

## **Ron Manners**

Ron Manners is Founder and Chairman of the Mannkal Economic Education Foundation, based in Perth, Western Australia. In addition to being the Managing Director of the [Mannwest Group](#). He is also Emeritus Chairman of the Australian Mining Hall of Fame Ltd, and a Fellow of both the Australasian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy, and the Australian Institute of Company Directors. His contributions to industry and Australia have been marked by several awards including being elected as a “Mining Legend” at the 2005 Excellence in Mining & Exploration Conference in Sydney. In 2010 Ron was appointed to the Advisory Council for the Atlas Economic Research Foundation, Washington, DC.

Ron was born in Kalgoorlie, Western Australia, to a family that had a long association with the mining town. A fourth generation prospector, Manners studied electrical engineering at the Kalgoorlie School of Mines before he assumed management of the family mining/engineering business, W.G. Manners & Co. in 1955. He expanded and diversified the company which has evolved to become the Mannwest Group. This private company has now been operating continuously since 1895 (which is six years before Australia had a Constitution or a flag).

Between 1972 and 1995 Ron floated several Australian publicly listed mining companies, one of which became Australia’s third largest gold producer, before joining the board of a Canadian company with gold operations in Mexico, Brazil and Turkey. In addition to his mining interests, Ron has pursued an interest in economic education, establishing the Mannkal Economic Education Foundation in 1997. The Mannkal Foundation has sponsored over 700 young students to internships and conferences in many countries, including Australia. He is a life member of the Mont Pelerin Society and is on the coordinating Committee for the Commonwealth Study Conference. Ron is also the author and editor of five books - [So I Headed West](#), [Kanowna's Barrowman - James Balzano](#), [Never a Dull Moment](#), [Heroic Misadventures: Australia; Four Decades - Full Circle](#) and [Poems of Passion \(A Prospectors Poetic Soul\)](#) - as well as [numerous papers and addresses](#).

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