

ACTION

Asia

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The best of adventure in Asia

News & Views

Legging it

Jason Lewis, who is aiming to be the first person to circumnavigate the world solely under his own power, has left Singapore on the next, 11,200km leg of his epic journey.

Setting off from London over 11 years ago, he has hiked, peddled and paddled 56,000km in all so far. This latest stage will take him on to Bombay which he expects to reach in around five months. From there, we will embark on the final portion of his journey, crossing the Indian Ocean and then heading up through the Middle East and Europe to finally end his quest sometime next summer.

Originally, Lewis only "came along for the ride", joining his friend Stevie Smith in 1994 to pedal a boat across the Atlantic. Smith left, but Lewis decided to continue, rollerblading across the US before pedalling the Pacific. "It has taken so much longer to do than we first thought", he says. Having to work to help fund the trip has complicated things, as have mishaps along the way such as nearly losing his legs in a road accident and catching malaria.

The reasons for the trip have



changed over the years, he says, as he has become involved in a UNESCO project to use video to connect classrooms in 470 schools around the world.

He also invites young people to join him on the road for a few days to blog about the journey and load images onto

the expedition website.

He does confess to being ready to finish the journey now though and also to some anxiety about what comes next: "I'll be the most unemployable man in the UK," he jokes.

www.expedition360.com