

## **Part 275 for Cathy's blog**

**Thursday June 12th to Thursday 19th June**

**Thursday 12th June, 2025.**

We walked to the bank. This is a pretty walk for us, along the Siem Reap River. At the bank we take out 50 000 Riel notes and then change some for 20 000 and 10 000 notes at the bank. For 5000 and 1000 we change at Huy Keang in Sivutha. They usually have the notes we need, but even they run out of 1000 and 5000 sometimes. You need these small notes for tips and tuktuks. We can (and do) use pass app / ABA pay, but it is good to have small notes too.

Tourists are often told by the drivers “no change”.

Language class today is “slang” and there is a whole list of words and sayings.



**There are many locks on the river. This one is near our corner. We used to cross it to go to language school. The “trendy” expat suburbs are the other side of the river to us.**



**And this is the water rushing through the lock. In times of flood, the river banks have been eroded. The road the other side of the river (our side of the river) was built with money donated by the Australian Government.**



**Perhaps it is not quite as dangerous as it looks... the river is probably less than one meter deep here (but still flowing fast!)**

## **Friday 13th June, 2025.**

Due to the rain today, we stayed home. I have found that I have not learned my vocabulary as well as I could /should.

It was a good opportunity to do some serious study.

The afternoon's free language class was on transport.

## **Saturday 14th June, 2025.**

The weather is slightly cooler so we walked to Angkor supermarket. It is still hot and sweaty, but nice to walk around the big two storey, air conditioned supermarket and half fill our trolley with our shopping.

Then we order a "tin can" tuktuk home, carrying our three or four supermarket bags, take them upstairs, put away the food and milk (and put the two bottles of Johnnie Walker Red on our alcohol shelf).

Johnnie Walker is another one of those products that are sometimes available, and sometimes not. We stock up when we can. It is now David who drinks the whiskey some evenings.

Then we spend the day watching tv, doing some language study, preparing Anjali lessons, washing, exercises and a swim and then it is time for a shower and to think about where we might go for tea.

Recent rainy afternoons and evenings have meant staying home, with David still able to think of and cook tasty meals.

### **Sunday 15th June, 2025.**

Much the same as Saturday, spent quietly at home doing all the things that there never was time for when working during the week.

### **Monday 16th June, 2025.**

We stayed home today so that I could watch a funeral via live stream. It was an upbeat funeral, with no sentimentality or tears, just a purposeful recounting of a life led working (teaching) and raising a family.

Another rainy afternoon and I am finding it hard to get clothes dry.

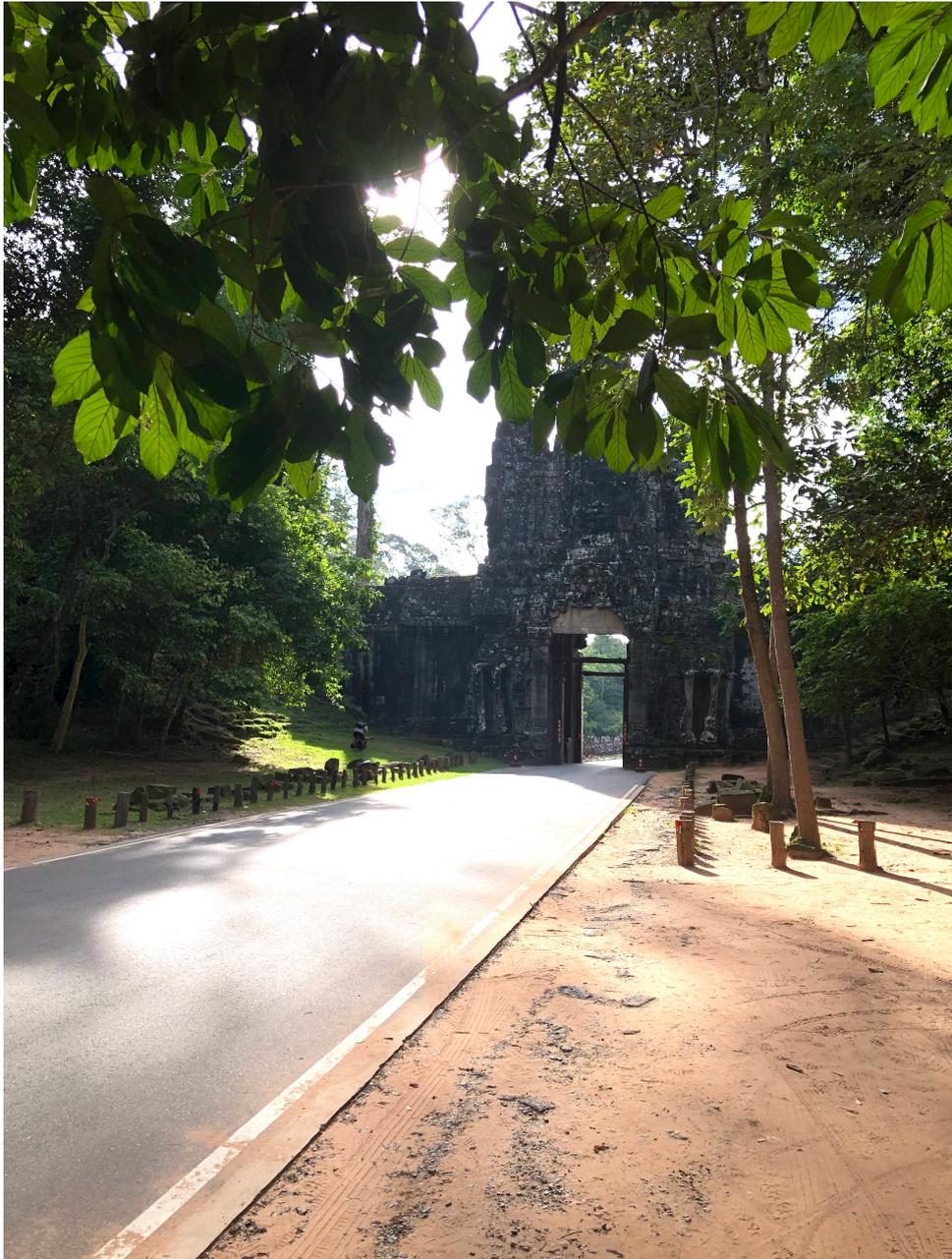
### **Tuesday 17th June, 2025.**

#### **Temple Day : Victory Gate to Gate of the Dead**

We went back out to the temples today, for a favourite walk when we are feeling a bit tired (shorter walk than most).



**After a brief pause to take pictures of these two, it was on to the Victory Gate.**



**The Victory Gate opens to the east. The sun is nearly at its furthest from east (longest day for us here in the northern hemisphere).**



**There is still a lot of work being done on cataloging stones recovered from the moat.**



**On our walk, we saw quite a lot of insect life (and some spiders).**



**Are these patterns designed to make it look like this spikey bottomed spider is looking at me?**



**Small orange beetle.**



**I think this plant would be a popular indoor plant.**



**It is hard for the camera to pick the dragonfly out (to focus on) amongst the grasses and sticks.**



**A skink on a rock.**



**And a cute caterpillar.**



**Is this one cute too?**

**The spines look a bit ominous.**

After dumplings (home delivery) for tea, David left for an overnight trip to Battambang with Anjali.

### **Wednesday 18th June, 2025.**

David is at Battambang with the Anjali staff.

At home, it was still my cleaning day.

Today's sewing was a new cushion. I stuffed a denim bag (sewn from David's jeans) with all the ends and seams and bits from the shirts we have worn out, plus two singlets of mine (which had lost their stretch and changed colour from white to a pale orange). I sewed an outer cover from the cheap sarongs.



David got home after 11:00pm. It was a long bus trip.

**Thursday 19th June, 2025.**

David is tired! We stayed home.