Plastiki bottle ship completes epic Pacific voyage
「塑膠堤基號」完成航越太平洋壯舉

A boat crafted from thousands of empty plastic bottles sailed into Sydney Harbour yesterday, completing an epic trans-Pacific voyage to highlight the benefits of recycling.

The Plastiki catamaran, which is made from 12,500 bottles and is the **brainchild** of an heir to Britain's Rothschild banking fortune, was greeted by hundreds of well-wishers as it ended the 15,000-km journey.

"It's totally overwhelming," said skipper David de Rothschild, the banking **scion** and environmentalist. "We're so excited to be here."

The Plastiki, which takes its name from Norwegian explorer Thor Heyerdahl's 1947 Kon-Tiki expedition from South America to Polynesia on a raft of balsa husks, set off from San Francisco in March.

The boat, carrying six crew, travelled through a waste-strewn area of the north Pacific and made stops in the Line Islands, Western Samoa and French territory New Caledonia before leaving for Australia.

The Plastiki's bottles are lashed to pontoons and held together with recyclable plastic and glue made from cashew nut husks and sugarcane, while its **sails** are also made from recycled plastic.

The crew also relied on renewable energy including solar panels, wind and propeller **turbines** and bicycle-powered electricity generators, and used water recycled from urine.

(AFP)

___艘旨在彰顯資源回收好處、以成千上萬個塑膠空瓶打造而成的帆船，昨天駛進雪梨港，完成橫渡太平洋的壯舉。

這艘由英國羅斯查爾德金融集團繼承人創意發想、利用一萬兩千五百個空瓶打造的「塑膠堤基號」雙體船，在數百名支持群衆的歡呼聲中，完成這趟一萬五千公里的遠征。

出身金融世家也是環保人士的船長大衛・迪・羅斯查爾德說：「太過癮了。我們很高興來到這裡。」

今年三月從舊金山啓航的「塑膠堤基號」，名字源自挪威探險家托爾・海爾達歐一九四七年的「康堤基號」探險之旅，當年他搭乘該木筏從南美航行到波里尼西亞。

搭載六名船員的「塑膠堤基號」朝目的地澳洲前進途中，行經北太平洋垃圾帶，並在萊恩群島、西薩摩亞和法屬新喀里多尼亞等地停靠。

「塑膠堤基號」的船體是由空瓶組成，再利用可回收塑料及以腰果果殼和甘蔗合製而成的黏膠加以黏合固定，而船帆部分也是以再生塑料製成。

船員們也仰賴太陽能板、風動渦輪及腳踏式動力發電機等產生再生能源，連使用的水也是尿液再生水。

(法新社／翻譯：林倩如)

The Plastiki completes her 8,000-nautical-mile trans-Pacific voyage from San Francisco as she approaches the Sydney Opera House on July 26, 2010. PHOTO: AFP

七月二十六日，從舊金山出發，成功橫越太平洋完成八千海里航程的「塑膠堤基號」，朝雪梨歌劇院的方向接近。 照片：法新社