

are to be inspired as  
aster's biggest style  
it makes a welcome  
rn to the Crescent  
pping Centre later  
month.  
he three-day event,  
ire, will include four  
catwalk shows fea-  
ing clothes from over  
tores and 100 brands,  
pected to attract  
00 people.  
ashion guru Celia  
nan-Lee is behind the  
mooth production,  
is advising Limerick  
onistas to make a  
with the Crescent on

range and variety of fab-  
ulous clothing available,  
so putting together this  
fashion event is a dream.  
From high street to  
designer labels, we will  
have everything we could  
possibility want," said  
Ms Holman-Lee.

As well as co-ordinat-  
ing the three-day fashion  
festival, Ms Holman-Lee  
has produced Inspire  
Magazine, which will be  
distributed in the local  
media in the run up to  
Inspire. The handbag-  
sized mag will take a look  
at some of the trends for  
the coming season.

all snappers," she said.  
Inspire will kick off on  
Thursday, September 20,  
at 6.45pm with the Sim-  
ply Beautiful Night.  
Experts in hair, skincare,  
perfumery, and make-up  
will be on hand to offer  
help and advice on  
colours and techniques.

On Friday, the main  
concourse area's first cat-  
walk show will kick off  
at 2.45pm, with a second  
one at 6.45pm. And as a  
special treat for the rug-  
by fans, members of Gar-  
ryowen rugby team will  
show off their new kit for  
the coming season.

where the first show  
begins at 11.30am; the  
final show is at 3.30pm.

The manager of Cres-  
cent Shopping Centre,  
John Davitt, said he was  
looking forward to hav-  
ing Inspire back.

"Last year's event was  
a huge success, and we're  
delighted to be involved  
once again with the  
biggest fashion event in  
Munster. We've the space,  
names and brands here  
at the centre to cater for  
such an event, and it's  
great that the event has  
grown in stature and  
importance. We look for-

there are many more to  
come," he said.

**John Davitt, manager,  
Crescent Shopping  
Centre, above, with  
models, Miss Limerick,  
Erica Salmon,  
Suzanne Gibbons,  
Yolanda Lowrey, Alice  
Carroll, Aisling Stack  
and Charlott Casey at  
the shopping centre  
for the launch of its  
fashion show, Inspire,  
which will run from  
September 20 to 22  
at the centre** (LL)

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## Fastnet winner O'Rourke honoured by City Council

By ANNE SHERIDAN

LIMERICK skipper Ger O'Rourke has put the world-class Chieftain yacht up for sale in Britain for £470,000.

The owner of Chieftain and managing director of Chieftain Construction told the Limerick Leader that he intended to have another boat built in Australia that will be even faster than Chieftain.

"I've decided to sell the boat. There are a few people looking at it. I've been talking to a couple of sponsors for 2008/09 and it will take me about a year to build another boat and totally brand it for the year to an international brand. I want to go faster with a two-foot longer boat," said the 46 year-old yachtsman.

The new yacht, he said, will be slightly modified in design, and, when built, he expects to enter the Sydney to Hobart race for a second time.

"There are other races I'd like to do, but I'd need



**Limerick yachtsman Ger O'Rourke with the Fastnet Race cup at City Hall where he was given a civic reception by Limerick City Council**

a slightly better boat to win them. It would be built down south and we would start it all again and so the Sydney Hobart race," he said.

Mr O'Rourke said that, having won the Fastnet Race, the next challenge

was to take part in the world's most competitive race, the 2,225-mile Transpacific Yacht Race from San Francisco to Honolulu.

The 50-foot Chieftain recently won the 608-mile Rolex Fastnet race from

Southampton to the Fastnet Rock and back again to Plymouth. It was the first time an Irish yachtsman had won the title in its 81-year history.

To date, Chieftain has raced 20,000 nautical miles and won the Sydney to Hobart race two years ago.

Regarding the costs to build Chieftain, Mr O'Rourke would only comment that "it was good value for what we got", and when the sale was complete "my heart will be broke".

"I do have a sentimental attachment to it. I can't have two [boats]. Plus, during the new build I'd like to take a break and do some sailing with my kids," said the former Limerick Sports Star of the Year.

This Wednesday, Mayor Fahy honoured the yachtsman at a reception in City Hall. Limerick County Council will hold a civic reception for him in County Hall on September 24.

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