

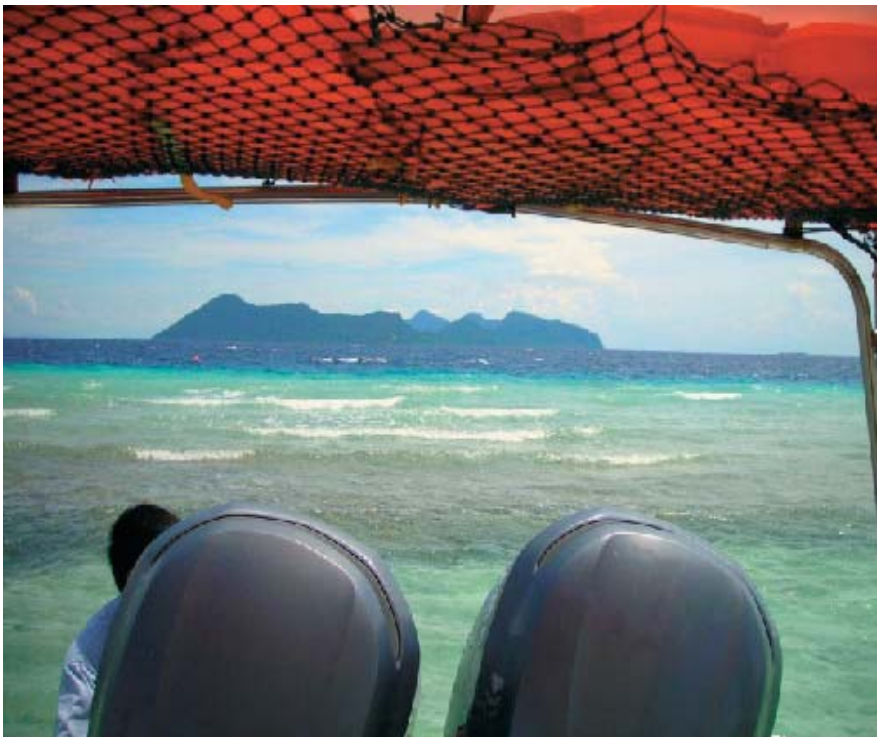
# Pom-pom

## *New jewel of Semporna*

Text and photos by  
JERRY KAMIJAN



Breathtaking view of the resort from the sea



The beautiful Pulau Bohaydulang in the backdrop

**U**nknown to many people, Semporna on the east coast of Sabah has many hidden islands yet to be discovered. Pulau Pompom is one such island that is still pristine with its light and deep blue waters and mostly calm waves.

An hour boat-ride from Semporna, the island located on the east is sandwiched between Bohaydulang Island whose shape resembles a pregnant woman and Pandanan Island, where the second kidnapping orchestrated by Abu Sayyaf terror group took place in 2001.

While many may know Sipadan and Mabul Islands, Pompom Island is not within the tourism attractions' radar, at least not yet.

A rather small island which is about 80 acres, Pompom used to be inhabited many years ago by a family clan.

Word has it that it used to be a playground of pirates in the old days as they terrorized the Celebes Sea.

Not too long ago, "foreign-owned" (distinguish by specific marking) live bullets and spent shells believed to belong to modern-day pirates were found on the island not too long ago.

The island was also struck by wildfires before and much vegetation was lost. It is a different Pompom now.

"The 'old island' is gone. This is our new Pom Pom," declares Thien Yun Phin who helps manage the fledging Bornsea Pompong Resort.

See page VI



### HOW TO GET TO POM POM ISLAND?

The island is an hour's boat depending on the condition of the sea. Boat ride can be arranged at Semporna Pier or Borneo Sea Adventure.

### CONTACT

Borneo Sea Adventure Sdn Bhd  
8A, first Floor, Karamusing Warehouse  
Kota Kinabalu, 88000 Sabah,  
Mailing Address:  
PO Box 10304, KK  
88001

Tel: 6088-230000

Email: bornsea@tm.net.my, streamyx.com

Website: www.bornsea.com