

MS ELLIS: Mr Allsopp, what's your current occupation?---Retired and I, I, I – yeah, retired.

When did you retire?---Three and a half years ago.

20 So in 2016?---Yes. Just, yeah, yes.

And prior to your retirement, did you have an occupation?---Yes. I was – sorry. I was an auctioneer, so - - -

And did you perform that role through any particular business?---Rundles Auctions.

And did you have a position in that business?---I was the owner, principal, managing director.

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And for how long were you the owner, principal, and managing director of Rundles Auctions?---23 or 4 years.

And did Rundles Auctions have any other owners or directors during your tenure?---During that time I, my brother was a director but he resigned as a director in 2013. It's just, he was in Sydney and I was Wagga, so it was easier.

And is Rundles Auctions a Wagga Wagga based business?---Yes, it was, yes.

Did it also operate in Sydney?---Prior to going to Wagga, yes.

During the time that you were in Wagga, did you have any business operations in Sydney for Rundles Auctions?---No.

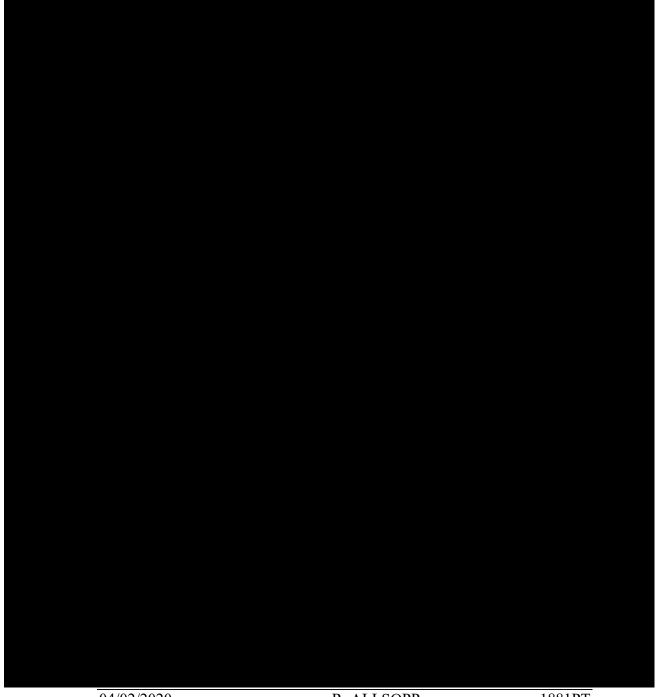
You would have seen on the summons that was served on you for your attendance today the name Daryl Maguire.---Yes.

Sensitive: Legal

04/02/2020 R. ALLSOPP 1880PT E17/0144 (ELLIS) And do you know Mr Maguire?---Yes, I do.

How do you know Mr Maguire?---He was our local member and a politician and I guess I got to know him – well, I didn't guess. I got to know him through various functions and, as you would a local member.

And these were functions at which he was present as your local member for Wagga Wagga?---Yes, yeah. So, be it, you know, a horse, you know, the Hundred Club, which is a dinner they have every year and at various other things. So I would see him there and, yeah, and I had a good rapport with him, yes.



Do you know a person called Maggie Wang?---Yes.

And how do you know - - -?---I know Maggie but I didn't know her name was Wang.

And how do you know Maggie?---She was trying to get workers into Wagga businesses.

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THE COMMISSIONER: Did somebody introduce you to her? ---Commissioner, I believe that she just turned up at my office but I may have met her at a, at one of Daryl's functions, so it is possible that I met her at a function.

So doing the best you can, from your – sorry, you were going to say something else?---No, no, no.

Sensitive: Legal

04/02/2020 R. ALLSOPP 1890PT E17/0144 (ELLIS) Doing the best you can, whether it was a direct or indirect introduction or arrangements being made, who was the person, as you understood it, who in effect arranged for her to meet you or you to meet her?---I think she was probably told to meet me by, you know, probably given me as a, as one of the contacts, one of the businesses in town that would have, perhaps by Daryl or Daryl's office. But I, she, she would drop Daryl's name when she'd come in, but I don't know if that was the contact, I'm sorry.

I was about to ask you what you base that statement on. In one way or another she had a connection with Daryl. Was that because, that she actually mentioned him by name that you drew that conclusion?---Yes. Yes, Commissioner, yes. And, and I would go on to say that, look, I probably saw her at, after I'd met her the first time, I probably, I, well, I remember seeing her at different functions that might have been, you know, a Liberal Party thing or something like that later on. So - - -

What was the first occasion on which you met her?---I'm pretty sure when she came into my office, Commissioner, so I'm just not - - -

All right, well, you might be asked some questions about that.---Sure, sure.

MS ELLIS: When Maggie came into your office, did you have a conversation with her?---Yes.

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And what was that conversation?---That she had people to, employees from China that could come in and, and do jobs and, yeah, that was - - -

Did she give you any more details than just that broad-brush explanation? ---No, but I, probably not, not in the beginning, but said, look, these people can come in, they can do a job, they're looking for, you know, they're looking for work, they're maybe at university at the moment. They can come in and, you know, if you have a particular, if we were doing a particular thing maybe she, well, a person, not she, but a, an employee could, could sort, sort out, at the time we were, this was much later than the other trips, we were importing, you know, maybe \$1 million a year worth of stuff from China and we were looking at ramping that up, and so it seemed like a logical thing to have a Chinese person working and, and doing the stocktaking and the (not transcribable) and, you know, getting it all together and talking to, we were at the time dealing with Chinese suppliers. Maybe it wasn't \$1 million. It was a lot.

THE COMMISSIONER: So you said that, she had, in effect, people who were looking for work, maybe at university some of them I think you said, so what sort of employees or what sort of persons was she indicating to you were looking for work?---I understand the question. The way I looked at it – and she probably just agreed with me, but, you know, for the benefit of hindsight – but it was probably, so they were at university at the time and they were looking for work after university is the way I understood it, and

things like they could do stock control, so it would be accounting and all of that sort of stuff. They could speak to our suppliers in Chinese. They would get to understand the culture of what we were trying to do in our business and then perhaps facilitate, you know, bringing things in, and, and if they were able to get a cheaper freight or cheaper prices in China or something like that, I, I, that was the, from memory, the general gist.

So, in that sense, you're talking about people who are looking for work after they've completed their university studies as a sort of a way in which to get work experience?---Sure. Yes. Yes, Commissioner.

Experience in the workforce.---Yes, as a work, yes. People that were, yes. Yes, Commissioner. Yes.

Thank you.

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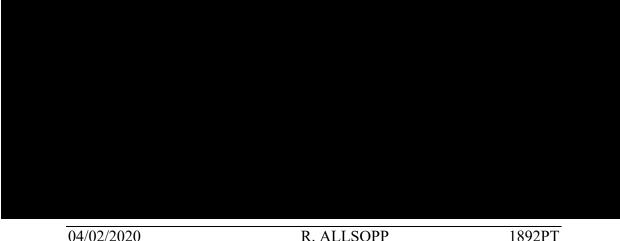
MS ELLIS: Did she drop Daryl's name in that conversation?---There were a lot of conversations and Daryl's name was dropped, yes.

What was the - - -?---But I don't know, I'm sorry, but the, the specific conversations were a long time ago and so I just can't tell you whether that conversation, but the first one I would say yes. It was definitely, she was part of that Daryl Maguire circle, yes.

I understand what you're saying about time that's passed since then, but are you able to give us your impression of the context in which she dropped Daryl's name? What did she mean by dropping Daryl's name?---Credibility I mean that would have been but, so in a context it would be I met someone else at Daryl's party and they've just put on somebody to do, and I'm making it up, but wine or, or something or, you know, or somebody else in environmental or something. I don't know. I mean they were that sort of thing.

Did she give you the impression that there were other people that she'd met through Daryl who were - - -?---Oh, most - - -

--- taking on employees that she had suggested to them?---Yes, yes.





MS ELLIS: Did you indicate to Maggie that you were interested in taking on some employers?---Yes.

And what happened after that?---It was very, well, not funny but all of this stuff. She'd come in and say we'll find you someone, we'd say yes and we'd forget about it. You know, we, that was the end of the meeting. I was very specific, every meeting I had with her, I'd have someone else in there with me. So I'd never met with her on my own, I was quite – because I, I didn't, you know, one, there was a lady that was, I didn't know what was going to transpire at those meetings, and so I was very cautious. There

weren't necessarily notes taken. But I just wanted to make sure that, anything I said or agreed to or whatever, that there was somebody else present.

And who else was present at the meetings?---Different staff members, but you know, my – well, not you know. My PA, or Katrina, well, since, now has become my PA. I, she's still working for me now. Katrina Smith. And then if there was somebody else there, it's just you didn't want to have somebody just in an office on, on your own. That was my, my thing.

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Why were you so cautious about meeting with Maggie?---Oh, I just, I just had a, had a smell. You know, like a, not a smell to it, but just a, I just didn't know. I mean, it was not, and I know that you probably think that I'm leading, but I used to do it with other – so if I was getting rid of a young girl out of my, you know, sacking somebody, I would have somebody else in the office to make sure that, you know, there was a witness to, to what I'd, I'd said, and I often took people into business meetings if, if there was a problem with a, oh, you know, a car or a truck or something and, so what I said to that person was not misconstrued, because I was generally the, you know, the final person that they'd come and see. So I just wanted to make sure that there were, you know, it was a normal thing that I would do in business. So it wasn't just Maggie, it was, you know, somebody else came in to write a deal or, you know, offer, you know, I'd offer, you know, if a new security guard came, or a new security proposal came in, I'd get the person who it was more relevant to. But I'd, or I'd hand it over for them to do the work, as well. Mmm. I - - -

All right. Okay.

THE COMMISSIONER: I understand what you're saying about exercising some caution and perhaps diligence in dealing with people who you might do business with.---Mmm, mmm.

So far as Ms Wang is concerned, did she make available to you her credentials, who she was, what, where she fitted into the picture, et cetera? ---Well, she, well, not, not a piece, sorry, not in a piece of paper necessarily, but maybe, oh, just said, you know, I represent, you know, it's a, for - - -

Okay.---It was put to me almost like it was an, it was an agency. The, the way I understood it was an agency that gave Chinese students or, or people that were finishing university work experience in Australia and was a gateway to them potentially getting a visa. There you go. I mean, that's, that's what I, I understood.

When I refer to credentials, presumably you wanted some information about her. Who or what was your source as to, well, who is this lady who - - -? ---Other people were doing it, Commissioner. So I'd, I'd, I'd known of other – I hadn't asked for her to come and do it, but I'd heard about other

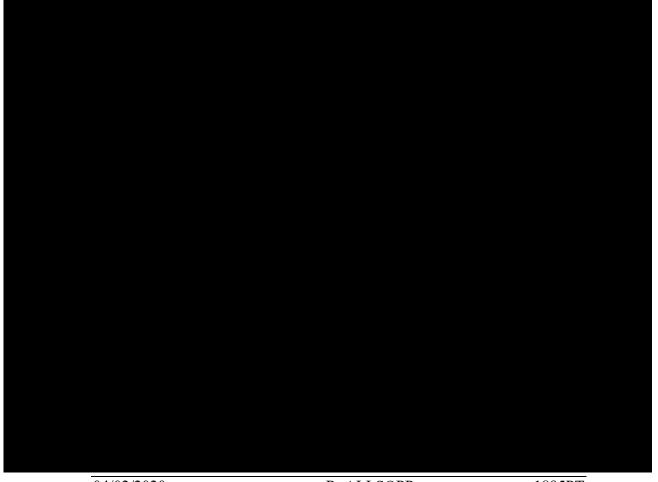
people doing it, and so probable, more than likely after the first meeting, she might have said, I've got somebody at, you know, X, Y, or Z, and I would have rung them, you know, and so, and if I'd known them, so - - -

So, well, who though was your source ultimately as to this woman being a person worthy to do business with?---Oh - - -

Who was your touchstone for saying, hang on, is this person reliable, or should I be dealing with her? Was there one particular person, or more than one particular person who gave you some sort of background or encouragement that, yes, look, this is fine to go ahead with her?---I think, I think I know where you're heading, but the, the, I, I'm, I'm - - -

Don't worry about where I'm heading.---No, no, sorry, sorry, Commissioner. I didn't mean it like that, but, but I'm - - -

I'm just simply asking you - - -?---No, because it was probably the collection of, you know, bringing up Daryl all the time and, or you know, if she brought, you know, when Daryl was brought up, I thought, oh, there's credibility. Then there would be somebody else was already, had someone working for them, and I'd seen that person working, and that person was doing a good job, so I thought, well, you know, this is, so if we could have a person like that, then that'd be fine.



04/02/2020 E17/0144

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R. ALLSOPP (ELLIS)

1895PT



Did you ever employ anybody through Maggie Wang?---No. Well, I, I didn't physically meet anybody, no, so that's - - -

Are you distinguishing there between employing somebody and physically meeting somebody? Is there a possibility that you employed somebody that you never actually physically met?---I'm pretty sure I did employ somebody.

Okay. --- I, I mean, I, with the benefit of hindsight I apparently did employ somebody.

Perhaps you can tell us about that.--- Okay. I finished my part of the business, I, okay, so I, on the 30th of June, 2015, I handed my business over to Pickles. So it was still Rundles Auctions for all intents and purposes, but Pickles were running it, and I didn't, I no longer ran Rundles, I no longer ran the auction business. Pickles Auctions ran the auction business. I ran, I ran Rundles Auctions and Rundles Auctions, I basically leased my business

to Pickles Auctions for a varying commission rate effectively, yeah. That's the best way to look at it. So I, I got a percentage of profit from Pickles Auctions to lease my business to them, because they wanted to up the ante with, because they had clients, nation, national clients that they wanted to start doing business with in Wagga and they wouldn't do business with Rundles, they'd only do business with Pickles, and so they took over my business, yes, and they rebranded it Pickles.

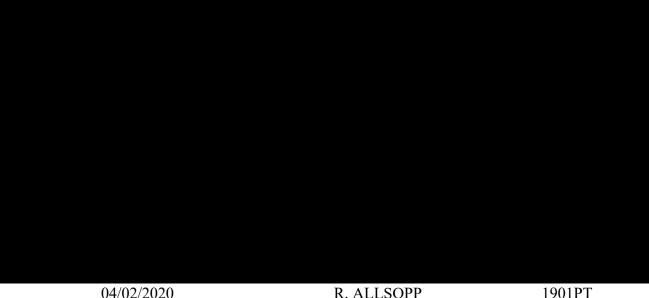
All right. And after the 30th of June, 2015, did you still have the power to 10 sign documents on behalf of Rundles Auctions?---Yes, yes, yes.

Did you have to go through Pickles at all to sign anything from Rundles?---No, no.

But you were no longer actually performing any business through that organisation, is that right?---Correct, yes.

Okay. How is that relevant to the question about taking on an employee through Maggie?---I thought it had all just gone away. So it was not until 20 probably maybe a year or so after.

THE COMMISSIONER: After what?---Sorry, after the, the 2015 that Maggie approached me, and I said, "Well, I don't have the business anymore. I'm not importing anymore. I'm just, you know, I'm, I'm not doing that business anymore." And so, and, yeah, that's, and then they said, "Oh, we've found somebody," along the lines of "We've found somebody," and I said, "Well, I don't have a business," and they said, "Well, that's not important. You know, they're working somewhere else." And I said, "Well, you know, I don't, I don't get it." And I, 'cause I actually didn't even have an office in town, so I actually met her in my old office but it wasn't my office if that makes sense, you know, 'cause Pickles had taken over. I think, I know this all sounds as though I'm being very naïve, but it was, it just seemed so normal. It was just part of my normal, I, I don't, yeah, anyway, go on with... I apologise.



E17/0144

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(ELLIS)



MS ELLIS: Thank you, Commissioner. Mr Allsopp, before the adjournment we were talking about some events after the 30th of June, 2015, involving Maggie Wang.---Yes.

You said that at this point you didn't actually, you weren't actually doing any business for Rundles Auctions, is that right?---I owned Rundles Auctions and Rundles Auctions was still the contractor to the government and all of those sort of things but Pickles Auctions ran Rundles Auctions. I know that's - - -

Okay. Were you engaged in any of the day-to-day operations of Rundles Auctions - - -?---No, I was not.

- --- after 30 June, 2015?---So insofar to say as, as an auctioneering company I had nothing to do with the auctioneering company but I ran the company as Rundles Auctions, yes.
- 30 So at some point after 30 June, 2015 is it right that Maggie Wang approached you with the offer of an employee?---I don't remember the exact dates but I mean I don't, I don't remember. I honestly don't remember.

I understood your evidence this morning to be along the lines of after Pickles Auctions had taken over the day-to-day operations you had some contact with Maggie about - - -?---Yes, yes. I definitely did.

All right. What was that?---She gave me some money.

What was the money that she gave you?---She said that she'd found somebody for whatever and I said, well, I don't have the business anymore. To be, I don't think I'd had any contact with her for well over, well, not well over but about a year, and anyway the, that was the contact. And so I met with her and she gave me some money which can I say for the record that I'm, I'm absolutely, I was, I didn't want. I didn't ask for. I don't think I was entitled to it. I felt very bad about it. I put it in my safe and didn't touch it basically and, and, and that would have been for two years, you know, so it would have been, it just sat there and I just, because I didn't

know exactly what it was for, and I know that that sounds incredibly strange with the benefit of hindsight, incredibly naïve, but it was just something that I'd never experienced before. It was just not, it's just not what I do so anyway, but I guess you're going to ask more questions around that, yes.

Was that the first time Maggie has ever given you any money?---Yes.

Is that the only time Maggie has every given you money?---The only time she'd ever given me money.

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How much money was it?---I believe it was about 46,000.

Did you count it?

THE COMMISSIONER: Sorry, I missed it. How much?---46,000.

46, and that was in cash was it?---That's correct, Commissioner.

MS ELLIS: Did you count the money Mr Allsopp?---Yes.

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Did you tell anybody else about the money?---Maybe but I couldn't tell you who. I mean it was not a, it was just, I just wanted to get rid of the bad stuff. You know what I mean. I didn't want it. I didn't need it. I didn't, it was just something that was, and, and I know this with hindsight it sounds strange but I just thought just finish this whole thing off and, you know, never hear from her or anybody else again, you know, like, in regard to this matter. Not that I think that anything necessarily untoward had happened. I just sort of thought there was a process and that was part of the process.

30 THE COMMISSIONER: Could I ask you this.---Yes.

Where did you meet with her on this occasion?---At the, at my old office so in, that was the - - -

And how did the meeting come about?---She rang and said that she was going to be in town. I didn't know, I don't know if I knew specifically whether it was for money or whether it was just to meet again or something like that but - - -

Well, did she not tell you?---I can't remember. Look, I don't, I can honestly say, Commissioner, I don't remember and I mean why I would have met with her after, so I mean she may have said, she may have said I've got some money for you or she, look, I don't, or finishing this whole thing. I don't know what it, what the, could I just put into context this was, meeting with Maggie any time was, was, you know, was an hour out of a month or two months. So it was not a significant big deal when I, and I might have been in town at the time. I didn't, I don't specifically remember, you know,

and apparently she'd been in to see me half a dozen times prior to that but I didn't work there anymore and she knew that I didn't work there.

Let's stay with this occasion when she delivered the money.---Yes.

So when she came into your office and you sat down she must have said something. What did she say?---Something along the lines we found somebody for your, you know, for the job or something like, along those lines and I said well, I don't have the business anymore. I'm not doing, you know, I'm not doing this. And she said well, that doesn't matter. I said, and I know that I definitely said things along the lines I don't want to do anything illegal. I don't want to, you know, I'm just, anyway, that's, that's great that this person has found a job if, if that's the case and it was something along those lines. I can't tell you exactly what it was but I, yeah, and then, and it was, just the question was it and then what happened after that? Is that - - -

No. Perhaps I'll ask you this. Did you understand what she was talking about when she was referring to this person having found a job, a job where?---I don't know. I mean I - - -

She didn't say?---No, no. It was, well, I, well I understood it was to do, something to do with Rundles Auctions but I said, "Well, I don't have a business." So I mean, they're not working for me and they're not here, so ---

But you understood, well you inferred or concluded that she was talking about this person having landed a job with Rundles?---Or they were saying – yes, yes. (not transcribable) yeah, yeah.

That's what you thought she was talking about?---Well, that's, yes, that's correct, Commissioner, yes.

And did she tell you who this person was?---No. Oh well, probably but I don't remember. So - - -

So do you recall whether you had some idea of knowing who she was referring to?---I can absolutely conclusively say that I have never met them, seen them. The name would mean, even if you brought it up, even if the name was said again now, it would not resonate with me at all. It was just – if, if I could just say, the conversations were so, not, not loose but they were just, seemed so normal at the time and so I wasn't, with, and I couldn't agree with you more, on the benefit of hindsight, it just seems, you know, what's this guy that's been dealing with people, you know, and had 25 employees and doing all these things, you know, why is he this naïve? Well, it was, I was naïve. I mean, with the benefit of hindsight, it was stupid, but I can't explain it, sorry, Commissioner.

Sensitive: Legal

04/02/2020 R. ALLSOPP 1905PT E17/0144 (ELLIS)

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Yes, I'm not concerned about naivety and that, but I get the sense, from what you've said, that this was all a bit of a surprise to you that here, she's coming here to see you and putting \$46,000 in cash on front of you. I mean, it was rather a - - -?--Complete and utter surprise. I wasn't expecting to ever heard from her again.

Sorry?---Sorry, Commissioner. I, I, I was, I was never expecting to hear from her again and I, and I couldn't tell you the last, the, prior to that when I heard from her, I know that she had been in a few times, I had heard, but I said, well, you know, "I don't know why she's coming in." She didn't ring me to say that she coming to do, you know like, so this, this meeting was probably a – sorry. This meeting was arranged but, I mean, whether she'd had the cash on the other days, I don't know.

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E17/0144

But what I'm getting to is not only was it unusual that she rings and says she's coming, but that she then opens up a bag of some kind, I presume, and then puts a lot of cash in front of you. This was not, this was a bit out of the ordinary to say the least?---Completely.

So, in these circumstances, did you stop and think, hang on, I want to check out what this is about and speak to somebody, perhaps somebody like Daryl Maguire or somebody who could throw some light on this just to make sure this is all kosher or not? Did you do that?---No, Commissioner, is the only-

Did you later, after this meeting, sometime later, check it out with somebody to make sure that this was all legit, as the expression goes?---No, I didn't, Commissioner.

30 Did you ever speak to Daryl Maguire about it at some later stage and say, "You know that lady, Ms Wang, she's visited me and she produces 46 grand in cash"? Did you ever say that to him?---I don't believe I did but I, I may have. I'm not, so, and I know that's not a great answer but I just - - -

04/02/2020 R. ALLSOPP 1906PT

(ELLIS)

20 And when you, I think you said you were concerned that things may not

have been quite right.---That's right.

Why did you have that thought? Not right in what sense?---I, I actually, I remember saying, this better not be illegal, and it's, better all be aboveboard and all of that sort of stuff, which I - - -

Yes.---And what gave me the concerns? Sorry, I'm, I'll answer the proper question.

30 Yes, or who did you say that to?---To Maggie, when it was, when I was, you know, when it was happening, I said, "Is this all aboveboard?", because it's - how do I put it? I didn't need the money, want the money. And, but it seemed, for whatever reason at the time, I wasn't taking the money out of greed because I didn't need it. I mean, I, I don't need it to survive or, and I didn't think, oh, isn't this wonderful, I've got all this cash so I can go and buy a new car or a new motorbike or something. I wasn't interested. It was just a, almost to get rid of the problem, just take the money and get rid of the problem. And then, and that's what I, I think I, I did. And whether it was a, a problem or whatever and I just thought, if someone comes to me, I just 40 say, "There's the money". Just, you know, I don't want to know about it. I, it's, you know, but to be, with the benefit of hindsight, I was probably doing something, you know, with the, with the visas and all of that sort of stuff, I didn't, I just thought it was all normal. Sorry, and I, I waffle on, but I just can't tell you that I, I'm not dishonest, I just, I just thought – it, it, it seems crazy, I know, but under the circumstances it just seemed like the prudent thing to do.

But this arrangement that Maggie was involved in involved the placement of employees from China.---Yep. That's - - -

And that, as I think you've answered one of Ms Ellis's questions, had a relationship to a question of a visa for these people - - -?---No, I knew about the visas, yep. Yes.

- - - to be able to come into the country, to have employment, so they could get a visa and enter the country. Is that right?---That's correct, but I believe that, can I just preface that by saying that I'd thought they were already in the country, and they'd finished a degree, perhaps that, and so not coming – they had come from China, of course. They were Chinese, and they were Chinese nationals or whatever. But they were already here and they were looking for employment afterwards. So not that they were going to hop on a plane, come and work for me, and you know, we were - - -

But employment in terms of what Ms Wang was dealing with was linked to a question of being able to stay on a visa, stay in Australia on a visa.---Yes, yes, yes. I was aware of that.

And was it because it did have that connection with an issue of residency of a foreign national - - -?---Yes.

--- that troubled you? When you said, you know, "Is this all aboveboard, or is this" ---?---No, the cash.

It was just the cash?---Just the cash.

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Oh, okay.---I, I had no problem with the, with the, the employing someone, you know, as a, I, I'd had no problem, no, that was not, no, I didn't think anything, no, no, I - - -

No, but you understand that - - -?---I understand your question.

- - - in this country, there are migration laws.---Absolutely. Yes. Yes.

And that there are some fairly strenuous requirements to be met - - -?---Yes, yes, yes.

--- for a person of foreign nationality to come into this country and stay.---I know a lot – yes, yes.

And obviously they need to qualify for a visa to be able to stay.---Yes.

You understood all of that?---Yes, yes.

You still do.---Well, I understand it better now.

And were you concerned that this, that Ms Wang might be involved, and somewhat, in relation to migration issues, it might not meet the legal requirements? Is that what part of your concern?---Yes. And we were being used as a business, and I mean and a, it wasn't a small business. So we had a, because of our auction turnover, we had a massive turnover. So --

Well, did you come – I'm sorry, go on?---Yes, but I don't, so I, and I just, then that's what my concern was.

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And did you come to the view at some stage, did you think you had been taken advantage of?---Yes.

When did you form that view?---When I was given the cash, Commissioner.

Well, surely, then, in those circumstances, you would go to someone who knew something about Maggie Wang to get confirmation as to whether it in fact was dodgy or not, and the obvious person to ask would have been Daryl Maguire, wouldn't it?---No.

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No?---I, well, sorry, with hindsight, yes, but I didn't do that. I parked it and I just, and I just wanted it to go and, and I thought that's the end of it, and I think, Commissioner, the, the way it was sort of given to me and everything, and I, and I can't remember but it just all seemed so normal and I just thought if I can, and whether I was in the middle of doing something else or another project or, you know, 'cause I've done some other things since I've, since I've left, and I don't know if I was going overseas, or whatever the case, but it was, it's done and I, and I know that that sounds unbelievable but it's, it's, it was crazy but it's true. It's, it's not sounding good for me, I have to say, but I'm not, I can, I don't think I even, if I saw Daryl, I, I don't know if I even ever mentioned it to him or if, if, but, and if I ever did it was, you know, "This is crazy, you know, what's this Maggie doing?" or whatever, and he's just going, "Well, they, they seem to do it and it seems to work," and, or whatever, so if - - -

That's what I'm trying to understand.---I understand.

If you did have such a conversation at some stage with Mr Maguire, particularly for the reasons you've stated. That is to say that of all the people in this world whose name she mentioned more than once to you at the outset was Daryl Maguire, is that right?---Yes. Yes.

So you knew that this woman had some connection with Daryl Maguire. ---Yes

You knew him at all relevant times to be the local member.---Yes.

MS ELLIS: Alright, Mr Allsopp, I'm showing you an email from somebody called Katrina Smith - - -?---Yes. Yeah.

--- to Maggie Wang, dated the 13th of March, 2015, 3.09pm.---Yep.

THE COMMISSIONER: What page are we on?

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MS ELLIS: Page 8, Commissioner.

THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you. Yes, thank you.

MS ELLIS: Mr Allsopp, was Katrina Smith the person you've referred to in your evidence as being your PA?---Yeah.

Was she a PA at this time in 13th of March, 2015?---Yes. Yeah, and did accounts, did all the accounts for the business.

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You'll see the subject line of this email is "Employment contract, Rundles Auctions and Tianyu Song."---Yes.

S-o-n-g.---Yes.

Do you know who Tianyu Song is?---No.

Ever met Tianyu Song?---No.

Do you know if she was a person introduced to you by Ms Wang?---No, I've never met, to the best of my knowledge.

Now, you'll see that the body of the email, Katrina has written to Maggie, "Hi, Maggie. So sorry, have attached, signed by Richard. Thanks, Katrina."---Yes. Yes.

And I'll just take you to page 12 of the bundle, which is the attachment to this email. I'll show you the first page of this document. This is described as an employment contract made on the 10th of February, 2015. Do you remember seeing this document?---Yes.

And what were the circumstances in which you saw this document?---I would have seen it on just a daily, on a daily, you know, on a basis of coming in, yes.

If Katrina was sending this document to Maggie, would she have done so on your instructions?---Yes. Well, I, it would have, I'm not sure but I am, that

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would have been sent by, I would say, by Maggie and it would have been put onto our letterhead.

Okay.

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THE COMMISSIONER: I see. So the - - -?---I would say.

Are you saying that the employment contract, as it's described on page 12, would have been supplied by Maggie, is that what you're saying or not?

---That's correct.

Right. So that was, as it were, then placed on the company's letterhead, that's what happened?---Yeah. Well, no, I'm not saying that but I can find out. I, I don't know.

I thought you said something along those lines a moment ago, or are you assuming that that's what happened or do you know?---Well, I was assuming it, yes. Yeah, so that - - -

20 Do you know if - - -?---Because we didn't have employment contracts.

I see. --- So I, I mean, I know I sound like a hillbilly but I'm, it was, I didn't have – unless, this might have been copied and pasted from another, you know, a template somewhere else but we didn't have the, these sorts of things.

It didn't come out of your company's files, it's come from somewhere? ---Yes. I, I can, am guessing.

30 MS ELLIS: Under the heading Position in the contract, can you see that it's the first bold heading on the page?---Yes.

It says, "Your position title is assistant finance manager." Was that a position that you had available in the company?---Well, for the, for the Chinese – so it wasn't, no. Well the, it was to do the, the Chinese imported stuff, yes.

Was it created for the purpose of the proposition that Maggie Wang had brought to you?---Yes.

Did you ever advertise that position?---No we did not.

I'll take you to Commencement Date. It says under Commencement Date, "Your employment will commence on the date that your working visa is granted." Can you see that?---Oh, yes, yes.

Did you have an understanding of what type of visa these people were applying for?---No.

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Under Remuneration, which is about three headings down, it says, "Your salary is set at a rate of 52,000 per annum." Somebody's written, "Plus super," above there. Is that you?---No.

Do you know who wrote that?---Katrina.

And was Rundles Auctions going to pay a salary to the people who are coming to work through Maggie's scheme?---Yes.

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And were you going to be reimbursed for any of that salary?---Yes, yeah. Well, well I think that's what the case was for.

Right. So you think that the cash that Maggie gave you was in part reimbursement for some wages or was full reimbursement for some wages?--That was my understanding – look, I, as naïve as it sounds, that's, yeah, that was, yes.

THE COMMISSIONER: And would the amount of \$52,000 per annum have been a figure provided by Maggie?---Yes.

Not you or your company?---No. Not to the – yeah, sorry. I mean, the answer's, yes, it would have been provided by Maggie.

MS ELLIS: Did you or your company ever pay any wages to any of the people that Maggie brought to you?---No.

I'll take you to Probationary Period. It says under that heading at the bottom of the page, "A three month probationary period will apply to this role." Where did that term come from?---Probably us. I mean, that would have been the sort of thing I would have given someone. That's very much, I'm a bit – because this is the sort of way I would write something. So I am wondering if maybe this was us. But, and I am not being elusive, I promise you, I am just, but I just, the three month, we put everybody on a three month probationary period, you know, because we want to know if they're good or not.

I'll show you the second page of the contract.---Sure.

40 Which is page 13 of Exhibit 83.---Yep. Yep.

Does this still look like the way that you would have drafted the contract? ---Yes, yes.

And I'll take you to the next page, page 14 of Exhibit 83. Can you see under Signature of Employee a signature?---Yes.

Is that your signature?---Yes.

And it's dated the 13th of March, 2015.---Yes.

So you signed this contract?---Yes.

And did the person Tianyu Song ever come to work for you?---No.

Did you ever find out what happened with that person's employment?---No. No.

