one of us”. I started with rather high hopes and I have not been disappointed, although success has not always turned up where I most expected it. My advice on the few issues where I had a strong but contested opinion has been taken, but I have been, at other times, wisely overruled.

My most egregious error was to doubt the effectiveness of the student scholarship program. I did not believe that we would be able to attract the quality of young people that we have ended up having. I knew that there were many very bright youngsters “out there”. I knew

that attracting even a miniscule proportion of them to the cause would be a singular success. I did not realise that enough of these youngsters cared about how we are governed to inconvenience themselves by doing something about it. I did not think so many would recognise Mannkal as an opportunity to do it.

Over the years, in cooperation with the IPA and CIS we have facilitated the publication of several useful arguments. With the IPA we have published *Project WA*, with much of the work done in house by Mannkal staff. The satisfaction to be gained from being attacked by people trying to present blatant self-interest as public virtue can be understood only by professional public policy advocates, which today we are.



Emma Crisp

I loved working at Mannkal, it was such a privilege to work with Ron and everyone else in the Mannkal family. One of my favorite things about working at Mannkal was helping organise the scholarships and internships program. It was so rewarding to see students develop their skills and come back from their trips bursting with enthusiasm for economics. Calling students to tell them that we had selected them for a scholarship and hearing their reaction was definitely a highlight for me.

Ron is one in a million, and I have been spoilt to have him as my first boss. He really believed in us and our abilities, which meant that we were given huge responsibilities that we wouldn't have had at other companies. The experiences I have come away with have prepared me for just about anything! Ron is so passionate about what we do, which is contagious and makes for a fantastic work environment. I always looked forward to going into work, which is not something everyone can say.

During my time at Mannkal I was exposed to countless great ideas, new theories and challenging discussions, and this has completely influenced the way I view the world. In so many ways working at Mannkal has changed my life!

Emma is currently living in London and working in Marketing for a publishing company.



Jess Pental

In early 2008, Ron invited me to join the Mannkal Economic Education Foundation as a research assistant, first supporting the coordination of the scholarship and events programmes as well as running the website, and later managing the programmes myself. I worked at Mannkal in this capacity until early 2011 when, having finished my Bachelor of Laws and Bachelor of Commerce Degrees at the University of Western

Australia, I moved to London. I was then appointed as a Research Fellow of the Foundation.

Following my move to London I obtained a job at VSA Capital, a small investment bank which focuses on the global resource sector, as a mining analyst. The role has taken me all over the world, including Sweden, Peru, Malawi, South Africa, Brazil, Ireland, Australia and Papua New Guinea, and exposed me to the intricacies of the corporate finance world and the mining industry. Operating in both of these sectors one sees multiple examples every day of the various governments around the world, and the EU “super government”, intervening and slowing productivity, efficiency and wealth creation. These can range from the current debates in South Africa and Mongolia on the nationalisation of mining properties to the layers of red tape in Sweden (environmental permitting takes many years) and the Indonesian’s government ban on

exporting raw resources! With my Mannkal education, I can analyse these issues in a significant way.

When I left Perth, I noted, in the February 2011 edition of Musings, that “Our philosophy is not “trendy” and it seems all too common that libertarians and proponents of laissez-faire get painted as greedy capitalists who favour the rich at the expense of the poor. Breaking this misinformed stereotype is just part of the process. The reality, that a libertarian is one who advocates maximising individual rights and minimising the role of the state, seems simple enough—but getting the public to see this as a legitimate choice is our continuing challenge.” Today, during our 15th anniversary celebrations, I think it appropriate to reiterate this notion; let’s not become complacent.

Sarah Pental

I started at Mannkal in late January, 2011. After spending the previous year abroad as a Rotary Exchange Student, I was keen to come back to Australia and start my degree in Politics/Communications. I came in as Jessica (who happens to be my sister) left for London.

I worked with Emma Crisp, and later Felicity Karageorge, as an Admin Assistant. During this time my role varied from assisting with various events, conferences and meetings, to undertaking office duties and representing Mannkal at functions. I also took over the job of maintaining and continuously cataloging Mannkal’s extensive library.

My time with Mannkal ended in August 2012 due to my studies taking me abroad to the United States. Working

with Mannkal allowed me to apply the skills that I learnt from my university degree in a very practical way. I thoroughly enjoyed every moment of my job and am very grateful for the opportunity. I would like to add my congratulations to Ron, Judy, Henri and the whole team (past and present) on your 15th anniversary and hope for many more years.



Zach Cole (2009)

The pursuit of individual freedom had always struck a chord with me. Prior to getting involved with Mannkal in 2009, however, there was no space for me to explore these ideas in Western Australia. Through Mannkal I have been fortunate to attend the Samuel Griffith Society Conference (2009) and the History of Economic Thought Society Conference (2011), along with the various other Perth events that have been held. My passion for libertarian ideas has flourished, and allowed me to grow both personally and professionally. For example, most recently I was the Australian delegate

to the 2012 International Youth Forum in Seoul, Korea, at which I was successful in advocating for a declaration emphasising the role of individual responsibility in using social media whilst removing government interference. Spreading the message of freedom to all corners of the globe!



Michelle Jack (2010)

Mannkal is an outstanding organisation, not only because it encourages students to improve their education and challenge their thinking, but because it provides amazing opportunities to engage with others in debating libertarian ideas. I first became involved with the Mannkal Foundation in 2010 when I was co-awarded a scholarship to write a research paper. Not only was I privileged to receive the scholarship and have the opportunity to engage in fascinating research, but it was also the start of a very educational few years. Through the Mannkal Foundation I've made friends with people

of excellent character, I've met inspiring economists and speakers, and I've had a lot of fun. I will be graduating from Notre Dame with a Bachelor of Laws (Honours) / Bachelor of Commerce (Economics Major) at the end of 2012 and also with an excellent libertarian education from Mannkal. I look forward to continuing my involvement with such a brilliant organisation.



Krassen Ratchev (2010)

I first became involved with Mannkal when I was a student at UWA. Not having ever heard of Austrian Economics before (I would have told you that you misspelt *Australian* Economics!), I still somehow managed to take first place in the 2010 Mannkal Essay Competition. The topic I explored was very interesting (Keynesian Economics) and I learned a lot from the experience. Since then I have attended as many Mannkal events as I could (I give them all a 10/10) and have enjoyed reading the works of Mises, Hayek, Rothbard, Hazlitt, R. Paul, Schiff and many others great works of economics

which are based on common sense, not nuclear physics or politics. I just want to sincerely thank all the people at Mannkal for opening this incredible door of learning to me.



Marcus Suresh

I currently work for the Commonwealth Treasury as a policy analyst. Through my job I have had the opportunity to work on and shape policy development on reforms pertaining to Australia's financial services industry. Having graduated from Murdoch University with a Bachelor of Commerce (Accounting) and Bachelor of Economics (Honours) I was also a scholar for the Mannkal Economic Education Foundation. This background prepared me thoroughly for the rigors of policy development on a federal level.

Mannkal provided me with numerous opportunities to publish articles on the various conferences that I attended. I was also invited to many events where I was able to network with some of Australia's most influential speakers. Mannkal also provide me the opportunity to attend the 2010 Mont Pelerin Society conference in Sydney which was a unique experience. My involvement with Mannkal has assisted my career greatly and I encourage university students with a passion for economics, law and policy to get involved with Mannkal.



Donna Withers

It is the differences - that makes the difference.

If a baby learned to walk and talk at a quicker pace should we tie up and gag the toddler, so the others can become equal walkers and talkers? Sounds unthinkable. Just like restraining a baby, restraining people from reaching their true potential makes society worst off. Cradle to grave equality is great business for academics, policy makers, special interest groups, and bureaucrats, as their wages depend on 'fixing problems'. If the problems were fixed these interested parties would be unemployed.

Most of my economics units at Curtin University started with the premise that markets fail. Not one full unit looked at government failure. A Mannkal scholarship offered access to great thinkers and teachers who could bring a broader perspective to my life in areas of economics, politics, natural law, history and philosophy. We can reduce poverty by reaching our potential not restraining potential.



Vinay Kolhatkar

I went to Perth to debate misguided socialists at UWA with a Sydney *pro-free market* team and had the chance to meet the wonderful staff of Mannkal. I was not surprised to feel the positive energy in the room. As a writer, I was delighted that Mannkal offered to carry a review of my novel, *The Frankenstein Candidate*, in their Musings magazine. Mannkal, I think, reflects the unquenchable zest and vigour of their *forever-young-at-heart* founder, Ron Manners. Watch out, it is contagious. Some of it rubbed off on me

too. I am forever indebted.

Vinay Kolhatkar is a Sydney-based writer and finance professional.





Tim Sondalini (2012)

I was lucky enough to be the 2012 Mannkal Intern at the Frontier Centre for Public Policy in Winnipeg, Canada. My time at the Frontier Centre challenged my assumptions about how the world works and allowed me to dramatically improve my analytical skills. These skills have been invaluable in helping further my studies and of great assistance in my professional life. On a more personal level, the theories I was exposed to have profoundly affected my thinking. I always enjoy testing the conventional wisdom of my friends and family's assumptions about policies and government.

I'm still digesting my experience in Canada, but I have no regrets, and the benefits of my time with the Mannkal Foundation are innumerable and indescribable. My time with the Mannkal Economic Education Foundation has been incredibly helpful for me on both a professional and personal level.

Think tank findings stir debate

The Mannkal Foundation has challenged accepted wisdom on many public policy issues – exactly what a think tank is meant to do.

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EDITORIAL
Mark Beyer

THE name of the building that is home to the Mannkal Foundation says it all, at least for those who know the world's famous economists and philosophers.

The building is Hayek on Hood, named after Austrian Friedrich Hayek, a Nobel Prize winner and one of the great contributors to the Chicago School of free market, liberal thought.

Hayek died in 1992 but continues to be an inspiration to former gold miner and company director Ron Manners, who established Mannkal in 1997.

Mannkal is a no-holds barred free market think tank, which this week issued a stimulating booklet titled 'Project Western Australia: A growth and productivity agenda'.

The report was co-authored by former federal government MP John Hyde, who was ahead of his time when he joined with a few parliamentary colleagues in the 1970s to establish the 'dries', a group that advocated economic rectitude and prudent management of public finances.

Mr Hyde proceeded to establish the Australian Institute of Public Policy and then run the Institute of Public Affairs, which continues to be one of the most prominent think tanks in Australia.

When I stopped to reflect on Australia's think tanks, I was surprised by how many there are.

Some are deliberately bipartisan,

such as the respected Committee for Economic Development of Australia, led in WA by state president Ian Satchwell.

Last week it hosted Labor's Resources and Energy Minister Martin Ferguson, who turned the traditional left-right divide on its head by lecturing Liberal Premier Colin Barnett on the virtues of privatisation.

Another bipartisan body is the Committee for Perth. Its executive director, Marion Fulker, features in this week's edition of *WA Business News* with her contribution to the debate over public transport policy.

Perth is also home to Future Directions International, which has a focus on strategic issues around the Indian Ocean rim, along with energy and food security issues.

Nationally, the Lowy Institute – formed in 2003, with an endowment from Westfield Group founder Frank Lowy – has made a strong contribution to public policy debate.

Many think tanks overtly set up camp at one or other end of the ideological divide.

Earlier this year, union leader Paul Howes launched the McKell Institute, arguing it would do a better job than other so-called 'progressive' think tanks such as The Australia Institute, the Australian Fabians and the Centre for Policy Development.

It was also meant to counter the influence of groups such as the Institute of Public Affairs and the Centre for Independent Studies.

Mannkal and the IPA jointly backed Project Western Australia, which supports many (but not all) of the policy reforms advocated by *WA Business News* over the past decade and more.

WA Business News publishes a diverse range of commentary and analysis but broadly advocates policies that allow markets to work freely, transparently and effectively, and offer opportunities for the private sector to thrive.

In that sense, we welcome most of the recommendations and conclusions in Project Western Australia, which range across health and housing to ports, taxis, liquor licensing, shopping hours and more.

The report is underpinned by a view that there are limits on how much governments can achieve. Many politicians do not understand this, often preferring to pursue visionary dreams.

The report seeks to challenge some widely held views, like the popular support for northern development, seemingly at any cost.

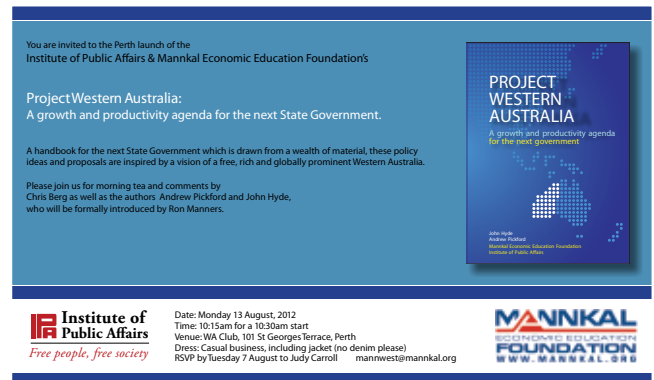
It notes, for instance, that the Ord River project has been a serious drain on the economy.

More significantly, it advocates a

continues...

On August 13, 2012, the joint Mannkal-IPA publication *Project Western Australia* was launched. This document aims to re-start the reform process in Western Australia, and to promote free-market policies through smaller government. While the media focused its attention on the recommendation to “Review the largess of the Royalties for Regions program”, the publication covered a broad range of portfolios and themes. Every single Western Australian sitting member of parliament received a copy. In addition, numerous public and private briefings were given on the recommendations. In essence, the theme of Project WA is encapsulated in the following extract from the introduction:

“The need for sound economic reform never ends and now is the best opportunity the State is likely to enjoy. Economic reform takes time to implement and more time to become effective. Moreover, the political circumstances that facilitate reform are not always present. Current governments, fortunate as they are with abnormally high royalty income, should not expect that future governments will be able to act in similarly good times. Accordingly, the theme of this study is that government should take advantage of current good times to eliminate government debt and raise productivity. While we recognise that no government will have the political or administrative ability to achieve all that we recommend within one parliament, we also consider that no recommendation alone should be beyond its ability.”



Andrew Pickford and Chris Berg (l-r)

‘We must make the building of a free society once more an intellectual adventure, a deed of courage ... We need intellectual leaders who are willing to work for an ideal, however small may be the prospects of its early realization. They must be people who are willing to stick to principles and to fight for their full realization ...’

— F.A. Hayek

Mannkal encourages:

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.

An **alternative book store** for economic and Australian history books.

