

Help for children with cleft palate

A CHARITY which supports families of children with a cleft lip or palate has been given a helping hand by the *News'* community fund.

Press Relief has donated £2,200 to Clapa-Cambridge so it can buy much needed equipment.

The award will fund a professional video camera for use by speech and language therapists and data storage on memory cards and also audio visual equipment at two Cambridgeshire clinics to allow children to practise at home.

On average, three babies are born in the UK with a cleft every day and around 90 children a year are born with the deformity in East Anglia.

A spokeswoman for the charity said: "Clapa-Cambridge branch, together with the cleft team at Addenbrooke's Hospital, is passionate to get all the help and support to the families from the start and our volunteers are dedicated to



give them emotional support, minimising the distress inevitably experienced by parents at the birth of a child with cleft."

The charity supports new parents, children and adults with the condition from infancy through to adulthood.

Amanda Scarborough, Press

Relief administrator, said: "We are happy to support Clapa and hope that their new equipment will be a great benefit to the young people that they support."

GIFT: From left, Press Relief's Caroline Stenner, consultant plastic surgeon Per Hall, Dr Anne Harding-Bell, Mary Newbold of Clapa and Dr Anna Zeffert 655018