



Smiling Hill Weekly Newsletter

To all our many Indonesian staff, customers, suppliers and friends

Warm Eid Wishes

"Mohon Maaf Lahir Batin"



IDUL FITRI, commonly referred to in Indonesia as Lebaran, is the celebration marking the end of the Muslim month of fasting, Ramadan. The Arabic meaning of Idul Fitri is "becoming holy again".

The dates of the ninth month of the Muslim calendar, Ramadan, vary from year to year, as the Muslim calendar (Hijrah) is based on a lunar cycle of 29 or 30 days. The exact date is determined by the sighting of the new moon. These lunar calculations lead to an official announcement by the government on the eve of Ramadan and Idul Fitri so that the faithful know when to begin and end the fasting month. In 2010, Lebaran falls on 10-11 September.

During the month of Ramadhan Muslims must refrain from eating, drinking, smoking, marital relations or getting angry during the daylight hours. Those fasting also are supposed to refrain from bad habits - telling lies, getting angry, using bad language - and to be more diligent in prayer and to give to charities. Fasting is believed to heighten spirituality and develop self-control.

Ramadan and IDUL FITRI A quick guide for Expats

The fast begins in the morning just before sunrise, at *Imsak*, and is broken at *maghrib* which falls at sunset. Fasting during the month of Ramadhan is one of the five pillars of Islam and an obligation for devout Muslims.

Those who are expected to fast include adults (defined as those who have reached the age of puberty) and those who are sane. Those who are not expected to fast include children, women having their period, travellers, the sick, those with long-

term illnesses, pregnant or breastfeeding women and the mentally ill.

The faithful who fast awaken early in the morning to have a meal before *subuh*. In order to awaken the faithful, the call to prayer is sounded from neighborhood mosques. Groups of young boys also may walk around neighborhoods beating on drums and other noise makers to awaken the faithful.

The breaking of the fast at sunset is very social with special foods prepared for gatherings with family or friends. Upon hearing the sound of the *bedug* drum on the television or the call to prayer from the neighborhood mosque at sunset, the faithful know it's time to break their fast, or *buka puasa*.

This is usually done with a very sweet drink and sweet snacks. *Maghrib* prayers are made before a full meal is served. *Taraweh* prayers are held in neighborhood mosques and at gatherings every evening at about 7:30 p.m. These prayers are not compulsory, but they are attended by many.

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CLOSED THIS FRIDAY, Sept 10

Goodies

Our restaurant and pool will be closed this Friday for the Idul Firtri Holiday. We will re-open as usual on Saturday.



From Page 1

The schedule for *Imsak* and *Maghrib* is posted in major newspapers and on the television throughout Indonesia, as well as published in handouts by major religious organizations.

While it is expected that people will keep to their normal activities during the fast, as expat residents and employers will have seen, the lack of liquid and food during the day and the unusual sleep and meal schedule soon take their toll. After the first week of Ramadan sleep and food deprivation typically cause those fasting to have reduced energy levels as well as finding it more difficult to concentrate on tasks.

Why does Islam oblige its followers to fast during Ramadhan each year?

- To develop compassion for the poor and needy who feel hungry every day.
- As a spiritually and physically cleansing experience. Just as in other world religions, fasting is seen as an opportunity to separate yourself from the things of this world and to concentrate on your relationship with God.
- To become closer to God by contemplating his will in your life.
- To build self-discipline and to become a better person.

The Eid holiday at the end of the month of Ramadhan is the time when Muslims visit their family and friends to ask for forgiveness for any wrongs they have committed in the previous year.

They express this wish in the phrase "*Mohon Maaf Lahir Batin*" which means "forgive me from the bottom

of my heart/soul for my wrongdoings in the past year".

A traditional Arabic (Muslim) greeting for the Eid celebrations is also commonly used in Indonesia "*Minal Aidin Wal Fa Idzin*", which is expressed upon meeting friends and family during the festive days.

Traditional foods are consumed, family and friends gather to ask forgiveness and exchange greetings, new clothing is worn, children receive gifts of money and visits are made to recreational parks -- all to celebrate the successful completion of the fasting month.

This material is from the website Living in Indonesia. This site contains much practical and useful information about Indonesia and challenges faced by Expats. Go to - www.expats.or.id

Idul Fitri begins with mass prayer gatherings early in the morning at mosques, open fields, parks and on major streets. Around the Mosques you will see hundreds of Muslim women all dressed in their mukena (white, head-to-toe prayer gowns) performing the synchronized prayer ritual.

Men tend to wear sarong, traditional shirts and peci hats to Idul Fitri morning prayers. On the walk home from the mass prayers, quick visits are made to friends in the neighborhood to ask for forgiveness.

Following the morning prayers and neighborhood visits, visits are made to close family members around town. Family members go to their parents first and then to the most senior relative's house (oldest person in the family) to "*Mohon Maaf ...*" with family members.

Then, depending on age or status in the family, come visits to the homes of aunts and uncles to do the same. At each house drinks and cookies or snacks are served, and since it is very impolite to refuse the food, by the end of the day many are so full they can hardly move. These customs may entail several days of visiting relatives and often there will be a gathering of family members at the senior-most relative's house.

Employees may also visit the homes of their senior bosses in the company or critical business colleagues and government officials to "*Mohon Maaf ...*" after family visits are completed.

While gathering with family, it is customary for the adults to give the young children some money ... they may meet you at the door shaking their wallets! It is also customary to distribute money to children in the poor neighborhoods around your home, Rp 1,000 (or more) per child will bring huge smiles to their faces!

The strongly held traditions to visit family at this time result in an exodus of millions from urban centers to rural kampongs and hometowns for the Lebaran holiday - definitely not a time to travel unless you absolutely have to.

The hardships and inconveniences endured by the travelers in overcrowded buses, trains and cars and at overcrowded ferry terminal and airports (often with with inflated fares) is unbelievable, yet they feel that this is a small price to pay to spend the holidays with their family and friends. Traditionally urban dwellers are expected to come bearing gifts or money earned during the previous year for their family.

The urban visitors often return from the exodus accompanied by relatives and friends looking for work in the cities and bigger towns.

It is a very important time for Indonesian families and an exciting time for the youngsters. For non-Muslims it compares with the traditional gift-giving of Christmas celebrations and the family importance of celebrations like Thanksgiving in the US and the Chinese New Year.

Sundowner @ Smiling
Every Friday, Come and Enjoy
FREE BEER
From 4.30pm until 6.00pm
So grab your mates and wind down from the week at GOODIES!

Sundowner resumes Sept 17

TRI NATIONS RUGBY

On the **BIG SCREEN** at

Goodies

this Saturday at 5.00 pm

The BIG one

WALLABIES

v

ALL BLACKS

DEAD Rubber - No Way Bro ...



The Wallabies are primed for a massive effort against the mighty All Blacks this Saturday

THE AUSTRALIAN Wallabies will be aiming to avoid a record-breaking 10th straight loss to the All Blacks in Saturday's final 2010 Tri Nations Test at the Olympic stadium in Sydney.

According to ABC Sports it may be technically a dead rubber but there is huge pride at stake as unbeaten New Zealand attempts to complete a series sweep and the Wallabies try to stop the awful rot against their arch-rivals.

Buoyed by their heart-stopping breakthrough victory over the Springboks in Bloemfontein last Saturday - their first at altitude on South Africa's highveld in 47 years - the Wallabies are up for shedding another monkey from their backs.

"That was a hoodoo that was broken after 47 years, so if we can do that I think breaking a nine or 10-game losing streak is possible," said Australian centre Adam Ashley-Cooper.

The All Blacks will be without their injured champion playmaker Dan Carter, with youngster Aaron Cruden stepping in at five eighth.

"Cruden is very talented and has played with the majority of that backline," said Ashley-Cooper. "They

might lose a little bit with Dan Carter's direction but Cruden is more than talented enough to fill those boots."

*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

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Mon - Sat 6.15am - 9.00pm

Sundays Brunch from 7.30am

All Blacks shaken by quake

WE THOUGHT they were kidding when we saw the headline but in fact eight players and members of the All Black management team were affected by the Christchurch earthquake.

Worst damage was to the home of forwards coach Steve Hansen. The house apparently looked like a Wallabies scrum had hit it.

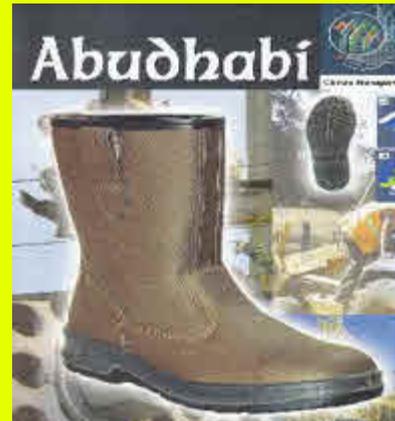
*For more information about Smiling Hill,
including maps showing how to find us, go to
www.smilinghillbatam.com*

P. T. Great Dynamic Indonesia

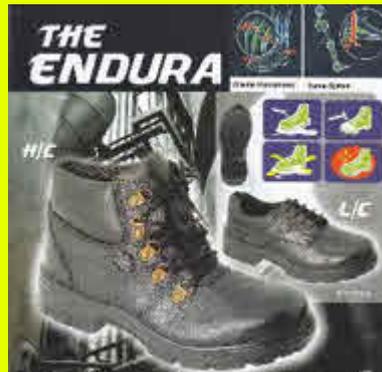
SEPTEMBER SUPER SPECIALS



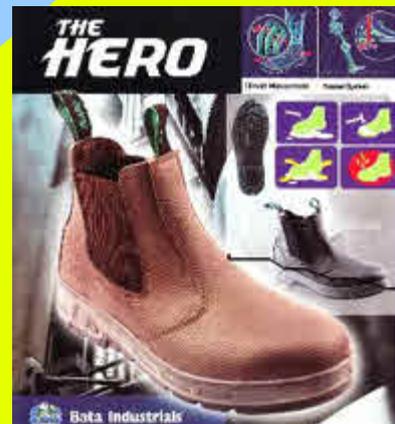
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walk out the door*



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Whats on.... Sports

September 10th - September 17th

FRIDAY September 10th

- 12.00 noon Australian Football Highlights
- 4.30pm Australian Football : Geelong v Fremantle (SF1)
- 8.00pm Rugby League : Titans v Warriors (QF1)

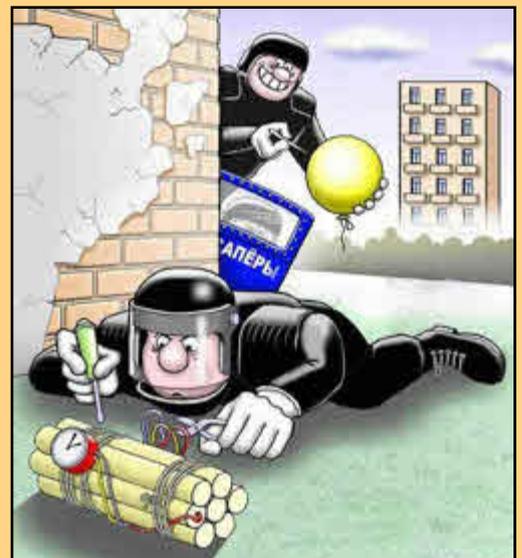
Saturday September 11th

- 5.00pm Tri-Nations Rugby : Australia v All Blacks
- 6.40pm English Premier League : Everton v Man U
- 6.50pm Formula 1 : Qualifying Italian Grand Prix
- 7.30pm Australian Football : Bulldogs v Swans (SF2)
- 8.55pm English Premier League : Arsenal v Bolton
- 8.55pm English Premier League : Westham v Chelsea
- 10.30pm Rugby League : Wests Tigers v Roosters
- 10.30pm US Open Tennis : Live from Flushing Meadows
- 11.00pm English Premier League : Fulham v Wolves
- 11.30pm English Premier League : Newcastle v Blackpool

Sunday September 12th

- 11.00am Rugby League : Panthers v Raiders (QF3) (Repeat)
- 1.00pm Rugby League : Dragons v Sea Eagles (QF4)
- 6.45pm Formula 1 : Italian Grand Prix
- 9.55pm English Premier League : Birmingham v Liverpool

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



BATAM JOBS SEARCH

VACANCIES

RIG MECHANIC - Urgently required Senior Rig Mechanic with planned maintenance and preservation experience. This is a straight in at the deep end job so no chance of anybody winging it - must know drilling rig equipment. - Inquiries to hfpark@gmail.com

SEEKING EMPLOYMENT

Jamie Kynoch

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E-Mail: Tattie_mash@yahoo.co.uk

D.O.B.: 12th October 1983

Nationality: British

Passport: 707229493 (Expires 11th November 2020)

Status: Single

SCHOOLS ATTENDED

1995-96 Robert Gordons College Aberdeen
1996-99 Ellon Academy Aberdeenshire
1999-2001 Aberdeen College of Further Education

WORK EXPERIENCE

Dec '08 – Dec '09

PT. Steeltech Asia as the QHSE Manager for their facility in Tanjung Uncang and also to oversee projects at various shipyards in Batam. I was essentially hired to ensure that all Quality and HSE issues were being addressed accordingly but my main objective was to guide the company towards achieving ISO 9001:2008 certification. I wrote a Quality Manual for the company as well doing the necessary restructuring of the company to achieve the standards needed for ISO Certification. I was also appointed the Management Representative in all matters pertaining to Quality and HSE.

PT. Steeltech Asia is one of the largest sub-contractors on Batam. I also spent time frequenting shipyards to check on work progress. There was a fluctuating amount of staff at the company, but on average there were 200 people within my area of responsibility.

March '06 – August '08

PT. H-Tech Oilfield Equipment (drill pipe manufacturing). I joined the company with the intention of learning as much as possible about the oil

This newsletter reaches many members of the Batam Expat community. We are introducing this page as a service to these readers. If you are seeking employees or seeking a job then just send us the details and we will publish your contribution as space permits - and it's FREE!

industry. In the time I was there I learned to operate many machines in the plant including the CNC lathes, Friction weld, Tuff Weld and Hard Band processes. I successfully attended and completed an advanced programming course conducted by Mori Seiki in Singapore for the programming of their machines. Towards the end of my time at the company I had been working in the QA department of the XL Systems plant (large OD tubular casing), as well as regular QA responsibilities I also was improving and implementing new SOP's and ensuring only the best products were produced and released to customers. I have also worked closely with the HSE officer to ensure a safer environment at PT. H-Tech Oilfield Equipment.

April '04 – October '05

I worked for a courier company in the UK as a computer support personnel. My duties included helping ensure the smooth running of all computers in the company. I also helped with attending to incoming calls from customers and queries regarding any deliveries that were late or damaged. This gave me the skills to deal with dissatisfied customers and clients.

March '03 – December '04

Employed by an employment agency in Aberdeen, mostly for Data Input and other computer related jobs. I also worked for the NHS (National Health Service) during this period in press relations.

August 2000 – March '03

Attended Aberdeen College of Further Education, where I completed a Higher National Certificate in Computing. Additionally I joined International Testing Services, testing samples from the oilfields in the North Sea for such elements as water, gas, viscosity. In just under two years of employment I was upgraded to Level 3 Chemist, it was also during these two years that I was put through Higher Physics & Chemistry by the company.

HOBBIES & INTERESTS

Since moving to the far-east Golf has become my main interest. I was President of the Batam Social Golf Society for the previous two years and still hold a position on the organizing committee. My duties as President involved the negotiation of prices given by golf clubs, meeting with managers and marketing staff to get the best possible deals for our members and of course the smooth running of the tournaments themselves.