



# Smiling Hill Weekly Newsletter

## INSIDE

### *Bandung Revisited*

The gremlins screwed things up when we first published this report - this time the full story for those who might want to visit this beautiful region. **Pages 2-4.**

### *All the Sport*

What' coming up on the big screen at Goodies over the coming weekend. **Page 5**

*Working Night Shift ?  
Starting Early ?  
Big (HUGE) night Out ?*

*Why not rock on  
down for an EARLY  
juice and a hearty  
breakfast*

**Goodies**  
**RESTAURANT**

**Extended hours**

**NOW OPEN**

**Mon - Sat 6.15am - 9.00pm**

**Sundays Brunch from 7.30am**

*Good company, great atmosphere, great food, cold beer - what more could you ask for. No wonder Goodies at Smiling is becoming so popular, especially with expatriates and their families*

## Expat Partners and Kids

A SENIOR representative from the Immigration Department in Jakarta will visit Batam this Saturday to speak with the spouses and partners of expatriates about their status and that of their Western partners and children.

The Indonesian Mixed Marriage Association (PERCA) has arranged for the officer to speak at a meeting to be held at the Sanur Restaurant (behind Kimia Farma), Batam Centre from 10am.

“Hopefully the officer will listen and understand that there is a need to change some of the immigration restrictions on expatriate long stay in mixed marriages,” said Tony Kepui. “The more people who go along and show support the more chance there will be to achieve a change. There will be a chance to ask questions and let Immigration understand what we want.”

Tony said many mixed marriage couples with children would like their children to be able to hold dual citizenship when they grow up if they wish, as they will have families in two countries. Currently this is not possible.

“Also PR status is at not truly PR and has restrictions where a husband sponsored by a spouse in Indonesia is not allowed a work permit.”

If you have an expat wife or partner you may want to let them know about this event. For more information and to advise their attendance they may call Eni McDonald on **0811 778 061** or Ellys McKinnie on **0812 7019 976.** (See flier in Indonesia published as **Page 6**)

**GOODIE'S SUPER Workers Lunchtime Specials ONLY Rp 50.000**

**All Day, Everyday Monday- Sunday**

**Save Valuable Time & Order Ahead**

**PH Restaurant 0778 450533 or Steve 0812 77175558**



# Places worth a visit



*Tea plantations cloak the hills*



*A pool area at the Hot Springs*

**O**NE OF THE GREAT DELIGHTS of living in Indonesia is that there are so many interesting places to visit throughout this fascinating archipelago – so many and offering such diversity that you probably spend half a lifetime looking without running out of things to see and do.

Some Smiling Hill guests recently traveled to Bandung about 180 kilometres up into the mountains south-east of Jakarta. It is a stunning place – no wonder so many well-to-do Jakartans head for these hills on weekends and holidays.

Our party had only a fleeting two days there – more would have been better.

We took the train from Jakarta (Gambir station near the Monas National Monument in Merdeka Square).

There are regular services from Jakarta and schedules can readily be found on the Internet (go to [www.kereta-api.co.id](http://www.kereta-api.co.id)).

The site is in Indonesian but it is easy to enter your date, origin (Asal) and destination (Tujuan) in the search dialogue box. The timetable is easy to follow – take only the ARGOGEDE trains (Eksekutif class). Unless a holiday there should be no need to book in advance.

The cost is a whole 65,000 rupiah for Executive Class (the only way to travel). The trains are a little run-down and usually running late but they are clean and comfortable. The journey takes four

hours with the last half slowly winding up through spectacular hills and mountains cloaked with rice paddies and gardens. The ridges are separated by

deep gorges – interesting engineering challenges for the original builders of the railway line.

There is a high standard parallel highway but the train journey can be recommended both for the scenery and avoiding the traffic hassles of the Jakarta suburbs. Try to take a train departing Jakarta before lunch or you will pass through some of the most spectacular scenery high up near Bandung after nightfall.

Bandung is a university city and considered the gateway to Jawa Barat (West Java). It offers much of historical interest, playing an important role in the days prior to and soon after Indonesia's Independence. You really need time to see these sites and a guide to explain their significance.

Hotels are plentiful and many are of a good standard. Prices tend to be a little higher than many regional Indonesian cities because Bandung is such a popular destination. You will save money if you book via the Internet. We stayed at the Aston Braga (rate Rp 499,000).

This hotel is located in the Jalan Braga area close to the railway station. There are many hotels in and around the Braga area and this is a convenient central location close to markets, shopping and the few expat bars and restaurants. There are local nightlife areas in the nearby Jalan ASIA Africe/Sudirman area.

We hired a comfortable vehicle and driver for a six-hour tour of the tea plantations and a leisurely visit to the hot springs about an hour out of town (cost of car and driver Rp600,000). The tea plantations and other gardens clinging to the mountains are magnificent.

The hot springs (Pemandian Air Panas Ciater) are set in parkland and are popular, and interesting



*A cure for whatever might ail you - especially "injured organs of locomotion". Zoom in and magnify to check the list.*



with excellent facilities and plenty of things to see and do.

Water pours from the earth at temperatures of up to 50 degrees. A series of pools and waterfalls cascade down the mountainside where visitors can take the waters with temperatures progressively falling to as low as 25 degrees at the bottom of the park.

The springs are located near another big and popular attraction, the Tangkuban Parahu Volcano (Gunung). We did not go to the volcano though it would be easy to include both locations in your day tour.

Along the way we stopped off of a roadside stall to enjoy rabbit satays (yep genuine bunny of the Easter variety) but we gave the pick-your-own strawberries patch a miss.

At our request the driver obligingly took us on a diversion through some of the incredibly steep mountain gardens close to Bandung. Tucked into some of the valleys and ridges are quite magnificent homes suggesting that either farming in this area can be rather prosperous or perhaps that the area is being "discovered" by well-to-do business people who want a home or retreat away from the hassles of Bandung or even Jakarta.

A true highlight was a visit to Saung Angklung Udjo on the outskirts of town (Jalan Padasuka). This is a cultural centre come music school devoted to preserving the bamboo instruments and furthering the traditional music and dance of West Java.

Youngsters from around five into their teens study at the centre and from 3.30 most afternoons present a show for visitors fortunate enough to hear about it and take the trouble to attend. For anyone with an interest in Indonesian traditions or music it is a must.

These kids are jaw-droppingly skilled and their presentation is a delight – so good that they have been invited to Paris later this year to Perform at an international concert sponsored by UNESCO.

By the way you will find much of the music is familiar – plenty of arrangements of Western standards are mixed up with the traditional and classical numbers presented.

Needless to say this was the place where the camera battery packed it in but you can see more pics on the Net by Googling *Saung Angklung Udjo* There is also an informative article on the background to the centre at:

[http://www.indo.com/featured\\_article/angklung.html](http://www.indo.com/featured_article/angklung.html)

Limited time meant we were able to merely have a glimpse of this beautiful and interesting part of Indonesia. However, it was enough to be able to recommend it thoroughly should you be looking for an escape to a pleasant place with helpful people, great scenery and plenty of interesting things to see and do.



*TOP: Color and grace - young traditional dancers at Saung Angklung Udjo performance.*

*ABOVE: There is no shortage of activities associated with Bandung's Hot Springs attraction.*

# Funny Here

## MAX DEAN

### PADI INSTRUCTOR

#484644

#### Dive Skills & Qualifications:

- Open Water, Adventure, Enriched Air, Rescue, Wreck, Night & Deep.
- EFR First Aid & CPR
- Digital Photographer & Videographer
- Dive Master & Project Aware

#### Costs

- Prices range from SGD \$50 for a refresher courses in the pool to SGD \$400 for Open Water Dive
- Gear & Tanks additional

#### Note

- Dive trips to Trikora Beach on Bintan Island also available on request.

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E-mail: [discoverscubadiving@hotmail.com](mailto:discoverscubadiving@hotmail.com)



Life is like a boat  
- without water  
it serves no  
purpose!

# Whats on.... Sports

## JULY 15th - JULY 21st

<b>THURSDAY</b>	July 15	
2.30pm	<b>GOLF: The Open Championship</b> DAY 1	SS1
4.15pm	<b>Pakistan Cricket - 1st Test</b> DAY 3 - Pakistan VS Australia	SS5
<b>FRIDAY</b>	July 16	
2.30pm	<b>GOLF: The Open Championship</b> DAY 2	SS1
4.15pm	<b>Pakistan Cricket - 1st Test</b> DAY 4 - Pakistan VS Australia	SS5
4.30pm	<b>Rugby NRL</b> Rabbitohs VS Dragons	A/TV
7.00pm	<b>AFL</b> Adelaide VS Geelong	A/TV
10.00pm	<b>Rugby NRL</b> Broncos VS Titans	A/TV
<b>Saturday</b>	July 17	
11.30am	<b>AFL</b> Collingwood VS St Kilda	A/TV
2.30pm	<b>Rugby Union Tri-Nations</b> New Zealand VS South Africa	A/TV
3.30pm	<b>GOLF: The Open Championship</b> DAY 3	SS2
4.15pm	<b>Pakistan Cricket - 1st Test</b> DAY 5 - Pakistan VS Australia	SS5
4.30pm	<b>Rugby NRL</b> Panthers VS Eels	A/TV
6.55pm	<b>MotoGP: GP of Motorrand Germany</b> Qualifying Practice	SS7
7.30pm	<b>AFL</b> Western Bulldogs VS Port Adelaide	A/TV
10.30pm	<b>Rugby NRL</b> Sharks VS Sea Eagles	A/TV
<b>Sunday</b>	July 18	
10.30am	<b>AFL</b> Carlton VS Sydney	A/TV
11.15pm	<b>Sri Lanka Cricket - 1st Test</b> DAY 1 - Sri Lanka VS India	SS5
1.30pm	<b>Rugby NRL</b> Roosters VS Bulldogs	A/TV
3.30pm	<b>Rugby NRL</b> Raiders VS Knights	A/TV
4.30pm	<b>GOLF: The Open Championship</b> DAY 4	SS1
7.00pm	<b>MotoGP: GP of Motorrand Germany</b> Main Race	SS7
<b>Monday</b>	July 19	
11.15pm	<b>Sri Lanka Cricket - 1st Test</b> DAY 2 - Sri Lanka VS India	SS5
<b>Tuesday</b>	July 20	
11.15pm	<b>Sri Lanka Cricket - 1st Test</b> DAY 3 - Sri Lanka VS India	SS5
<b>Wednesday</b>	July 21	
11.15pm	<b>Sri Lanka Cricket - 1st Test</b> DAY 4 - Sri Lanka VS India	SS6
4.15pm	<b>Pakistan Cricket - 2nd Test</b> DAY 1 - Pakistan VS Australia	SS5

We now have two BIG SCREENS so we can show two different sports at the same time!!

perkawinan  
campuran

# LINGKAR DISKUSI PERCA INDONESIA

*di Batam*

**Salam sejahtera,**

PerCa Indonesia mengundang teman-teman untuk hadir dalam acara Lingkar Diskusi tentang Keimigrasian, yang mengupas ketentuan terkini Imigrasi di Indonesia khususnya untuk para suami/istri dan anak kita yang berstatus WNA. Dari diskusi ini diharapkan kita memperoleh informasi yang akurat serta dapat mengidentifikasi permasalahan yang selama ini dihadapi di lapangan.

Selain itu diskusi juga akan membahas mengenai rencana usulan PerCa Indonesia dalam pembahasan RUU Imigrasi yang akan digarap oleh DPR RI pada tahun 2010 ini, sebagai salah satu materi dalam Program Legislasi Nasional (PROLEGNAS). Diskusi ini terbuka juga untuk para suami/istri (WNA) dengan demikian dapat mempererat tali silaturahmi diantara kita.

*"Menuju kesetaraan hak sipil bagi WNI pelaku Perkawinan Campuran di Negara Kesatuan Republik Indonesia"*

*dehede*

## **Sekilas PerCa Indonesia**

Masyarakat Perkawinan Campuran Indonesia (PerCa Indonesia) adalah Perkumpulan yang beranggotakan perempuan dan laki-laki WNI yang menikah dengan warganegara asing. Perkumpulan ini didirikan berdasarkan Akte Pendirian Perkumpulan No. 182 tanggal 29 April 2008. Berdirinya PerCa Indonesia didorong oleh kesadaran akan pentingnya sebuah wadah yang secara terpadu menyatukan kepentingan, aspirasi, semangat dan potensi masyarakat perkawinan campuran Indonesia.

**VENUE :**

**DATE:** Sabtu, 31 Juli 2010

**WHERE:** Sanur Restaurant

Batam Center (belakang  
Kimia Farma)

**TIME:** 10 am - selesai

For more info, please call :

Eni McDonald 0811778061, Elys McKinnie 08127019976

Published as a courtesy for the Indonesian Mixed Marriage Association

**See information Front Page**