

Historic area to again be a bustling trade centre

By KEVIN O'BRIEN

LIMERICK'S Milk Market, which for many years was the core of a derelict part

of the city, is now poised to become the centre of a renewed market quarter.

This was stated by Eddie Butler, chairman of Limerick Market Trustees, when he wel-

comed Environment Minister, Brendan Howlin, to Limerick to open the restored market last weekend.

"It is envisaged that the restoration of the Milk Market will provoke a new vitality in the surrounding

area, and, in time, become a vibrant and once more historical trading and market centre of the thriving and bustling city of Limerick," he said.

A total of £750,000 has been injected into the project.

Minister Howlin said that the inner area of Limerick city has undergone a "virtual renaissance" since the urban renewal scheme was first introduced.

He said that City Hall, fronting the River Shannon, and the other prominent developments such as Arthur's Quay, Cruises Street, and King John's Castle, have all purposefully transformed the city centre and fostered a new sense of pride in the city.

Mayor Kemmy described Saturday Milk Market in Limerick as "one of the most liveliest and good-humoured places in modern Limerick".

The restoration of the Milk Market, and particularly fine market house, by John Reidy, and the construction firm of Davin Building Ltd, is a flagship showcase in Limerick's urban renewal programme, said Mayor Kemmy.

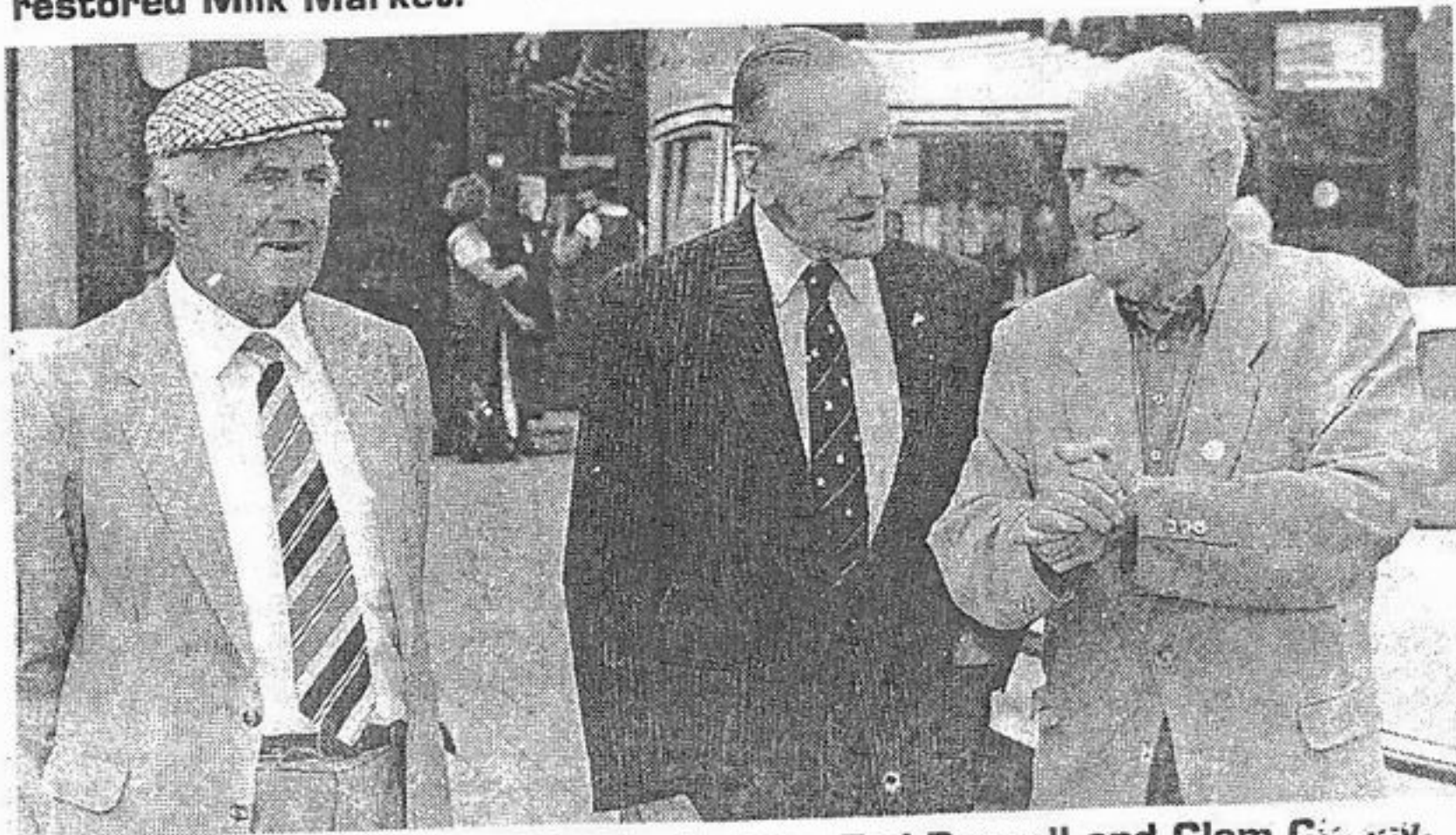
However, the renewal of the market is only the start of the task facing us, cautioned the Mayor.

"We must do all we can to make the a market a lively, bustling shopping place, not only on Saturday mornings, but throughout the week," he said.

"There is a clear need to link the market with the Cruises's Street project to encourage local shoppers to explore the attractions of Robert Street and Cornmarket Row", he added.



Environment Minister Brendan Howlin, with Ann McCarthy and Eileen O'Toole, both of Cornmarket Row, at the opening of the newly-restored Milk Market. (LL)



At the opening were, Cllr Tim Leddin, Ted Russell and Clem Ciarney.