

Upcoming musicians kick start *Off the Couch*

Live music fans have the opportunity to see some of South Australia's best aspiring bands and musicians at six free, all ages, live music shows which are being held around Adelaide City in the coming months.

The gigs are part of Carclew's 2011 *Off the Couch* program and the first event – the FUSE Festival Showcase – will kick off at Adelaide UniBar on **Thursday, February 17**.

"The *Off the Couch* program has been running successfully for 15 years now and in this time it has helped many young South Australians make a start in the music industry," said *Off the Couch* Project Officer Drew Landt.

"The program seems to be getting bigger and bigger each year. In fact, the 2010 *Off the Couch* program attracted record participant numbers and the event's six performances also drew some of the strongest crowds in the program's history.

"There's a lot of fantastic unknown talent out there and we're really encouraging everyone to come along and get involved."

Some of the state's top musicians and bands will be performing at the first event, including **Son of Dad, Pimpin Hours, Hightime, Red Apparition and Radio Spectacular!!!**

Off The Couch is a program that is run by young people for young people with the assistance of industry professionals. It was developed to address the lack of performance opportunities for young musicians in South Australia and expanded to provide opportunities for young people to learn hands-on about the performance industry through sound engineering, marketing, promotions, stage management and much more.

More than 700 bands and musicians have pounded the boards at *Off the Couch* events in the past 15 years, showcasing to a total audience of more than 70,000 at some of Adelaide's most popular venues.

What's On

WHAT: *Off The Couch* – FUSE Festival Showcase

WHEN: Thursday, February 17. Doors open 7.30pm.

WHERE: Adelaide UniBar, Gate 10, Level 5, Union House

Licensed – all ages – free entry

The 2011 schedule of *Off the Couch* events is:

Thursday February 17

Saturday March 19

Friday April 1

FUSE Festival Showcase, Adelaide UniBar

MYSA Festival, Gawler Place Canopy

Youth Week launch, Hindmarsh Square

Friday April 15
Friday May 6
Friday May 20

Hard Heavy Loud, Fowlers Live
Acoustic, The Promethean
Rock, Venue to be confirmed

**For further media information please contact Allison Kane, Carclew Youth Arts,
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