



**WORKING TOGETHER . . .** Bridges team members (from left), Ellie Ellis, Tirrania Suhood, Marie Daley, Bridges worker Michelle Azizi and Sidone Thomas. Photo: WOLTER PEETERS

# Shopping for ideas to bridge youth gap

By MATTHEW LAWRENCE

WESTPOINT Blacktown is glad to help build strong bridges in the local community, community affairs manager, Maree Daley, said.

The shopping centre, owned by Queensland Investment Corporation (QIC), is part of a new program that aims to strengthen bonds between young people and the wider community to make tackling the drug issue easier.

Called Bridges, the program started in March this year with a series of workshops.

Ms Daley said Westpoint's involvement helped strengthen the relationship between business and the community.

Project coordinator Tirrania Suhood agreed. "We are really impressed that Maree and Sidone [Thomas, Westpoint promotions manager] have been attending our monthly workshops

and offering Westpoint's support," she said.

Miss Suhood encouraged other businesses to take part.

Miss Daley described the project as "very hands on".

Bridges is an initiative of Blacktown Alcohol and other Drugs Family Services, in collaboration with the Western Sydney Area Health Service.

For more information, call Ms Suhood on 9622 7511.