

media release

SA Metropolitan Fire Service



RAP visits Keith, Tintinara & Bordertown students

Tuesday, 29 October 2013

Students from **South East** high schools will confront the realities and responsibilities of driving when the Metropolitan Fire Service's (MFS) Road Awareness Program (RAP) visits this week.

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

MFS Station Officers Rod Campbell and Chas Thomas and road crash survivor Marcus will share their personal experiences of road trauma with local high school students. Marcus was texting while driving and lost control of his vehicle. Two people died and one was seriously injured in the crash. Marcus was jailed.

Marcus now focuses on educating young drivers through the Road Awareness Program (RAP). His message is that just one mistake on the road can have major consequences.

RAP Coordinators, MFS Station Officers, Rod Campbell and Chas Thomas 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," MFS Station Officers Campbell and Thomas 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 the key road risks students will learn about," MFS Station Officers Campbell and Thomas 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: South East 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, 29 October	10.55 am	Keith Area School <i>With Tintinara Area School students</i>	90 minutes
Wed, 30 October	11.40 am	Bordertown 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 Coordinators Rod Campbell and Chas Thomas and road crash survivor, Marcus will be available for interview.

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

www.mfs.sa.gov.au