



September 2001
Volume 1, Issue 1

WHAT'S HAPPENING

NORTH SULAWESI *Culture - Adventure*

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For many years we in North Sulawesi have always thought of ourselves as a marine tourism destination. The reality is, this is not true!! If one takes the time to travel beyond the dive resort or hotel you are staying in, you will find a wealth of culture and adventure right here on your doorstep.

Let's go up to the Highlands for a quick look at what is available. If the thought of seeing pottery, jars, large urns, and the like being turned on a foot driven potters wheel, then make it a point to travel to Pulitan approximately one and a half hours from Manado. On the way back, turn off the road in Tomohon to make a quick stop in Woloan. This is the center of the cottage industry



of the Minahasan Traditional Houses, no pun intended. Arriving at the village, drive down the lane and both sides are lined with various models, shapes and designs. The prices begin at less than \$1000 US and continue up to \$10,000 US for a large all wood frame house, complete with roof, hardware,

floors, knocked down and delivered and constructed on site. The only drawback is that this price only includes assembly in the Manado/Bitung/ area. If you are looking for more traditional adventure try the white-water rafting- contact a local travel agent.

**REMEMBER - NORTH SULAWESI
IS
CULTURE & ADVENTURE**



Bunaken Entrance Fee Kicked Off in Style

On 15 March 2001, the new Bunaken National Park entrance fee system was launched in Manado amidst fanfare, government speeches and a lively auction of the first entrance tags. The new system is modeled on that of the successful Bonaire Marine Park, where divers are required to purchase a special waterproof entrance tag that can be fastened to their BCD's or wetsuits. In Bunaken, the tag is valid for each calendar year and costs Rp 75,000 (about USD\$7.00), proceeds of which are being used to fund patrols and other conservation activities in the park. For inventory control, the non-transferable tags are individually numbered.

After speeches from the head of the Bunaken National Park Office and the Vice Governor of North Sulawesi, the first four entrance tags were ceremoniously presented to the "pioneers of Bunaken diving", Dr. Hany and Mrs. Ineke Batuna, Mr. Locky Herlambang, and Mr. Ricky Lasut. The North Sulawesi Watersports Association then conducted a spirited auction of tags numbered 0000 through 0010, with tags selling for as much as 2 million Rupiah (proceeds used for conservation activities). The festivities ended with dive operators purchasing lots of up to 100 tags for eventual resale to diving guests. The colorful tags are already becoming a collector's item - one more good reason to come dive Bunaken's stunning reefs! M.E.

REMEMBER ASK YOUR DIVE OPERATOR FOR YOUR BUNAKEN TAG!!

A message to our visitors,

We hope that this first issue will provide a bit of helpful information to you, our guest in North Sulawesi. We welcome comments and tips for the next issue and urge you to use our email address as a means to express your opinion as well as submit articles and pictures for future issues. We beg your indulgence as we are not professional writers nor publishers, but we believe that North Sulawesi needs an informational guide that can act as a reference as well as offer alternative options for your holiday experience. We would also like to thank all of our friends and colleagues who supported us through this laborious process.

Warm regards from,

Ninny Ruata Barnes
Editor: "Whats Happening"

Email: info@manadosafaris.com

Tel: 62 431 857637

Things to wear and bring; long pants (although I wore shorts), insect repellent, sneakers are fine, drinking water (Aqua), binoculars, camera and last but not least a small container for your sulfur crystals. Time: 2-2.25 hours up (same down), 1 hour to go up and down to the sulfur fumaroles, 30 minutes resting, total time 6 hours.

GUNUNG AMBANG

The Crater



With Kotamabagu behind us we headed for the village of Bongkudai Baru (35 minutes) where we had arranged with the Kepala Desa (head of the village) to park the jeep and arrange a guide. She failed on the guide but graciously let us keep our vehicle there. We walked over to the nearest Toko (store) and asked if there was someone available that could act as a guide. My wife recruited a guide whose name was Yoke, although he was the silent type he knew the way and when we needed help, he was there. Setting out (8:15 AM) through fields of spring onions, tomatoes, corn and potatoes we began our trek to Gunung Ambang (altitude 1100 M) where one can view and actually go down to the sulfur fumaroles. We trekked through the fields and finally entered the

dense forest. One thing that you need to be aware of, if you ask people how far it is or how long it takes to walk someplace, remember one thing, Indonesians are in excellent shape and in the countryside they don't wear watches!! This means double whatever someone tells you, when it comes to time or distance. We walked through the forest for another one and a half hours and reached the area where we could easily see not only the fumaroles but one of the villages on the other side of the mountain. After this exhilarating walk with our group we rested and explored the surrounding crater area. This area has many low lying bushes with wild mulberries which are blue in color, it is great to eat so ask your guide to point it out to you. It is called krenten in Bahasa Indonesian. After our respite a few of us decided to walk down into the center of the crater and actually touch the scalding hot water and gather up some sulfur crystals for a keepsake. One thing that I have heard is that these crystals and hot-springs have a medicinal effect for people with skin problems. The trip down the slopes into the crater area was not dangerous but because of the loose rocks big and small it can be slightly disconcerting when the small pebbles give way or even a hand hold that you thought was secure lets go. This part of the

..... *Continued on page 10*

KALI WATERFALL

A Short Trip - But Worth It



Puri Hotel
(heading towards Tomohon) and you will make a left hand turn after about ten minutes drive, as you begin to wind up the hill towards the highlands. Once making this turn, the road is actually pretty good all the way up to the parking lot. I hate to use the word parking lot, it should be the house where

Got four hours to kill?? If the answer is yes, then get in a taxi or microlet and take a

trip to Kali Waterfall a short drive, part way up the road on the way to Tomohon. Suggestion— wear sneakers or hiking boots as it can be quite slippery.

Leave Gran

there is room to park a car or two! This short ride is about

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SONNY'S GALLERY

Paintings & Good Coffee

Interested in original paintings from North Sulawesi? Do you want to meet the artist who was born and raised in Minahasa? Then stop by Sonny's Gallery located right off of Sam Ratulangi. Visit with the artist himself, have a cup of coffee and take a look at some of the most creative paintings to come out of North Sulawesi by a native Minahasan. His paintings are a mix of abstract or still life images using motifs from North Sulawesi including the Kabasaran Dancer, Waruga from Airmadidi and the Bendi (horse drawn cart) Tele: 859853



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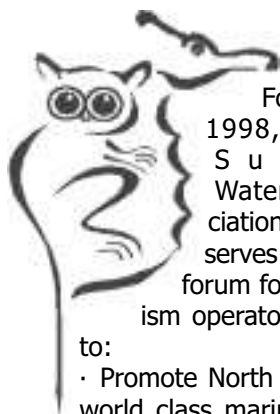
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Formed in mid 1998, the North Sulawesi Watersports Association (NSWA) now serves as the primary forum for marine tourism operators in the area to:

- Promote North Sulawesi as a world class marine ecotourism destination.
- Voice their concerns and actively prevent environmental degradation in Bunaken National Park, Lembeh Strait, and other reef areas of North Sulawesi.
- Cooperate with NGO's and government agencies in solving common environmental problems.
- Discuss and formulate programs to improve relations with villagers living within these primary tourism areas by actively trying to share tourism benefits with these communities.

At the core of NSWA's efforts to protect North Sulawesi's rich but threatened marine resources is an innovative program of "3E's": Employment, Education, and Enforcement efforts.

The NSWA strongly believes that an important way to relieve the pressure on North Sulawesi's reefs is to provide alternative employment to villagers that otherwise depend on extracting reef resources. NSWA's programs to achieve this goal include a strong commitment from all members to actively recruit dive and hospitality staff from local villages, as well as direct purchase of pelagic fish from local villagers. Additionally, the NSWA has instituted a village handicrafts program to produce a variety of reef-friendly handicrafts for sale to diving tourists, including embroidered marine life handkerchiefs, coconut shell carvings of marine animals, and miniature replicas of traditional dugout canoes. Finally, numerous villagers in Bunaken are now employed in the patrol and entrance fee systems.

Did you know the water temperature around Bunaken National Park ranges between 27C - 29C all year round.

NORTH SULAWESI WATERSPORTS ASSOCIATION

FORMED TO PROMOTE REEF-FRIENDLY MARINE TOURISM

Educational programs by NSWA include production of reef friendly tourism information brochures and a television video on the problems of marine trash disposal, beach cleanups, and book donations to schools. The centerpiece of NSWA's educational efforts is a scholarship program designed to provide young adults from villages within Bunaken National Park and the Lembeh Strait with educational opportunities in the local university's marine sciences faculty and in the marine tourism curriculum at the local polytechnic university.

Even with employment and educational efforts, enforcement is still a necessary part of protecting our marine resources from illegal and destructive practices such as blast and cyanide fishing. Since early '99, enforcement donations from the Association have enabled rangers and police to significantly increase their patrol time around the North Sulawesi peninsula and curb the use of illegal fishing techniques. NSWA's active participation in development of an entrance fee system for Bunaken National Park has now insured sustainable financing for this patrol system. NSWA's enforcement efforts are not targeted exclusively at fishers; the Association also instituted a voluntary but strict ban on all anchoring within Bunaken National Park and has internal regulations to prevent degradation

tion of dive sites by tourism activities.

As a division of the North Sulawesi chapter of the Pacific Asia Travel Association (PATA), the NSWA included 14 business members as of June 2001: Blue Banter Marina, Bunaken Divers, Celebes Divers, ChaCha Dive Resort, Eco-Divers, Froggies Divers, Kungkungan Bay Resort, LumbaLumba Dive Center, Minahasa Prima Resort, Murex Dive Resort and Liveaboards, Nusantara Dive Center, Sulawesi Dive Quest, Dive Centre Thalassa, and Two Fish Divers.

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Website : www.murexdive.com www.manado-liveaboards.com

JUNGLE LESSON #1

GUNUNG AMBANG WATERFALL - KOTAMOBAGU



On vacation, we arose late and drove the 25 minutes from Kotamabagu to the spot where the road ended, kind of. By that I mean we tried to drive another kilometer more and had to return to a

"I was about to receive my most important lesson of the day, rain falls hard in the jungle,"

house where they said we could leave our car. We began our ascent to the waterfall at 9:40 AM. arriving at 12:00 o'clock, after getting lost several times. One group of students passed us and with 20/20 hindsight we should have asked there help to insure that we would follow the most direct route and not ask the local farmer who misdirected us or maybe it was us that couldn't follow instructions. We learned a few lessons on this trek through the jungle which will become more apparent towards the end of the tale.

The waterfall was quite im-

pressive although the water smelled of sulfur from the volcanic action. We stripped down to our shorts, as we were dripping with perspiration and hot from our rigorous hike and plunged into the luke warm water. Relaxing for about an hour we decided it was time to begin to make our way back down the mountain. After about 20 minutes it began to lightly sprinkle, thinking that we were probably in for a hard rain, I stopped under a large tree where I could repack our cameras. This was done

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NSWA SCHOLARSHIP

Announcement of NSWA scholarship fund 2001

Throughout North Sulawesi, and even in a national park like Bunaken, the coral reefs are fighting a constant battle against damage from illegal anchoring, destructive fishing practices, coral mining, and poor land use practices that result in erosion and ocean disposal of trash.

The North Sulawesi Watersports Association (NSWA) is taking an active role in protecting North Sulawesi's rich but threatened reef resources through a program of "3E's": Enforcement, Employment and Education efforts. Since early '99, enforcement donations from the Association have enabled rangers and police to significantly increase their patrol time around the North Sulawesi peninsula, while both a village handicrafts program and direct recruitment of dive center staff from villages within the park have provided alternative employment to villagers.

Educational programs by NSWA include production of

brochures and a television video, beach cleanups, book donations to schools, and a scholarship program designed to provide young adults from villages within Bunaken National Park and the Lembeh Strait with educational opportunities that we believe will positively effect North Sulawesi's reefs. In 2000, this scholarship program raised almost 30 million rupiah and provided two full university scholarships (5 year) in marine sciences and one full tourism academy scholarship (3 year) in marine tourism. In 2001, the NSWA is aiming to raise at least 40 million rupiah and fund four additional university scholarships in marine and fisheries sciences for local youths. Additional funds raised by the fund will be used to provide marine-themed books to schools in Bunaken and Lembeh. By providing villagers who use the area's reef resources with a greater understanding and vested

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**"IF WE ALL GIVE BACK A
LITTLE TO OUR CORAL REEFS
THEY WILL REWARD US WITH
LASTING BEAUTY FOR GEN-
ERATIONS TO COME"**

**Did you know that the flag
fall on a Manado taxi is Rp.
2000, but often times they
don't want to use the meter.
Drivers are generally very
nice but better to negotiate
the fare first.**

DESTINATION TANGKOKO-DUASUDARA NATURE RESERVE: A GAME OF SURVIVAL AND NEWFOUND DELIGHTS

Objective: Get to Tangkoko-Duasudara Nature Reserve, have a great rainforest experience, and return with all your belongings and body parts intact.

Step one: Get on an airplane. Go past China, Japan, and head south. Follow the cluster of islands along the South China Sea going past Sumatra and Borneo, leaving behind orangutans and tigers until you hit the Makassar Strait. If you've hit the Moluccan islands, you've gone too far: lose 10 points. Past the Makassar Strait is a Gummy-shaped island called Sulawesi. Head for the northwestern tip and land in the city of Manado. Retrieval of all luggage *intact*: 10 points.

Step two: From Manado, go northeast leaving behind the pack of crazy exhaust fume-drunk *microlet* (public blue vans) drivers and the frequent spirited calls of 'meeester' (regardless of gender). After 100 'meester's, every 'meester' thereafter: collect 0.1 point. As you descend on the hill that overlooks the bay of Bitung and Lembeh island, proceed slowly until you hit the village of Girian, and then turn left. From Girian, swerve car wildly to avoid crushing the surly dogs of Duasudara and Danowodu. No accidents: 5 points. Keep your spinal column intact by wearing full safety gear. If gear is not available, hold on tightly and pray a lot. Play it safe and pray to all the gods. All body parts

in place: 2 points.

Now you've arrived at Tangkoko-Duasudara Nature Reserve. There are few places in the world where such a wide variety of habitats, plants, and animals are crammed into one small forest (8,890 hectares or 21,990 acres). Thus far, scientists have documented 26 mammal, 178 bird, 15 reptile, and over 200 plant species that occur at Tangkoko.

Sulawesi has one of the highest levels of species endemism in the world, meaning many of these species are unique to Sulawesi. Of the known Sulawesi fauna, 62% mammal, 27% bird, 32% reptile and 76% amphibian species are found only in Sulawesi. The mammal species hits an extraordinary 98% if bats are not included. In comparison, endemism on the neighboring islands Borneo and Sumatra for mammals is a fifth, and birds less than a quarter of the percentage of endemics in Sulawesi.

Step three: Once you're at Tangkoko, check into one of the several *losmen* (home-



Photo: Renee Manoppo

stays) at Batuputih village. Score a *cold* beer at your *losmen*: 1 point. If you arrive mid-day, it's better to rest up and wait until late afternoon to see tarsiers and other nocturnal critters. There are several publications which may be helpful during your at Tangkoko: *A Pocket Field Guide to Tangkoko-Duasudara Nature Reserve* by R. Lee, J. Riley, and L. Pesik; and *A Natural History of North Sulawesi* by M. Kinnaird. Both are available at local shops, and all proceeds go toward conservation efforts.

Before you go into the forest, remember to bring your insect repellent. There are tiny mites called *gonone* which cause great itching and embarrassment. They drill deep

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SHOP TILL YOU DROP

It's probably no major secret that Manado isn't quite the shopping mecca of South East Asia, but with the Rupiah at its current level, the exchange rate can only mean good news for overseas shoppers with any major foreign currency. Your Deutsch Mark, Yen, Franc or Dollar probably won't go this far for a long time, so get in quickly while a multitude of goods are now selling at bargain prices.

Whilst Manado doesn't present the mind boggling array of handicrafts and items to be found in other areas of Indonesia, it may pay to think outside the square for something that price wise just couldn't be matched at home. The following list represents some items you may not have

thought of looking at: **Eyecare products** - for the visually challenged amongst you, there are a number of Optic shops in Manado which sell all manner of contact lenses, lens care products, and a fantastic range of frames and lenses. While you probably won't have time to get glasses made up, a good pair of frames are probably a good purchase and most major brands are available if you shop around. Check out the "Optik" shops; Internasional, Ceria, Harmonis and Rama on Jalan Sam Ratulangi, and Optik Seis and Melawai near Matahari Store.

Clothing - again we see that Manado can't quite match the selection found in other cities but it is worthwhile checking

out some of the original brand name products to be found in *Matahari, Coco or Roberta Stores*. Calvin Klein, Ralph Lauren Polo and Pierre Cardin are amongst the well priced items you could stock up on. Good business shirts and ties are always a good purchase.

Material (Fabric) - there are a variety of small shops around the Pasar 45 (Market 45 area in the centre of town) which specialise in materials of all colours. The Minahasan Karawang is a pretty local fabric which would make an interesting souvenir from the North Sulawesi region. The shops are also stocked with a large selection of batik fabric from Java which are worthwhile picking up if you are not travelling on to Yogyakarta or Solo. In addition to using the fabric for cushion covers or sarongs, what about covering photo

..... *Continued on page 14*

Dive the amazing walls of Bunaken with..



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SHOPPERS TIP

If shopping in any of the larger stores such as Matahari or Roberta, you may be confused as to why the staff give you a receipt for your goods and ask you to pay at the nearest cashier instead of taking the goods with you. This is because space within these stores are sub-leased to various companies so that the revenue from the sales does not go directly to the store in question. When you see the sign "Pakai Nota" it will mean you will have to go to the cashier to pick up and pay for your goods.

LOKON ERUPTS !!

Manado, the capital of North Sulawesi, and the surrounding areas were showered by ash from Lokon volcano late on Sunday night, according to a report on Monday. Denny Tambengi, a member of the Volcanology Monitoring Post in Kakaskasen village, some 25 kilometers from Manado, said an internal eruption of Lokon took place at about 8:14 p.m. local time on Sunday, causing the volcano to spew ash, Antara reported. Residents of Manado and the nearby areas were reluctant to leave their homes on Monday, the report said. The internal eruption on the 1,689-meter Lokon volcano was followed by 180 volcanic tremors felt in the

nearby villages of Kakaskasen, Kinilow and Tinoor. Strong winds carried the ash — which reportedly exploded some 900 meters up into the air — up to Manado. Denny said the volcano was still active, but that there were not yet any plans to evacuate those living at the foot of the mountain. Lokon last erupted in 1991, causing some Rp 1 billion in damage and driving thousands of people from their homes. The volcano has been active this year, with eruptions recorded in January, March and May.

Source: Jakarta Post, May 22, 2001

(Editor's note— This is somewhat of an exaggeration in our opinion)



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KALI WATERFALL

A Short Trip - But Worth It

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10 to 15 minutes. Get out of your vehicle— smell the cool air, no exhaust and everyone willing to lend a hand; if you need it. The walk down to the waterfall begins. First stop is the scenic overlook of Manado, where there is a private residence at this point and sometimes you may get pisang goreng for a nominal fee, but worth it, with the sambal. Do this on the way back! After this brief Fuji Moment take your next right and follow it down approximately 200 stairs and some flat area as well, and voila you arrive at the base of the falls. Be ready for lots of wind blown spray as the force of the water is pretty intense, causing the mist to pretty much cover everything and everyone. There is a nice bridge that spans the river where you can get some great shots of the waterfall! Take the family— I took a 3 & 6 year old. (JHB)

GUNUNGAMBANG

..... Continued from page 2

adventure trek can be done by a six year old as long as accompanied one on one by an adult. I too collected my sulfur crystals and huffed and puffed up the pebbly sides of the crater. Sitting down before our jaunt back to the village, we heard a noise that I thought was a bird of some sort, I suddenly re-

membered my binoculars in the bag. Digging them out I began to search the crest of the peak beside us, and there they were, a pair of Black Crested Macaques. That was it, this topped our trip up the mountain! Everyone enjoyed and as sorry as we were to begin our trip down, it was time to go before the afternoon rains began. (NR)

MONEY CHANGING INFORMATION

Downtown Manado has many banking institutions. Many have over the counter rates for cash transactions as well as ATM's. Available also, are money changers located throughout the city. It is best to check with several different places as rates may fluctuate depending on whether the bills are clean (no marks, folded with creases or denomination (20's, 50's, or 100's) For your convenience we have listed a few places that generally understand travelers needs.

ABN AMBRO Bank 855777

BCA Bank 868438

Money Changer 867722

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NSWA ...

..... Continued from page 6

interest in protecting them, we hope to guarantee sustainability of the reefs. Your donation will be used directly to support our scholarship program. Donations can be made at any of the NSWA members' establishments (Blue Banter Marina, Bunaken Divers, Celebes Divers, ChaCha Dive Resort, Eco-Divers, Froggies Divers, Kungkungan Bay Resort, Lumba Lumba Diving Cen-

ter, Minahasa Prima Resort, Murex Dive Resort, Sulawesi Dive Quest, Two Fish Dive Center or 5* Dive Center Thalassa), or directly by bank transfer:

Bank Danamon,
Jalan Toar 17,
Manado, Sulawesi Indonesia
Account Name: Juud Dikkers
(NSWA Scholarship)
Account Number: 554.090-05627.1
Email:
nswa@north-sulawesi.com

Please visit the PATA
Website
www.noth-sulawesi.com for
the most up to date infor-
mation on North Sulawesi

AIRLINE CONTACT INFORMATION

Manado's Sam Ratulangi International located 20 minutes from downtown Manado is serviced by the following major airlines. At the present time international there are two flights per week from Davao, Philippines and four flights per week from Singapore.

Bouraq Indonesia Airways	862757
Garuda Indonesia Airlines	862242
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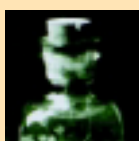
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JUNGLE LESSON #1

..... Continued from page 5

quickly and hastily. I was about to receive my most important lesson of the day, rain falls hard in the jungle, in fact it can be torrential- bigger than cats & dogs, more like elephants and dinosaurs! After the downhill leisurely walk we reached the starting point and found to my dismay that the Minolta camera that I had for 6 years finally had taken its last photo, it would never see the places that I had yet to visit, oh well it has served its purpose many times over, this camera's pics can easily be visited by going to:

www.north-sulawesi.com

The second camera body was ok but the 70-200 zoom was flooded as it had quenched its thirst from the 2 inches of water in the bottom of my bag. Enough about the water and photo gear. The other major lesson learned, always take a guide even though the directions sound clear and the words are repeated by every-

one, "its easy you can't miss it", I did, my wife did (and she is Indonesian). So maybe you will get a guide, you will be supporting the local economy and you won't get lost. This means you save time!! Get a guide!! One last point, we did this with our six year old son it is doable but there were times when I thought I had made the wrong decision. PS – We took our four year old daughter but I don't recommend this as I probably wouldn't do it again, until tomorrow. Don't take real young ones. NRB



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A GAME OF SURVIVAL

..... Continued from page 7

and lay their eggs in sensitive body areas including genitals and armpits. Lest you appear like a sexual deviant or someone who avoids baths, spray insect repellents all over your socks, pants, shirt, under your belt, and crotch area. No gonone bites for the entire trip: 2 points.

Step four: Check in with the guards at Post 1 where you will pay Rp. 75,000 including the guide fee. The walk to the forest is about 2 km. There, you will find the **Spectral Tarsier** (*Tarsius spectrum*), a tiny (head and body length measuring approximately 10 cm and weighing little over 100 g) endemic primate so called because of their elongated tarsal region allowing their great leaping ability to go after insects and small reptiles. Tarsier encounter: 5 points. In your walk along the beach trail, you may also encounter numerous fluttering fruit bats like the **Sulawesi Rousette** (*Rousettus celebensis*) and **Lesser Dog-faced Fruit Bat** (*Cynopterus brachyotis*).

Step five: Now you are ready for your morning walk. Make sure to get up early (latest 6 am) and pack well (insect spray, water, snacks, binoculars). The morning walk will put you face to face with the **Crested Black Macaque** (*Macaca nigra*), the most conspicuous mammal species in the reserve. As the name suggests, it is entirely black except for their pink heart-shaped bums. You may also

see a **Bear Cuscus** (*Ailurops ursinus*), one of the two marsupial species in the forest, hanging by its long prehensile (i.e., grasping) tail in the canopy feeding on fruits and leaves.

You should also encounter a huge variety of birds in your morning walk. You may see colorful birds such as the **Sulawesi Dwarf Hornbill** (*Penelopides exarhatus*), **Blue-headed Wood Kingfisher** (*Acnoides monarchus*), **Ornate Lorikeet** (*Trichoglossus ornatus*), **Blue-backed Parrot** (*Tanygnathus sumatranus*), **Green Imperial Pigeon** (*Ducula aenea*) and **White Imperial Pigeon** (*Ducula luctuosa*).

Word of warning. If you see researchers, avoid a frothing-mouthed screaming tirade about 'pollution of data' by quietly walking away.

If you are lucky, you may come upon macaques, hornbills, and other fruit-eating birds all feeding in one tree. Researchers from the Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) have shown that one of the reasons why there are so many hornbills and other fruit-eating birds, and macaques

packed into such a small forest is lies in the high density of fig trees that grow there. With some fig trees producing up to a million sweet fruits at a time, visiting a fruiting fig tree is like visiting a candy store. Plus, these figs are full of calcium, an essential nutrient for reproduction and physical growth. Fig-trititious!

Throughout your stay at Batuputih and walks into the forest, please be a responsible tourist. Stick to the trails and do not throw trash in the forest. If your guide acts irresponsibly, gently ask the guide to behave more responsibly. If the problem persists, please report this to the head of the park at Post 1 or the head of the Nature Conservation section in Manado (Tel. 862688).

Step six: Now, add up your score. Before getting in the car, drink as many bottles of beer as specified by your score. This will numb you for the banging that you will endure on your trip back to Manado. *Selamat jalan!*

By Robert J. Lee – Mr. Lee is an ecologist who heads the Sulawesi project for the Wildlife Conservation Society
(wcssl@indosat.net.id)

EATERIES OF THE MONTH

Manado can be an excellent place to sample the savory flavors of Asia. If you have the time, try the following for an inexpensive sampling of truly Manadonese cooking.

Dolphin Donats – Jln. Sam Ratulangi - Donuts, pastries *Steaks
Green Garden - Jln. Sam Ratulangi - Chinese, Indonesian* Babi Bakar
New Hilltop Restaurant– off Sam Ratulangi– Indon. * good view
Jysti Gallery Restaurant – Jln Achmad 17/#3– Indonesian - nice atmosphere & paintings for sale

Wassenar Restaurant - Jl. Babe Palar - Indonesian *Tempura good (AC)
News Café– Jl. Sam Ratulangi– Burgers, European, Indo, *Desserts

SURVIVAL INDONESIAN

GOOD MORNING -----	SELAMAT PAGI
GOOD AFTERNOON -----	SELAMAT SOIRE
GOOD EVENING -----	SELAMAT MALAM
HOW ARE YOU -----	APA KABAR
I AM FINE -----	SAYA BAIK
WHERE IS STORE JUMBO ----	DIMANA TOKO ITU
THANK YOU -----	TERIMA KASIH
FOOD -----	MAKANAN
MONEY -----	UANG
RESTAURANT -----	RESTORAN
TELEPHONE -----	TELEPON
TAXI -----	TAKSI
BEER -----	BIR
COFFEE -----	KOPI
TEA -----	TEH
RICE -----	NASI
FISH -----	IKAN LAUT
CHICKEN -----	DAGING AYAM
YOU'RE WELCOME -----	SAMA-SAMA/KEMBALI

SHOP TILL YOU . . .

..... *Continued from page 8*
albums with batik for a unique reminder of your trip to Indonesia.

Sports Equipment - perhaps not the cheapest items around but once again the exchange rate makes them a worthwhile purchase for the time being. I recently bought a life jacket for my son which would have been 3x the price at home. Plastic inflatable toys are also a good buy and easy to take home. Pay a visit to the Adidas shop on Jalan Sam Ratulangi or Akbar Ali. Or if you are in either Jumbo Store or Matahari check out their sports sections and scout around.

Souvenirs - Manado does have a number of souvenir shops and although a number of the items on sale in these shops are from Bali or Toraja, there are a few interesting items unique to North Sulawesi which you may wish to take home. The region is famous for spices; and cloves, cinnamon, vanilla and nutmeg are sold in small packages and these can be bought at a number of the

souvenir shops. Figurines made out of cloves are also readily available and make an interesting purchase if that suits your taste.

If you are a diver, you certainly can't leave without a "Dive Bunaken" t-shirt and these are sold in any number of the stores. A couple of shops in Pasar 45 also sell a variety of t-shirts so keep an eye out for them there as well.

A visit to Logam Jaya located on the second floor of Matahari Department Store, Warung Ventje and Bohusami on Jalan Sam Ratulangi or the Souvenir Shop Indac just past the Post Office, could well be rewarding. Or if you are heading out towards the airport you could also stop off at the Maleo Souvenir Shop on Jalan Sudirman and the Manado Art Gallery.

While you're out and about in town do set aside some time for shopping and keep your Rupiah handy. You never know what will catch your eye and certainly if Manado is your last or only stop in Indonesia, you can't leave without at least one interesting Indonesian item (or at least a Calvin Klein shirt). The Rupiah is your greatest advantage but remember that all your purchases are helping local businesses and the economy, so don't be too afraid to spend up large ! **Louis Lane**

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LEMBEH STRAIT EXPLAINED

The reputation of Lembeh Strait as a mecca for divers interested in odd and rare macro fauna continues to grow. Visitors coming during different times of the year are treated to a variety of seasonal delights. June brings a mixed blessing, being when the south-east monsoon winds begins. While these winds don't affect the generally placid waters on the Bunaken side of North Sulawesi, these winds that appear daily at midmorning on the Bitung side can bring choppy waters at unprotected dive sites in the strait until September when the monsoon abates until the next year. But on the positive side there is much to reward intrepid divers beneath the surface. One of the most sought-after macro subjects, ornate ghost pipefish move into the shallows to breed, exhibiting a rainbow of colour combinations to delight those who find them hiding amongst the arms of feather stars or alongside sea fans. There seems to be an increase in the variety and numbers of nudibranchs on show as well. In addition to all that colour, certain cephalopods, including any of the four species of mimic octopus as well as the captivating flamboyant cuttlefish can be found shortly following their

spring breeding cycle, prowling the black sand bottom. These critters are just some of the parade of fascinating creatures that are commonly encountered in Lembeh, alluring divers from all over the globe who wish to accumulate "firsts" or for underwater photographers who want fill their viewfinders with what is considered rare elsewhere.

Text & Photo-Bruce Moore- Blue Banter Diving



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Cafe

Green
Garden

Manado City Map


To Bunaken
National Park



Note from the editor:

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L E G E N D

- | | | |
|--|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1. To Hotel Santika & Thalassa Dive Center | 6. Hotel New Queen | 15. To Murex Resort & Live-Aboards |
| To Nusantara Dive Center | 7. Green Garden Restaurant | To Tasik Ria Resort & Eco Divers |
| 2. Logam Jaya Gift Shop | 8. Safari Tours & Travel | 16. Grand Puri Hotel |
| 3. Blue Banter | Dolphin Donats | Coco Supermaket |
| 4. Pola Pelita Tour & Travel | 9. Money Changer | ATM's |
| Ritzy Hotel | 10. Metropole Tour & Travel | 17. To Gardenia Highland Resort |
| Matahari Dept. Store | 11. Maya Express Tour & Travel | To Kali Waterfall |
| ATM's | 12. Steiner Salon | 18. To Kungkungan Bay Resort |
| 5. M2 Factory Outlet | 13. Sonny's Gallery | To Airport Sam Ratulangi |
| | 14. Jysti Restaurant | |