

media alert

SA Metropolitan Fire Service



Pt Augusta, Pt Pirie students urged to look after their mates

Friday, 3 June 2011

Road crash survivor, Eli Murn continues to live with the consequences of one mistake on the road. He now has a permanent brain injury.

On Tuesday and Wednesday next week, Eli will join a Metropolitan Fire Service (MFS) firefighter in delivering a series of emotional, confronting Road Awareness Program (RAP) sessions to **Port Augusta and Port Pirie** high school students.

MFS Station Officer, Mark Haylock will co-present the programs with Eli, from the perspective of a firefighter who has more than 20 years of experience in extricating injured and deceased people from crashes.

“One of the saddest things I’ve witnessed as a firefighter is seeing young people injured and killed in car crashes. As Australians, we pride ourselves in looking after our friends, and this is one of the key messages of RAP – let’s look after our mates, not harm them.

“RAP contains graphic information, photos and videos that give students no room to hide from the realities of road trauma. But they’ll leave the program feeling empowered, knowing they can make a difference on our roads,” Station Officer Haylock said.

2011 is an exciting year from RAP. In January, the program was presented to 120 of the nation’s newest AFL players at the AFL Players’ Association’s induction camp at the MCG in Melbourne. Young players and representatives from various AFL clubs have indicated they were strongly impacted by the program’s messages.

Also in 2011, the program’s reach to Year 11 students across the state will double. A State Government funding boost has allowed the MFS to appoint a second RAP presenter (firefighter), meaning more schools and students will benefit in city and regional areas.

RAP encourages licence aged students to create generational change on our roads by leading the way in their behaviour as road users.

WHAT: **Pt Augusta and Pt Pirie students urged to look after their mates** at MFS Road Awareness Program (RAP) presentations

WHERE & WHEN: See session times and locations (below):

Date	Time	Location	Duration
Tues, 7 June 2011	1.30 pm	Pt Augusta Secondary School	90 minutes
Wed, 8 June 2011	8.55 am	St Mark’s College, Pt Pirie	90 minutes
Wed, 8 June 2011	1.30 pm	John Pirie High School, Pt Pirie	90 minutes

VISUAL AND INTERVIEW OPPORTUNITIES:

Media are welcome to attend the RAP sessions listed above for filming, photograph and interview opportunities. MFS RAP Coordinator, Mark Haylock and road crash survivor, Eli Murn will be available for interview, along with Year 11 high school students.

For media enquiries and interviews call the MFS Media Line on (08) 8204 3770

www.mfs.sa.gov.au