



## Cutcher & Neale

Media Release

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

2 April 2008

### The SPAA CEO scholarship awarded to Shane Morgan

Shane Morgan from Cutcher & Neale has been named recipient of The SPAA "Self Managed Super Fund Professionals Association of Australia" CEO Scholarship. SPAA, in association with the University of Adelaide were offering a full scholarship to a SPAA member to complete the Professional Certificate in Self Managed Superannuation Funds.

The announcement was made at the 2008 SPAA National Conference Awards Ceremony at the Brisbane Convention & Exhibition Centre. Presenting the award was James Hird, retired Essendon AFL player and SPAA CEO Andrea Slattery.

The prestigious scholarship is valued at \$3,000 and enables Shane to extend his knowledge base through a Post Graduate course specific to the SMSF industry.

Andrea Slattery, Chief Executive Officer from SPAA said "The scholarship is part of SPAA's objective to improve the level of advice being provided by professionals working the SMSF industry. Therefore, by offering high level educational opportunities to our members we hope that we can continue to build professionalism in the SMSF industry. We were impressed by Shane's application for the scholarship and recognised in him a person who had a desire for further knowledge and a strong commitment to make a difference in the SMSF industry in the near future."

Partner David Carpenter said "we are extremely proud of Shane's achievement; it's a wonderful initiative with enormous benefits for Shane and the firm."

Shane Morgan says "It was a great honour to receive this award and to be recognised by the peak body for Self Managed Super. I intend to use the scholarship to add to my current knowledge base and to service the growing Cutcher & Neale client base in Self Managed Super".

Investment in superannuation in Australia is accumulating at an astonishing rate and now totals over \$1.2 trillion, of which there are 370,000 Self Managed Super Funds that hold in excess of \$300 billion. This makes it the fastest growing sector in financial planning and wealth management.

The SMSF industry is subject to legislative changes, compliance issues and vigorous scrutiny. Advisors in SMSF's need to increase their knowledge and skills as well as increasing the financial literacy skills of consumers.

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Notes to the editor

**About Shane Morgan** - Client Service Manager & SPAA Specialist Advisor.

After 10 years in Chartered Accountancy Shane completed a Graduate Diploma of Financial Planning at the then Securities Institute of Australia (currently Finsia). The area of superannuation certainly interested Shane and after making the move back to his home town of Newcastle the opportunity arose to specialise in Self Managed Superannuation Funds.

Upon completion of an intensive course in SMSF's and undertaking a number of courses and studies in SMSF's (which led to Shane becoming a SPAA Specialist Advisor), the Cutcher & Neale Self Managed Superannuation Fund division was established in July 2005. Shane was then able to become an Authorised Representative of Lonsdale through Cutcher & Neale Superannuation Technical Services Pty Ltd and commenced to provide strategic and structural advice to clients in respect of their SMSF's.

With over 300 SMSF's in Shane's client base, the advice provided to clients and technical assistance to staff and clients is wide and varied.

Shane is also the current Chairperson of the Hunter Region Chapter of SPAA.

**About Cutcher & Neale** - Established in 1953, Cutcher & Neale is a leading accounting and financial services firm, located in the Newcastle CBD, Cutcher & Neale's 90 staff members occupy four floors of The Bolton Building. Consisting of eight divisions, accounting and taxation services, investment services, business services, finance brokerage, self managed superannuation funds, business software and system solutions, forensic accounting, assurance and risk management. Cutcher & Neale is one of the few firms outside the Sydney area that provides a complete professional services package to clients.

**Photo attachment** (*titled Shane Morgan*) left to right James Hird, retired Essendon AFL player, Shane Morgan recipient of the SPAA CEO Scholarship and Andrea Slattery, Chief Executive Officer from SPAA.

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