



**NEW group for disabled:** (From left) Management committee member Greg Taylor; vice president David Hurse; president Robert Pyne, co-ordinator Sara Dobson and Dennis Boundry.

Picture; David Bragg

# Disabled support

A GROUP of people with disabilities in Cairns have taken control of their support needs by forming the Far North Queensland Independent Living Support Association.

The association, which has a management committee consisting of people with physical disabilities, is believed to be the first of its kind in regional Queensland

Association president Robert Pyne said FNQILSA would administer accommodation support funding provided by the State Government to people with disabilities.

"This is about improving the delivery of a Government-provided service," he said.

He said effective management of

accommodation support enabled people with disabilities to live more independently. Mr Pyne said far too many people with disabilities were dependant on spouses or ageing parents for their care.

He also said the organisation would lobby the Government for additional funds to provide more people with disabilities access to accommodation support.

Association co-ordinator Sara Dobson said FNQILSA would fill the gap left in Cairns since a similar initiative by Centacare was abandoned last year.

She said the service would also administer accommodation support for tourists.