



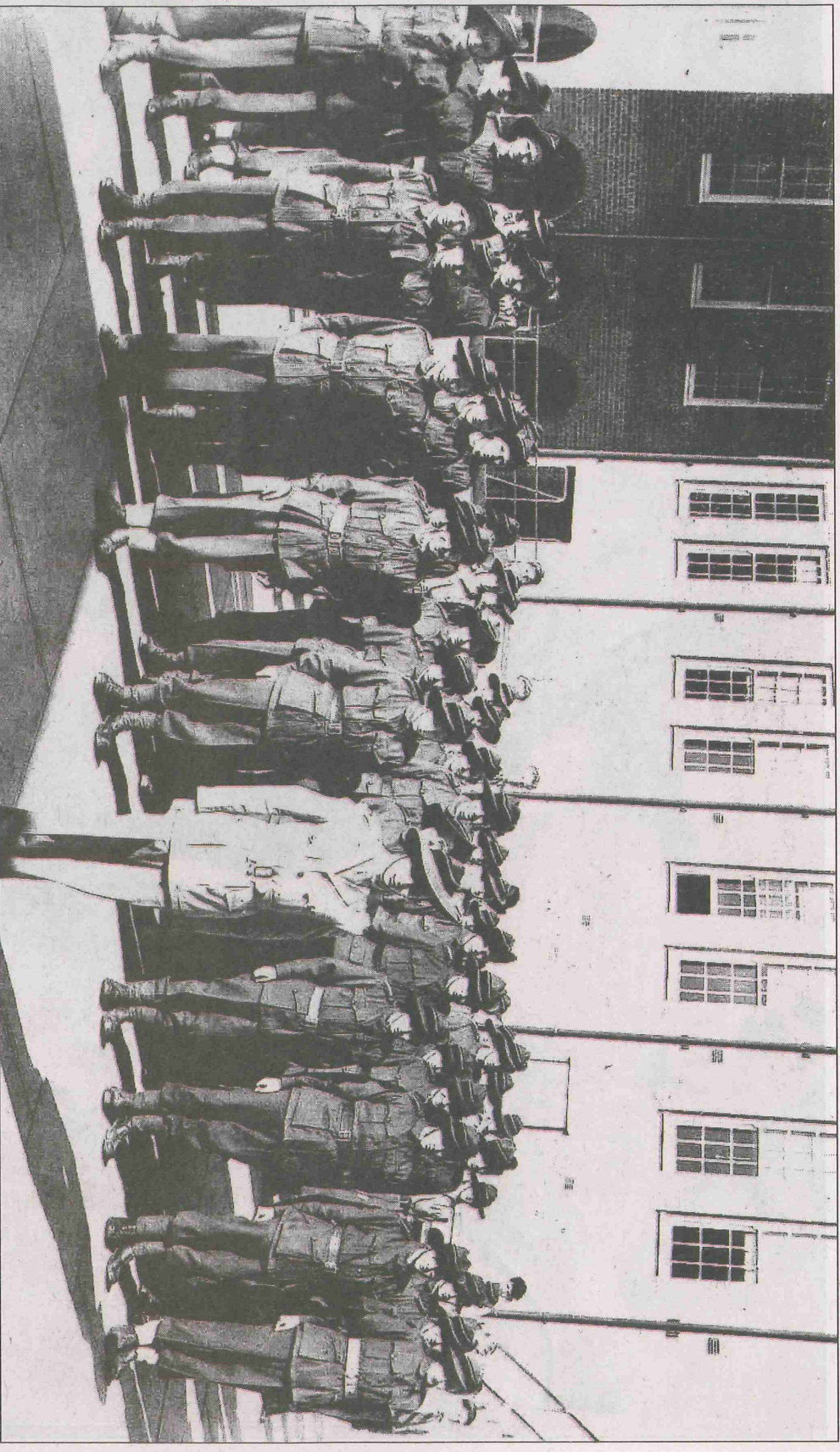
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## What you should know

■ 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](mailto:archive@csu.edu.au) or visit the website at [www.csu.edu.au/research/archives](http://www.csu.edu.au/research/archives) for a full listing of holdings and more detailed information.



Wagga High School cadets, 1944.

# School days

Nearly 100 years of history for the 'high school on the hill'

# W

agga High School will soon be celebrating its history with its centenary in 2012. The school has a long history with our city and has achieved many great things.

In keeping with our city's tradition of good sports, many of WWHS's sporting teams have achieved great things over the years and the school prides itself on its many sporting achievements.

WWHS started from modest beginnings, starting off with one building, 57 pupils and four teaching staff at the back of the Gurwood Street Primary School in 1912, then being moved to its present location in 1917, costing the Government a total of 15,000.

Now containing some five major buildings and two large halls, it is one of the largest schools in the Riverina and is host to more than 1000 students and well over 100 teaching staff.

After its opening on July 11, 1917, WWHS was the only government secondary school in the city until 1967, with the construction of the Mount Austin High School.

At the time of its construction, it was the only government high school in the region, taking students from all the primary schools in Wagga and from many areas outside the town, such as Junee, Urangunday, Kapooka, The Rock, Lockhart, Cootamundra, Humula, Tarcutta, Tumbarumba and Westbrook, many of whom boarded in nearby hostels.

During the late 1980s and early 1990s, WWHS became one of 27 "technology high schools" in NSW. The aim of these schools was to test and try the integration of new technology into education - a "lighthouse school".

Wagga High, along with the 26 other schools, trialled the technology classes that form the basis for what students are taught today. As a technology school, the school received more computers and technology than other schools.

Using these resources, Wagga High created one of the first school-wide networks, one of the biggest in the state, and helped show how well



WWHS students with principal WC Atkinson.

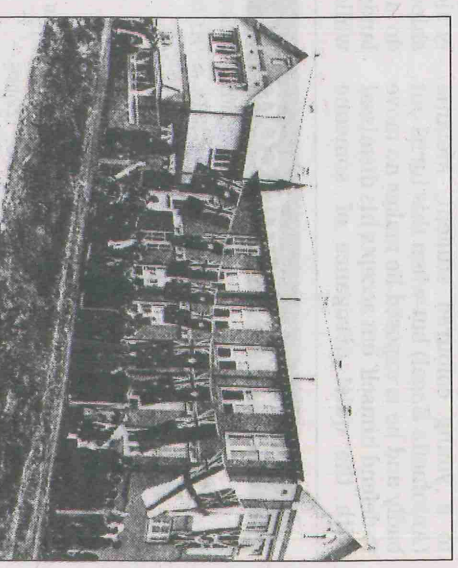
they would work in every school. Towards the end of the 1990s, all schools in the state were being fitted with more computers, internet access and their own networks.

The tests and trials that the 27 schools had done had proven the success of technology in our education system and they were returned to the status of normal schools as now every school could be considered a technology school.

In the beginning, many people were opposed to the school's position on the edge of town, but no one expected how quickly the town would expand and, over time, the city grew around it.

Wagga High sits on Williams Hill in a great position looking over the city, well earning its nickname, "The High School on the Hill".

References: *A History of Wagga* by Keith Swan; *Wagga Wagga, A History* by Sherry Morris; *The Daily Advertiser*, 11/05/1917; Tom Lennon Collection (RW1574/142). Compiled by Rhys Daley



The "high school on the hill" in its early days.