

# Mayor Kieran forges a link with historic chain

By TRISH O'DEA

**MAYOR** Kieran O'Hanlon was honoured by his employers Wyeth Nutritionals Ireland when the company presented him with a gold link for the Mayoral chain.

The new link will mark Mayor O'Hanlon's term as Mayor and will also commemorate the 800th anniversary of the Charter.

The presentation was made by Group Managing Director of Wyeth Nutritionals Ireland, Peter Schütz, to Mayor O'Hanlon, who is an electrical supervisor with Wyeth.

Mr Schutz said: "As a fitting tribute to mark the successful conclusion of Kieran O'Hanlon's term of office, as Mayor of Limerick, the company decided to present him with a gold link for the Mayoral Chain."

Mr Schutz continued: "Kieran has been a most popular mayor and everyone at Wyeth is very proud of his achievements during the past year."

Limerick's Mayoral chain is now an irreplaceable part of the city's heritage, with close to 70 links added,

all of which have a story of our history to tell.

From 1822, when D F G Mahony was Mayor, it became customary, but not obligatory, for each Mayor to add a ring of some kind.

A look through the chain, which is kept at all times in a safe in City Hall, is like a glance back through history.

There is the link from 1973, when Mayor Michael Lipper drove the train that took Limerick's all-Ireland winning hurlers to Dublin.

Another dating from Ted Russell's terms as Mayor from 1954 to 1957 was presented by 16 former mayors who were all alive at the time.

And the year before last Young Munster RFC presented a link to commemorate their centenary.

Wyeth have earned a place in history by commemorating the 800th anniversary of the Charter on the chain.

Most of the links carry a short inscription relating to the events that happened during the term of the Mayor of the time.

This priceless chain is only worn on ceremonial occasions and is always worn with a robe.



Group managing director of Wyeth Nutritionals Ireland, Peter Schütz, presenting a gold link for the mayoral chain to Mayor Kieran O'Hanlon to mark his term in office.