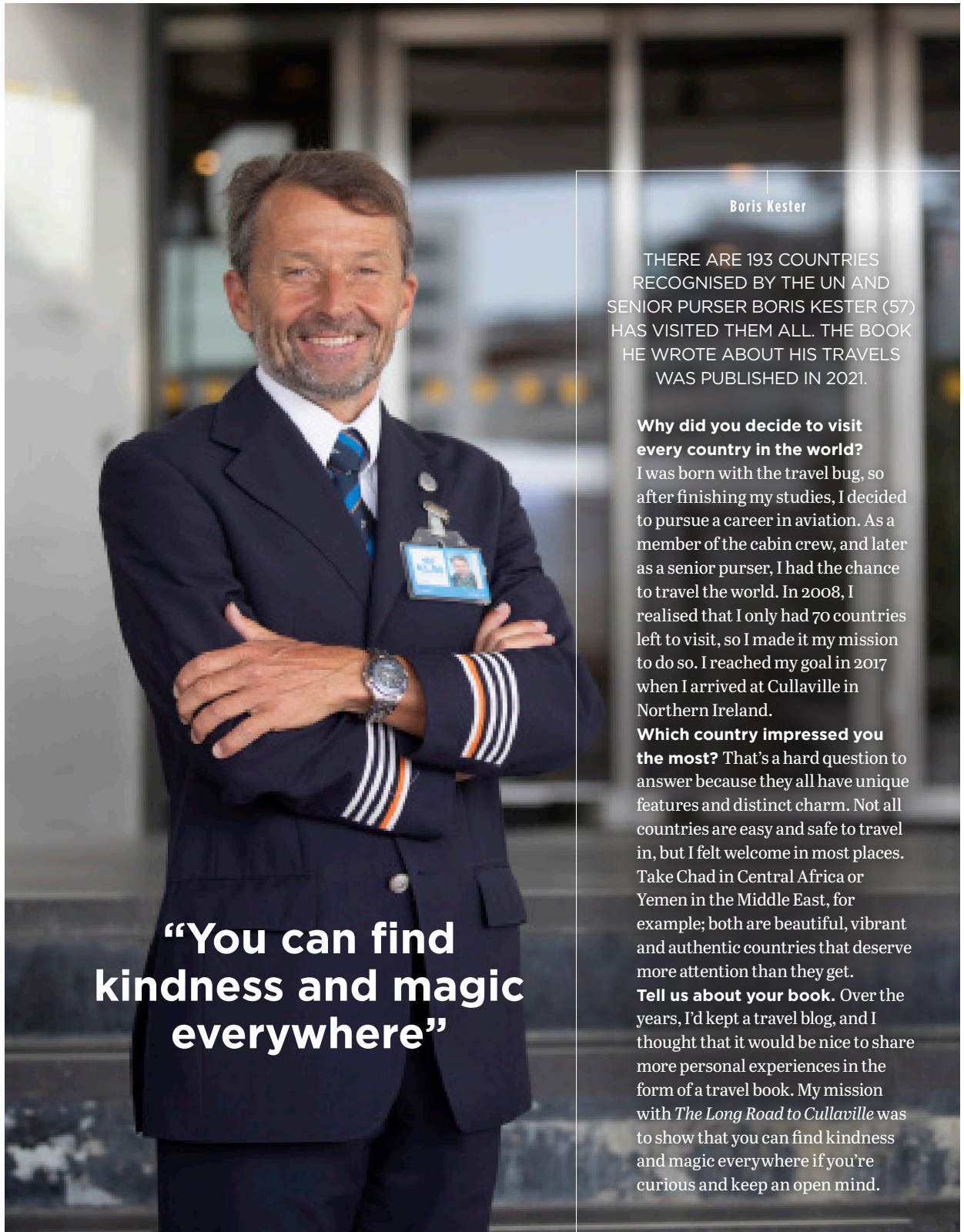


OUT OF THE BLUE



Boris Kester

THERE ARE 193 COUNTRIES RECOGNISED BY THE UN AND SENIOR PURSER BORIS KESTER (57) HAS VISITED THEM ALL. THE BOOK HE WROTE ABOUT HIS TRAVELS WAS PUBLISHED IN 2021.

Why did you decide to visit every country in the world?

I was born with the travel bug, so after finishing my studies, I decided to pursue a career in aviation. As a member of the cabin crew, and later as a senior purser, I had the chance to travel the world. In 2008, I realised that I only had 70 countries left to visit, so I made it my mission to do so. I reached my goal in 2017 when I arrived at Cullaville in Northern Ireland.

Which country impressed you the most? That's a hard question to answer because they all have unique features and distinct charm. Not all countries are easy and safe to travel in, but I felt welcome in most places. Take Chad in Central Africa or Yemen in the Middle East, for example; both are beautiful, vibrant and authentic countries that deserve more attention than they get.

Tell us about your book. Over the years, I'd kept a travel blog, and I thought that it would be nice to share more personal experiences in the form of a travel book. My mission with *The Long Road to Cullaville* was to show that you can find kindness and magic everywhere if you're curious and keep an open mind.

“You can find kindness and magic everywhere”