

# **Moss Vale High School**

Respectful, Safe and Responsible Learners
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### **November 2020**





Our staff supporting

Do it in a Dress-One Girl Foundation

Taking Care of Each Other....



Moss Vale High School website: mossvale-h.schools.nsw.gov.au

# **Principal Report**

#### Canvas

We have trained our staff in the use of Canvas, which will become our school-wide learning management platform. This is a system, similar to Edmodo but far superior, which will digitally support teachers in improving student achievement and provide consistent learning tools. Our current Year 12 students (2021) are already able to access their courses and the rest of the school community will be trained and able to access Canvas at the start of 2021. This system also means that students who are absent from school, for whatever reason, will be able to access Canvas and catch up on missed classwork from home.

Parents will also be given access to their child's courses and be able to see what they are studying in each subject. Parents will be able to view upcoming assessment tasks and check on their child's progress. We are hoping to open Canvas up to parents of our 2021 Year 12 cohort within the next couple of weeks. Parents of all remaining cohorts will be given access to Canvas in the first few weeks of Term 1 next year.

This is why it is essential that all students have an appropriate device so that they are able to engage with Canvas in class as well as at home. Please see, the BYOD Policy report in the following pages for further information on our Bring Your Own Device policy.



#### **Evacuation and HSC**

As many parents would be aware, Moss Vale High School was one of a number of schools that received 'bomb threat' on Wednesday, 28 October, that resulted in an evacuation of the entire school community. This evacuation disrupted the Biology HSC exam and the Year 12 students had to wait over an hour before being able to return to the exam hall. I want to reassure students and staff that all students have had a 'Misadventure Appeal' lodged on their behalf and NO student will be penalised as a result of this disruption.

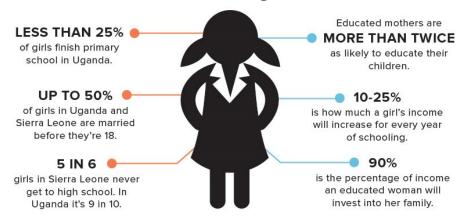
I would like to thank and commend our students and staff on their calm, sensible and expeditious movement out of the school building during the evacuation procedure. The students were patient and extremely cooperative during the lengthy wait down on the school oval.

#### Do it in a Dress Day

Our school's Student Representative Council and Positive Behaviour for Success team collaborated, once again, to hold the highly successful *Do It In a Dress* fundraiser. Each year we encourage students to wear a school dress, or similar, in order to raise awareness of the millions of girls in developing countries who do not have the right to an education. The money we raise each year is enough to educate several girls, in places like Sierra Leone, for their entire school career. We believe it is important that our students are engaged global citizens who contribute positively to the world around them. I would like to thank our school community for its generosity and compassion. See photographs in this publication.



Education can change the world!



#### White Ribbon Day



On November 20, we will be holding our own White Ribbon Day to raise awareness of the crisis facing Australia in relation to domestic and gender-based violence. While our statistics in this country are horrifying with at least one woman being killed each week as a result of gender-based violence, it is important that we continue to educate our young people on what constitutes a healthy and respectful relationship. All of us have responsibility to stand up and speak out against domestic and gender based violence if we are going to make positive steps

forward in this area. Students will be engaged in a number of activities in order to raise awareness of this problem and highlight what we can all do to try and stop it.

#### **Staffing**

Recently we ran two merit selection panels for an English classroom teacher and Head Teacher Teaching and Learning. I am pleased to announce that Ms Elizabeth Morthorpe was the successful English candidate and Ms Helen Campbell the successful candidate for the Head Teacher Teaching and Learning. This Head Teacher position is a newly created role and will start at the beginning of 2021. Ms Campbell is currently our Head Teacher Maths which means we will now be running another merit selection process for her position.

Congratulations to Ms Campbell and Ms Morthorpe!

Patricia Holmes Principal

# Deputy Principals Report

#### PAT testing

In 2019, The Moss Vale HS Community of Schools (COS) began a project aimed at improving student learning outcomes by giving teachers greater insight into where students may require extra learning and support. Rob Griffiths (Moss Vale PS), was appointed to lead this project across the COS. All of our current Year 7 students who attended primary schools in the COS undertook Progressive Achievement Tests (PAT) in Year 6, and this year will mark the beginning of implementing this project at Moss Vale HS. In week 4, Year 7 students undertook the Progressive Achievement Tests, exactly a year after they took them in Year 6. Rob will now collate the Yr6 data with the Yr7 results.

Every student in Year 7 will undertake two of these tests, one in Numeracy and the other in Literacy. These tests are very different to the NAPLAN tests. PAT tests are designed to assess each student's current capability against the appropriate standard for their age. Unlike NAPLAN, the PAT assessments do not have a student/parent report. However, student data is available to our school and is a valuable source of information on each student's development.

The main aim of PAT testing is to provide information to teachers on the strengths and needs of their students. PAT tests will provide teachers with objective information for setting realistic learning goals and planning effective programs. They will also provide students with information to inform their learning and goal setting, as well as providing our school with information to measure improvement during each year of schooling and over a number of years. This will become regular testing each year, all the way through to Year 10.

#### **Activity Week**

After waiting as long as possible, a decision had to be made in regard to running Activity Week as it would normally run. Unfortunately, it was agreed that it was not feasible to run Activity Week with COVID restrictions in place and limited time left for families to pay money. In lieu of Activity Week, we have organised something for each stage group to attend during the last week of school. Stage 4 and 5 will have the opportunity to spend a day a Jamberoo Recreation Park, whilst our Year 11 students will attend a 3 day camp as a part of the "Life Ready" program. This is a wonderful opportunity for all students in a year where there has been limited opportunities. It is also pleasing to know Year 11 will get an opportunity to participate in camp despite not being able to attend their last Activity Week.

#### Sport is back!

It hasn't just been the students missing all the sporting opportunities through the year. Our Sport Organiser Miss Middleton has been left feeling empty and frustrated. Not so in Term 4! Miss Middleton has entered teams in a number of sporting events and it has been wonderful to see so many students sign up for various teams.

Mr Matthew Carlyon Deputy Principal Mrs Letitia Summers Deputy Principal



# Help us to help you....

# Students leaving early

If your child needs to leave school early, please ask them to come to the Front Office first thing in the morning with a note from you or a message via the Parent Portal. They can then be given a printed Early Leavers slip to allow them to leave class at the specified time and come to meet you at the Front Office or School gate. This should prevent delays in sending for your child after you arrive to collect them.

Parents should not be sending text messages or ringing their child at school as the school's mobile phone policy prohibits students accessing their phones while on school premises.

# **Telephone Numbers and Emergency Contacts**

To ensure we can reach you when your child is sick or in an emergency, please make sure we have the correct telephone numbers for all parents and caregivers in your family. Also that we have names and numbers for more than one emergency contact in case you are not contactable.

# **Address Details**

If you move, we need to have your current residential address on our records. This is also checked regularly against student bus passes. On occasions we may need to mail you a letter so be sure we have your correct mailing address too.

# 2020 Moss Vale High School HOUSE CHAMPIONSHIP UPDATE

MVHS House Championship leader board currently has Carrington Reds leading the way on 230pts!! In 2nd place we have Morton on 180pts, 3rd place Gibraltar on a close 170pts and sitting in 4th place Belmore on 150pts. It's a tight competition this year and with many more opportunities to earn house points still to come throughout the Term, any house could be awarded 2020 House Champions!

#mvhshousecup



## **NEWS FROM THE CAPA VAULT**



#### Year 12

Our Year 12 Virtual Assembly featured an amazing bass solo by Year 12 Music student, Ethan Corby. Called "Sinister Minister" by Bela Fleck and the Flecktones, it showcased Ethan's outstanding skills on the bass guitar and it was great to have such a talented bass player featured. We are thankful to the Year 12 Entertainment students for their assistance with filming the performance.

In week 1, we celebrated our Year 12 students at their graduation. Taylah Denford was inspired to direct a music video called "Dear Future Seniors". The music was by Meghan Trainor, but the lyrics were rewritten by Taylah. She wanted to pass down the lessons her cohort have learnt over the last 2 years and leave an imprint on the lives of our current seniors and seniors to be. The song was performed by some of our talented Year 12 vocalists: Annabel Collison, Taylah Denford, Caitlin Miller, Luna Mauro, Carlie Ragg, and Amy Webb. The video featured our Year 12 students and there was also a special appearance by Year Advisers Ms Curtis and Mrs Pepping. We are very thankful to Carlie, Taylah and Allie for bringing the video together. Our Year 12 Music class also performed "Don't Stop" by Fleetwood Mac for the Year 12 Graduation Assembly, featuring all 13 students in the band and on vocals.

Finally, our Year 12 CAPA students have nearly finished their HSC! Music students sat their Aural exam, completing the final 30% of their exam marks and Visual Art students completed the last 50% of their final marks through their written exam. Our Entertainment students are next, with our largest cohort ever choosing to sit for their optional written exam. Our Drama students get to wait to the final day of the HSC exams to sit their written paper, also worth 50% this year.







#### Year 11

Our Year 11 Entertainment students went on an excursion in week 3 to Luminous Entertainment in Mittagong to learn more about the Entertainment industry and to complete a site induction for future workplacement. The students were really excited to hear stories about live performances, to see a range of new equipment and to gain a deeper understanding of the range of jobs within the industry.

#### Year 10

Our Year 10 elective Drama students came together to perform "The Magic Table, The Gold Donkey and The Cudgel in the Sack" for our upcoming virtual assembly. Rory Casburn, Jake Davies, Lachlan Glass, Sam Phillips, Oscar Piper-Hudson and Ariel Zenobi brought this Brothers Grimm Fairy Tale to life as part of a storytelling exercise in class. Thank you to Josh Kirby and Alessio Mauro for their help with filming.

Samantha Roberts was also filmed performing Romance No. 1 by Schumann. Accompanied by John Martin, she showed just why she is currently undertaking 8<sup>th</sup> grade on the flute and we have been impressed by her maturity, musicality and technique.

#### Year 9

Our new Year 9 MUGS Ukulele Group has had a great start to the term. A dozen eager performers have started to extend their ukulele and ensemble skills, beginning with "I'm Yours" by Jason Mraz and "Riptide" by Vance Joy. They have been aided by Mr Callaway, who also teaches at Southern Lights Vocal Academy in Dapto and we are very thankful for his assistance and guidance. He has been impressed with their progress thus far.

#### Year 7 and 8

Our Year 7 Drama Club is a new initiative which Mr Canute started this Term. It has been so popular that he has had more students sign up than he can accommodate. Mr Canute has been excited by their infectious enthusiasm and is looking forward to getting a mention in their thank you speech at the 2035 Academy Awards. After exploring many different dance styles this year, Year 7 and 8 Dance classes have been working hard on their item "Can't Hold Us". They can't wait for the opportunity to perform it! The energy levels are high and the fun factor may just lift the ceiling! Ms Fox has been so impressed with how the students have pushed their comfort zone in these lessons, and has loved every minute of it!

Mr Donaldson Relieving Head Teacher CAPA



## SUPPORT UNIT

#### COMMUNITY ACCESS UPDATE



The Support Unit's Community Access Program had to be significantly modified this year, in order to meet the imposed Covid-19 restrictions the Department of Education has stipulated for Secondary schools. These restrictions have been strictly abided by and appropriate adjustments made to the Program for the safety and well-being of all our students and staff. This has meant considerable planning of alternative learning activities and outings into our local community and national parks. Many of our usual activities have had to be cancelled including visiting local organisations and businesses, shops and Disability Service Providers, travel training on public transport, visiting employment agencies, and many of the local essential services students may need to access in the future in order to be prepared to live independent lives.

The Support Unit has had to get creative this year, to provide the students with educational opportunities that are meaningful, enjoyable and Covid safe. This predicament has allowed us to tailor a program that required students to venture into the great outdoors each fortnight exploring our local community, particularly our local parks and reserves. There have been so many positive benefits that have resulted for our students during these outings including; regular exercise, sight-seeing, exploring the beautiful Southern Highlands bushwalks and parks, learning about the history and geography of the area and the local villages, discovering and learning about the beautiful flora and fauna in our local region, learning to read maps, and information boards, using Google Maps and following directions, and learning about being 'safe' in the great outdoors and the local community.

Students ventured out to many beautiful places including Corbett Gardens in Bowral, Leighton Gardens in Moss Vale, Berrima River Walk, Lake Alexandra in Mittagong, The Cherry Tree Walk in Bowral, Morton National Park Lookouts in Bundanoon, Mt Gibraltar, Cecil Hoskins Nature Reserve (Burradoo to Moss Vale), Carrington Falls and Fitzroy Falls. Students in the four Support Unit classes were very excited each Community Access day to find out where they were going on their next adventure. Cheekily nicknamed 'The Magical Mystery Tours' the students would spend periods 3-6 exploring new places, getting back to nature and enjoying picnic lunches in the natural environment.

To consolidate what students learnt and discovered on these outings, students would complete research tasks, recalling what they had seen, and learned on their adventures. They would investigate further about the local villages explored, including historical facts and services provided, the geography of the sites explored, and looking on Google Maps and Google Earth to see the places they had just visited. Students learned more about directions, and how far away various places were and how much time it took to travel to each destination.









This year as part of the Community Access Program, the students made contact with the residents of Harbison Heart and Home in Moss Vale, establishing a Penfriend Program writing letters to the residents who had been totally isolated due to Covid-19 and learning to write letters and making new friends. This began during the severe Covid-19 restrictions earlier in the year and will be a valuable ongoing Support Unit Program into the future.

We feel extremely privileged to live in such a beautiful and safe part of the world and be able to take our students out into such gorgeous pristine environments, that they may not have seen before, during such a strange and unsettling time. Here is a sample of the many beautiful places we have explored during Term 2, 3 and 4.



Gibraltar Class Lake Alexandra Bushwalk



Morton Class Burradoo Park



Belmore Class Nellies Glen - Carrington Falls



Taylor Williams







Emily Bowditch Fitzroy Falls Johnathon Egan-Burton







**Lichen Covered Trees** 

Morton Class Fitzroy Falls Picnic

Ancient Evidence



Morton Class Old Man Tree



Waratah Carrington Falls



Belmore Class Nellies Glen







Cherry Tree Walk

Mrs Vandervoort and Emily Bowditch

Belmore Class Lake Alexandra



Gibraltar Class & Ms Mulcahy Lake Alexander



Morton Class Lake Alexander



Aiden Bray Bradman Oval



Gibraltar Class Berrima River Walk



Freya James Berrima







Floral delights Berrima River Walk Belmore River Walk

Ms Mulcahy Community Access Teacher Support Unit

# Do it in a Dress—One Girl Foundation

Friday 30 October 2020, our school participated in its annual Do it in a Dress fund raising day. Thank you to all our students and staff for their ongoing support for this worthy cause. We raised \$687.























#### Moss Vale High School BYOD Policy 2020

#### What is BYOD?

"Bring your own device (BYOD) refers to technology models where students bring a personally owned device to school for the purpose of learning. A personally owned device is any technology device brought into the school and owned by a student (or the student's family), staff or guests" (Alberta Education, 2012).

Put simply, BYOD is a solution where students quite literally bring their own device to school in order to access the internet by the DoE Wi-Fi. **Mobile phones are not considered an acceptable device**.

#### Moss Vale High School BYOD Policy 2020

In 2021, and beyond, all students in Years 7 to 12 are asked to bring their own digital learning device (laptop or a 2 in 1 device) to school every day. Students are free to bring any device that meets our Device Specifications.

A BYOD contact will be available to answer questions and to give assistance, but the school does not manage, support, own or warrant the device - it's your choice and your device. Our Technical Support Officer will be able to assist with questions about device specifications to ensure it can be connected to the DoE Wi-Fi network.

#### What type of device can we bring?

Various devices in price categories will meet the Device Specification. It can be a <u>laptop or a 2 in 1 device</u>. You should carefully consider all your options for purchase or lease/rent-to-buy.

#### What things should you look for in a device for learning?

Our recommended specifications are as follows.

The device should be:

- Laptop or a 2-in-1 device.
- (For Windows Devices minimums) Windows, 4GB RAM, 1Ghz processor, 32GB of free hard drive space.
- (For Mac Devices minimums) OS X 10.9\* 4GB RAM, 1Ghz processor, 32GB of free hard drive space.
- iPad or Android Tablets with external keyboard, or a Chromebook. Please note, that there are some concerns about the long-term functionality of these devices and ease of network connectivity.
- Battery Life of 6+ hours.
- Light weight, under 1.5 kg
- 12" or larger screen.
- Dual Band Wi-Fi with a/g/b/n.
- Pre-loaded with the Microsoft Suite (students have free access to Microsoft 365 from the Student Portal)
- Ability to connect earphones/head phones.

For further assistance, please contact Chris Osiadacz, Technology Support Officer.

#### Where can you buy the correct device?

Parents are welcome to purchase devices anywhere. Parents should purchase a device that meets the school requirements and also suits their child's needs and family circumstances.

Local retailers are aware of NSW DoE school requirements and can assist you in choosing an appropriate device for your child.

#### About device security

The school does not own, support or warrant the device. Experience from the DER scheme indicates that students who took good care of their device and considered themselves the device's owner rarely had device security issues.

#### Moss Vale High School BYOD Policy 2020 cont....

You are advised to consider insuring the device against loss or damage, particularly if it is of significant value since the school and the Department of Education does not accept liability for loss or damage to student devices. (NSW DOE Legal Issues Bulletin 8) You might also consider using a device locator service.

Internet access on the device will be filtered through the DoE authentication portal while students are at school and they will be prohibited from connecting to other networks while at school.

#### I'm concerned about the costs

The purchase of a device is a major decision and a significant expense. A quality device should last from Year 7 to Year 12 so viewed over six years the expense is significantly less.

The school has incorporated laptops and tablets into most areas of teaching and learning. This investment in digital technology is assisting in ensuring optimum learning outcomes for all students.

We are committed to delivery of the same learning outcomes for all our students whatever their family's financial circumstances. We have developed an **Equity Policy** to operate alongside our BYOD Policy. The Equity Policy outlines a number of strategies the school may take, in consultation with you, to support access to information and communication technologies (ICT).

#### **BYOD Equity Policy**

The MVHS BYOD Program can only function effectively if all students have access to a device that meets the Device Specification. All BYOD programs involve a cost to users.

To ensure access and equity for all students in years that are part of the BYOD program the school has established procedures for families to apply for assistance in obtaining access to a device that meets the Device Specification.

If you believe you are unable to provide a device that meets the specification you may make an application in writing to the Principal, or make an appointment to speak with the Principal, so that your particular case can be outlined.

You will be asked to make an agreement with the school that confirms the alternative arrangements made for your child's access to a device.

#### Mobile and Electronic Device Agreement

- Students will use their digital devices in a way that reflects the core values being taught at Moss Vale High School, including the values of respect, responsibility and safety.
- Permitted digital devices are for learning only and must only be accessed in learning areas where
  the DoE wireless network can be accessed. Therefore, digital devices are not allowed in the
  playground where students are encouraged to engage in physical activity and/or social
  interaction with their peers. During breaks, students can access permitted digital devices in the
  library.
- Digital devices MUST be connected to the Department of Education's wireless network.

#### Improper use of digital devices:

- Inappropriate use of digital devices may include students using them to bully, intimidate or otherwise harass other people through any voice call, text message, photographic, video or other data transfer system available on the device. It is illegal for students to have pornographic material on their devices while on school grounds or at school events.
- Students must not use digital devices to disrupt the learning environment or interfere with the operation of the school.

#### Moss Vale High School BYOD Policy 2020 cont....

• Students are not to use devices to record images, video or sound. Filming, photographing or recording without permission is an offence.

#### Improper use of digital devices may incur:

- PBR, detention or other appropriate disciplinary measure as determined by the school's disciplinary policy.
- Confiscation of the device until such time as their parent or caregiver is able to attend school to collect the device. There is to be no argument when requested to hand in the device to a staff member. Such activities and behaviour may incur disciplinary action including suspension.
- Withdrawing the student's privilege of having a device at school.

#### Confiscating a student's digital device

Where school staff have reasonable grounds to suspect that a student has inappropriate material on his or her device, they may confiscate the device for the purpose of confirming the existence of the material. It is appropriate to confiscate devices from students when:

- A student has a mobile phone out or smartwatch on during school hours as already defined within the policy.
- A student is seated outside the Deputy Principal's office for any breach of the school's behaviour code.
- It is necessary to examine the device when there are reasonable grounds to suspect inappropriate material may be on the device. Senior Executive will be involved in such incidents.
- Other disciplinary action, in cases where students have bullied, threatened or harassed other students or staff via a device or where the device has been used to take photographs or display inappropriate material.
- Material that falls within the meaning of sexting is found on the device.
- The device has been used to record fights or other criminal activity involving students.

Byron Pike Year 9





Byron with his timber project.

Great Job Bryon!

#### Year 7 2020 Immunisations

As you are aware due to Covid 19, the 2020 Year 7 school program school clinics were suspended at the beginning of 2020 and then resumed after June.

The required interval between HPV- Gardasil 9 dose 1 and dose 2 is 6 months. Therefore all Year 7 students who were given HPV – Gardasil Dose 1 from June 2020 onwards will be offered HPV – Gardasil – dose 2 during Term 1, 2021.

There is no need for parents to take their children to the GP as all outstanding 2020 Year 7 vaccinations will be caught up through the school immunisation program in 2021.

N.B: Schools do not keep records of immunisations for individual students, you will need to contact Childhood Immunisation Register on 1800 653 809.











Moss Vale High School Community would like to Thank Voltex Electrical Accessories Moss Vale for their generous financial donation of \$7,800 to our school towards our ever increasing technology needs. A HUGE THANKS!



# MOSS VALE HIGH SCHOOL INFORMATION for Parents and Caregivers



#### School Administration Office Contact & Hours:

Our **Administration office** on **48681717** between the hours of **8:30am-3:30pm Monday to Friday** during school terms.

School email : mossvale-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au School Website : mossvale-h.schools.nsw.gov.au

# Facebook Page:

The Moss Vale High School Facebook page is for the school to disseminate information, to inform and positively promote the school, the learning that occurs within and all our staff and students' many amazing achievements within the community.

It is not a forum for community discussion and therefore <u>we do not encourage comments or posts</u> <u>relating to questions</u>, concerns or public debate on items. It is not the place to publicly object to the policies or practices of Moss Vale High School, its committees or related organisations. Nor is it a forum for users to advocate their businesses, opinions or philosophical positions. The appropriate avenue is via communication with the Principal of Moss Vale High School; communication via email at <u>mossvale-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au</u> or by contacting our front office on 48681717 between the hours of 8:30am-3:30pm Monday to Friday during school terms.

# **Uniform Shop:**

The Moss Vale High School Uniform Shop is open Tuesday 8.30am-11.30am and Thursday 1.00pm-4.00pm during the school terms. The Uniform Shop is run through Daylight Schoolwear, any enquiries regarding stock etc need to be directed via phone on 4648 1066 or email: info@daylightcorp.com

# Moss Vale High School P&C:

All are welcome to attend our P & C Meetings. Our P&C Committee can be *contacted via email* at **pandcmeetings@mvhs-pandc.com**. Meetings are held every Tuesday, 4th and 9th week of the term, commencing at 5.30pm in the Staff Common Room, entry via the Administration Office.

# Moss Vale High School Canteen:

The Moss Vale High School Canteen contact is via phone on 4868 1883.



# Moss Vale & District Basketball Association Inc.



A.B.N 59 463 415 535

Dear Members.

MV&DBAI has been closely monitoring the current COVID-19 situation in our local area and are in contact with NSW Department of Health to make sure we have accurate and up-to-date information. Based on information currently available at this time our basketball competitions proceed as planned. We will continue to closely monitor the situation and advise members accordingly should this advice change at any time.

Recent circumstances however, remind us that we cannot become complacent and need to remain vigilant in our defence against COVID-19. Whilst the Association has implemented a COVID Safe plan and a number of procedures to help keep members safe, we need everyone to play their part as well. Please take the time to familiarise yourself with our Stadium Entry Requirements below and follow directions of staff as required. They are there to help keep you safe.

#### Stadium Entry Requirements

- STAY HOME IF YOU HAVE COVID-19 SYMPTOMS
- SANITISE UPON ENTRY AND THROUGHOUT YOUR GAME
- SIGN IN UPON ENTRY
- ARRIVE NO EARLIER THAN 15 MINS BEFORE GAME TIME AND EXIT PROMPTLY AFTER GAME
- ARRIVE DRESSED FOR GAME
- MAINTAIN SOCIAL DISTANCING GUIDELINES
- MAXIMUM 1 SPECTATOR PER PARTICIPANT
- NO CO-MINGLING BETWEEN COURTS
- LIMIT UNNECESSARY CONTACT BETWEEN PLAYERS.

Nigel Browne Chairman