

# Hamil-Wood: south-west setting for movie

## The arts

Sophia Baker

Hamilton

ASPIRING actor, Hamilton's Adrian Charman, is making his silver screen debut as an extra in a new feature movie being filmed across the city.

Charman, who works at Hamilton's McDonald's, is among a number of locals involved with the production of *The Returned*, a new Australian film set on a small farm at Wannon.

Movie writer and director Ben Pfeiffer said throughout the filming process the team had made a conscious effort to employ local talent both in front of and behind the camera.

"It's been amazing here, the community has really got on board," he said.

"We want them to feel ownership of the project.

"If it plants a seed for someone who maybe wants to pursue something in the arts or a career path that they hadn't even considered, then we'd be thrilled."

Charman had been interested in the dramatic arts in high school but hadn't con-



The cast of *The Returned* filming in Hamilton. Picture by Eddie Guerrero

sidered a career in the arts until he got involved with the production.

"It's definitely a new experience I'd highly recommend," he said.

Behind-the-scenes pho-

tographer Samantha Kaspers said it was a chance to show off rural and regional creatives.

"To have this right on our doorstep and to be surrounded by ... film specialists

has just been incredible," the Hamilton woman said.

"Something I'll never forget for sure."

Once the film has been completed the team hopes to put on a private screening



Writer, director and star Ben Pfeiffer with actor Adrian Charman on location. Picture by Eddie Guerrero

**The community has really got on board. We want them to feel ownership. If it plants a seed for someone who maybe wants to pursue something in the arts or a career path that they hadn't even considered, then we'd be thrilled.**

**Writer-director Ben Pfeiffer**

at Hamilton's cinema so the town can celebrate its significant role.

The movie will be submit-

ted to a number of international film festivals, including Sundance, which has been going since 1985.