



# *Una Voce News Letter*

RETIRED OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION OF PAPUA NEW GUINEA

P.O. Box 199, MOSMAN, N.S.W. 2088

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No. 1 1988 - March.

Dear Member,

First things first - the Associations 37th Annual General Meeting will be held on Sunday 1st May -- full details are shown on a separate page.

Annual subscription of \$5.00 was due on 1st January - and Treasurer Bill Johnston wants his pound of flesh!

To all our esteemed Members: Please send your subscriptions direct to the Treasurer, 25 Hillview Cres. Sans Souci NSW 2219. This will assist in the administration of your finances. Bill would also like Members to know that although he replies to letters asking specific questions he just can't answer all the notes that accompany payments. However, you can be assured that remarks of appreciation are passed on to the Committee and/or the person concerned.

**6% Increase for wage earners:** The recent announcement by the Arbitration Court of this increase resulted in queries by several Members as to when superannuants also would receive the 6%. Our superannuation is NOT based on changes in wages. It is based on changes in the Consumer Price Index, i.e. the cost of living over the previous 12 months ending 31 st March each year, and corresponding adjustments are made in our superannuation on the 1st July each year. Our next increase will therefore come on the first payday in July.

**C.P.I. Adjustments.** The total increases in the Consumer Price Index for the June, September and December 1987 quarters was 4.9%. The March quarter will be added to this to decide the cost of living increase we should receive in our superannuation pensions from July 1988.

Special travel concessions for over 60s in NSW: Have Members resident in NSW applied to the NSW State Rail and Urban Transit Authority for your "Retired Senior Citizens Concessions" on trains, buses and ferries? From Sunday 13 March 1988, the first day of Bicentennial Senior Citizens Week, all people over 60 years of age and retired from full time employment will be entitled to concession fares on trains, buses and ferries. Half the adult fare is available on all days and at all times to senior citizens for point to point single or return travel by:

- . NSW rail/road government coach services, first class or economy travel.
- . Sydney and Newcastle government bus services.
- . Sydney Harbour/Manly and Stockton Ferry Services (not hydrofoil)

For just 60 cents, Pensioner Excursion Tickets for unlimited travel on day of issue are available at any time on Sydney Suburban or Newcastle Suburban trains and Government bus and ferry services. There is a Pensioner Excursion (\$1.00) ticket available for Sydney Suburban and Outer Metropolitan Areas. This is a great unlimited daytripper concession. For only \$1.00 senior citizens can travel by train, government bus and ferry services at any time within both the Sydney Suburban and the outer Metropolitan areas including Morisset.

Application forms can be obtained from all Sydney and Newcastle Suburban Area Stations and at Outer Metropolitan Area Stations, as well as at major Country Stations and the Concession Fares Office, Transport House, State Rail Authority of NSW, 11-31 York St. Sydney or c/- GPO Box 29 Sydney 2001.

With NSW leading the way there will be a general thrust from retired persons' associations for similar concessions in other States. Our Members can help themselves by giving these groups a helping hand.

RETURNED SERVICEWOMEN: As from January 1 this year full medical and hospital treatment entitlements were granted to all World War II service-women who had "qualifying service", i.e. who had served at a time and place in which danger was incurred from the enemy. This usually means service overseas, but may include some service in Australia, for instance in Darwin or some other location in the Northern Territory. Also included is service as a nurse on hospital ships, troopships and in certain field hospitals. This could be very beneficial indeed and save you a great deal of money. So, even if you're doubtful about qualifying, it's well worth checking with one of the following:

NSW/ACT	Lana Mandat	(02) 290 7933
Victoria	Janet Cliff	(03) 268 6435
Queensland	Roy Steadman	(07) 223 8801
S.A / N.T.	Sue Burne	(08) 213 2405
W.A.	Rod de Souza	(09) 425 8247
Tasmania	Sue Scotney	(002) 20 5487

For both Returned Servicemen and Servicewomen a reminder that if you have a 50% or more disability pension then you probably qualify for not just treatment for specific problems but for full medical and hospital benefits for all your health problems. Of course there's a catch - there's an income test, which cuts out at over \$900 per fortnight. Even if you think you won't qualify, don't despair - get in touch with the RSL HQ in your State and contact one of the disability pension officers. They seem to have \*special knowledge of the rules ( and ways of getting around them).

JANUARY 26th Perhaps some of us, especially those away from Sydney, may have been a little cynical about all the hype that preceded the celebrations, but those who were able to enjoy the Sydney Harbour festivities in person can only describe them as breathtaking and magnificent. The weather was perfect, the timetabling hard to believe - where did the RAAF manage to find all those 'planes which seemed to keep coming and coming? - and I'm sure that at one stage you could have crossed the Harbour by hopping from boat to boat. What an unbelievable sight, both day and night!

One can criticise something like the CocaCola sign on the leading First Fleet Ship, but little else. Bill Kelly, his son Geoffrey and I went for a half hour tour around Kirribilli streets and the good humour and friendliness of the crowds was hard to believe. I think the only regret that we Sydneysiders had was that all Australians, and more particularly our own distant Members, were not here in person. The television coverage was encompassing from what I saw of it, but it did not really convey the atmosphere of the day.

Whatever happened to ???????? Committee members of the Association often get requests for information about former PNG people, both Members and non-members of the Association. Sometimes one of us has the answer, but sometimes not. So we are starting a section for Members seeking news of long lost friends. We shall publish the query and the inquirer and hopefully someone will be able to supply the answer direct to the inquirer.

Ms Daisy Smith of Wattle Grove, Forbes NSW 2871 is seeking the address of Roy and Lil Betteridge. Roy once worked in Education at Moresby. Maybe someone has the answer and could write to Daisy.

Mrs Evelyn (Betty) Bell of 3 Hawter Rd Glen Forrest W.A 6071 hopes someone can help her with a current address for Jack Amsberry - he was formerly a teacher at Bugandi High School.

Ernest Smith of 17 Tern Drive Burleigh Waters Q 4220 wants Ray Sheridan's address re "the Carteret Society".

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Please send your subscriptions direct to the Treasurer,  
25 Hillview Cres. Sans Souci NSW 2219.

Blue Mountains Visit: A trip to the Blue Mountains on Monday 9th May is planned by several Sydney Members. Some will go by train - taking advantage of the new reduced fares for the over 60s! - and others will travel by car. For full details would those interested please ring Doug Parrish on 467 2966, or the mountain men and women can contact Ted Hicks on (047) 54 1709.

Remember - all welcome.

## VALE PETER LAWRENCE

(Because of the many requests we have received for a copy, the following is the text of the eulogy given by our President, Doug Parrish, at Peter's funeral.)

We say farewell not only to a scholar and gentleman, but to a witty, gracious and generous human being who was a friend of all of us.

Peter was what is rare these days, a true scholar who, rather than seeking personal aggrandisement was trying to find the truth and apply it to foster better understanding and better human relations, especially between Australians and New Guineans.

He reached the top of his profession in anthropology through sheer dogged hard work and dedication. He was not one of the lucky people to whom success came easy. There were no patrons, no lucky breaks. He had to fight every step of the way: fight to be accepted as a scholar at the ANU, fight to be allowed to do field work in New Guinea, although not in the area where he wanted to go which, however, in the long run did turn out to be a lucky break enabling him to gain an insight into cargo cult. He then had to fight for recognition of his writings as they ran against the then prevailing anthropological orthodoxy and there was much acrimony. He had to fight for every appointment, frequently against political prejudices, however unjustified.

His only stroke of luck was the appointment as lecturer to ASOPA which gave him his first chance in his career at a time when jobs were very scarce. He always considered this as the happiest and most fruitful time of his life. Obstinate and obstreperous as the patrol officers were whom he taught, he considered his work with them the most valuable contribution as it helped them to understand and appreciate the needs in governing New Guinea, an influence in the real world, with real active 'doers' many of whom turned out to be very exceptional people. It was also a time when he felt to be in the presence of a real 'Community of Scholars', where exchanges of ideas with people such as Jim MacAuley, Charles Rowley and Jack Mattes, widened his horizon, gaining insight into administration, social and political history and law, breaching the narrow focus of pure anthropology.

But even without that he would not have been a narrow scholar; from his days as Classical Scholar at Cambridge he kept an interest in the more philosophical and historical aspects of knowledge and always read widely in history where his knowledge might have put many a professional historian to shame. It was the epistemological and historical perspective in 'Road Belong Cargo' which made the book such a seminal publication and brought him world-wide fame and recognition. And it was not pride in the success of the book that mattered most to him, but the fact that it established to the Government in New Guinea that Yali was not the criminal he was held to be by many, revealed the thought processes behind the cargo belief which led to a better understanding of the phenomenon and, as a consequence, to a changed attitude by government officers.



He was a man with a purpose in life: to succeed in his scholarship. He was not a genius, sheer hard work made him what he was, as well as his uncanny ability at what would now be called 'lateral thinking' - the ability to see connections where others could not see them.

He was a perfectionist in everything he did: his research (he once walked 11 hours up a steep mountain to ask that ONE question he needed to make certain whether his facts were right); his writings, which came not easily either, were models of clear and precise English, but it meant sweating over every word, it meant writing and rewriting dozens of times, polishing every word and sentence until he was satisfied it was right.

Yet we are not talking about a dry and ambitious scholar but about a lively and witty man. There was always a joke or an easy word, an admission of error, that saved many a tight and difficult situation whether in New Guinea or personal relations. He never lost his sense of humour even under great stress, physical or mental. And despite, or possibly because he had to struggle all his life to succeed and knew the difficulties, he was always ready with generous help: helping students, advising aspiring scholars from all corners of the world, assisting friends. Nobody who consulted Peter ever went away without help. He was always considerate to everybody: no matter who, cleaners, secretaries, colleagues, friends or relatives. If the definition of a gentleman is 'someone who takes less than he is entitled to, and gives more than he is obliged to' then he was a Parfait Gentleman.

His early death is especially tragic because he was at the top of his intellectual powers, with the accumulated knowledge of a lifetime. After his retirement a year ago he had one burning aim in life: to be finally able to get down to write his major work for which he had been reading for at least ten years. It was all accumulating in his mind and would have been a great work of scholarship: on the history of anthropology encompassing social history, the history of religious thought, intellectual attitudes, social conditions - reaching back to mediaeval times. He asked a very competent American anthropological scholar and friend some years ago to co-write the book with him, but the friend declined, saying he simply did not have the breadth and depth of knowledge to be able to cope with a work of this magnitude. That book will now never be written.

Peter will also never know that he was recently nominated 'Noted Scholar' by the University of British Columbia and invited to lecture there for a term. The letter is still enroute. He would have been so pleased with this.

We mourn not only the loss to scholarship, to insight, to purpose and dedication, but even more the loss of a warm, outgoing human being, who was kind and generous to all who met him. Scholarship is the poorer for his death and we are all poorer for having lost a friend.

Pita, pren, bel bilong mipela hewi tumas, tasol mipela hamamas tumas long ologeta gutpela wok bilong yu. Gutbai pren, gutbai Pita.

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V A L E

With deep regret we record the passing of the following members and friends. On behalf of the Association the Committee extends our sincere sympathy to their families.

Wallace Fitness 3 January 88	Professional photographer who served in RAAF 11 Squadron. Joined Administration 1949, occupied every clerical classification in Lands; retired as Admin Officer 1968. Leaves widow Ingeborg, 201 Watkins Road, Wangi Wangi, NSW 2267.
Edward Lowney 21 January 88	Joined NG Administration 1933. Ted was with NGVR and ANGAU, retired as Admin Officer Lands 1967. Leaves widow Ena, 3/15 The Avenue, Alstonville NSW 2477, also daughter Yvonne, 6 granddaughters and 10 great grandchildren.
Jack Carroll 22 January 88	Came to PNG 1946 and retired as Superintendent of Police 1969. Leaves widow Ann, 40 Albert St. Alexandra, Vic 3714.
Ian Wilson 25 January	Senior Technical Officer PWD, retired 1971. Leaves widow Madge, 89 Marlborough Rd. Wellington Point, Q.4160.
Amy Washington February 1988	Widow of Ted, who retired as Admin Officer, Lands.
(Capt) Harry Riding January	Ex Harbour Master Rabaul. Leaves widow J. Riding, 6 Goodwood Avenue, Slyne, Lancaster LA2, 6LA LANCASHIRE, U.K.
Bill Cunningham 15 January 88	In North Queensland. Ex P. & T.?
Herbert (Bert) Keinzle CBE, MBE(Mil), M.I.D	Former Director PNG Development Bank. With brother Wallace, Bert developed the rubber and cattle property and gold-field at Kokoda, and later Papuan Air Transport (PATAIR)
Ralph Tattam 27 January 88	In Perth. Ex-P.I.R. Major.
Peter Watson January 88	Ex TAA Rabaul, Goroka, Kieta and Air Niugini Moresby
W.(Billy) Crooks January 88	Hotel Madang.
Harry Porter December 87	Former General Manager, Papuan Skyline Theatres.
Ray Hargreaves December 87	At Alotau. Son of Losuia guesthouse/hotel proprietor.

## WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS :

Mrs.A.M.NEILSEN 5 Wyclif Avenue, Springwood Qld. 4127  
 Mr.B.C.BATT 5 Kingfish Court, Palm Beach Qld. 4221  
 Mr.B.E.WESTON "Harbour Lights" 403/102 Alfred Street, Milson's  
 Point. NSW 2061  
 Mr.F.P.COTTON 3 Tue Place, Karratha W.A. 6714  
 Mrs.N.MASON Killara Place, 9/640 Pacific Highway, Killara  
 NSW 2071  
 Mr.G.J.EGAN 1 Turriell Point Road, Lilli Pilli NSW 2229  
 Mr.C.P.SYMONS P.O.Box 139 Glebe NSW 2032  
 Mrs.D.FISK 95 Barkly Street, Mordialloc Vic. 3195  
 Mr.H.BRUTNALL 44 Watson Street, Pialba QLD 4655  
 Mrs.N.E.PEARSON 365 Stephenson's Road, Mt.Waverley Vic. 3149  
 Mrs.A.C.SCHINDLER 231 Taringa Parade, Taringa Qld. 4068  
 Mr.A.J.SCHINDLER 231 Taringa Parade, Taringa Qld. 4068  
 Miss V.HOLDEN 11/21 Wilbar Avenue, Cronulla. NSW 2230  
 Mrs.F.COHEN P.O.Box 771 Port Moresby. P.N.G.  
 Mr.K.E.MURPHY P.O. Box 3534 Boroko. N.C.D. P.N.G.  
 Mr.H.W.ANDREWS Castle Caravan Park, David Low Highway, Bli Bli.  
 Qld.4560

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## CHANGES OF ADDRESS :

Mr.H.BOOTH 3 Chapman Street, Bundaberg. Qld 4670  
 Mr.F.X.RYAN c/- Box 48 Dora Creek NSW 2264  
 Mrs.O.BURKE (formerly Miss O.Johnson) 89 Priam Street, Chester  
 Hill NSW 2162  
 Mr.B.V.LEHMAN 23 Robert Court Para Hills. S.A. 5096  
 Mrs.G.H.HARTLEY 3 Nelson Street, Ormiston. Qld 4163  
 Mr.P.H.J. VAN HOECKEL Rotary Garden Village, Unit 37, Windsor  
 Road, Nambour.Qld 4560  
 Mrs.L.CAUDWELL 870 Rode Road, McDowall Qld. 4053  
 Mrs.P.C.BARRIE 36 Bertana Drive, Mudgeeraba. Qld 4213  
 Mr.P.A.C.KELLY 1 Savage Street, Kainga. Christchurch 9. N.Z.  
 Mr.T.DOWNES c/- Vanimo Resort, P.O.Box 42, Vanimo. West Sepik.  
 P.N.G.  
 Mr.B.COSTELLO, c/- Air NIUGINI, Suite 204, 620 St.Kilda Road,  
 MELBOURNE 3004

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HAVE YOU HEARD??

- Lillian Whitchurch, ex Education and long retired in Tasmania, had a successful cornea graft last year but unfortunately has limited sight in the left eye, due to another problem. However a major cause for regret is the lack of any local ex-PNG people with whom she can have a chat and exchange reminiscences. Lillian would be very happy if any Members visiting the Apple Isle would contact her on 003-340636 and visit her at 40 Arthur Street Launceston 7250. She is ready to put the kettle on!
- Joe Szent-Ivany after turning 70 in 1980 went on a two year slimming diet and lost 35 kilos! He maintains that he's still jovial but no longer rotund as mentioned in the last Newsletter. (You disappoint me Joe - one of the many things I liked about you was that roly-poly look! Ed.)
- Our Buckingham Palace correspondent, Darryl Penhale, reports that recent visitors to Maidstone, Kent, were Peter and Elaine Dillon (Army Colonel, now in Sydney) and Vin and Rita Smith. Peter had worked as a cadet didiman with Ted Kleckham and Vin as a P.O. in the 50s in Manus when Darryl was a cadet P.O. there. Vin was visiting No.2 son (RAAF Wing Commander) at the Lossiemouth base near Inverness and Peter was on secondment to the Chaplains' department with the British at Dover. The wine and conversation flowed freely and the Penhales were most interested to learn about the far-reaching changes since 1961.
- Marj and Nev James have been over in W.A. where they saw Verna and Peter Ramm, Ivy Ilstien and Ricky Angell and family.
- In June 1987 Daisy Smith (District Office Rabaul and widow of Alf) was on the way with her sister and brother-in-law for an extensive holiday touring Canada and America. In Los Angeles they received the tragic news her sister's daughter had been killed in a hiking accident on Mount Raft, near Clearwater in British Colombia. Her niece had been in Clearwater for six months on a year's exchange teaching. A sad end to what would have been a wonderful holiday.
- Bert Weston who lived in Salamaua from 1928 to '41, and led an AIF unit at Milne Bay, Buna, Lae and Finschhafen until war's end, has recently joined your Association. Those who don't know him personally will probably have read some of his articles and reminiscences in the Pacific Islands Monthly.
- We've all heard about how small the world is -- well, here's another instance: Most of you will have seen "Chariots of Fire" the wonderful film about the development of athletes in England until they took part in the Olympic Games in Paris (if you haven't seen it then it should be on your 'must' list. Ed). One of the athletes was Eric Liddell a young Scotsman studying to be a Presbyterian missionary in China who was chosen to represent Great Britain but had to run on a Sunday. Despite an appeal from the Prince of Wales he refused to run on the Sabbath and was strongly supported in his refusal by his sister Jenny. Eventually the problem was



sorted out but the point of this story is that one of our widow Members was in the same class at school and still corresponds with Jenny, while Eric Liddell was at the nearby boy's school. Our Member was the daughter of missionaries in Shansi Province, where the tombs of past Chinese Emperors are still being discovered, and at that time all missionary children had to be sent to school on the coast at Chefoo - between Tientsin and Shanghai. They returned to their parents at Christmas, travelling by ship, train, and horse & cart - a fortnight's journey each way! As I said, it's a small world.

- Joy Dishon has been ill over the Christmas period, and had a spell in Greenslopes Repatriation Hospital in Brisbane. Understandably she has been unable to send out her usual Christmas mail but hopefully she's up and about by now.
- Francis Xavier Ryan is building a cottage at Dora Creek, with the brick-work probably finished by tis. Now all the problems of getting tradesmen and materials will start! Good luck, Francis!
- Down from Port Moresby recently to stay with her sister, and take in the Bicentennial celebrations, was Florence Cohen who with her late husband Bill spent much time on plantations on the Gazelle Peninsula. She was seen lunching with two friends from Rabaul days, Vera ("Weary") Holden and Pam Foley, and I'm told that arranging such a date in between expert golfer Vera's commitments was not easy. Florence and Vera are welcome new members to our Association.
- Peter and Truusje (ex Buntings Goroka) van Hoeckel are moving at the end of March to Rotary Garden Village, Unit 37, Windsor Rd. Nambour Q.4560 and would like to see any old friends who happen to be passing - but please give them a ring on 071-415271 beforehand so they'll be there.
- We know a lot of you would have seen Candy Parrish on ABC Television during Anniversary Week. Candy is a descendant of Thomas Rose, who was the first free settler with a family to arrive in Australia on the "BELLONA" 15 January 1793. He later built 'Rose Cottage' at Wilberforce, which is the oldest timber cottage still standing in Australia Today. Some 1500 family members attended their last re-union so she is expecting a very busy day on their next re-union on 29 March.
- Joy Henderson seems contented at "Fernbank" in St. Ives and has Marie Hazler as a neighbour.
- Sir Horace Niall has made a remarkable recovery and he and Lady Una now play bridge only three times a week. "Horrie" gets cross because he can only watch the golf these days.

- Good to hear from Alan Champion because 1987 was not a good year health-wise for him. He was in and out of hospital six times with two major surgical procedures and one minor one. In fact, he did not think he would see Christmas 87 except for the TLC of his wife Emily and a very caring G.P. His current objective is to see Christmas 88, but I am sure Alan will be around for many years after that. Our very best wishes for a speedy recovery.
- Great to see Dame Rachel Cleland, looking so well, in Sydney for a brief visit seeing so many of her PNG friends. What an example she is, always so full of the joie de vivre. I will be very happy to have even half the energy she now has when I reach her age.
- Seen in Sydney for the Bicentenary Celebrations, Aub and Ancie Schindler of Brisbane and with them was a cousin Olive Lambert from the UK on holidays. Ancie and Aub visited their eldest son Peter and his family, who is a doctor in the Blue Mountains. They also stayed with old PNG friends like Ken and Val Connolly, Rose Hughes and Flora Nitsche. Needless to say many old memories were revived and much laughter was shared by all. The Association also welcomes Ancie and Aub who have become new members.
- It must be great for Arthur and Jean Carey to have daughter Vivienne, Dutch son-in-law Julien and grandson Nicholas back in Australia.
- Joyce Oldroyd-Harris, who did a sterling job for the Association for so many years as Treasurer, celebrated her 83rd birthday recently. Happy birthday, Joyce - although I know you'll chase me with your Hagen axe for telling your age!
- Jeff Woodland, who did so well in the Masters golf in Melbourne, went to primary school in Madang where his father was with Public Works.
- Ian McMahon - ex Treasury - is now sunning himself in the Seychelles. He also claims, I hear, to be working in the Department of Finance, P.O. Box 313 Victoria, Seychelles.
- Neville Thomson, ex Trade & Industry, is now in Canberra.
- Pleased to hear from Roger Wilson, ex Qantas pilot based for some time in Madang, and now almost ex Tambourine Mountain. Roger and wife Judy are moving to France, yes Paris France - leaving children Debra, Judy and Andrew in Sydney and daughter Jenny in London. Roger was one of that exceptional school of pilots we all tell about and their wonderful expertise in getting some of us from A to B. May you have many happy years in the land of vino, Roger.

QUOTABLE QUOTES: Whilst going through some old papers I came upon the following lines from Shakespeare. Who gave them to me I can't recall, but I did have a chuckle when re-reading them. I hope you'll be amused too:

On describing a field officer's life -

"whose sore task does not divide the Sunday from the week."

On the cadet reporting for duty -

"You come most carefully upon your hour."

On preliminary words from a field officer of any Department  
when addressing a village meeting -

Sit down awhile  
and let us once again assail your ears  
that are so fortified against our story."

On the didiman or kiap when inspecting a village coconut grove -

"Fie on't! O fie! 'tis an unweeded garden,  
that grows to seed; things rank and gross in nature  
possess it merely. That it should come to this! "

A confidential note on a deceased Council Member -

"Indeed this counsellor  
is now most still, most secret, and most grave,  
who was in life a foolish prating knave."

On reading a new Treasury Circular -

"It harrows me with fear and wonder."

"O! What a noble mind is here o'erthrown."

Well, that's a start. What about all you people out there rushing not only to Shakespeare but also your other favourite authors, and sending in any quotations which seem to be relevant to life in PNG. All contributions welcome, and I promise to keep plenty of space for your efforts.

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Please send your subscriptions direct to the Treasurer,  
25 Hillview Cres. Sans Souci NSW 2219.

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BEST WISHES TO YOU ALL FOR THE REST OF 1988 -- AND I HOPE TO SEE YOU MAY 1st  
AT THE A.G.M. !

*Freddie Lead*

*Freddie & Ellen Wong*  
*No. MCN*