

Gangland war film takes over

GOODBYE cow town, hello gangster's paradise. Director/producer Jason Gibson is turning Rockhampton into a gangland war zone one scene at a time.

Filming began earlier this month for his latest project *The Sharkmen*.

Gibson said the filming has involved a lot of night work with long shoots from 6pm to 5am.

"We are filming for 14 days and finishing up production on November 25," he said.

"Filming is going great, despite the days being long."

Gibson best describes *The Sharkmen* as a gritty hard-edged look at the world of organised crime.

"Merciless killing is the main ingredient for the everyday hitman, but none make it look so easy than the infamous group who has been dubbed the 'Sharkmen'," he said.

His cast include an array of talented actors including Brisbane-based Ray Sinclair, Michael Williams, Rob Jenkins and Kane Sarota, Yeppoon's Ian Westley and Rockhampton's Brett Fairbairn.

A cast of mostly non-smokers, the boys have smoked dozens of poisonous sticks (cigarettes) while in character for the shoot.

"We've smoked way too much (cigarettes)," Rob said.

"I'm cultivating a small cancer inside."

Rob plays the character



ROCKVEGAS GANGLAND: (left) Ian Westley, Ray Sinclair, Michael Williams, Rob Jenkins, Kane Sarota and (front) Brett Fairbairn are starring in the local movie *Sharkmen*.

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Orca, the big boss Kurtzman's right hand man.

"He a friendly ally to the sharkmen, but don't mistake him because he's still a sly killer.

Meet Thresher, played by Ray, the oldest of all the hitman.

Best described as a non-sense kind of man, he only speaks when it's needed and is quite the efficient killer with a machete.

Ian takes on the role as Kurtzman, the Sharkmen's

boss.

"They think I'm an idiot," he said.

"The hitmen don't respect me, but I rely on these guys to protect me and do my dirty work."

No gangster film would be complete without a novice and Singo is the man for the job (played by Michael).

"Singo doesn't have much respect in the underworld. The hitmen are everything he's not," he said.

"He hasn't killed anyone

yet."

Wearing his heart on his sleeve is Bull, the leader of the hitmen, played by Kane.

"He's got a big heart and he's very truthful," he said. "He's good at what he does, but he hates what he does."

And finally what would a film of crime be without a hitman battling a monstrous drug addiction?

Meet Dundee, the hitman who not only wrestles with others, but his own demons.

Dundee, played by Brett, is known for his unique ways of disposing of his targets. He is also the youngest of the group.

Ray said he joined the *Sharkmen* project because he liked the script.

"There are some strong characters in it," he said.

Michael adds: "It's good to have the opportunity to play something that might only come around once too."

Rob said the movie included a variety of genres.