

**LEADER BRIEFS****Alzheimer concert**

THE Irish Chamber Orchestra will perform for the Alzheimer Society on Saturday, December 9 at the University Concert Hall. Each concert ticket sold helps secure better care for people with Alzheimer's and other dementia conditions. For tickets contact 331549/314314.

**Lecture**

A LECTURE entitled "The curious genius of Harry Clarke; Ireland's only symbolist artist" will be delivered by Karen Normoyle at the Hunt Museum on Tuesday, December 5 at 1pm. Admission to the lecture is free and all are welcome to attend.

**Lawton concert**

LIAM Lawton will be performing in UCH, Limerick on Saturday 16 Dec. Tickets are priced €26.50 and are available from box-office on 061-331549.

**Council Minutes**

MINUTES from all of Limerick City Council meetings are available to view on line. Those interested are asked to visit [www.limerickcity.ie](http://www.limerickcity.ie)

**Meteor Poles**

METEOR have applied to retain existing telecommunications monopole, two equipment containers and associated works at Unit 7, at the Galvone Industrial Estate.

**New Offices**

THE National Council of the Blind are seeking to set up new offices on in Limerick. A site at Edward Street, close to the city centre, is the charity's preferred location.

**Donations needed**

SAINT Vincent de Paul are appealing for volunteers, as well as cash and food donations for disadvantaged families this Christmas. Food items and donations can be dropped into Ozanam House on Hartstonge Street or call 317327.

**Student calendar**

STUDENTS from the University of Limerick, Limerick Institute of Technology and the Limerick School of Art and Design will launch their calendar, Limerick: Ireland's Largest Student City, on December 7 at Trinity Rooms at 7pm. Proceeds to the Red Ribbon Project.

# Chieftain sails to another success

By DONAL O'REGAN

AFTER seeing off the competition Limerickman Ger O'Rourke's yacht "Chieftain" has scooped yacht of the year. The award was presented at the Irish Cruiser Racing Association Conference in Galway at the weekend.

Mr O'Rourke said he accepted the award on behalf of his crew and heaped praise on them for their hard work throughout the year.

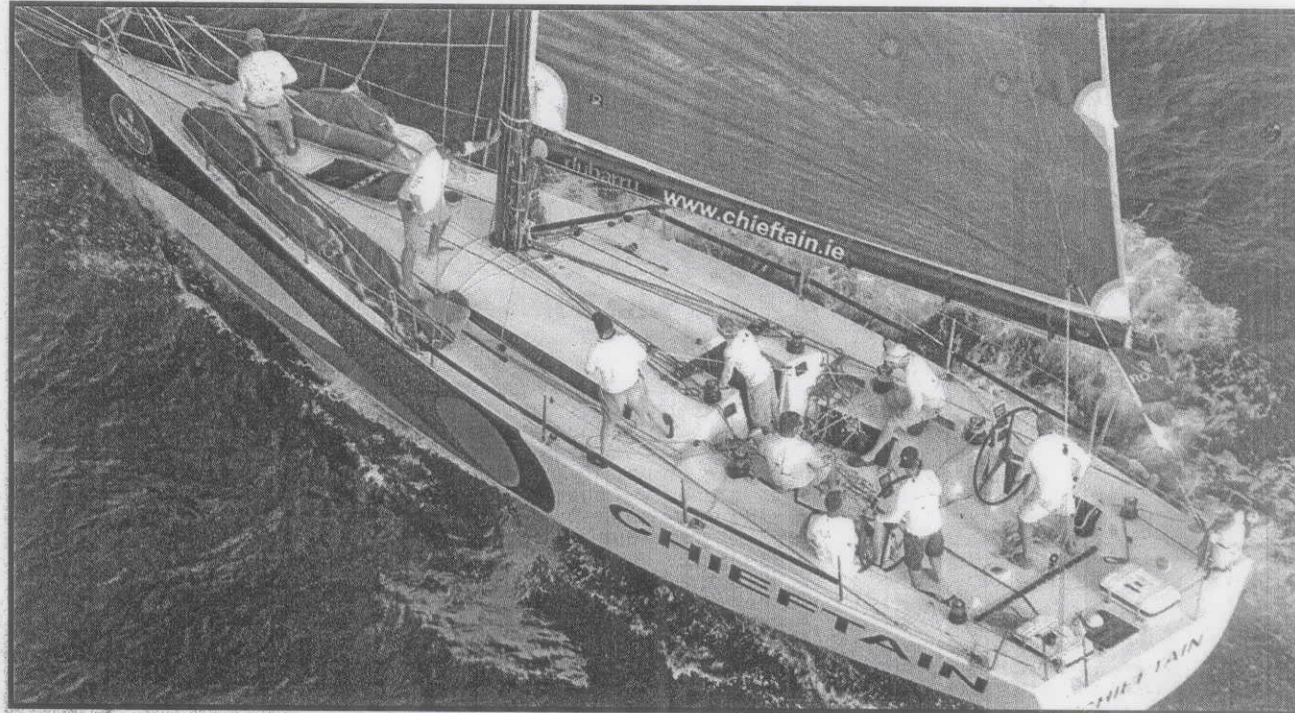
"I would like to pay tribute to my mainly amateur crew who have raced almost 5,000 offshore miles this year," said Mr O'Rourke.

He and his crew clocked up wins in seven major international events in 2006.

Mr O'Rourke is both skipper and owner of the Chieftain and is a very experienced yachtsman with thousands of sailing miles under his belt.

He famously said: "I live for my wife and three children first, sailing second and work third," said Mr O'Rourke who is a well known property developer.

They kicked off the year with a first in class



Chieftain: the yacht of the year owned by Ger O'Rourke

in the gruelling Sydney to Hobart Race last January.

Mr O'Rourke's yacht which is based in Limerick has a crew between 12 and 15 people.

They then went on to win the Super Zero class in the BMW Round Ireland Yacht Race.

The BMW Round

Ireland Yacht Race is one of the world's premier offshore yacht races and the Super Zero class is fiercely competitive.

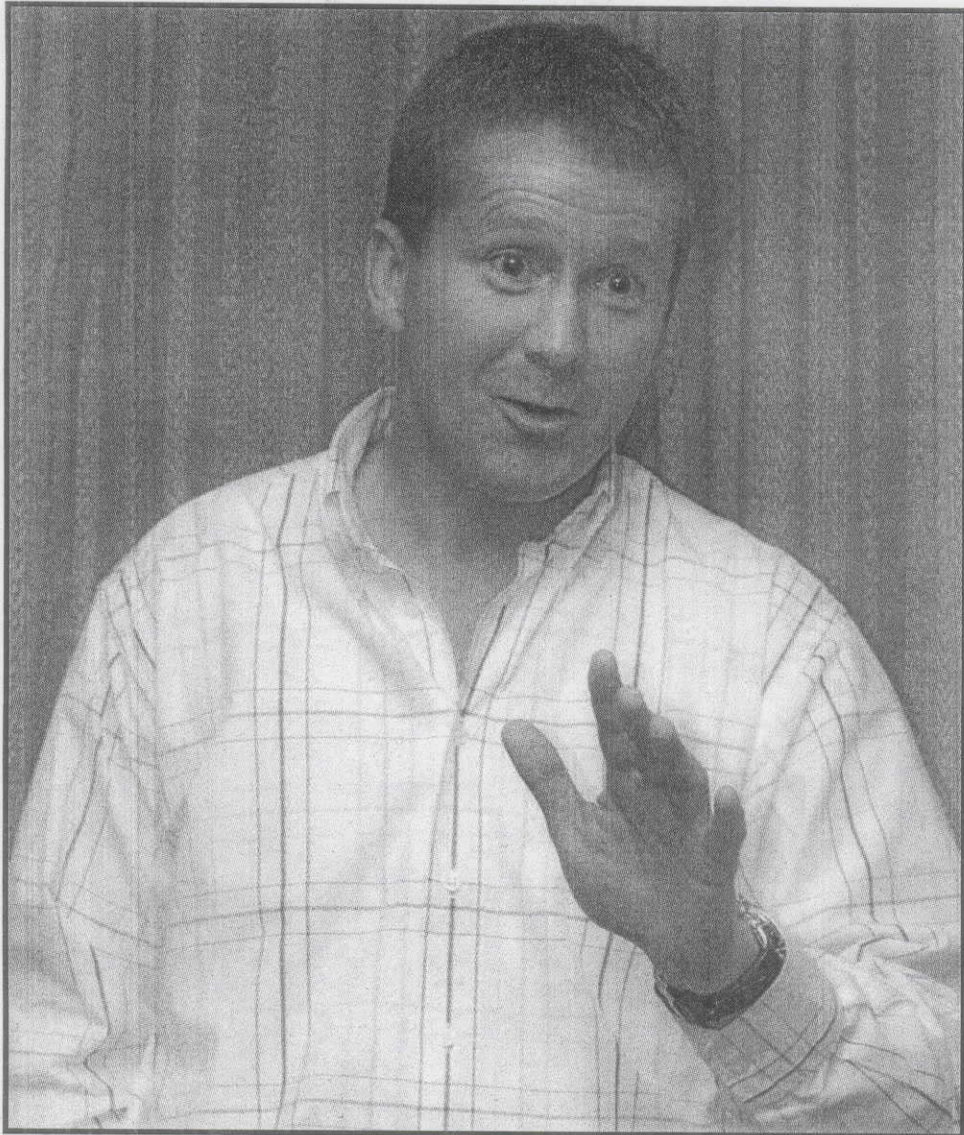
Mr O'Rourke and his crew then continued their raft of successes by winning the IRC A class of the Sevenstar Round Britain and Ireland Race this week.

They finished over seven hours ahead of their nearest competitor but it wasn't all plain sailing for the crew says Mr O'Rourke.

They spent a total of eight days on the water in August and they covered over 1780 miles as they rounded Great Britain and Ireland.

Their next port of call was RORC Cascais, Portugal race on September where they again competed credibly.

The yacht of the year award capped off a great sailing year for Mr O'Rourke and his crew and it is hoped that their success of 2006 can be replicated in 2007.



Ger O'Rourke



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## LEAVYS

### SHOES

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