



**COMING DOWN:** A crane removes the external stairs from the old Joe White Maltings silos in Gregory St yesterday. Picture: **Jeremy Bannister** 300108/06A

## Project steps forward

By **Meg Rayner**

STEPS towards converting the Gregory St silos into apartments were taken yesterday with the external staircase removed.

Shayne Coffield, manager of Calora Demolitions, is in charge of the team removing the steel staircase.

"It's a bit more work than we thought," he said.

"It's held together really strong".

The 10-storey building is the tallest in Ballarat.

Mr Coffield has been working to clear the old Joe White Maltings site for the past six months and will recycle the concrete and bricks left over.

Calora Demolitions has worked

on a number of big jobs in Ballarat including Lake Gardens, Nazareth house and the site for the new ambulance station in Sebastopol.

"We're local people so it's good to do the big, local demolitions," said Tammy Kuiler, who is a labourer at the Gregory St site.

"We're the only ones in Ballarat licensed to do EPA (Environment Protection Authority) contaminated clean-up and the only ones able to do any demolitions over two storeys high."

The proposed apartment building will house up to 30 multi-storey units varying from 23 to 40 squares.

There are only eight converted silo housing developments in Australia.