And the Boherbouy Band plays on

By CLIODHNA McGOWAN

A SPECIAL reception in City Hall this week celebrated 150 years of the musical spirit and the people involved in the Boherbouy Band.

"The band has made an immense contribution to the musical life of the city," said Mayor

John Ryan. "St Patrick's Day parade without the boys is like spring without a leg of lamb. I spent this St Patrick's Day in New York where the population of Limerick people is even big-

ick. I met a woman there who originally came from up the Yellow Road. She really missed the Boherbouy Band," he said.

He said that the band had a "major" role to missed the Boherbouy play in the 2005 cultural capital designation which Limerick is in line for.

The reception was organised by Cllr Joe Leddin who had already participated in a cere-



ger than here in Limer- At the reception, Deirdre Halpin, Paul Kelly, Catherine Kelly and Jose Benson



Mayor John Ryan with Fintan Breen, Boherbouy Band chairman; Bernie Eivers and Tony Stembridge

mony at St Joseph's Church to celebrate the band's 150 years.

At the moment there are around 35 members in the band and they range in age from the very young to the most senior of Limerick's citizens.

Based in Edward street, the band caters for all abilities.
"The band is not

made up of professionals but entirely of ordinary citizens who enjoy music. The only thing you need to join the band is a love of music," said band chairman, Fintan Breen who has been involved with it for

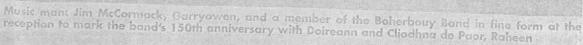
eight to ten years.
"We have a very big music centre here in the city. There's the University Concert Hall and Lyric FM is based here," he said.

Set up in 1850 in a sta-ble in Hifles Bow, just was originally made up of labourers, mainly

The band practices every Wednesday night



Cllr Joe Leddin, left, with Joe O'Connor, Paddy McCormack and Fr Gerry Slattery at the mayoral reception



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