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■ New treatment . . . Taringa physiotherapist Mandy Goodyear performs the new treatment.

# Lasers ease pain

**L**ASER treatment may offer relief from the symptoms of a condition suffered by up to one in three breast cancer patients, Lymphoedema Association of Queensland representatives say.

Lymphoedema sometimes develops after the removal of the lymph nodes and causes swelling of the arms.

Lymphoedema Associ-

ation president Nerida Smith said the condition was incurable.

"Unless there is regular movement in the area it can become hard and congested, causing swelling, which can become permanent," she said.

Mrs Smith said laser treatment could help soften scarring and get fluid flowing around affected areas. "It has been

successful, but some find it more effective than others."

Taringa physiotherapist Mandy Goodyear offers the treatment at Gailey Fiveways. "Some of the symptoms of lymphoedema include tightness and heaviness in the affected limb, 'bursting' pains, shoulder pain and pins and needles in the limb," she said.