

DONATION 13 projects benefit from foundation

eBay, PayPal channel €50k into charities

■ LAURA WEBB

DUBLIN 15 based businesses have given back to the community by donating almost €50,000 to charities last year.

Auction website eBay and online payment service PayPal raised the funds for 13 Irish charities through fundraising initiatives.

During a special ceremony at PayPal's Blanchardstown office on Thursday, April 4, Louise Phelan, vice president of global operations for

Europe, the Middle East and Africa (EMEA) at PayPal and Gary Hagel, senior director, eBay customer experience, Europe, were on hand to present the cheques to the beneficiaries.

Employees of the two companies nominated the beneficiaries with the GIVE grants helping to fund a number of projects, both in the Dublin and Louth areas and nationally.

Examples of projects include funding of €5,000 to Cystic Fibrosis Associa-

tion of Ireland to provide new born screening for cystic fibrosis, Console received €4,000 in funding for the fitting and furnishing of child therapy and family rooms, while the Irish Therapy Dogs received €2,000 to update their volunteer team uniforms.

Louise Phelan said: "At PayPal we pride ourselves on being an organisation that gives back to our local communities.

"We are delighted to work with our employees to identify and assist



Brian O'Sullivan with his dog Donna from the Irish Therapy Dogs with Gary Hagel, senior director customer experience, Europe, at eBay and Louise Phelan, vice president global operations EMEA, PayPal

these 13 organisations, with whom they are closely involved through our GIVE teams and the eBay Foundation. These charities are carrying out hugely important work, and I hope that our contributions are beneficial in terms of helping them to continue their projects in local communities around Ireland."

Gary Hagel said: "Ire-

land's got an impressive record of giving as a nation and every day people's lives are transformed because of that charitable spirit.

"eBay also has a culture of giving, particularly in Ireland. Our employees are generous with their money and their time, and since 1998 our GIVE Foundation has contributed to local projects in

the communities where we're located. It's another reason why we love doing business in Ireland. Our people here are fantastic in so many ways and this is just one more example of that."

Other charities include: Move4Parkinson's which received €5,000 to develop a speech therapy based choir for people with Parkinson's.

N2-N3 Link road to open in May

THE long-awaited N2-N3 link road is scheduled to be officially opened in May. Work on the road began in September 2011 with an estimated schedule of 70 weeks.

According to Fingal County Council, the N2-N3 link road linking Tyrrelstown R121 to the N2 at Cherryhound is due to open on May 17.

The opening date was extended slightly due to additional instructed works which were required during the course of the project, and also because of instances of "inclement weather".

A number of outstanding items including landscaping will need to be undertaken post opening when "the site conditions are more favourable for planting".

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