

SHEPPARTON News

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I AM SAM, SAM I AM

Mason Bartlett is one of up to 50 workers responsible for the \$50 million, five-storey Shepparton Art Museum (SAM), which is on target for completion by November next year.

John Lewis met with Kane Constructions project manager Brandon Finucane and Mason at the Victoria Park Lake site this week to hear the latest update on the superstructure.

● Story, photos, pages 12 and 13.

Picture: RAY SIZER

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\$47m SHEPPARTON ART MUSEUM BUILD TAKING SHAPE

Full beam

By John Lewis

Construction of the new Shepparton Art Museum is forging ahead, with up to 50 building workers at the Victoria Park Lake site every day.

Kane Constructions project manager Brandon Finucane said despite recent wet weather and wind, the build was on target for completion by October or November next year after site work started in April.

Mr Finucane said a milestone was reached last Friday when 400cc of concrete was poured and 60 tonnes of steel put in place for the loading dock and main ground slab.

Mr Finucane said 52 per cent of site workers had been sourced locally, with skilled people from Cobram, Numurkah, Tatura, Shepparton and the Goulburn Valley area.

He said while on-site workers

were all male, female workers would be seen at the site in the coming months, as electricians, plumbers and administrative staff arrived.

Mr Finucane said local suppliers of concrete, drainage pipes, and plumbing and electrical infrastructure would also be used.

Vertical work has started on the first internal wall in preparation for the second of five levels to be built for the \$47.4 million building, which Melbourne architects Denton Corker Marshall designed.

Mr Finucane said a tower crane would not be necessary, as there was enough on-site space for mobile cranes.

A unique feature of the project includes a separate "art hill" to the north of the main building.

Continued page 13

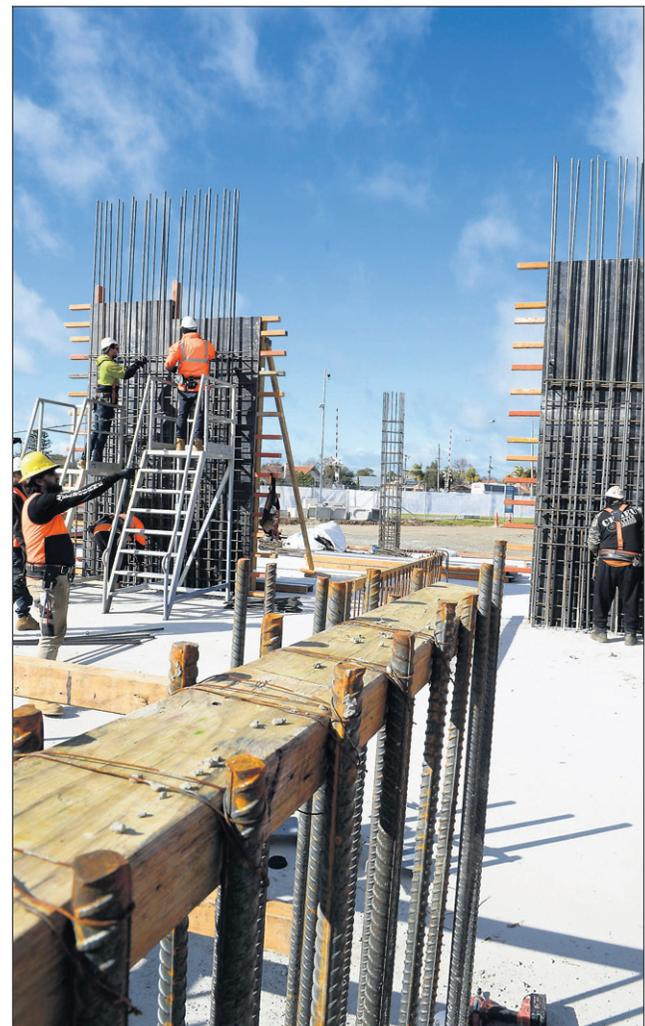


Falling into place: The new SAM building site is a busy place with the first internal walls being prepared.

Pictures: Ray Sizer



Kane-do: Kane Construction crew (from left) Doug McDonald (Cobram), Callum Parrotte (Abbotsford), Devang Sanghi (Shepparton), Brandon Finucane (Bentleigh), Brian Harrison (Numurkah), Paul Atkinson (Tatura) and Madison James (Newstead).



In concrete: Casings and steel cores for internal walls are being put in place.



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\$47m SHEPPARTON ART MUSEUM BUILD TAKING SHAPE

ahead for the new SAM

From page 12

It comprises loading bay, power and waste utilities and public toilets, café terrace and amphitheatre, which will be hidden by a grassy embankment.

Steel pylons and wooden casings are stacked adjacent to the “art hill” in preparation for the construction of the amphitheatre performance space facing towards the lake.

At the building’s core will be a staircase and passenger and goods lifts to the top levels of the 31.3 m-high structure, which will feature a café, bar and restaurant with lake views.

Greater Shepparton City Council project manager Thomas Lyle said the building was designed to achieve a five-star Australian Excellence rating for environmental construction and use.

“The building will consume a lot of power, but there will be micro climates and air locks in the gallery spaces designed to minimise energy use and keep it at a consistent level,” he said.

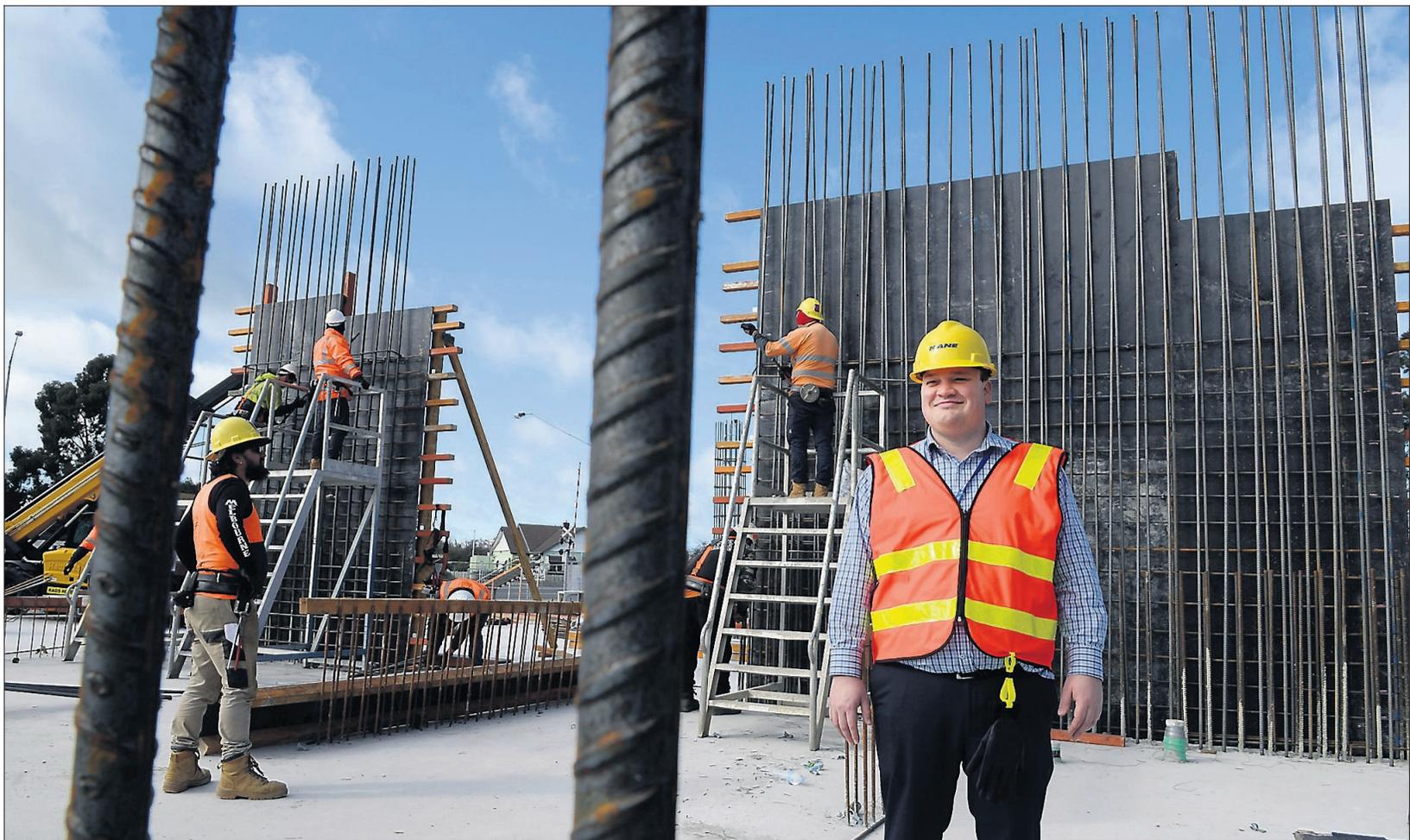
Mr Lyle said treated glass would be used to minimise heat transference, toilets would be low-flow water usage, all concrete was made from sustainable materials and the timber frameworks were recycled from other building projects.

He said 98 per cent of demolition waste went to be recycled.

Mr Lyle said the five-storey superstructure of the building would be visible by the end of the year, with the distinctive metal exterior walls installed next year.

“The whole building and surrounding landscaping is designed to complement the natural surrounds of indigenous plants,” he said.

“The building will age very well — it will look like it was naturally meant to be



Happy with progress: Greater Shepparton City Council project manager Thomas Lyle (above) on site at the new SAM building under construction at Victoria Park Lake. **Below:** Kane Constructions project manager Brandon Finucane.



Keeping watch: Work at the new Shepparton Art Museum site continues and is on target to meet its late 2020 schedule.

here.”

Mr Finucane said after 29 years of construction work, it was a stimulating experience to work on the

new SAM building.

“It’s a challenge because of its complexity, but it’s also extremely exciting,” he said.



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