

## No wonder we shout with joy!

*Torgeir Saeverud Higrapp*

"Yesterday, on our tenth day at sea, we had covered a distance of 500 nautical miles. After a lot of trying and failing the first days, we have now gained valuable experience in sailing a balsa raft. Now the raft obeys our wishes for course and speed. In the beginning we had a hard time understanding the movements of the raft. We also experienced that three of the front guaras broke under water, but we fixed that problem by cutting them smaller – they actually were a bit too big from the beginning. By doing so, we still have three extra guaras that may come in handy later. All the time we keep changing the area of keels under the prehistoric vessel, to obtain optimal balance and the highest possible speed.

The trouble-free voyage the last few days has given us peace of mind and a lot of time for reflection. In the night when we keep watch together, when we sit by the compass and glance at the phosphorescence of the sea encircling the raft like a halo, it sometimes happens that we give thanks to each other. We are so happy to experience the sea from this unique perspective, and for all the fantastic incidents and impressions that make time pass ever so quickly. One of the things we have learned is that without the effort of the person next to you, this expedition would not have been possible.



We had hard times building the best balsa raft in the world. The aim is that our navigation can keep up the good qualities of the raft. Our goal is to perform the best possible navigation in between the islands and reefs in difficult waters. Even more important is perhaps what we experience during the voyage, and the recognition of how everything in the world is connected.

Fluorescent crests of foam in the night. Swarms of flying fish in the morning. Dorado fish swimming along the raft all day long, inviting us to play - and then later in the evening letting us have one of their delicious brothers for dinner. No wonder we shout with joy!"