

What you should know

■ The CSU Regional Archives is 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 enquiries. For those people unable to visit the archives in person, staff can provide a research service for straightforward enquiries 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.

CSU coat of arms in focus

■ Currently displayed in the CSU Regional Archives foyer is an exhibition commemorating the Year of Academic Heraldry. The exhibition documents – through image and text – the process undertaken by Charles Sturt University to obtain a coat of arms.

The documents displayed includes correspondence pertaining to procedures and administrative processes that the university completed in order to successfully be granted an official coat of arms in 1992 by the College of Arms in London.

The exhibition also contains some suggested designs completed by university staff, students and the general public, which was invited to submit ideas for the format of the arms.

The CSU Regional Archives would like to acknowledge the assistance of Dr Edward Reid-Smith in researching and compiling this exhibition.

Life on the station

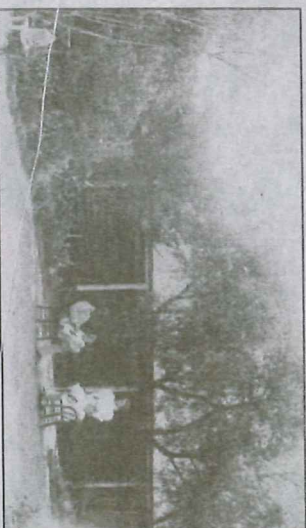
at the archives

Wayne Doubleday



Tubbo Station, located near Whitton, still stands as one of the richest and largest grazing and sheep properties in the Riverina. Tubbo was first established during the mid-1800s by a Scottish squatter, John Peter, who managed successfully almost 20 runs, or more than 740,000 acres, throughout this region by 1866.

John Peter's financial health was equally blessed by his fortunate marriage to the widow of the Gully Gully Station owner, Mrs Mary Bouike in 1837. His contribution to the growth of Wagga was also integral. He was particularly influential in lobbying for the establishment of a permanent Court of Petty Sessions in Wagga and he would often



Tubbo Homestead c1900 (RW2 – Tubbo Collection)

serve as magistrate for the Bench in the Wagga district.

Moreover, John Peter's Tubbo rose from meagre beginnings to become almost a village within itself, comprising of seven smaller stations, a school, blacksmith and general store for its employees and their families. All of John Peter's stations boasted a reputed annual income of \$40,000.

An investment company later purchased the Tubbo run from John Peter's estate in 1887 at a

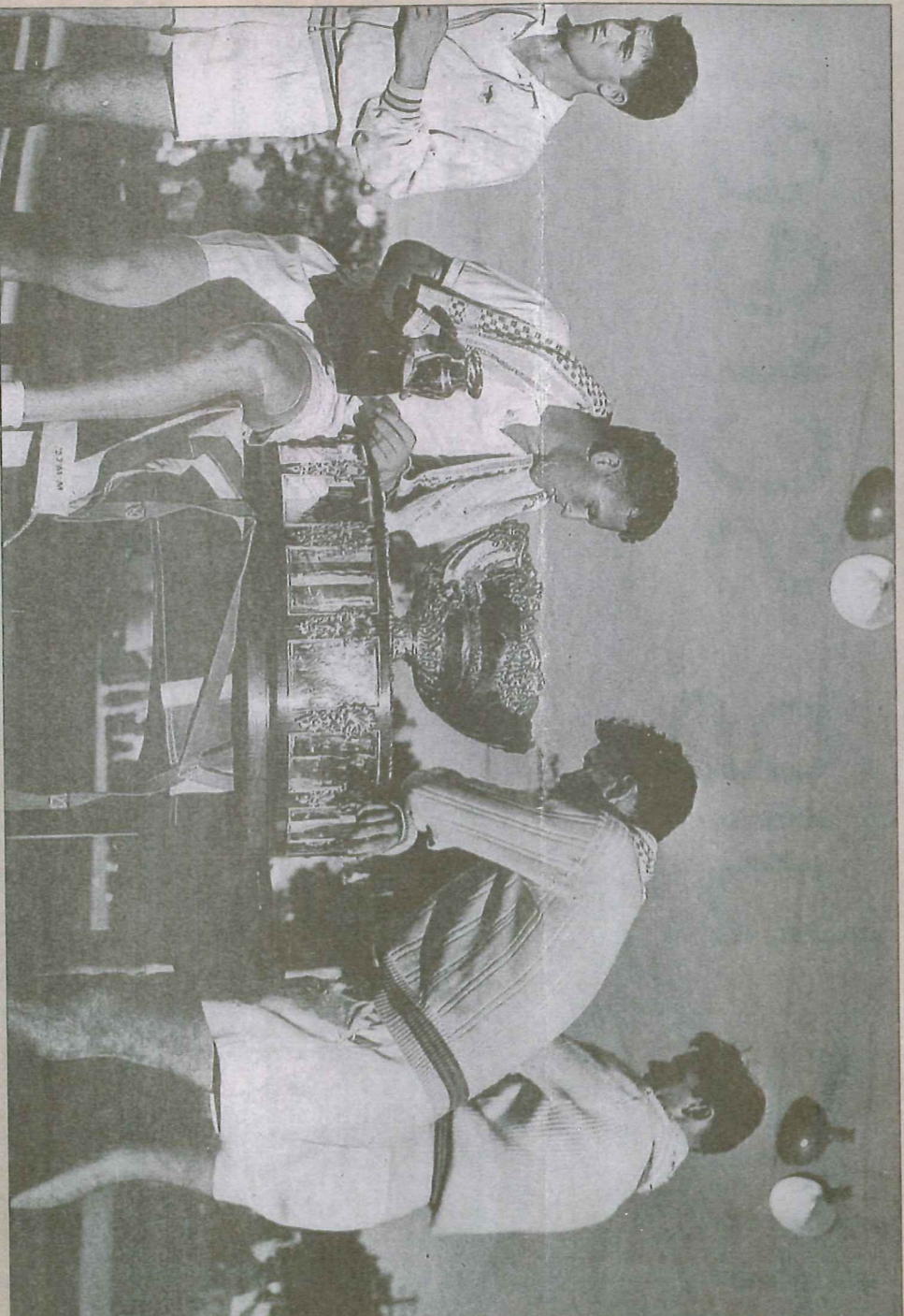
cost of over £361,000. The Tubbo Estate Company, which consisted of directors Archibald Fiskien, John Archibald Campbell, William Peter McGregor and Andrew McGregor, bought the 200,000-acre run and continued to manage it as predominantly a sheep station.

The historical significance of Tubbo Station cannot be underestimated, since it is one of the few remaining stations that managed to avoid losing much of its holdings to government subdivision and soldier settlement.

Maps of Tubbo held in the CSU Regional Archives collection illustrate the shrewd efforts of early management in retaining much of its river frontage, despite the existence of a reliable underground water source. Back blocks were cultivated eventually, or dressed up and sold off to the government for the purposes of closer settlement.

The CSU Regional Archives contain a rather large and comprehensive collection of records from the Tubbo station, offering researchers a fine reflection of the management practices that have taken place on bigger stations from the colonial days up until the 1970s.

■ Compiled by James Logan and Troy Whitford



Left: Ken Rosewall, Neale Fraser, Mervyn Rose, and Don Candy (RW1574 – Tom Lennon Collection)

Below: Wagga Tennis Association Members inspect the Davis Cup (RW1574 – Tom Lennon Collection)

Wagga hosted big names of tennis

■ In 1956 the NSW Hardcourt Championships were held in Wagga, attracting some big names of Australian tennis, as well as one of the most coveted trophies in sport – the Davis Cup.

After many years of fighting for the event to be played in Wagga, the Wagga Tennis Association finally had its chance to host what was seen as one of the major fixtures in the NSW tennis calendar.

During the four-day event, commencing on Thursday, March 15, the people of Wagga and surrounding towns were treated to a world class display of tennis from players such as Ken Rosewall, Neale Fraser, Mervyn Rose, Don Candy, Mary Carter and Beryl Penrose.

Equally spectacular was the glistering presence of the Davis Cup as it watched over each day's play. According to *The Daily Advertiser* on March 12, 1956, the prestigious cup, crafted in 1900, had been brought to Wagga from Sydney on an Ansett plane and had been insured for \$4000. The famous trophy was carefully guarded whilst on view at the courts, and each night was locked in a



vault at the ANZ bank for safekeeping.

The championships were held at the Wagga Lawn Courts at Bolton Park and included singles, doubles and junior events. The number of entries had exceeded the previous year's event, held in Armidale, with a total of 171 entries from across the state.

To complement the tennis and to ensure the entire event was a memorable one, the Wagga Tennis Association provided a full program of social entertainment each night. Additionally,

the women's auxiliary worked tirelessly to make available refreshments for players and spectators during the four-day competition.

Ken Rosewall was easily the star of the tournament, taking out both the mens singles and doubles titles. The Davis Cup star, having defeated Neale Fraser 6-2 6-4 in the singles, teamed up with Fraser to defeat Mervyn Rose and Don Candy in the doubles final. The ladies event was won by Beryl Penrose over Beth Jones.

Miss Penrose then partnered with Dawn Fogarty to defeat Alison Paech and Norma Marsh in the doubles.

By all accounts the tournament was a success, and no doubt many felt privileged to have witnessed such quality tennis from such sporting icons and to catch a close look at the trophy that holds the names of many of the greats in world tennis.

When considering all the places the Davis Cup has been and all the champions that have held it aloft, it is nice to think that in the history of the cup there lies a story of when it came to a town called Wagga.