

media release

SA Metropolitan Fire Service



“One is too many” - Road statistics dishearten MFS Firefighters

Monday, 15 June 2021

MFS Firefighter Ian Borchard implores students to make positive choices on our roads to avoid becoming another statistic, saying “one death on our roads is one too many”.

MFS Firefighter Ian Borchard will be joined by road crash survivor Eli Murn who had to relearn how to walk, talk, eat and care for himself after crashing at high speed.

The pair are travelling to the Riverland region as part of the MFS Road Awareness Program (RAP).

RAP focuses on the role of all road users, encouraging and empowering students to speak up against selfish behaviour.

Since January 2021, there have been 49ⁱ fatalities on South Australian roads; 33 occurring in regional areas.

MFS Firefighter Ian Borchard said, “We want everyone to be aware of the risks involved with being a road user and to make informed choices. One death is one too many,” MFS Firefighter Ian Borchard said.

An integral feature of RAP includes emotional presentations from road crash survivors who implore the students to learn from their experience.

Eli Murn says, “When I first realised the situation I was in, I thought to myself ‘If somebody had seriously spoken to me about the importance of road safety when I was in high school, my life may have taken a very different path”.

Eli lives with ongoing mobility and memory issues associated with his acquired brain injury but is determined to educate young drivers through the MFS RAP. His presentation highlights the possible long-term effects of risk-taking and irresponsible driving, to encourage other road users to make informed choices.

The program is funded by the State Government and is generously supported by sponsors the RAA, Think! Road Safety, the Australian Professional Firefighters Foundation (APFF) charity and SA Power Networks (SAPN).

See next page for list of visit locations.

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

www.mfs.sa.gov.au

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WHAT: MFS Road Awareness Program (RAP) presentations (session details below)

Date	Time	Location
Renmark High School	Tuesday, 15 June 2021	9:00:00 AM
Loxton High School	Tuesday, 15 June 2021	1:45:00 PM
Waikerie High School	Wednesday, 16 June 2021	1:40:00 PM
Glossop High School	Wednesday, 16 June 2021	9:00:00 AM

Media are welcome to attend the RAP sessions listed above for filming, photograph and interview opportunities. MFS Firefighter Ian Borchard and road crash survivor, Eli Murn will be available for interview.

ⁱ https://www.police.sa.gov.au/data/assets/pdf_file/0020/362603/Collision-Casualties-To-Midnight-to-Date.pdf

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