

media release

SA Metropolitan Fire Service



Regional MFS stations on show

Saturday, 10 July 2010

Firefighters at regional Metropolitan Fire Service (MFS) stations across South Australia are gearing up for their annual proficiency and operational assessments, with the latest starting on Tuesday.

The annual assessments provide firefighters from MFS regional stations with an opportunity to display their skills, community spirit and dedication to public safety.

The Deputy Chief Officer, Mick Smith and Commander of Regional Operations, Chris Smith intend to visit each of the 17 regional MFS stations before the end of September 2010.

The Deputy Chief Officer says that five of the regional stations assessed as most exceptional, will receive awards once the visits have been completed.

“The assessment visits are a positive learning and development experience for regional MFS firefighters, and a chance to showcase their skills.

“The assessments also have an air of friendly competition about them, as the regional stations are vying for a chance to receive one of five awards. They are; the Chief Officer’s Shield, Regional Operations Shield, Regional Commander’s Shield, Most Improved and Family Friendly awards,” the Deputy Chief says.

In 2009, Kadina MFS Station achieved first place with the Chief Officer’s Shield. Peterborough MFS Station received the Regional Operations Shield. Renmark MFS Station was awarded the Regional Commander’s Shield. Berri MFS Station received the Most Improved award.

In consultation with the United Firefighters Union (UFU) a new award was introduced in 2009 entitled the ‘Family Friendly’ award which was presented to Moonta MFS Station last year. The UFU and the MFS recognise the impact being a retained firefighter has on families and see the award as a small recognition of how families support our firefighters.

MFS Commander of Regional Operations, Chris Smith says he was extremely pleased with the high standards in 2009, and he’s expecting another consistent display in 2010.

“During the assessments we test compliance with procedures, safety standards, uniforms, station presentation, appliance care and maintenance and practical fire fighting skills.

“Last year I was most impressed with each of the stations. Every station places great effort and pride in preparations for the assessments and I look forward to visiting each station in 2010,” Commander Chris Smith says.

Assessments will take place in Kadina, Renmark, Berri, Tanunda, Moonta, Mount Gambier, Port Lincoln, Kapunda, Victor Harbor, Peterborough, Loxton and Burra between July and September.

Visits have already taken place at Whyalla, Port Augusta, Wallaroo, Murray Bridge and Port Pirie MFS.

If members of the public are interested in becoming a Retained (Part-Time) MFS Firefighter, they can visit the MFS website at: www.mfs.sa.gov.au and click on ‘[join us](#)’, or call:

**Mid North Region MFS – 8243 6550
Riverland Region MFS – 8586 3577**

**South East Region MFS – 8725 1330
West Coast Region MFS – 8644 2097**

For media enquiries please telephone the MFS Media Line on (08) 8204 3770

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