

Ian M Packham – Portfolio

Award-winning travel writer • adventurer • after-dinner speaker

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“Ian’s writing for 101 Holidays was always crisp, thoroughly researched, and delivered on time” – Mark Hodson, group editor & co-founder 101Holidays.com

An award-winning writer, Ian is author of *Encircle Africa: Around Africa by Public Transport*, the narrative account of his solo and unassisted circumnavigation of Africa.

He honed his writing skills with a competitive voluntary internship at 101Holidays.com. He has now written for a variety of online and print magazines including *Adventure Travel*, *Sidetracked*, and *The Island Review*, and worked with wordtravelguides.net to improve their Africa pages. His [blog](#) has also been studied at A level English.

Ian has spoken to a wide variety of schools and organisations, giving his motivational and enthusiastic account of a life in adventure.

Writing awards



An appointment with the doctor

[Runner-up article](#) *National Geographic Traveller (UK)*'s travel writing competition

Issue 17, May/June 2013

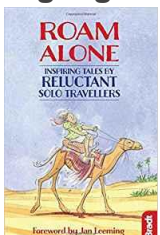
Books



Encircle Africa: Around Africa by Public Transport

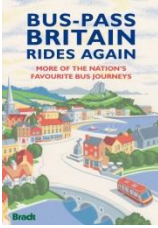
ebook and [paperback](#), November 2013

Highlighted writing



Gabon confidential

Contribution to *Roam Alone: Inspiring Tales by Reluctant Solo Travellers*, March 2017



A peek at the peaks: off to Mam Tor

Contribution to Bradt's [Bus-Pass Britain Rides Again](#), September 2013

Selected for the re-edited omnibus second edition of *Bus-Pass Britain: 50 of the nation's favourite bus journeys*, May 2016

Writing

- [24 hours in Freetown, Sierra Leone](#), The Travel Magazine, January 2018
- [Rose-tinted spectacles](#), (fiction) The Write Launch, January 2018
- [Not just an open book – my week in Scotland's national book town](#), GomadNomad, December 2017
- [The glimmering surface of things](#), (fiction) The Write Launch, October 2017
- [Toulon – the forgotten Riviera](#), Holiday magazine, July 2017
- [Black tea and burnt feet](#), Southeast Asia Backpacker, June 2017
- [A postcard to Croydon](#), The Croydonist, June 2017
- [Along the Great Sandy River](#), maptia.com, March 2016
- Dying breeds on the Maltese islands, [The Island Review](#), December 2015
- Writing and editing Africa pages of worldtravelguide.net, September 2015 – January 2016
- [Postcard from...Brussels](#), Emily Luxton travel blog, January 2015
- [Postcard from...Sri Lanka](#), Emily Luxton travel blog, December 2014
- [River of gold: a personal voyage through Africa's lagers](#), Dave's Travel Corner, August 2014
- [Gibraltar: the end and the beginning](#), Dave's Travel Corner, August 2014
- Writer, Globetrotters club [newsletter](#), November 2013 – January 2016
- Information pages, including [Best time to visit...](#) series, completed during competitive voluntary copywriter internship at 101Holidays.com, April 2013 – July 2014
- [Blog posts](#) for myTNT magazine UK, TNT online UK, June 2013 – May 2014
- [Eating up Africa](#), feature article, *Globe* magazine, Winter 2013
- [Encircle Africa: where the journey begins \(and ends\)](#), a founding storyteller's tale, Maptia.com, October 2013
- [The journey begins](#), article, *Sidetracked* magazine, Edition 11, September 2013
- [Africa's mountain of greatness](#), feature article, *Adventure Travel* magazine, Issue 106, July/August 2013
- [Encircle Africa: the first solo and unassisted circumnavigation of Africa by public transport](#), article, Out Dare Adventures, May 2013
- Destination and tips [articles](#), Travelwithamate, December 2012 - May 2013
- [An exotic overland trip from Tangier to Kenya](#), article, Travelthruhistory, November 2012

Speaking

- Blackpool & District Geographical Association, October 2017
- Hymers College, Hull, September 2017
- U3A, Ealing, September 2017
- Cambridge University Expedition Society, St John's College, Cambridge, April 2017

- COPSE outdoor pursuits group, October 2016
- Royal Holloway Geography Society, October 2016
- Repton school, Derbyshire, September 2016
- The Perse School '42' Club, Cambridge, September 2016
- Guildford Travel Club, Guildford, February 2016
- Geographical Association York and District & Royal Geographical Society Yorkshire and North East joint meeting, York, January 2016
- Hymers College, Hull, September 2015
- Oxford University Expedition Club, May 2015
- U3A, Croydon, April 2015
- Royal Geographical Society (with IBG) Geographical Journeys ten minute microlecture, London, March 2015
- Intrepid Explorers, King's College London, March 2015
- Royal Geographical Society & Geographical Association joint regional lecture, Sheffield, March 2015
- Explorers Connect, Guildford, February 2015
- St Andrews Adventure Group (STAAG), February 2015
- Royal Geographical Society East Anglia regional hour lecture, Norwich, January 2015
- Globetrotters Club hour lecture, Chester, September 2014
- Globetrotters Club hour lecture, London, June 2014
- Royal Geographical Society (with IBG) Geographical Journeys ten minute microlecture, London, March 2014
- [Tales of Adventure](#), London, October 2013
- [Pecha kucha talk](#), charity Night of Adventure, London Leicester Square, March 2013
- Royal Geographical Society, Explore weekend invited speaker-delegate, November 2012

Publicity

- Ghana expert for Word Travel forum, July 2017 – present
- Interview [Some thoughts on Italy](#), Amici di Hackert blog, July 2017
- [Behind the lines: Ian Packham retracing a world of unrest](#), October 2016
- [Ten essential pieces of kit you may not have thought of](#), September 2016
- Interview with [Limitless Pursuits](#), March 2016
- Inclusion in Alastair Humphrey's *Grand Adventures*, March 2016
- Travel Africa magazine [Busman's holiday](#) interview, Edition 70, Spring 2015
- Encircle Africa added to [Kickass Trips](#) website, March 2015
- Cambridge105fm [Bookmark](#) interview, February 2015
- Cambridge 105fm interview and ['best of the guests'](#) podcast (00:00-11:28 min), January 2015
- [The biggest obstacle was myself](#), Adventure 1000 interview with Alastair Humphreys, September 2014
- Inclusion in [travelling alone or with a friend](#) post, alastairhumphreys.com, August 2014
- Indie-book-bargains featured author, August 2014
- [Sheffield to Castleton route rated one of the best](#), *Bus-Pass Britain Rides Again* article publicity, August 2014

- Blog added to explorers web adventure database, August 2014
- [Review](#) of *Encircle Africa: Around Africa by Public Transport*, A bookish affair, August 2014
- [Review](#) of *Encircle Africa: Around Africa by Public Transport*, Travelling Book Junkie, August 2014
- *Compass* [best book reviews](#), review of *Encircle Africa: Around Africa by Public Transport*, July 2014
- [Author of the week interview](#), Travelling Book Junkie, July 2014
- The Pursuit Zone [audio interview](#), June 2014
- 105 Drive with Julian Clover [radio Interview](#), Cambridge 105fm, January 2014
- [Croydon man travels Africa by public transport](#), article, EastLondonLines, January 2014
- [An African adventure on trucks, canoes and buses](#), article, Croydon Guardian, 15 January 2014
- [Encircle Africa article and blog summary](#), King's College London Alumni Online, January 2013
- [Africa by public transport](#), article, *In Touch* magazine, Spring 2011