

# Solo sailor(ess) makes maritime history

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## Sydney

AMID tears, cheers, champagne and flowers, Kay Cottee sailed home to Sydney and into the history books — the first woman to sail solo non-stop around the world.

Ms Cottee (34) who is Australian, received a tumultuous welcome at the end of an epic voyage of 25 000 nauti-

cal miles lasting 189 days.

On board the 12 m yacht, Blackmore's First Lady, an emotional Miss Cottee burst into tears. On November 29, there was just a handful of people to wave farewell. Yesterday an estimated quarter of a million people saw her return.

She set six records. She recorded the fastest speed and fastest time by a woman for a circumnavigation, the longest time at sea by a woman, and the greatest distance at sea by a woman. She is also the first woman to sail alone around the five main capes in the Southern hemisphere.