

Take another look at the Library with Olivia

By *LAUREN STANFORD* July 24, 2014, 4 a.m.



Olivia Harris and coach Claire Cam will reintroduce school aged to the wonders of the library next week.

Olivia Harris spent lunchtime on Friday sheltering from the cold in the library. But unlike schoolmates who were probably looking for a place to keep warm, Olivia was speaking to librarian Michelle Maunder about her Max Potential community service project.

With the end of Max Potential 2014 quickly approaching, young adults taking part in the program are readying themselves for a final push to the finish line by completing their community service projects and getting their stalls for the showcase organised.

Olivia's community service project will see her re-introduce school aged children to the Mudgee Library and the activities and facilities the newly renovated building has to offer. "Children are all excited about the library when they're little and into studying then when they're in high school but they lose a lot of interest in the middle," Ms Maunder said.

Olivia's idea to get children interested in going to the library again came about after she injured herself playing sport and realised that Mudgee had a lot of outdoor activities but not as many indoor ones. "I wanted to do something for all the creative kids in the region and came up with this idea," she said. As well as holding a 'get to know your library' session, Olivia is also looking at holding an art exhibition and showcasing what success meant to those taking part in the session.

"I want to invite kids to come along and have a look at the library but to also bring along a piece of art that shows what success means to them. I'm thinking of having an exhibition opening that afternoon so we can have a look at the artwork and take a tour of the library and the Town Hall Theatre," Olivia said. The event is aimed at school aged students who do not attend the library on a regular basis or are interested in learning what the library has to offer the community besides books.

Anyone wishing to know more about the workshop is invited to drop into the library from this afternoon and make their interest known to one of the friendly librarians. Students at St Matthews will be able to contact Olivia via email to find out the details.