

MAIN CONSTRUCTION COMPANY : Cockram Construction Ltd
ARCHITECT : nettleontribe
STRUCTURAL ENGINEER : Sellick Consultants
CONSTRUCTION VALUE : \$51 million

A CLASS OF THEIR OWN

The new \$51M SA5 building is a sophisticated development which provides modern accommodation for 500 Australian National University students. Vice-Chancellor Professor Brian Schmidt officially opened the University's new state-of-the-art student accommodation block this year which was designed in part by students.

Providing 500 beds, the new building offers high quality single rooms, a multi-kitchen hall and common areas throughout, along with a rooftop courtyard with breathtaking views. Students and the student associations ANUSA and PARSA, worked with Cockram to include the size and look of rooms, that accommodation seekers required and to encourage student interaction within a large, family orientated and open space.

The building integrates open living spaces created by 270 degree views of green spaces where community living is inspired by the smooth lines of a u-shaped building. The home away from home incorporates kitchens, a library, break out spaces, a theatre, BBQ facilities and gardens for the student that requires some relaxation in the sunshine.

The development of the new accommodation space in collaboration with ANU showcases Cockram's attention to detail and their ability to deliver projects where the client is involved in staging methodology, staging and access requirements.

Cockram delivers projects where design and construction are integrated, and a fast track construction schedule is delivered. In the case of the SA5 building, hand over was completed in 16 months.

Cockram are Australia's oldest operating construction company. The company was founded in 1861 by Thomas Cockram and has operated continuously since this time. Today it has over 750 employees, and operates in Australia, New Zealand, China, America and other parts of Asia. The company has a diversified construction mix, known for the construction of technically complex projects as well as a broad range of commercial, industrial, water and infrastructure projects.

Cockram's commitment to excellence has seen it complete landmarks such as the Princess Theatre, Grand Hotel (The Windsor) and the Eastern Hill Fire station as far back as the 1800's. More recently, Cockram completed the digital stadium upgrade at the Melbourne Cricket Ground, built the \$80 million Australian Federal Police forensic science building and constructed a complex data centre for Global Switch in Sydney.

Each one of their projects aims to be sustainable, working with clients and suppliers to ensure that all their endeavours are strategically and culturally implemented to achieve economically sustainable development, protection of the environment and social enrichment. Staff are Green Star accredited professionals, an officially recognised environmental rating system for buildings in Australia led by the Green Building Council of Australia.

In the last 30 years Cockram has expanded successfully from being an Australian construction contractor. This success has been underpinned by our international knowledge, company systems and the mobility of our experienced personnel, which allows us to confidently offer project solutions anywhere in the world. From our Australian head office location in Melbourne we have expanded nationally throughout Australia and internationally.

Cockram enjoys a significant Asian presence and in recent times a significant growing presence in America. Cockram's first overseas expansion was to China in 1993 and today they enjoy significant and thriving business in China with four office locations. Cockram commenced operations in the Americas in 2000 and today have offices in Michigan, Denver and Los Angeles. In 2008 they commenced operations in India with an office in Mumbai. Operations in New



Zealand commenced in the north island in 2009 and in south in 2013. Cockram's success has been underpinned by our robust systems, talented people and pioneering spirit, which allow us to confidently offer project solutions throughout the world.

Cockram's commitment to the community is furthermore reflected in their partnership with the Federation of Victorian Traditional Owners Corporations to create Barpa, meaning 'to build' in the traditional language of the Jaara people of Central Victoria. The company is majority-owned by Aboriginal people and builds on the strengths of the two entities to increase indigenous employment growth in trades by utilising the construction skills of Cockram aimed at closing the gap for the first peoples of Australia.

For more information contact Cockram Construction Ltd, Suite 4, 4 Kennedy Street, Kingston ACT 2604, phone 02 6126 4300, fax 02 6295 1836, website www.cockram.com

Below S4B (Services 4 Buildings) was the engineering building services consultant on the project.

Below ACT Projects provided a concrete structure package for the ANU Hall of Residence project.



Demonstrating their bespoke approach to developments, Services 4 Building have shared their experience in diverse ways for the ANU New Hall of Resident project. The development spans 15,000m² and houses an extra 500 students at the ANU. “We’ve designed the air conditioning, heating, ventilation, power, communications, security, fire sprinklers, smoke detection systems and lifts,” says S4B Founder and Director, Luka Vulic.

He and his team have worked on the project since September 2015 until completion in December 2016. “Our designs are cost effective, practical and buildable. This was demonstrated in dealing with some of the project’s key challenges – to rapidly design a cost effective, innovative and sustainable accommodation building. The main challenge was the student accommodation needed to be low cost, highly sustainable but with a lot of specific functions for the operator so we aimed to get multiple uses out of each element to deliver the best value for money,” said Luka.

“We didn’t air condition the student rooms, instead using passive solar design to create a façade that means there will be only a handful of days the rooms might be hot in summer. There are study and other common spaces that are air conditioned to provide respite on these peak

summer days. The rooms have hydronic heating, to deal with Canberra’s extreme winter. The building aesthetic is one of high performance and architectural elegance but functions much more like a low cost building and it achieves those aims.”

S4B offers building services and consulting engineering covering mechanical, electrical, fire, hydraulics, vertical transportation and sustainability. It has extensive experience in project leadership in many private and public sectors, including commercial, retail, residential, hospitality, aged care, health and data centres. Some of the completed projects S4B have been involved in include the Westfield Sydney City Precinct (one of the largest mixed use buildings in Sydney incorporating a retail podium, three office towers and Sydney Tower), the Pialligo Estate (chef’s hatted restaurant and award winning smoke house) and Number 1 Thynne Street (Bruce, ACT), which houses the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare that’s achieved a certified 5 Star NABERS rating.

For more information contact S4B, Level 5, 309 George Street, Sydney NSW 2000, phone 02 9002 4200, Level 4, 60 Marcus Clarke Street, Canberra ACT 2600, phone 02 6113 4900, email admin@s4bstudio.com.au, website www.s4bstudio.com.au

ACT Projects provided a complete concrete structure package which streamlined the construction and prevented the need to use multiple subcontractors to deliver the work for the project.

“For the ANU project, we were the single point of contact for delivering the concrete structure for the client, which is inclusive of concrete supply, pump, place and finish. All up it was more than 4,000m³ of concrete,” says ACT Projects’ Director and Founder, Andrew Spinelli. “We also looked after the supply and installation of reinforcement, the supply and reinforcement of post tensioning services and the supply and install of all precast concrete panels.”

ACT Projects started their planning work on the project in December 2015 and finished their role on the job by July 2016. A challenge was achieving the delivery of the concrete structure in the short time period.

The company specialises in industrial and commercial developments across the Australian Capital Territory and beyond offering mainly structural engineer and project management services. A recent key project they supplied was the HMAS Harman naval base in the Australian Capital Territory. They’re also completing the new CSIRO offices in Canberra.

“We deliver projects that have in excess of 600 precast concrete panels and most of them weight about 10 to 12 tonnes,” said Andrew.

The panels are specifically shop drawn for each of ACT Projects’ clients and can be coloured as well as having embossed letters. The panels are made in their 800m², purpose built factory which opened about two years ago. The factory features two 20-tonne overhead gantry cranes, part of the set up that allows the company to deliver precast panels within six weeks of ordering.

ACT Projects is a specialised concrete structures organisation that through its affiliation with other group companies being Belconnen Concrete Pty Ltd and Precast Projects Pty Ltd, we provide clients with a one-stop-shop for structural elements on projects. Our ability to keep the main structural elements inhouse allows us to be more cost competitive, and ensure time, quality and safety are managed to the highest regard.

For more information contact ACT Projects Pty Ltd, 61 Townsville Street, Fyshwick Canberra ACT 2609, phone 02 6280 2703, email andrew@actprojects.com.au, website www.actprojects.com.au