

media release

SA Metropolitan Fire Service



MFS RAP inspires students to lead by example as road users

Wednesday, 25 July 2018

Metropolitan Fire Service (MFS) firefighters will inspire Far North students to lead by example as selfless road users when the Road Awareness Program (RAP) visits next week.

MFS firefighters and road crash survivors present the positive, engaging and emotionally powerful road user safety program to licence aged secondary school students across the state.

MFS Station Officer, Glenn Smith said a key message of RAP is 'people don't care how much you show off, but they do want you to show how much you care'.

"When it comes to road safety, students want to show how much they care about their mates. While RAP is a confronting program, it inspires a culture of positive peer pressure and encourages students to lead by example with selfless driver and road user behaviour.

"RAP encourages students to speak up against selfish behaviour, which helps to eliminate dangerous situations from arising. And, with about 30% of regional road fatalities linked to driver fatigue, students identify options to address fatigue such as sharing the drive or pulling over to rest," MFS Station Officer, Glenn Smith said.

The role of passengers, pedestrians and cyclists is highlighted during the RAP presentation.

"RAP provides the tools for students who are passengers to speak up in a car where the driver or other passengers are exhibiting dangerous behaviours. No one should feel unsafe as a passenger in a vehicle and the students are provided solutions for exiting these situations," said MFS Station Officer, Glenn Smith.

Joining MFS firefighters will be guest presenter and road crash survivor Samantha Pearce, who shares her crash circumstances and the effect it has had on her life.

Samantha's message to the students is, "if any time you think about making a questionable decision, think about who you're affecting".

The MFS Road Awareness Program (RAP), a finalist in the National Road Safety Excellence Awards for a number of years has reached more than 170,000 licence-aged drivers and road users across South Australia since it began in 2005.

The program is funded by the State Government and is generously supported by sponsors the RAA, the Motor Accident Commission (MAC), SA Power Networks and the Australian Professional Firefighters Foundation (APFF) charity.

WHAT: Students empowered to be better road users at
MFS Road Awareness Program (RAP) presentations (session details below)

Date	Time	Location	Duration
Monday, 30 July 2018	11:00	Booleroo Centre District School 2-10 Stephens St Booleroo Centre South Australia 5482	100 minutes
Tuesday, 31 July 2018	09:10	Peterborough High School Queen St Peterborough South Australia 5422	100 minutes
Tuesday, 31 July 2018	13:00	Gladstone High School Main North Rd Gladstone South Australia 5473	100 minutes

Media are welcome to attend the RAP sessions listed above for filming, photograph and interview opportunities. MFS Station Officers Glenn Smith, 0437 386 674, and Chas Thomas, 0413002656 will be available for interview.

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

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