

# media release

SA Metropolitan Fire Service



## Harmony Day 2013 – Sharing stories with MFS firefighters

Monday, 18 March 2013

In 2013, Metropolitan Fire Service (MFS) firefighters will mark Harmony Day by inviting special guest speakers to fire stations to share their stories.

The theme of Harmony Day 2013 is *'Many Stories – One Australia'*.

MFS Community Education Advisor, Francie Tonkin said the MFS has invited guest speakers from local Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) communities to tell their stories to the firefighters at fire stations across Adelaide.

"These events will be an important opportunity for firefighters and members of CALD communities to share conversation, personal stories, morning tea and home fire safety information.

"It will be a positive opportunity to foster greater communication, trust and understanding at emergency incidents," Ms Tonkin said.

The Metropolitan Fire Service's Community Safety and Resilience Department actively engages with newly arrived and CALD communities through a range of home fire safety education activities.

"However, operational firefighters do not always have an opportunity to engage at length with members of the public at an emergency. These Harmony Day morning tea events will be a chance to further develop relationships and communication with CALD communities," Ms Tonkin said.

During the Harmony Day morning tea events, invited guest speakers will be able to share their personal stories, meet local firefighters and tour their local fire station.

Harmony Day officially falls on Thursday, 21 March - however the MFS will hold a series of Harmony Day events throughout the week.

**Media are invited** to attend the following Harmony Day morning tea events with invited guests from CALD communities:

Location
Paradise Fire Station *
Camden Park Fire Station *
Salisbury Fire Station *
Elizabeth Fire Station *
Prospect Fire Station *
St Marys Fire Station *
Woodville Fire Station *

*\* Invited guests from newly arrived and Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) communities will attend fire stations to share their stories, enjoy morning tea and a station tour.*

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

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