

# Mannkal's Musings

Editors: Sharni Cutajar and Eva Christensen

MANNKAL FOUNDATION'S  
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### *Some changes at the Mannkal Foundation (effective 1st July, 2017)*

To improve our operations Mannkal has restructured. Andrew Pickford (a Mannkal Director and long-term associate) is taking on the newly created role of Executive Director.

Our current effective young team now report to Kate Wagstaff, our Scholarships Co-ordinator, whose expanded role now includes liaising with our important Mannkal Ambassadors.

These changes will increase our effectiveness as we pass 'half-time' in our busy 20th Anniversary year.

Warm regards to all,

Ron  
Chairman

## What Does Mannkal Do?

Mannkal works with universities and institutions to:

- develop the of future leaders of WA
- send students abroad to learn the foundations for a free society with our partner think tanks

## Who is Ron Manners?

Ron Manners is the Managing Director of the Mannwest Group, the Emeritus Chairman of the Australian Mining Hall of Fame Ltd, and is a member of the Board of Overseers for the Atlas Network, Washington, DC.

Ron was born in Kalgoorlie, Western Australia. As a fourth-generation prospector, he studied electrical engineering at the Kalgoorlie School of Mines before he assumed management of the family mining/engineering business, W.G. Manners & Co. (originally established in 1895) in 1955. He expanded and diversified the company which has evolved to become the Mannwest Group.

Between 1972 and 1995 Ron floated several Australian listed mining companies before joining the board of a Canadian company with 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. Ron is also the author and editor of numerous books and articles.

## Mannkal Volunteers and Staff

### Trustee Board Members

Ron Manners  
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Jenny Manners  
Bill Stacey  
Andrew Pickford  
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Judy Carroll

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**Editorial Consultant**  
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**Media & Communications  
Coordinator**  
Eva Christensen



# Ron's Report

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## Mannkal's 20th Anniversary and our 1,000th Outgoing student

The Mannkal Foundation has come a long way in its 20 years, but in many ways I feel we are only just taking our first steps.

We are, as they say, "only just getting our act together".

This has been, and still is, a learning process for us.

We are very grateful for the tremendous input received from so many people, including our host think-tanks around Australia, New Zealand and the world.

Our outgoing students program has been shaped by input from our returning scholars whose insightful experiences have been passed back to us. Our program has also been deeply shaped by our professional staff, the dedication of our voluntary board of directors, the sage counsel of our internationally based Advisory Council and the wisdom and generosity of our supporting Ambassadors.

If we can retain our humility and ability to absorb fresh ideas, we could really develop this formula into something that makes a lasting and significant difference.

We have gained great satisfaction from witnessing the contagious enthusiasm for new ideas displayed by our returning students and that has been enhanced by seeing so many of them go on to stellar careers in business, research, teaching and public policy.

It is also our hope that we might make some small difference in turning these future leaders away from the current trend of "divisive showmanship" exhibited by our political leaders. (I stress that they are only our political leaders, not our true leaders who lead by earning our respect.)

True leaders exhibit dignity and respect for the rights and responsibilities of the individual, guided by an understanding of the constitutional principles that form a major part of Western Civilisation, itself flowing from Judeo-Christian history and tradition, and an understanding of the legitimate role of limited government.



We have set a challenging task for Mannkal, and we leave it for you to judge our effectiveness.

Each time you meet a returning Mannkal scholar, ask how they have benefited from their exposure to the world of ideas out there?

In this anniversary year of reflection we are asking ourselves, "has this 20-year journey been worthwhile?"

We think it has been, as we already sense we are leaving the future in safer hands.

Ron Manners

**Chairman,  
Mannkal Economic Education Foundation**

## Andrew's Angle

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It has been almost a decade since I participated in an enjoyable and extremely important seminar in Sydney on the future of free markets and classical liberalism. Held in the immediate aftermath of the Global Financial Crisis, we considered the future of capitalism and what became a widespread, continued and systematic re-assertion of the state in the economy and people's lives.

After the long and hard-fought victories opening and deregulating the economy, in battles begun by Bert Kelly and John Hyde and enacted by governments from 1983-2000, we had assumed that the argument around markets and role of government were largely settled.

We were wrong. Those opposed to freedom, in the broadest sense of the word, had regrouped after the fall of the Berlin Wall and had spent time refining their message and cultivating new recruits while consolidating their long march through institutions.

The so-called GFC was a key turning point in the popular debate over markets. Setbacks and activist governments, like their counterparts after the Great Depression and World War II, used these events to centralise, expand and entrench government involvement in the economy. Experience suggests this may extend further. The historian Professor Geoffrey Blainey in a presentation titled: "Maps for the Pilot" about Australian foreign policy from 1904-2044 noted the possibility of a potential re-emergence of a new form of post-communist collectivism.

Ever since the rise of agriculture in the Fertile Crescent, physical and intellectual battles have taken place between collectivists and those who value individual rights and autonomy. In Australia and Western Australia, we are fortunate to benefit from being part of Western Civilisation which has had many champions of individual rights.

As Executive Director of Mannkal, and in my role helping future Western Australian leaders to learn about the importance of individual liberty, I often reflect on my time in Sydney after the GFC. The supporters of free markets were thinning out and the tide was turning. To follow the crowd would be easy. Instead, I realised it was more important than ever to defend and promote these important ideas.

My initial contact with Ron Manners came through an ambition to do more in Perth to help students understand liberty. Some nine years later, I am fortunate to be leading Mannkal as we continue our work in providing opportunities for bright, young Western Australians to learn about the benefits of liberty. This includes our flagship outbound scholars program, student seminars and providing our scholars with opportunities to meet leading thinkers and our ambassadors.

Fighting against a new form of post-communist collectivism, in whatever form or however described, is a generational effort. As a leader in your field or someone interested in providing Western Australian students opportunities to appreciate our freedoms and civilisational heritage, I look forward to working with you on this important mission.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Andrew Pickford'.

Andrew Pickford  
**Executive Director**

# Where Are They Now?

## The Beginning of Mannkal: An Introduction by Bill Stacey, pioneering Mannkal scholar 1989



Being a pioneer, I became the first Mannkal scholar, before there was such a thing. Yet my experience included many of the elements of the rich Mannkal experience for students today. The experience began when studying for an Honours degree in Politics at UWA. I was doing research into the influence of libertarian ideas in Australian politics under Professor Paddy O'Brien. Paddy was a towering figure who enriched the learning of students and challenged people of any political persuasion to think more rigorously. When I was studying with him in 1987, he was in the midst of exposing the corruption of the Burke government. The 1987 stock market crash was just around the corner.

I had discovered references to Ron Manners in my research on the Workers Party. It seemed that he had been an important figure working to make the country more free. Every way I looked, I found people saying that I should speak to Ron. So in the days before email, I wrote Ron a letter asking if he could give me any insights about the 1970's movement for liberty in Australia. Few would be surprised to learn that the swift reply was very welcoming and he invited me up to his home in Kalgoorlie to dig into his archives. The bus took me on a journey that saw Ron and Jenny welcome an earnest stranger with generosity that could not have been expected. I racked up an enormous debt on the then state-of-the-art photocopier, that used heat sensitive rolls of paper. Collecting original correspondence and documentation, well beyond what would be usual for an undergraduate thesis, set me up well for a successful year of study.

The farewell from Kalgoorlie was the beginning of a lifelong friendship and experience, not an end. We kept in touch and two years later in exchange for some work on an essay competition, Ron sponsored my attendance at the Pacific Regional Meeting of the Mont Pelerin Society in November 1989. It was my first trip overseas, opening broader horizons that I had once dreamed of. Little did I know that I would be followed by hundreds of other students who have now been supported on their own journeys to discover liberty.

Mannkal's efforts to bring new ideas to "the threshold of the consciousness" of young Western Australians is now envied around the world. I treasure the memories of being there at the beginning.

**Bill Stacey is currently Chief Investment Officer of the Hinrich Foundation, an endowed non-profit focused on global trade issues based in Hong Kong. He is an authority on investment strategy, financial, banking and monetary systems, with a particular focus on China and the Asia region.**

**During the Asia crisis Bill was involved in sovereign debt restructuring and bank rescue negotiations. Entering investment banking, Bill led highly rated research teams and with Credit Suisse was the lead analyst on some of the largest IPOs ever. He was the founding Chairman of the Lion Rock Institute, Hong Kong's leading free market oriented policy research think-tank.**

**His engagement with the ideas that are fostered by Mannkal continues, writing a regular column on policy for the largest circulation magazine in Hong Kong and contributing to journals such as Policy and the Cayman Financial Review. Bill is on the board of Mannkal and a Mannkal Ambassador.**



## Where Are They Now?

### Hannah Berdal [2012]



Since completing her Mannkal Scholarship with the Lion Rock Institute in Hong Kong during 2012, Hannah went on to complete her Bachelor of Laws and Bachelor of Commerce degrees with Distinction at the University of Western Australia. Hannah studied international commercial law at the University of Vienna in Austria, where she worked part-time at the Austrian Economics Centre and the Hayek Institute as a Digital Editor and started the AEC's 'Views from Vienna' monthly newsletter. Hannah continues to contribute monthly to the AEC and remains an avid supporter of free market economics. She is a member of Mannkal's Advisory Council and is currently training as a UK solicitor at Latham & Watkins LLP in London.



### Bianca Cobby [2015]



Bianca Cobby (née Talbot) is a former Mannkal scholar and final year law student who interned with the Institute of Public Affairs in Melbourne in 2015/16. Upon her return to WA in 2016, Bianca started up a Murdoch Students for Liberty club, affiliated with the national Australian and New Zealand Students for Liberty organization ('ANZSFL'). Bianca is now on the executive board of ANZSFL. Bianca is also the Secretary of the Western Australian Legal Theory Association.

Bianca was most recently preselected to run as a Liberal candidate for the seat of Kwinana in the 2017 WA state election. While she was not elected, she has recently obtained work as a legal assistant. Bianca is determined to continue standing up for classical liberal ideas and will be speaking at the 2017 ALS Friedman Conference.

### Emma Dyce [2014]



Emma undertook her internship with the Atlas Network in Washington, DC at the end of 2014. Emma graduated with a Bachelor of Commerce and Master of Commerce at the University of Western Australia.

In 2015, Emma earned one of eight scholarships offered by the Australian Government and European Commission to undertake further study in Europe, and in 2016 she completed her Masters in International and European Business at EM Strasbourg Business School with the mention 'très bien'. Whilst in Europe, Emma was invited to work with the Council of



Europe's Intergovernmental Cooperation Division as a specialist in the field of Business and Human Rights. Moving away from the world of research, Emma will commence work as an Associate Consultant for a Perth-based management consulting firm later this year. Emma is a member of Mannkal's Advisory Council.



# Where Are They Now?

## Phillip Hancock [2015]



Phillip Hancock was a Mannkal scholar from UWA in the 2015/16 program who travelled to Los Angeles to work with Taliesin Nexus. Through his internship, Phil was offered an opportunity of a lifetime in Los Angeles as a film producer.

Since his experience with Mannkal, Phil has worked as a Moving Picture Institute filmmaker during the United States presidential elections and more recently with Smock Media on a documentary web-series for Victims of Communism Memorial Foundation called the Witness Project. Through his work, Phil has been heavily involved with Cuban human rights activists fighting the totalitarian communist regime in Cuba, documenting their story and supporting dissidents.



## Sofie O'Mara [2015]



Sofie O'Mara was awarded a Mannkal scholarship to intern at the Atlas Network over the summer of 2015/16. At the Atlas Network, Sofie worked in outreach and development. Upon completing her internship, She returned to Australia for a year and completed her degree, graduating with a Bachelor of Commerce.

Following Sofie's graduation, she was accepted into the highly competitive and prestigious Cato Institute internship program in Washington DC. Sofie is currently living in Washington DC interning in the External Affairs department at the Cato Institute.

## Daniel Press [2016]



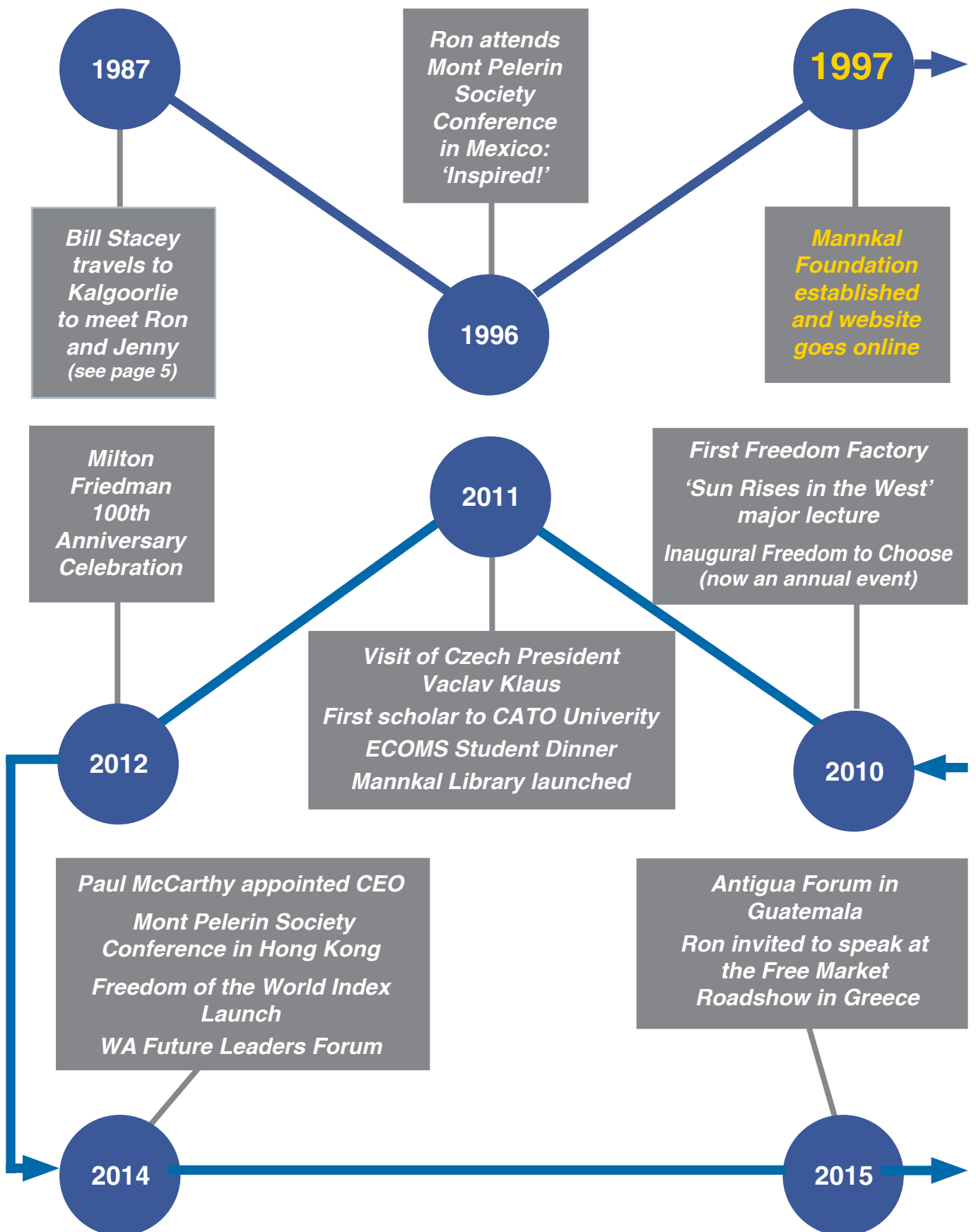
In late 2016, Daniel Press completed an internship with the Atlas Network in Washington DC, giving him the unique opportunity to learn from renowned scholars and leaders in public policy. Initially interested in the foundations of a free society, but with little knowledge of the public policy world, the Mannkal scholarship opened many doors for his exploration. This initial scholarship led him to move on to both the Cato Institute as the Government



Relations intern, and the Competitive Enterprise Institute as the Economic Freedom intern. Meanwhile, he further completed a Policy Fellowship program with the Charles Koch Institute. Daniel's work has been featured in *Forbes*, *Open Market*, and George Washington University's *Regulatory Digest Newsletter*. He has further produced studies on African development and US financial regulation. As a result, Daniel has been offered a full-time job with the Competitive Enterprise Institute as a Financial Policy Analyst.

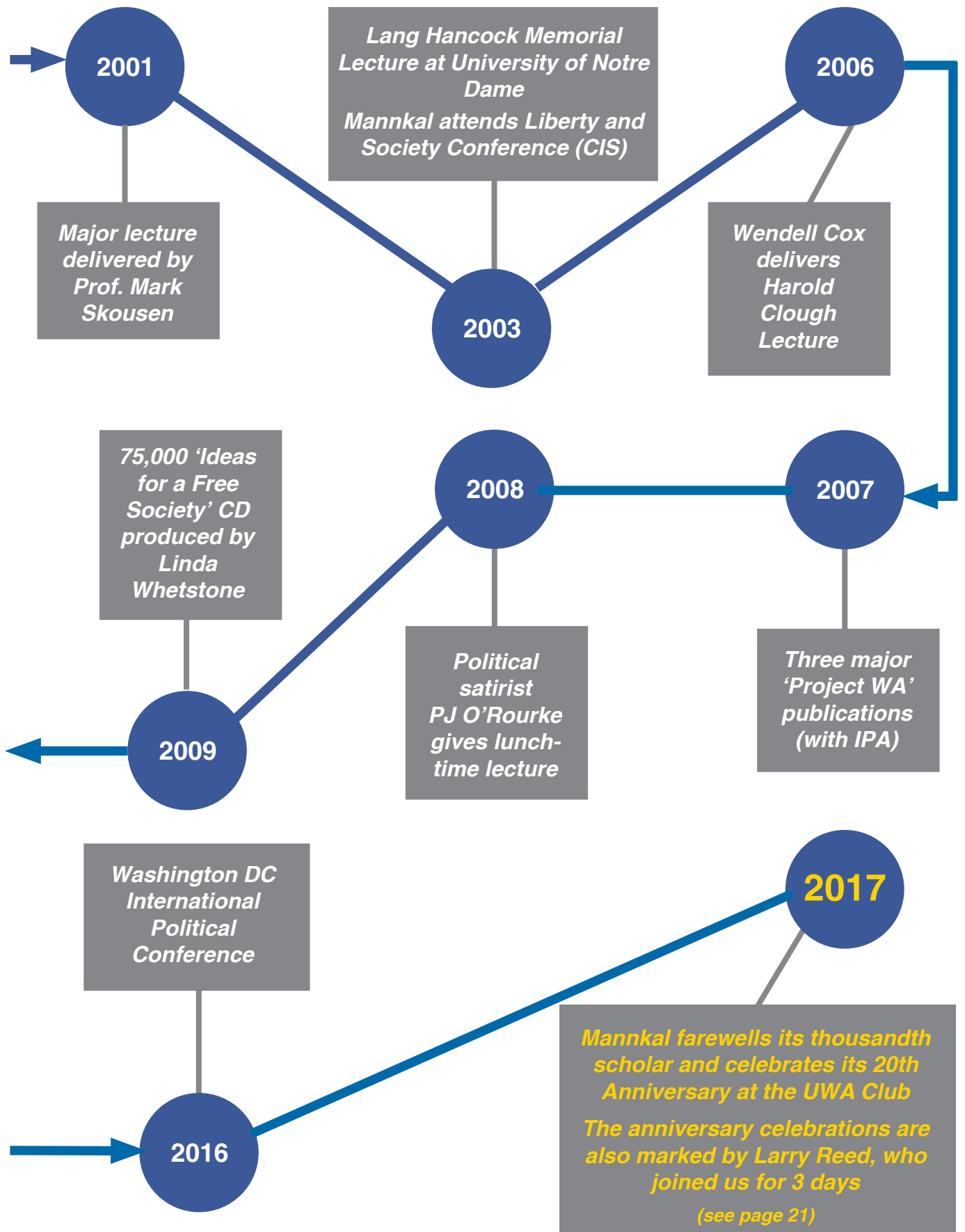


## Mannkal Milestones ...





## Mannkal Milestones ...



## Advisory Council



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(Ukraine)



Brad Walmsley  
(Geneva)



Emma Dyce  
(Perth)



Sofie O'Mara  
(USA)



Paul McCarthy  
(Perth)

## Ambassadors

Mannkal thanks and acknowledges its Ambassadors, who each contribute to our running costs. We couldn't do what we do without them.

**Mr Colin Agnew**

**Ms Juel Briggs**

**Mr Ross Cable**

**Mr Peter Sansom**

**Mr Jonathan Huston**

**Mr Bill Stacey**

**Ms Shirley Int' Veld**

**Mr Jim Keogh**

**Mr Dinny Grimwood**

**Mr Russell Lester**

**Mr Geoff McNeil**

**Mr Doug Hall**

**Mr Willy Packer**

**Mr Dick Lester**

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**Mrs Sally Jones**

**Mr Syd Corser**

**Mr Bob Berven**

**Mr Ross Leach**

**Mrs Jenny Manners**

**Dr Ross Fardon**

**Mr Jock Clough**

## Donors

Mannkal thanks its Donors who contribute vital funds to sponsor student opportunities.

**Mrs Gina Rinehart**

**Mr Willy Packer**

**Mr Toby Nichols**

**Mr Ron Manners**

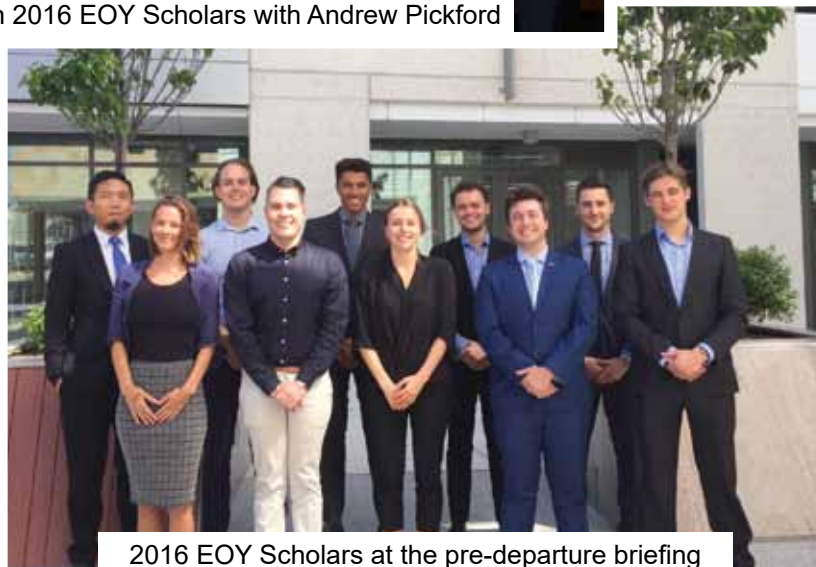
# Scholarships



Vena Xu (centre) with the CIPS team (2016 EOY)



Canadian 2016 EOY Scholars with Andrew Pickford



2016 EOY Scholars at the pre-departure briefing



2015 EOY US and Canadian Scholars in Washington DC

# Scholarships



# Mannkal Scholars Abroad

## Atlas Network – Washington DC

### Eva Christensen



I was fortunate enough to be given the opportunity to intern at the incredible Atlas Network, the 'mother' of all free market think-tanks. I was able to meet and mingle with some of the top people in the movement, including Tom G. Palmer and John

Allison. I attended events and seminars at some of the best think-tanks in the world, which broadened my horizons and deepened my knowledge.

My internship also took place during a very important time in the US – the Presidential inauguration. Seeing virtually everyone suffering from what could only be called an existential crisis was something to behold ... and it happens every four years! It seems to me that there is only one way to solve everyone's disagreements effectively – shrink the government considerably, and let people be in control of their own lives. The US (and every other country) needs to get back to its roots of limited government and freedom for its citizens.

During my internship, I also undertook research projects for the Centre for Independent Studies and

helped in the fundraising department at Atlas. Kristina Crane, my supervisor, was a great pillar of support and often took me and the other interns to historical sites around DC and Virginia. I met so many great people, both students and professionals, and developed friendships that I will never forget.

All in all, this has been a wonderful experience, and I want to sincerely express my deepest thanks to Ron Manners and the rest of the crew at the Mannkal Foundation.



## Centre for Independent Studies – Sydney

### Herman Toh



The Mannkal Leadership Program is indeed a unique experience. I had the tremendous opportunity to intern at the Centre for Independent Studies (CIS) in Sydney where I was exposed to free market ideas on a constant basis.

It was illuminating to have my ideas challenged by data and research material. By researching and analysis of data, I could see the effects of policies and how the economy reacts to any government stimuli in an area such as housing affordability for both owner-occupiers and renters. Michael Potter, the Research Fellow for Economics at the CIS, was a joy to work with as I learnt to examine free market ideas.

At the daily morning briefings, staff met to discuss the latest developments in areas such as government

policy decisions, articles by the newspapers and political opinion pieces. Through a wide variety of interests and current world events that the CIS covers, I was often able to develop a greater understanding of the reasoning behind some government policies. There were often lively discussions in the office on how government decisions made overseas affected Australia, especially when Dan Hannan, a former European Member of Parliament, came to have lunch with the staff at CIS.

The best course for Australia is the promotion of free enterprise, the limitation of government intervention and the urgency of reducing our company tax rates.

My experience was only made possible through the generosity of Ron Manners and the patrons of Mannkal. I will always be grateful to the staff at Mannkal and the CIS for helping me to grow as a person.



## Friedrich Naumann Foundation – Berlin

Friedrich Naumann  
STIFTUNG FÜR DIE FREIHEIT

### Foluso Tade



Interning as a Mannkal Scholar in the Liberal Institute of the Friedrich Naumann Foundation (FNF) for eight weeks in Berlin has been an extremely fulfilling experience.

The Liberal Institute moves quickly to assess daily political news which required a lot of research into the topics most notable in Germany's upcoming elections as well as those of high relevance across Europe. My largest report was a review of the 'say on pay' regulations that have been implemented across OECD nations. The task was to identify policy options that ensure performance-based remuneration packages for CEOs and board members, without obstructing management's ability to make strategic decisions.

A mixture of various tasks has allowed me to apply the knowledge from my university studies to real world issues in a practical way. I have drafted interview questions for election campaigners, edited English translations and written a book review on 'Anxious Politics' for publication in FNF's quarterly *Liberal Magazine*. The book



is an insightful text discussing how anxiety created by politicians and the media can affect how citizens search for information, who they trust, what types of policies they support and how decisions made under these conditions may influence democracy.

The networks I have made thanks to Mannkal's support will become instrumental in my planned move to Germany. I must again extend my thanks to all my colleagues at FNF, the entire Mannkal office and all supporters of Mannkal's endeavours for this truly life-changing opportunity.

## Institute of Economic Affairs – London

### Hannah Pham



My experience at the IEA helped me to become a more proactive, strategic and solution-orientated person.

I prepared informative speeches for our director, Mark Littlewood for a number of meetings, including speeches at Warwick University and an interview on BBC One 'Question Time'. On one occasion, I was invited to a prestigious lunch at the Cook Society annual meeting where Mark Littlewood was delivering a speech I helped prepared. It was a surreal moment when a respected figure was presenting your writings aloud to a large audience of CEOs, doctors, investment bankers, and educators. The Australian High Commissioner Alexander Downer was also there!

Two of my favourite events were James Tooley's book launch for *Imprisoned in India* and the launch of the *Index of Economic Freedom 2017*. Tooley's story tells of the struggles and battles with a corrupted Indian bureaucracy. Tooley reminded us that one of the most basic principles of humankind's prosperity is respect for the rule of law. Secondly, I am just generally in awe with all the efforts the authors have put into compiling the *Index of Economic*

iea  
Institute of  
Economic Affairs

*Freedom*, sorting and analysing an extremely large macroeconomic database. Perhaps the most surprising finding of this index is that freer economies have better environmental protection. Clean-energy use over the past decades has occurred not because of government regulation, but rather as a result of advances in technology.

Finally, I would like to express my deepest gratitude to the Mannkal Economic Education Foundation and the Institute of Economic Affairs for this life-changing and educational journey.



With Alexander Downer (AC), High Commissioner to the UK



## Institute for Liberal Studies – Canada

### Georgina Due



The pursuit for knowledge on how to best govern the country was the reason I first got involved with Mannkal. The ILS's daily mission is to facilitate opportunities for students to learn more about the concept of liberty. I was exposed to a plethora

of lectures, debates, discussions and an admirable library of books to satisfy my craving for knowledge. Many events were almost always followed by intimate dinners with the presenting professors where I had the opportunity to discuss deep intellectual ideas on a one-on-one basis with these world-renowned scholars.

Witnessing at-capacity lecture theatres constantly filled with students who were equally passionate about a pursuit of knowledge like myself made me realise the ILS was, to them, what Mannkal has been to me, an answer to the idealistic question of 'how best to govern our nation'. For me, this concreted the need for organisations like Mannkal to continue to offer answers to the many students that embark on the pursuit of ideas.

I am honoured to have helped spread these ideas during my internship with the ILS, and I feel fortunate to be returning to Perth with the skills and the drive to spread the ideas of liberty. Speaking from experience, I can confidently say that Ron Manners and the Mannkal team change lives through opportunities. Applying for a Mannkal scholarship has been one of the most rewarding decisions I have ever made.



## The Manning Centre – Canada

### Julian Hasleby



The opportunity Mannkal provided me to live and work independently in a new country proved to be an invaluable experience.

I was involved in a diverse range of projects during my time at the Manning Centre. From analysing a major infrastructure project, to presenting evidence before a case at City Hall in Calgary and drafting a report on the changes to electoral donation laws in the province, I quickly learnt that the Mannkal experience is unique and provides an educational experience young scholars are not receiving at university.

Having had opportunities to meet politicians, business people, academics, everyday Canadians and other Mannkal scholars, this experience has taught me that you never know who may be able to teach you a valuable life lesson. A highlight of my experience was the Manning Conference where students engaged in policy discussion with a Conservative politician in the Canadian Parliament and examined the Australia-Canada relationship at the Australian High Commission.

Mannkal is making an investment in the future of Australia, and this is something our generation sorely needs. Freedom is facing attacks around the world, however society can only flourish where there is respect for property rights, free markets and freedom of expression. I will always be extremely grateful to Ron Manners and the Mannkal team, and encourage any young Western Australians to apply for a conference or internship with the Mannkal Foundation.



*With Rona Ambrose, interim leader of the Conservatives*



# Where in the World Do You Want to Learn?

The Mannkal Economic Education Foundation is looking for students to intern at a range of internationally recognised research foundations and think tanks. All internships are financially supported through the Mannkal scholarship program and open to enthusiastic university students. Opportunities are now open for the 2018 mid year break.

Some of the opportunities on offer...



## Canadian Taxpayers Federation

### James Case



The rise of Donald Trump to the most powerful office on the planet and the threats to freedoms of speech, particularly on college campuses, have become heavily intertwined with one another. At the Students for Liberty Conference, in Washington DC, many of the brightest minds discussed the downsides of excessive political correctness and how the relentless shaming and policing of speech and thought has divided society. Dr Jonathan Haidt, a *New York Times* bestseller and NYU professor, gave a fascinating speech about the rise of safety culture across campuses. Dr Haidt expressed the dangers of policing opinions in fear of 'harming someone's feelings' and explained how this behaviour is damaging, unconstitutional and preventing students from obtaining a well-rounded education.

Working alongside the dedicated team at the Canadian Taxpayers Federation, I have grown my knowledge in economics, politics and liberties. I have also been able to work on requests for Government information under the Access to Information Act. This allows

any citizen or organisation to seek the discovery of Government-held documents, which may not already be available to the general public. I hope to be using this valuable skill back in Australia under our similar legislation. The knowledge and skills you learn in a practical environment outdo anything you could possibly learn in a lecture theatre.

I cannot begin to express my gratitude to Ron Manners, the Mannkal team and the many generous donors. I have had the most incredible experience and I look forward to my future with the organisation.



## Centre for Indonesian Policy Studies – Jakarta

### Vena Xu



I am so grateful for the extraordinary opportunity to intern at the Centre for Indonesian Policy Studies (CIPS) in Jakarta. As a strictly non-partisan and non-profit think-tank, it promotes social and economic reforms that are based on the belief that only civil, political, and economic freedom allows Indonesia to prosper.

My main task through the eight-week internship was researching and testing Massive Opening Online Course (MOOCs) platforms to publish our online courses about 'Affordable Food for the Poor' (AFP). The project aims to bring down trade barriers and create greater food access for millions of poor Indonesian families. There's no doubt the AFP project will raise public awareness about how serious the problems facing Indonesia's food trade are, creating a better understanding of the links between trade restrictions and food prices. The project was funded by the manager for communications and fundraising, Anthea Haryoko, who won the grand prize at Atlas Network's 2016 Think Tank Shark Tank Competition last November.

Furthermore, I was successful in acquiring a Google advertising grant of US\$120,000 a year for not-for-profit

organizations. I am so pleased I was able to contribute to my host think tank, knowing my work will continue on after I return to Perth.

I would like to thank Ron Manners and the Mannkal team for this remarkable opportunity. I sincerely hope more people come to learn of the great work Mannkal contributes to building a prosperous future for Australia.





## New Zealand Taxpayers Union – Wellington

### Sally Hatter



'There is no such thing as public money; there is only taxpayers' money.'

— Margaret Thatcher, 1983

My time at the New Zealand Taxpayers' Union in Wellington has replenished my confidence that individuals appreciate the acute importance of spending hard-earned taxpayers' money with the frugality and respect it deserves.

Increasingly, New Zealand taxpayer dollars are spent by the money-hungry bureaucracy, which sees it as its divine right to spend somebody else's money on frivolous exercises that contribute nothing to the country which it purports to serve. Whether it's \$23,000 spent by the Ministry of Justice for its senior leadership team to create a Justin Timberlake lip-syncing video clip or \$7.7 million of foreign aid money given to the controversial 'Clinton Health Access Initiative', this waste knows no limits.

This wasteful spending is a sad reality that manifests itself in the Australian bureaucratic environment too. The waste in Australia comes in similar forms, from a bill to taxpayers for a Q&A activist's grand tour of Islamic

regimes, to the gross inefficiency that we all know exists amongst Government departments.

As my time here came to an end, I felt empowered to use the knowledge I had gained from the Taxpayers' Union to curtail government waste and the inefficiency that is a recurring blight on the Australian Government's finances.

Not only am I grateful to Mannkal for providing me with this fantastic opportunity for my professional development and the chance to further my libertarian ideas, but also for the wonderful friends and experiences my time in Wellington has given me.



## Foundation for Economic Education – Atlanta



### James Ledger



My experience interning at FEE in Atlanta for two months was nothing short of rewarding. It was without a doubt the best involvement with the libertarian movement I have ever had and although, at times, it was challenging work, it was a truly worthwhile experience.

During my time at FEE, I was fortunate to have two articles published on the FEE website – one argues against the introduction of a sugar tax and one advocates the need for significant corporate tax reform in Australia. I also attended the tenth anniversary of the International Students for Liberty Conference, which showcased numerous like-minded organisations from around the world with a huge assortment of mentally stimulating speeches and debates. Furthermore, I was fortunate enough to work with Mike Row to launch a project that helped gain FEE thousands of new donors and online followers.

During a critical time for the US, I witnessed the immediate rise and intensification of American politics with the inauguration of President Trump, which



*With Jackie Morgan (Mackinac Centre) at ISFLC17*

cemented my belief in the vital importance of free markets and Austrian economics. Consequently, I developed a greater understanding of influential characters within the liberty movement including Ayn Rand, Frédéric Bastiat, Ludwig Von Mises and Friedrich Hayek.

My two months in the United States was intellectually inspirational and profoundly educational. I have the Mannkal Foundation to thank for this incredible experience. In particular, I would like to express my sincere appreciation and gratitude to Ron Manners, Paul McCarthy and Kate Wagstaff for allowing me this incredible opportunity.



## Austrian Economics Centre – Vienna

### Bermond Scoggins



My time at the Austrian Economics Centre (AEC) has been a conversation with history and a confrontation with the full extent of my ignorance. This was by no means disheartening since, as Aristotle wrote, “the pleasure arising from thinking and learning will make us learn and think all the more”.

I was able to explore the Austrian tradition and better acquaint myself with its thinkers – principally Hayek, Mises, and Buchanan – as well as those contiguous figures such as Oakeshott, Scruton, and Rawls. Taken together, they are merely a few names of that select group who hold before us what Whitehead called “the habitual vision of greatness”.

My most important duty during my seven weeks in Vienna was serving as a research assistant to Senior Fellow Federico Fernandez. In preparation for the Centre's Free Market Road Show in March, I prepared research briefs on the global resurgence of protectionist rhetoric and the growing hostility to classical liberalism. Through my discussions with the Centre's staff, my reading, and research tasks, I grew acutely aware that

bad ideas, no matter the misery they have inflicted on history, are not permanently relegated to its ash heap. They return in new guises. If the principles of liberty are to survive, they will require constant examination and repetition. Sadly, utopian thinking does not die with youth, nor bad ideas with their age.

Above all, the Mannkal Scholarship has been indispensable in revealing, with its triumphs and failures, a world I knew so little about. I am inestimably grateful to Mannkal and the AEC.



## IDEAS – Kuala Lumpur

### Liz Powley



When I was told of my placement at IDEAS, I admit I was nervous about the challenges that awaited me in Kuala Lumpur. A libertarian think-tank that is fighting corruption and often trying to keep religion away from the state? That was some heavy stuff for a libertarian newbie like myself! However, I was excited about the challenge and can gladly say it's been the most rewarding eight weeks of my life.

Over the course of eight weeks, I worked on a wide range of projects within several departments of IDEAS which was beneficial to learning exactly what this amazing organisation was all about. My research on the Malaysian government's regulating lifestyles not only taught me the differences between Australia and Malaysia, but also ended up helping IDEAS win a 20,000RM grant! The grant was won by the COO, Tricia Yeoh, when competing in a Think Tank Shark Tank competition in India. The grant will be used to further research the extent of government regulations and the impact they have on business owners. In communications, I've been able to teach the organisation how to use social media software which will help benefit their outreach in the future.

My libertarian ideology has been cemented and I honestly believe Malaysia has been the perfect place to fully appreciate libertarianism and the benefits it can have for a country. IDEAS welcomed me with open arms and I cannot thank them enough. I thank Mannkal for seeing potential in me and believing that I would be able to face the challenges that Malaysia would bring, even though at first I was wary of it. I'm forever thankful for this incredible opportunity that will stay with me for the rest of my life.



# Events



# Events



# 2017: Year in Review

## ISFLC 2017

The International Students for Liberty Conference is held annually in Washington DC. It is the biggest student gathering in the liberty movement and always features the best and most active speakers. More than 1,000 students and professionals descended on the Marriott Wardman Park Hotel for what was the tenth anniversary of the liberty movement's biggest event. Speakers included famous libertarians such as Jeffrey Tucker (FEE), Steve Forbes (*Forbes Magazine*), Johan Norberg and Tom Palmer.

Five Mannkal scholars, at the tail end of their internships in the US and Canada, were lucky enough to attend. Eva Christensen and James Ledger represented their respective think tanks, the Atlas Network and FEE, whilst James Case, Georgina Due and Jackie Morgan travelled down to Washington for the final leg of their trip before they headed back home to Perth. The conference is something of a rite-of-passage for Mannkal scholars who intern in the US and Canada, and has been an unforgettable experience for our students.

## Manning Conference

The Manning Conference is the event for libertarians and conservatives to attend in Canada. It is held annually in Ottawa at the close of February and covers some of the most pressing issues facing Canada and the rest of North America. The Manning Centre is one of the most prestigious think-tanks in the country, and Mannkal has sent countless scholars there throughout the years. Present at this year's conference was Julian Hasleby, who had interned there since December, and fellow Canadian interns James Case, Georgina Due and Gavin Rogers. We have received overwhelming feedback from our students that the Manning Conference is the highlight of their internship experience.





# 2017: Year in Review

## Larry Reed Celebrates Mannkal's 20th Anniversary

Mannkal is immensely grateful to Larry Reed and FEE for going to such a herculean effort to visit Mannkal and contribute to our 20th Anniversary events. Larry's contribution over the three days he spent in Perth gave a measurable and very valuable boost to our activities for the year.

### Mannkal's Scholars and Friends Evening, Wednesday 8 March

Larry was a marvellous guest to have at our showcase event of the year and was the clear difference that made the event a success. The crowd was a mix of Mannkal alumni and their parents, supporters and local academic and business leaders. Larry spoke for half an hour on the issues of character and values, with three examples from his recent *Real Heroes* book. Both prior to and after his speech Larry mixed throughout the crowd and was both highly sought out and well received by all attendees.



### Lunch with Vice-Chancellors and Senior Academics

Mannkal's relationships with universities are critical to its student program, given the very restrictive regulatory environment around philanthropy in Australia. Universities prefer that we donate funds to support their own departmental expenses as opposed to sponsoring student opportunities. We held a lunch with the leadership of Western Australia's universities where Larry spoke about the future of liberty for Western nations and the wonderful opportunities for students via Mannkal.



### Alumni and Applicants Evening with our Students

Larry provided a wonderful opportunity for students to learn directly from him at a students' evening. With a standing-room-only turnout of 42 students, Larry was able to deliver two of his best and most popular lectures about the Great Depression and the Abolition of Slavery.

This event alone sparked eleven new applications to our student internship program, nine of which applied to intern with FEE.

“It's great that Mr Reed takes these issues back to the fundamentals of what really matters. Why can't our politicians do the same?”

It's refreshing to hear someone focus on ideas of what is good in individuals and society without taking a party-political side.”



### Mannkal Internal Staff Training Lunch

Larry skilled-up our staff members with a discussion about the initiatives that enabled FEE to continue setting new standards in the global libertarian community and described how FEE's donor program has surged over the past ten years by creating donor tiers.

Our staff members were delighted by the opportunity to learn from Larry and to realise that they are a part of the global Atlas Network.

# 2017: Year in Review

## ***ALS Friedman Conference '17***

The biggest pro-liberty gathering in the Asia-Pacific region shows no signs of slowing down. Now in its fifth year, it is sure to be a showcase event. Top speakers include Nick Gillespie (editor at *Reason Magazine*), Mike Munger (economics professor at Duke University in New York and leading proponent of Public Choice Theory), Cory Bernadi and David Leyonhjelm. It takes place at the University of Technology and is the premier event for both the Australian Taxpayer's Alliance and the Australian Libertarian Society.

We keep increasing the number of students we send every year and this year Mannkal is proud to send 19 scholars to Sydney for the conference, joined by Ron Manners, Paul McCarthy and the rest of the Mannkal team.

## ***Mont Pelerin Society Regional Meeting***

Founded in 1944 by Milton Friedman and Friedrich Hayek, the Mont Pelerin Society aims to facilitate the exchange of ideas between like-minded intellectuals and leaders in the free market movement. Its regional meeting is held in a new location every year, and this May will see 300 members and students meet in Seoul, from 7th May – 10th May, with the theme 'Economic Freedom: The Road to Prosperity'.

Ron Manners has been a long-term member of the society and is excited to be sending seven of the brightest WA students along to this amazing event. Our Mannkal scholars will hear from renowned speakers such as Israel Kirzner, Dr Yaron Brook (president of the Ayn Rand Institute) and Mark Skousen, recently named as one of the 20 most influential economists in the world.

## ***Freedom to Choose***

A joint endeavor by Mannkal and the University of Notre Dame, this one-day conference is dedicated to teaching students and graduates the wisdom of free market economics. Held annually at the Notre Dame campus in historical Fremantle, this year's topic was 'The Deepening Malaise of Australian Universities'. Rising rates of unemployment amongst fresh university graduates coupled with rapidly increasing levels of private and public HECS-debt is sure to make this year's conference very relevant for everyone.





# 2017: The Year Ahead

## Samuel Griffith Conference

A must for every law and economics student, the Samuel Griffiths Society's (SGS) annual conference will be held in Perth this year on 25th – 27th August at the Novotel Langley Hotel. The SGS works diligently on emphasising the specific purpose of the Australian Constitution in championing States' rights over the Federal Government.

Speakers include the Hon. Patrick Keane AC (Justice of the High Court of Australia), the Hon. Nicholas Hasluck AM (former Judge of the Supreme Court of WA), former MP Tony Abbott and libertarian Senator David Leyonhjelm.



## HETSA Conference

The 30th annual History of Economic Thought Society of Australia conference will be held on 26th and 27th September at University House of the Australian National University. Organised once again by William Coleman (ANU), we are proud to be sending six Mannkal scholars to attend.

Speakers include Chris Berg (IPA), Steve Kates (RMIT) and Greg Moore (NDU). The keynote speaker is Prof John Creedy (Victoria University of Wellington) and a special speaker is Jeremy Shearmur (Emeritus ANU).



## Western Civilisation Conference

Mannkal will host a follow-up one day conference on Western Civilisation to our immensely popular "The Sun Rises in the West" conference in 2010.

It will be hosted at the brand new Centre for Entrepreneurial Research and Innovation (CERI) in Nedlands on Friday, 24th November.

**SAVE THE DATE. More information coming soon.**





## The parable of red tape and liquor licensing in Australia

Jake Fraser



Liquor licensing regulation is only one small part of Australia's \$176 billion yearly red tape problem.

The current state of liquor licensing in Australia is suffocating businesses. The main issue of liquor licensing regulation is that it hurts small businesses, who are ill-equipped to navigate the bureaucratic swamp. A maze of restrictive laws has not only frustrated venue owners, but quashed industry vibrancy and nightlife.

Unlike other areas, regulation governing the sale, production, and distribution of liquor is conducted municipally. That is, each jurisdiction has its own statute and regulator that enforces that statute. Across the country, there is significant scope for reform. Some desperately needed reforms include streamlining the number of licence types and associated fees, reducing time delays for approvals, and increasing the operational freedom of owners and entrepreneurs seeking to start new businesses.

On average, there are eight different licences – not including sub-classes – in each state. Excessive licence types and sub-classes have supposedly resulted from the state moulding regulations in the 'best interest' of its citizens. Exercising such powers, however, has all but halted growth in new venues, with little demonstrable benefit to consumers.

Recently, fees associated with licences have risen.

Since 2010 annual licence costs of an ACT nightclub open until 5am have been \$28,328. Under newly proposed legislation an even more astonishing figure of \$163,000 a year would be charged. Such draconian regulation has caused a 59 per cent fall in the number of nightclubs in Canberra over this period.

A related issue is the opportunity cost of lost business brought about from time delays in the licence approval process. According to the regulators, it takes 4-6 months for approval in QLD and up to 4 months following an initial 30 day public consultation period in NSW.

Entrepreneurs opening small bars in WA can endure an arduous period of up to two years before licenses are granted. Where liquor licensing red tape is estimated to cost the WA economy \$7.7 million a year, the need for improving the ease of doing business is obvious.

The overreaching arm of regulators was again apparent after a Victorian pub's request to extend trading hours for a Socceroos match was rejected because the match was not deemed to be a 'significant cultural festival'. The real loser in such a scenario is not the business but the public.

Unfortunately, liquor licences only constitute a small part of a growing red tape problem in Australia, and indeed across much of the Western world. Overcoming inertia for reform should be the primary focus of regulators to encourage businesses to flourish.

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## We need classrooms of tomorrow, today

Connor Lane



For all the hype around online education courses, or computers in the classrooms, the basic model is the same as it ever was: children sit in a classroom, listen to a teacher, go off and do their homework, then repeat the cycle.

It's been obvious for quite a while, however, that this isn't really working with students experiencing long-term falls in test scores in the West as the rest of the world gains access to better education.

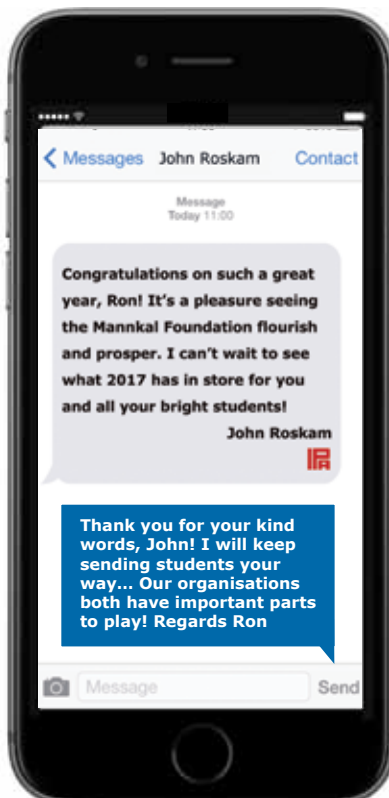
At the same time the job market is becoming permeated by technology. Artificial intelligence is estimated to automate 47 per cent of all jobs by 2034. We seem to be doing what amounts to nothing in the way of preparing for this.

One of the most promising displays of revolutionary personalised learning is 'EdTech', collecting information and using computers to develop a comprehensive understanding of each student before feeding the information back to the teacher.

The results of EdTech are promising – but limited in their scope, due to the system being implemented only in a select number of schools. Countless private enterprises have decided to take matters into their own hands – including Google – investing millions in new learning technologies.

Companies have a rational interest in picking from the most intelligent graduate pool – and are disillusioned with the West's unimaginative system and slipping scores.

# Friends, Likes and Tweets



## The Government is making you poorer – you just don't see it

Llewellyn Cross



The sharing economy has linked consumers with suppliers in a simple and vastly cheaper fashion. Instead of running call centres to link waiting customers with available taxis, an app now connects you with drivers directly and cuts out the operator. This reduces costs to us all. Competition brings the prices down for consumers, effectively making us richer as we can consume the same amount of services for a lower cost.

More available options give suppliers freedom and flexibility, while supplying consumers with goods and services available for purchase at a better price than the incumbent operators. Now travellers have the option of short term rentals at reduced prices through AirBnB. This allows travellers to stay longer by saving money on expensive hotels. Airtasker is linking people in need of services with individuals willing to trade some of their labour. You can hire photographers, web designers, gardeners, handymen, tradies and removalists. If you find IKEA furniture a nightmare to construct, there is someone you can hire for that too.

How is the sharing economy attracting so many will-

ing suppliers and consumers? It's simple. Sharing platforms don't offer holiday pay, long service leave, overtime or any other number of extra benefits. The supplier isn't beholden to anyone but themselves. Hard work is directly rewarded. It is undeniably difficult for incumbent businesses to compete. They are burdened by excessive government regulation. Uber and AirBnB are offering something not available currently. The freedom to sell your services when you please and only when you please. Child home sick from school? Stay home with them. Parents visiting for a weekend? You can keep your spare room free. The ultimate freedom of deploying your capital and labour – your car, house or time – as you please, without coercion, is too attractive to resist.

The solution to this problem for incumbents is not for government to strangle new industries. The solution is to deregulate the economy. To allow taxis to compete on the same level as Uber, not force Uber into the same arcane rules as taxis are held to. The regulation of the sharing economy and new industries will take away what makes it popular, force the price of these goods and services up, and reduce the standard of living for all of us. Seems like a simple choice to me.

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## Great Expectations

Herman Toh



In Dickens' novel, the key characters are made more miserable due to their great expectations... unrealistic expectations.

Barnaby Joyce, the Deputy Prime Minister of Australia took a shot at potential young home owners for wanting to live in Sydney but being unable to afford to do so. The previous generation wouldn't have expected their first property to be a palatial pad sited a craft beer bottle's throw away from the CBD. They would have worked hard, bought their first place, saved — and then upgraded.

It is time for a reality check. A possible long-term solution may be micro apartments. Where we are pre-

pared to sacrifice some space and privacy, we could afford to be home owners. When we upgrade, we free up housing to be cycled back onto the market. In Sydney, 35m<sup>2</sup> is the minimum for studio apartments according to the NSW planning department.

In Japan, where there aren't minimum limits on apartment or housing sizes, the smallest apartment is around 9m<sup>2</sup>. I am not saying that we should go right down to that size, but if the trend in the small house movement is anything to go by, it may be worth exploring.

This would free up capital for us young ones to spend on fancy space-saver furniture. Or smashed avocado on toast. Whatever takes our fancy — and meets our more realistic expectations.



# Apply Now!

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**Mannkal is pleased to announce that applications are now open for the 2018 mid year internships.**

All scholarships are financially supported through the Mannkal Scholarships Program.

To apply please email the following documents to Kate Wagstaff at [scholars@mannkal.org](mailto:scholars@mannkal.org):

- Resume/Curriculum Vitae (up to two pages) including photograph (within CV)
- Statement of Academic Record (an unofficial transcript is sufficient)
- Cover Letter (1 page) addressing one of the places on offer; detailing why you are the best candidate for this scholarship, and what you hope to gain

Please write on only one of the opportunities on offer. Applicants who progress through to the interview stage of the selection process will be considered for all scholarship opportunities.

Our multi-step application process involves getting to know you through interviews, student seminars and events and. The process can take several months, beginning with your application – so the sooner you apply the better!

Mid-Year Internship applications close in February, and places are determined around April/May. End of Year Internship applications close in August, and places are finalised in October/November.

Students who are not successful in receiving a scholarship in one intake may still be eligible for the next intake. The longer we have to get to know you, the better we are able to potentially match you with a suitable host think-tank.

**Now is the time to apply, whether you're in first or last year at University.**

## Requirements

These scholarships are open to Western Australia-based undergraduate and postgraduate students enrolled in a Western Australian university\*. Above all, Mannkal values entrepreneurialism and enthusiasm for a free and open society. We consider students from across all faculties and departments. Course marks are one consideration, but this should not exclude students who have made contributions in other areas. Some of these volunteer positions benefit from formal study of economics and public policy, although a keen interest and awareness of the philosophical concepts behind these subjects is more important. We are looking for students who are interested in the future of Western Australia and Australia and who would gain from seeing how applying free market and libertarian ideas can improve the lives of all citizens.

*\*places are subject to availability and may change without notice*

# Mannkal Student Opportunities in 2017

## Mannkal Scholarship Timeline

*Mid-Year Internships Abroad*

*End-of-Year Internships Abroad*

Students for Liberty

Manning Conference

Friedman Conference

Mont Pelerin Society, South Korea

FEECon

Freedom to Choose

ANZSFL, Melbourne

THINK IEA

Liberty & Society Conference

HETSA

Samuel Griffith Conference

HR Nicholls Conference

2016 168 scholarships

2015 135 scholarships

2014 41 scholarships

2013 21 scholarships

2012 13 scholarships

**Mannkal Scholarships will reach  
a record high in 2017**

2020



\$6,300,000  
1,700 scholars

2017



\$3,900,000  
1,035 scholars

2010



\$1,800,000  
385 scholars

2005



\$280,000  
60 scholars

Bill Stacey

