

media release

SA Metropolitan Fire Service



RAP targets Riverland students

Tuesday, 11 June 2013

Riverland high school students will confront the realities and responsibilities of driving when the Metropolitan Fire Service's (MFS) Road Awareness Program (RAP) visits *next week*.

The MFS Road Awareness Program (RAP) will visit four local high schools to reinforce the road safety message and ask students to look after their mates on the roads.

Road crash survivor, Tyele Riddle will join MFS Station Officer, Rod Campbell in sharing personal experiences of road trauma with local high school students.

Surviving a road crash has had life-long effects for former Riverland woman, Tyele Riddle. One moment's inattention has left her quadriplegic.

Tyele now focuses on educating young drivers through the Road Awareness Program (RAP). Tyele said, "There is nothing I can do to change my past or my injuries but through the Road Awareness Program I can use my crash experience and help change others attitudes towards driving".

RAP Coordinator, MFS Station Officer, Rod Campbell said, "RAP is a confronting, hard-hitting yet uplifting presentation that reinforces the message that we must look after our mates on the road."

"Another key message is that while we can choose to take a risk, we cannot choose its consequences. RAP leaves students feeling empowered to make positive changes on the roads by committing to safe driving," Station Officer Campbell said.

The use of mobile phones by drivers and pedestrians will also be a focus of the program.

"The dangers of using a mobile phone while driving are very real. It has the potential to cause a driver to lose their own life or cause the loss of other lives, including those of their friends. Mobile phone use is one of several key road risks the students will learn about," Station Officer Campbell said.

RAP has received national praise after being delivered to the nation's future football and cricketing greats at the AFL Players' Association's and Australian Cricketers' Association's induction camps at the MCG in Melbourne.

The program's reach to Year 11 students across the state has increased. A State Government funding boost has allowed the MFS to appoint a second RAP presenter (firefighter), meaning more schools and students benefit from the program in city and **regional** areas.

WHAT: Riverland 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, 18 June	9.00 am	Renmark High School	90 minutes
Wed, 18 June	1.40 pm	Waikerie High School	90 minutes
Wed, 19 June	9.00 am	Glossop High School	90 minutes
Wed, 19 June	1.45 pm	Loxton High School	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, Rod Campbell and road crash survivor, Tyele Riddle will be available for interview.

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

www.mfs.sa.gov.au