



at the
archives

Wayne
Doubleday

What you should know

■ The CSU Regional Archives are open Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm. Located in the Blakemore Building at the South Campus of the university, access can be gained via College Avenue or Hely Avenue.

■ Members of the public are welcome to visit the search room, where professional archival staff can assist with inquiries. For those people unable to visit the archives in person, staff can provide a research service for straightforward inquiries for a fee of \$55 per hour, including copying and postage.

■ For further information, phone 6925 3666, email archive@csu.edu.au or visit the website at www.csu.edu.au/research/archives for a full listing of holdings and more detailed information.

Happy birthday

School of Arts celebrates 150 years of drap

This month marks the 150th anniversary of the beginning of the Wagga School of Arts, one of the oldest continuous institutions in the city.

An exhibition showing the history of the School of Arts over this period will be held in the foyer of the Regional Archives from July 20 to 31.

The exhibition will feature material from the School of Arts' substantial collection held in the Archives including minute books, correspondence, photographs and programs.

The School of Arts and Mechanics' Institute, as it was known originally, first opened its doors to the public on the evening of July 20, 1859, following a month of planning and organisation to establish an institution which would provide educational and entertainment facilities for the then small town.

A group of leading figures from Wagga's early history led the new organisation, with local member of the Legislative Assembly, William Macleay, as its patron, and the town's first resident doctor, Allen Bradley Morgan, as the inaugural president.

More than 40 local people enrolled as members on the first night.

The *Wagga Wagga Express* confidently predicted a bright future, noting "...we have no hesitation in expressing our opinion that the inaugural meeting of the Wagga School of Arts was a decided success, and we have no doubt of the institution progressing favourably".

In its first few decades, the School of Arts (having lost the Mechanics' Institute from its title by the turn of

