

# Kiltubrid Band celebrates 70th Anniversary

Back in 1949, when Jackie Lee and a few other enthusiasts from the parish decided to form a Pipe Band, little did they think their efforts would meet with so much success. Now, seven decades later, the band is as dedicated as ever and still in demand to perform in venues throughout Ireland and overseas.

The members recall many historic moments, like leading the St Patrick's Day Parade down 5th Avenue in New York, when they did the Leitrim Society proud. Kiltubrid also travelled to be part of the Celtic Festival in Bilbao, Spain in 1988, at which they were the Guests of Honour and were inducted into the local Celtic community and presented with the black berets indigenous to the region. They have also performed in London, Birmingham, Coventry and Luton where there were large Leitrim contingents present to cheer them on.

Leitrim County GAA Finals, Connacht Championship games, St Patrick's Day Parades, Summer festivals, Official Openings and numerous parades keep the band busy and in constant demand. Naturally there have been changes in personnel over the years, but the Kiltubrid Band has always been able to recruit new musicians or drummers and was given a major boost in 1972, when the first lady members joined. This means that the band will survive and continue to thrill the many thousands who are enthralled by their colourful costumes, their professionalism, their capacity to enliven any gathering and particularly their quality of music—let the band play on...



*Kiltubrid Band marching towards Jamestown Arch 1968*

*Kiltubrid Band on parade in Drumshanbo at the An Tostal Festival*

