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## News

**On green mission** to sail round the world and climb the highest peaks, couple have 3 kids along the way



### REPORT: TEH JEN LEE jenlee@sph.com.sg

T MAGINE starting a family while on a global expedition over seven seas to the high-L est mountains of the seven continents.

When Swiss couple Dario Schworer and Sabine Schworer-Ammann first set off on their Top To Top journey in 2002 onboard their 15m yacht, they were not planning to have children because they thought the trip would be completed in four years.

They soon realised that the expedition, which relies solely on human and natural power, would take many more years due to bad weather or other unforeseen circumstances.

For example, there was a year of repairs in Chile when their boat, which has 11 solar activity guide and climate change expert on tal in Chile as they had stayed there after the panels and two wind turbines, collided with a shipping container in 2004.

plunge into parenthood.

As Mr Schworer, 41, puts it: "We couldn't go anywhere, so there was plenty of time to make babies.

Today, Mr Schworer, a qualified outdoor

# Meet the modern-day **SWISS FAMILY ROBINSON** (aka Schworer)

the Alps, and his wife, who worked as a nurse and is a certified diver, are the proud parents That was when they decided to take the of a girl and two boys – Salina, 4, Andri, 3, and baby Noe, 3 months.

> ing route carefully to accommodate the neces- mann, 33. sary hospital visits and ultrasound scans.

The first two children were born in a hospi-

boat was repaired.

The third was almost born on board the yacht. They managed to get to a hospital in Darwin, Australia, when the labour took long-Having children meant planning the sail- er than expected, said Mrs Schworer-Am-

But all the extra planning was worth it.

She said: "Having children was the best

decision we made because the children opened a lot of doors for us. People used to think we were so different from them, but

ALL ABOARD:

(From left) Andri,

Mr Schworer, Noe,

Salina on their

Geneva.

Mrs Schworer and

eco-friendly yacht.

(Inset) The couple

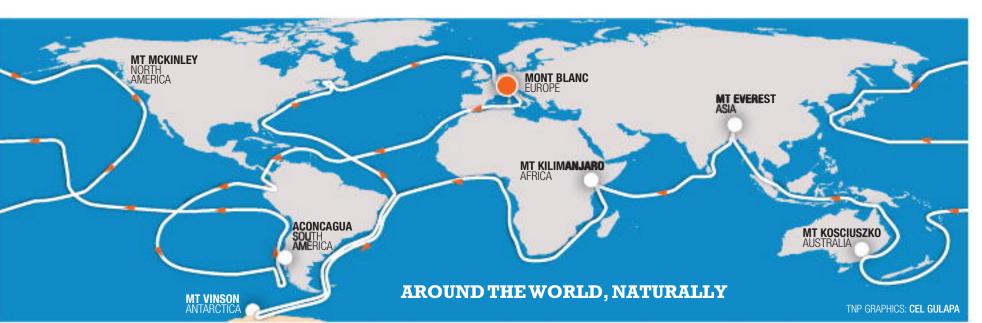
at the trip's start in

PICTURES:

TEH JEN LEE,

really we're the same. "We have to change nappies like everyone else.

Getting closer to people and exchanging experiences are at the heart of the expedition, which is under the patronage of the United





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America and Mount Kosciuszko in Australia. and expect another seven years of travelling.



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