

NEW SHOP TO RAISE FUNDS FOR AUTISM ASSISTANCE DOGS



Assistance dogs like Trixie and Pearl cost up to €15k to train.

Picture: Robbie Reynolds/CPR

Charity set to move into new headquarters

CHRISTMAS has come a month early for Mallow-based charity Autism Assistance Dogs Ireland (AADI) as they prepare to move to their new headquarters in Mallow town centre.

Since it was established in April 2010, the national charity has been operating from a portable building at Quarters Mills, outside the town. The new premises at 3 Shortcastle Street will also incorporate a charity store and efforts are now underway to source stock for the shop.

A donation day will be held at the newly opened premises between 11am and 2pm on Wednesday next. If people are unable to make it to the offices, they can contact them

directly to arrange a suitable drop off time. Director of fund-raising, Breeda Clancy, said: "These are very exciting times for AADI. We are delighted to say that the charity's profile has been growing steadily over the past year in particular and we feel a move into the centre of Mallow town will further those efforts and people will now be able to drop in and see the charity at work first hand and hopefully pick up a vintage bargain in the process."

Administrator, Kellie Russell, said: "While we appreciate any donations made, only certain items can be resold, so we are especially looking for clean, new or gently used items which can be resold such as ladies and

children's clothing, but not underwear, shoes and boots, hats, belts, jewellery and if people are in a position to assist with the shop fit out, clothing rails and mirrors would be a great bonus."

The charity store will open for business on December 8, with the new headquarters to be officially opened at 12pm on Thursday, December 15.

Breeda added: "We are not Government funded and therefore depend hugely on fund-raising to maintain the charity's operations.

For any queries about donations, please contact Kellie Russell, AADI administrator on 022 43851.



Mayor Dan Joe Fitzgerald cuts the ribbon to officially open the new Autism Assistance Dogs (AADI) Shop in Shortcastle last week. Also pictured, Minister Seán Sherlock, Breeda Clancy, Nuala Geraghty and Kellie Russell of AADI and Mary Kelly, President of Mallow Chamber.

Photo by S. Murphy.