

MEDIA KIT:

SIX LITTLES GO A LONG WAY

How one family joined the 1970s overlanders on a 15,000-mile journey halfway across the globe

FAST FACTS

Publication Date: 24 November 2025 **Publisher:** Arena Books **Author:** James Little **Format:** Paperback & Ebook **Pages:** 282 **Illustrations:** 160 colour photographs and maps **Price:** £24.99 / €28.99 / US\$34.99 / AU\$54.99

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THE STORY IN 60 SECONDS

In 1977, Julian and Becky Little packed their four sons, aged seven, six, two, and six months, into a Toyota HiAce camper van and drove 15,000 miles from Australia to England. Six months, three continents, sixteen countries – including Afghanistan, Iran, and Pakistan – territories that geopolitical realities have since closed, perhaps forever.

Written by James Little, who was seven at the time, this memoir draws from original family diaries to capture the golden age of 'overlanders' – a vanished world when borders opened with a handshake, travellers gathered around campfires in Kabul, and a young family could traverse the legendary Khyber Pass simply because they dreamed of it.

WHY THIS BOOK MATTERS NOW

- Documents travel routes that no longer exist – the 'hippie trail' through Afghanistan and Iran
- Speaks to modern van-life culture and digital nomads seeking authentic travel experiences
- Explores human connection in an age of digital disconnection
- Features 45-year perspective: author returned to Singapore in 2022, exactly where his journey stopped in 1977
- Published exactly 48 years after the family departed: 24 November 2025

TARGET AUDIENCES

Primary: Travel memoir readers, van-life enthusiasts, adventure seekers, history buffs (1970s era)

Secondary: Parents considering family adventures, readers interested in closed borders/geopolitical history, expatriate communities in Southeast Asia

COMPELLING ELEMENTS

- Four boys under seven in a camper van
- Routes through Afghanistan, Iran, Khyber Pass—now impossible
- Original diaries from both parents plus family friend Dianne
- 160 colour photos documenting a vanished world

- Terrifying Holi Day incident: windscreen shattered, stones thrown
- Medical emergencies in remote locations (father was anaesthetist)
- Authentic 1970s overlander culture
- Universal themes: family bonds, adventure vs. safety, human connection

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

James Little is a father of two who runs a sustainable energy consultancy in Singapore. Born in London in 1970, he has been fascinated by travel ever since his parents brought him and his three younger brothers on the road trip of a lifetime in 1977. After working in the travel industry for 15 years following his master's degree in Tourism Management, it was his 2022 move to Singapore – 45 years after his epic journey – that gave him the motivation to tell the story. His weekly Facebook blog documenting the journey drew contributions from family and friends across the globe, rekindling memories and connections.

INTERVIEW OPPORTUNITIES

James Little is available for:

- Radio and podcast interviews (based in Singapore, flexible for UK/US time zones)
- Written Q&As and feature interviews
- Virtual book club appearances
- Travel show segments
- Historical/geopolitical discussions about closed borders

VISUAL ASSETS AVAILABLE

- High-resolution colour photographs from the journey (1977)
- Author photos
- Book cover images

QUOTES FROM THE AUTHOR(S)

"In a hotel room during a flight delay, I watched 500 stranded passengers come alive through forced human connection. We talked, laughed, and shared stories – nourished by conversation that smartphones and AI can never deliver. That's what this book captures." **James Little, Author**

"Whatever madness made my parents attempt this journey with so many little Littles, packed into a camper van, I will always be truly grateful for. There were some hair-raising moments, but the people we met and our experiences in those six months, were formative for me." **James Little, Author**

"We were perhaps very naive but remember this was a time before Mobile phones and the Internet. Availability of information was somewhat limited. All we saw was the open road and exciting and exotic places to visit. Had we known about the dangers and problems we might be facing would we have been put off? In a way I'm glad we weren't fully aware, otherwise we may well have not done the trip at all." **Julian Little, Diarist (from interview).**

SOCIAL MEDIA

#SixLittles #OverlandTravel #VanLife #HippieTrail #1970sTravel #TravelMemoir #FamilyAdventure
#Afghanistan #KhyberPass #Nullarbordesert #NullarborPlain #Overlanders #Retrovanlife
#TravelHistory #TravelwithKids #Vanlifekids #longtermtravel

REVIEW COPIES & MEDIA CONTACT

Isabel Corfe

info@arenabooks.co.uk

01284 658979

www.arenabooks.co.uk

ALSO AVAILABLE:

- Key Pull Quotes (from the Book) document.
- Story Angles document.
- Title Info Sheet.
- High Res Book Cover Images
- Images from the book available upon request