

## **Part 268 for Cathy's blog**

**Friday May 23rd to Monday May 26th, 2025**

**Friday May 23rd, 2025.**

After getting some terrible news from Melbourne overnight, we decided the best thing to do was to still go out and look at some of the beautiful things we are lucky to have in our lives.

We went to the North Gate and walked to Prasat Chrung NW.

**Having been waiting for the butterflies for about two weeks (after the first big rains), we found these today.**







**The Black Melanchroia cepheis.**





**As if often the case, we are accompanied on our walk walks by a dog. This one kept coming back to check on us.**





**The different types of fungus are also making their presence known. My foot is there to show the size of it.**





**They come in many colours too.**









After our morning outings, we head back home, where we can open the east facing curtains, open the balcony door, turn on both fans and settle down to our “inside” activities... writing the blog, language practise and sewing and tv.

Our days follow a strict routine, partly to beat the heat, partly to keep ourselves busy and partly to make sure that we keep working at the things that we want to achieve.

On Friday afternoons, we both go to language class, separately now, and once done, it feels that the weekend has begun.

## **Saturday 24th May, 2025.**

We completed our weekly shop early.

David has been supplementing our bought herbs by raiding the garden here, chilli and basil, fresh from the the plants.

**Sunday 25th May, 2025.**

We decided to go out for pizza for lunch. This will take up half of the afternoon and mean no tea. We Tuktuk in, so that there is no problem driving after drinking our way through a bottle of red wine.

**It doesn't seem that long ago we planned our retirement to Cambodia in a pizza restaurant!**

**Monday 26th May, 2025.**

**Temple Day : Neak Poan**

Neak Poan is the hospital temple, with five pools. We were pleasantly surprised to find that they have completed their restoration works and we can now walk right around all four pools (one each for Earth, Fire, Water and Wind).

The blue sky, green trees and grey sandstone temple buildings make for great pictures.













**This is the last pool they were working on. You can see the replaced sandstone blocks in the steps.**





**The pools are connected by these carved sandstone arches.**



**The temple is built on an island in the East Baray.**



**This is the laterite landing stage (facing north).**





**Looking from the wooden pathway at the landing stage and in towards the central temple.**



**Today, people walk on a series of raised wooden pathways.**





**Local wildlife on the lotus leaves.**







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**Lotus flower. The word for “pink” in Khmer is “bpor pka chook” which means colour (of) the flower lotus.**



**Looking west from the long raised walkway in to the temple. It is a long, hot walk in the sun. (Well, perhaps not that long really. It just feels a long way with no shelter.)**

The ride home from Neak Poan is about 20km, quite a long way on the bike.

