

MAX POTENTIAL PROFILES

See their skills

THE 22 week Max Potential youth leadership program will culminate locally with a Showcase at Club Taree.

This Friday, the young leaders and their coaches will present their individual community projects and sum up their 22 week journey.

Head along, hear their stories, celebrate and share their journeys at this special evening.

From 3pm, light refreshments will be served before the official welcome and showcase at

3.30pm. It will be a great afternoon for those who may be interested in joining the program in the future, to see the results and positive influence Max Potential has had on the young participants.

It is also a great way for the community that has benefited from their projects, to thank these inspirational individuals.

Don't miss out, RSVP to Cheryl Bennett on 6539 4000, or email functions@clubtaree.com.au

Helping with study tips

ELIZABETH Roberts immediately thought of her peers when she decided to take part in the Max Potential youth leadership program.

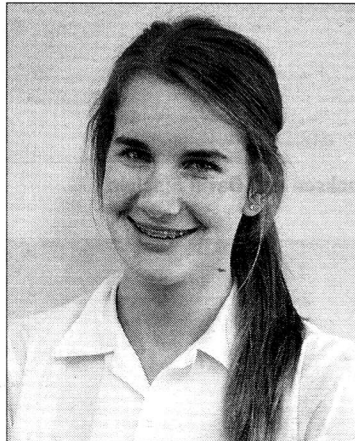
About to enter into her HSC year, Lizzie recognised that the best thing she could do for her fellow classmates was to organise a study skills program to help them get through their final year.

With the help of her coach, Patricia Temple, Lizzie has spoken to a number of teachers and former students about her idea and has organised for them to speak during the study skills session.

"I thought our year could use some extra help and tips to get through the HSC," says Lizzie.

"Some of the ex-HSC students are coming in to talk about what methods of study helped them, how they coped with everything and just give an insight into the HSC."

She also wanted the teachers involved so that the students realise how important they are



Elizabeth Roberts from Chatham High.

going to be throughout the year.

Lizzie said she would recommend the Max Potential program to any other students who want to give something back to the community.

"I was a bit nervous to begin with and I didn't really know what to expect, but it's been so worthwhile, and really beneficial."

Making a difference

It was an involvement in the annual Vampire Shield school's blood donation challenge that made Luke Jacobs want to realise his maximum potential.

Luke, a year 11 student at Chatham High School, noticed that students at the school were oblivious to the importance of donating blood and not enough students were contributing.

After donating himself during the 2009/2010 Vampire Shield, Luke saw how easy it was to make a difference in people's lives and decided that this would be the basis for his Max Potential community project.

"What a lot of people don't realise is that one blood donation can save three lives and that really shocked me," says Luke.

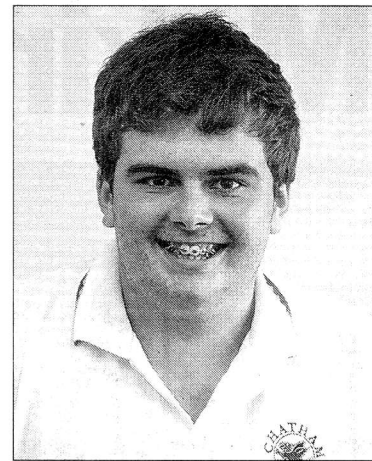
With the help of his mentor, Doug Hodgson, Luke has been rallying around his peers at school to educate them on the importance of blood donation, the benefits to the community and the ease at which it can be done.

Helping students find leadership qualities

YEAR 11 students from various schools around the Manning are in the process of realising their Max Potential.

The Manning Valley's inaugural Max Potential program will culminate on Friday in a showcase at Club Taree where all participants will come together and present their individual projects.

The Max Potential program offers 22 weeks of personal leadership development and coaching, to help the young leaders maximise their potential during their final years at school. It also encourages students to focus on the local community



Luke Jacobs

"It's going good so far, I've had a really good response from everyone I've spoken to," he says.

"I think knowledge is the key, so the more people know the more likely they'll be to get involved."

Luke said Doug has been a great help with setting up and brainstorming ideas to get the message out there.

He is now looking forward to seeing the list of Chatham High School blood donors increase so that more lives can be saved.

and ways in which they can work to improve it.

Participants are given training in a life-coaching model which explores 10 personal leadership principles and the opportunity to use these in practice by developing, planning and running a community project of their choice. Each choose an individual project aimed at building community goodwill and work to turn the idea into reality through fundraising, campaigning and organising. The response from the students involved has been fantastic and all are keen to see their projects up and running.