



11-17 May 2009
The Law and Your
Community



New South Wales Government
Attorney General's Department

Media Release 30 April 2009

RECORD TURNOUT EXPECTED FOR PARKES LAW WEEK EVENT

Up to 90 Parkes and district high school students are expected to take part in a confronting role-playing exercise during Law Week that will highlight the risks of drink driving.

The role-play will involve a teenage motorist, played by a student, who is arrested after failing a random breath test.

"The other students will watch on as the teenager is charged at Parkes Police Station," said Bev Walker, Registrar of Parkes Courthouse.

"The drama will then move into the courthouse, where the students will participate in a mock trial of the teenager."

The students will play the roles of various court participants with assistance from police prosecutors, solicitors, probation officers and court officers.

Road safety and injury prevention officers from the Roads and Traffic Authority NSW (RTA) and Parkes Shire Council will also speak to the students about the dangers of drink driving.

According to the RTA, young drivers are over-represented in all fatal crashes in NSW, including drink driving and fatigue. Despite making up only 15 per cent of drivers, young drivers represent around 36 per cent of annual road fatalities.

"Several local high school students from the Parkes area have been killed in motor vehicle accidents in recent years," said Ms Walker.

"The purpose of this event is to save lives and demonstrate that drink driving is a serious crime."

Ms Walker said the number of students booked in for this year's Law Week event was almost double last year's intake.

Event Details

When: Thursday, 14 May 2009 from 9.30am and 1.00pm

Where: Parkes Courthouse and Police Station

Any further enquiries may be directed to Bev Walker, Registrar of Parkes Courthouse on 6862 1944.

National Law Week aims to promote community understanding of the law and its important role

in society. The theme of Law Week 2009 is 'The Law and Your Community'.

For more information about events visit: www.lawlink.nsw.gov.au/lawweek