

Part 282 for Cathy's Blog

Monday 14th July to Wednesday 16th, July, 2025

Monday 14th July, 2025.

Temple Day : Gate of the Dead and walk to Prasat Chrung
SE.



We started our walk here, at the Gate of the Dead. This is facing due East and is (reportedly) where the fallen soldiers were brought back into the “city” of Angkor Thom after the wars.



Lots of green leaves and flowers for the insects.





And the insect predators, some with very striking patterns.

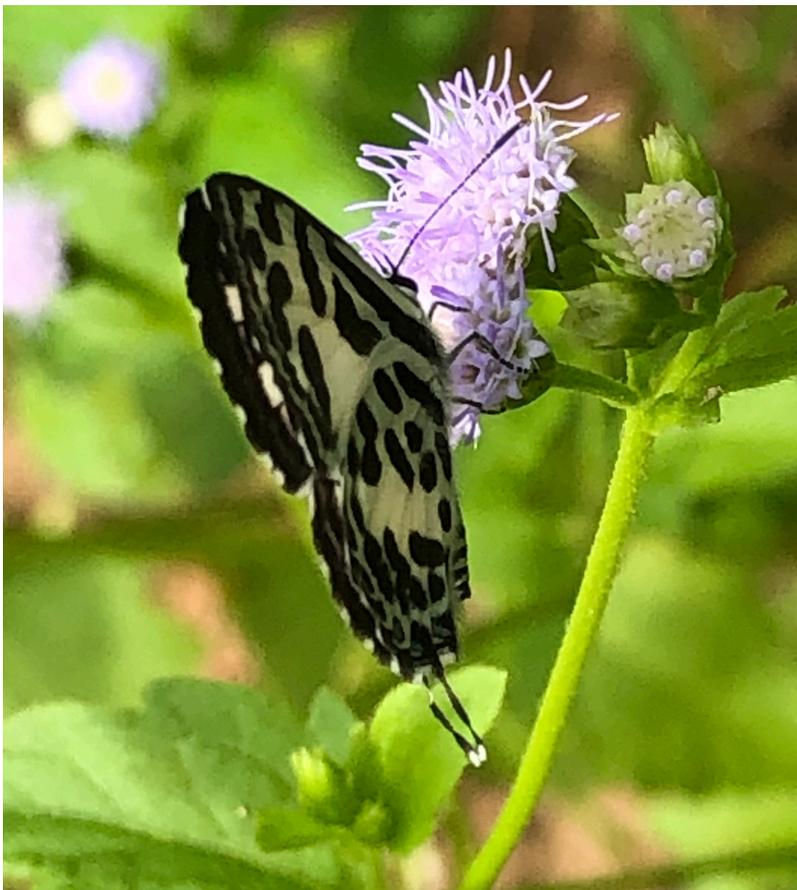




A green fly.



And butterflies and dragonflies of course.







I do not know what this one is!



Or this one!

Tuesday 15th July, 2025.

Temple Day : Terrace of the elephants and gibbons at Palilay

The work crew have gone from the Terrace of the Elephants. There are still some shelters over the walls, but no active work going on.





Horses and carts in the carvings.



An elephant, bigger than life sized. You can see that the carved sandstones are put on the laterite structure of the wall.



Repaired blocks, still showing erosion.



These elephants were part of the fighting.

Further along and the carvings are Garudas, taller than David. You can see the Garudas holding the Naga with their feet.





Looking over a pool and the raised walkway to the Baphuon temple (barely visible through the trees at the back).



Walking along the top of the Elephant Terrace. You can see the Garudas. This is the eastern gopura, the entrance to Phimeanakas, the Royal Palace.



Looking East, opposite the entrance to the Royal Palace and you can see the road to the Victory Gate, where the King and the soldiers came back into the city of Angkor Thom after wars.

Imagine a parade of soldiers, elephants and buffalo and horses, spread out on the grass here.



At the north end of the Elephant Terrace, you can walk down to see these magnificent five headed horses and more carvings. You cannot see these from the road (nor from the grassed area) : they are hidden behind walls.

A separate “building” is the Terrace of the Leper King.



Inside there are magnificent carvings too, more protected from the weather (although there is no roof).



This is a complicated Naga.



The outside of the Terrace of the Leper King.

While we were walking here, we could hear the gibbons “howling” to each other, so we got on the bike and rode in to Palilay Temple.

Palilay Temple lies west of the Terrace of the Leper King, in behind a modern pagoda.

We found a gibbon family, playing in the tall trees.



This is “dad”.

Too fast and too far away, but their “singing” was amazing.

Wednesday 16th July, 2025.

Anjali and cleaning day

Today I made two floor turtles (the big water bottles often drip or splash when filling other bottles).



