

Lights, camera, action



Director Koon Chakhatrakan (16, far left) is joined by cast members (from left), fellow John McGlashan College pupil Callum van Dyk (16), and Ihlara McIndoe (15) and Mhairi Rowbottom (15), both of St Hilda's Collegiate School, on the first day of shooting for a debut feature film at the weekend.

The drama project, which has a work-

ing title of *Deep Dark*, is about teens dealing with issues such as depression, drugs and alcohol. The project has attracted about 50 volunteers from various Dunedin schools.

The film has a budget of \$5000 and is largely self-funded but has received support from Youth Fund Dunedin and Mayor Dave Cull.

Koon said he hoped to screen the film in June at a premiere, and then would sell DVDs to the general public.

Any profits from the film would go to five Dunedin charities, including the Salvation Army, St John, Otago Community Hospice, Otago SPCA and the Red Cross.

REPORT: HAMISH MCNEILLY/PHOTO: STEPHEN JAQUIERY