

I don't think we've run from here before. The question is why not? Although but a few hundred yards from the Big Baby and crossroads at Sakah, you might as well be in Jatiluwih or the Garden of Eden. The magnificent temple; largely reconstructed - when I first went there 50 years ago the outer walls and gates were still ruinous following the mighty temblor of 1917 - is bounded by riparian forest and open undulating rice-fields as far as the eye can see. Ancillary masonry including a many-tiered cockfighting arena, overshadowed by massive bombax and ficus, indicate that this is not pura desa or puseh but p dalem - temple of the Innermost and Dead. And the custodian animals including elephants plus hieroglyphs on the main gate indicate early 14th century origin. When not preoccupied by the chase and idle chatter by the beer truck;, the sacred precincts invited inspection from certain discriminating HASHERS and the latter's appreciation of the founder of the feat (BEER MASTER SHORT SHAFT)'s attempt to instil some culture in our motley crew. Being Balinese and well-connected enables our introduction to such marvels of course; it also engenders a disregard of relative distance to be traversed. The short trail was allegedly not nearly as short as advertised - but no complaints whatsoever. And Happy Birthday SHORT SHAFT you bastard. It was most appropriately for the denizens of our BHHHII kennel HARI TUMPEK KANDANG, and you all know what this celebrates by now. Happened also to be birthday of SIR DONALD BRADMAN (1908), greatest proponent and player of any kind of ball-game in history - another reason for our rendering of OLD MACDONALD'S FARM. VD and EAT HER back in biz, and anti-royalist Scotsman endearingly christened by WOODEN EYE - QUEEN MOTHER-FUCKER. Simply lovely.

Su happened to look out of my window at 16.30 last Wednesday and see two two two Chestnut-breasted Malkohas sailing between acacia tree and durian. Lucky I saw them too. Then on Friday (26th) resident Drongo Cuckoo irregularly got up to eight on the gamut and same day I had a magnificent GREAT DIADEM (pp 68/69 BUTTERFLIES) blue male but female iphigenia patterned - hermaphrodite maybe - you never know these days.