



# Media Release

Wednesday 13 May 2015

## RAC educates Bunbury students on road safety

On their annual regional tour, RAC's Community Education Team is heading to the Bunbury next week to educate students and young drivers about staying safe on the roads.

RAC Senior Manager Media and Government Relations Liz Carey said the Community Education Team has delivered the road safety message to over 350,000 Year 10 to 12 students since 2002.

"We teach students the importance of safe driving and the effects of alcohol, speed and reckless behaviour on driving and being a responsible passenger," Ms Carey said.

"Last year, 184 died in road crashes and 25 of those were killed in the South West district.

"In 2014, drivers aged 17 to 24 accounted for 22 per cent of all WA road fatalities despite only making up 12 per cent of the population. These results are worrying, and reinforce the need to educate young drivers about safe driving."

Learning activities and presentations will be delivered to Australind SHS, Eaton Community College, WA College of Agriculture Harvey, Harvey SHS, Dalyellup College and Newton More SHS. At Dalyellup College, the Team will deliver SDERA's Keys4Life workshop, a learner driver evening session designed for young people and parents to work as partners in the learning to drive process.

The Team will address the danger of driving under the influence of methamphetamine, a rising problem in WA's South West after Bunbury Police tested five consecutive drivers positive for the drug last Saturday morning.

RAC's most recent young driver survey showed almost 50 per cent of respondents used their phone while driving, while a further 20 per cent checked social media behind the wheel.

"These students are our next generation of drivers and we want to ensure they have a good understanding of road safety and the consequences of bad decisions. Education is one of the ways to help keep our young drivers safe."

Community Education will be making more than 12 trips to regional Western Australia in 2015.

For more information about RAC Community Education please visit the [RAC website](http://rac.com.au).

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