

# media release

SA Metropolitan Fire Service



## RAP visits Pt Pirie & Pt Augusta students

Friday, 31 May 2013

**Pt Pirie and Pt Augusta** 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 three local high schools to reinforce the road safety message and ask students to look after their mates on the roads.

Road crash survivor Eli Murn will join MFS Station Officer Chas Thomas in sharing their personal experiences of road trauma with local high school students. Eli was a promising sportsman who now lives with an acquired brain injury due to a road crash incident.

Eli 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. "I'd like to make a *universe of positive* out of my personal negative," he said.

RAP Coordinator, MFS Station Officer, 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," Station Officer 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 several key road risks the students will learn about."

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:** **Pt Pirie & Pt Augusta 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, 4 June	1.30 pm	Pt Augusta Secondary School	90 minutes
Wed, 5 June	8.55 am	St Mark's College, Pt Pirie	90 minutes
Wed, 5 June	1.45 pm	John Pirie Secondary 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, Chas Thomas and road crash survivor, Eli Murn will be available for interview.

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

[www.mfs.sa.gov.au](http://www.mfs.sa.gov.au)