

Amelia Hill

*The Observer* 7, Oct. 2007

ADVENTURE

## Explorer pedals home after 13-year journey

British adventurer Jason Lewis, pictured below, completed his 13-year, 46,000-mile human-powered circumnavigation of the globe yesterday and declared that he is finally ready to settle down to enjoy village pubs and warm beer.

To cheers from a watching crowd, Lewis, 40, pushed his 26ft wooden pedal boat, Moksha, over the Greenwich Meridian Line in south London at 12.43pm, returning to the spot where his unique odyssey without motors or sails began in 1994.

The explorer was congratulated by the Duke of Gloucester before cracking open a bottle of champagne.

'It feels fantastic,' Lewis said. 'I came over the line and I was choked. I blubbed like a baby.'

The former window cleaner from Askerswell, Dorset, walked, cycled, roller-bladed, kayaked, swam and pedalled across five continents, two oceans and one sea. He caught malaria, was attacked by a salt-water crocodile in Australia, capsized in the Atlantic, was arrested as a spy in Egypt and run over by a car in Colorado, breaking both his legs and nearly causing one to be amputated.

**David Smith**

