

Centre gets star backing

STARS including singing sensations Shane Ward, Imelda May and RTE presenter John Creedon have given their seal of approval to a Mallow-based national autism support group.

John Creedon recently helped Autism Assistance Dogs Ireland mark its first birthday by highlighting their work on his daily radio show.

The charity's director of funding, Breeda Clancy said: "Knowing that we have him behind our efforts to change the lives of Irish autistic children means an awful lot and will help raise awareness of the charity".

John was just the latest in a line of well-known celebrities to endorse the charity, including Dragons Den star Sean Gallagher who recently paid an impromptu visit to their Mallow HQ to see for himself what goes on there.

Autism group celebrates first anniversary

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THE MALLOW-based charity, Autism Assistance Dogs Ireland (AADI), celebrated its first anniversary recently and is continuing its quest to find volunteer puppy foster carers and temporary boarders.

The service is offered free of charge, provides families of children with autism with an assistance dog and operates from Quarters Mills in Mallow.

Assistance dogs help as many children with autism have a tendency to run away from parents and guardians when out and often have a limited sense of danger. Like all children, those with autism do not always want to hold an adult's hand.

In public the child is attached to their assistance dog, which is under the

control of an adult at all times and makes outings possible and pleasant for families.

This week, broadcaster and proud Cork man, John Creedon, sent well wishes to the charity from his RTE studio.

Director of Fundraising for AADI, Breeda Clancy said: "We really value John's efforts to support the work of AADI in any way shape or form. While John is unfortunately not in a position to be a fully fledged patron of AADI, as a growing national charity based in his native Cork, to know we have him behind our efforts to change the lives of Irish autistic children means an awful lot and may help to raise awareness of the charity."

Last month, Dragon's Den star Sean Gallagher paid an impromptu visit to the charity's offices. According to Breeda, Sean

suffers a visual disability and wanted to find out more about the workings of the charity. He encouraged AADI to continue to provide such vital services.

John is now just the latest well known personality to support the work of AADI.

AADI is a voluntary organisation which does not receive any government funding, and is always looking for volunteers to organise or assist on a number of local and national fundraising drives, including bag packs, coffee mornings and flag days. The charity is also seeking volunteer puppy foster carers and temporary boarders.

"We train dogs, mainly Labradors or golden retrievers, as assistance dogs to help autistic children break down the barriers preventing them from interacting with society," explained AADI Training Service



Cork broadcaster, John Creedon, wishing Autism Assistance Dogs Ireland a happy first birthday from his RTE studios this week.

Manager, Nuala Geraghty. "There is really nothing like seeing the calming effect the dog can have on a child's behaviour," she added.

For more information on AADI, see www.autis-massistancedogsireland.ie.

Celeb support for autism charity continues to grow



John Creedon adds his support to Autism Assistance Dogs Ireland.

RTE star John Creedon is the latest celebrity to support for Mallow-based national charity Autism Assistance Dogs Ireland (AADI). The Cork radio and TV star celebrated the charity's first birthday on April 26th. Known to be a huge supporter of local charities and community based events, John Creedon sent a special happy birthday message to AADI from his RTE studio base in Cork city to mark

the occasion.

Director of Fundraising for AADI, Breeda Clancy, said "We really value John's efforts to support the work of AADI in any way shape or form. While John is unfortunately not in a position to be a fully fledged patron of AADI, as a growing national charity based in his native Cork, to know we have him behind our efforts to change the lives of Irish autistic children means an awful lot and may help to

raise awareness of the charity." John is just the latest famous name to support the work of AADI. Last month Dragon's Den star Seán Gallagher paid an impromptu visit to the charity's offices. Seán suffers a visual disability himself and wanted to find out more about the workings of the charity. He encouraged AADI to continue to provide such vital services.

One of the first autism dogs trained by AADI went to former Miss Ireland Vivienne Doyle Quinn for her son Daniel. While on a trip to RTE to appear on FourLive, their assistance dog Molly caught the eye of singing stars Imelda May and Shayne Ward who were more than happy to pose for pictures with the family.

As a voluntary organisation which does not receive any government funding, AADI are always looking for volunteers to organise or assist on a number of local and national fundraising drives, including bag packing, coffee mornings, flag days and there are sponsorship opportunities on www.aadi.ie. The charity is also



Alcoholics Anonymous

*If you want to drink that's your business,
If you want to stop that's ours, Call us on
087-9313134*

seeking volunteer puppy foster carers and temporary boarders.

AADI has so far made a huge difference to the lives of many autistic children. "We train dogs, mainly labradors or golden retrievers, as assistance dogs to help autistic children break down the barriers preventing them from interacting with society," says AADI training service manager Nuala Geraghty. "There is really nothing like seeing the calming effect the dog can have on a child's behaviour."

You can join AADI on Facebook or follow them on Twitter @autismdogsgirl

Birthday backing for autism dogs charity

RTE STAR John Creedon is the latest celebrity to show his support for the Mallow-based Autism Assistance Dogs Ireland (AADI) charity.

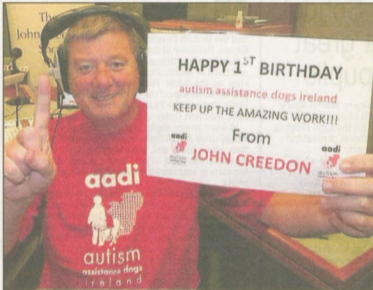
The Cork radio and TV star was on hand to celebrate the charity's first birthday recently.

Over the past 12 months, AADI has gone from being a local charity in Mallow to becoming well-known across the country.

Known to be a huge supporter of local charities and community-based events, Mr-Creedon sent a special happy birthday message to AADI from his RTE studio base in Cork city to mark the occasion.

Director of fund-raising for the charity, Breeda Clancy, said: "We really value John's efforts to support the work of AADI. While John is, unfortunately, not in a position to be a fully fledged patron of AADI, as a growing national charity based in his Cork, to know we have him behind our efforts to change the lives of Irish autistic children means an awful lot and will help to raise awareness of the charity."

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WELL DONE: RTE radio and TV personality John Creedon congratulates the Mallow-based charity Autism Assistance Dogs Ireland on the first year of its existence and the sterling work it has carried out providing trained support dogs for autistic Irish children.

Seán suffers from a visual disability himself and wanted to find out more about the workings of the charity.

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