

Part 289 for Cathy's Blog.

Monday 11th August to Friday 15th August, 2025

Monday 11th August, 2025.

There was heavy rain over night and it is still raining this morning, so we stayed home.

There are always things to do at home.

Language lessons : I am always up to date for my current lesson, but I don't revise as much as I should. It is so easy to forget words and their order in sentences.

Sewing : I have begun a new Kantha bag, but have found that I cannot sew with the dark blue cotton in the evenings.

Washing : it is tricky to get things dry, now that it is raining. Sometimes, it doesn't matter. A towel that is not perfectly dry can still be used, but it cannot be put away.

Cleaning : with our trips out to temples, our shoes get muddy. When the mud dries, it breaks off in clumps on the floor. Somehow, even after I have swept, there still seems to be more dirt on the floor (large tiles, large room, and not much furniture make it easier). We also leave dirt on our landing, which needs to be swept up!

Tv watching : I admit it. I like to sit down after lunch and watch one or two episodes of a tv series. We finished Prime Suspect and now we are (re) watching Deadwood.

Tuesday 12th August, 2025.

Temple Day : Ta Nei

There was no rain today, but the road is still wet, and out at the temples, the dirt roads have big potholes full of water. The sun is hot and we think it is important not only to wear our hats, but to choose a shaded place to visit.

Ta Nei Temple fits the bill. We left early as well, to try to beat the heat (and there were two tuktuks of tourists while we were there! Quite unusual for Ta Nei).



Morning sunshine over Ta Nei Temple.



These are flower buds. The stem will grow tall (about 1m) and white flowers open from each of the segments, one or two at a time.





Small side tower inside the walls at Ta Nei.



Beautiful trees.



Big trees.



It starts small...



Pretty butterfly on the little orchids that grow here at Ta Nei.

In the afternoon, we had Zoom with the family. Busy times ahead and just over six weeks until we fly back for a visit.

Wednesday 13th August, 2025.

Anjali Day and cleaning

It is a good thing I get on with the cleaning and washing early in the morning. By the afternoon, I had a sore tummy (I expect it was the same thing as David's).

Thursday 14th August, 2025.

Temple Day : Don Mao

Feeling much better today, so we headed out to Don Mao Temple. The workers have finished their excavations and have filled in their trenches.

The lion statue has been left on its side beside the east side of the temple.



Looking east from the temple, with the trenches filled back in (you can see the lion lying on the right).



Being buried has protected the carving.



We like Don Mao because of the forest close by and the insects that live here. This delicate grasshopper is about 1cm long (body length).



Dragonfly.



Smart black beetle.



Pretty fungus. What an important job they do for us!



Nephilia with breakfast.



One of the flighty red dragonflies, being obliging and waiting for the camera to focus.



This shows the landscape workers, cutting the grass around the Suor Proat Towers (opposite the Elephant Terrace), hard at work at 7:30 in the morning.

It was a quick trip out in the heat and high humidity. In my language class in the afternoon, we read about the wet season!

Friday 15th August, 2025.

Temple Day : North Gate to Prasat Chrung NE

First we had a motor bike lesson for me, once again with no mishaps even with David as a passenger.

Then we rode back to the North Gate for a wall walk (our go to outing, particularly after having more rain overnight).



The rain washes the sand away, leaving broken pottery exposed.



Patterned spider.



Smaller butterfly with patterns.



Is this the same species?



Gold cockroach.



Green spider. Its body is less than 1cm long.



Tree with berries and the path.



Different dragonfly.



Patterned moth, another new one for us.



Larger spider, that kept going behind the leaves. The body is about 4cm long.



Back to smaller insects... this moth is about 1cm long, sitting on grass.



The North Gate from the wall.

We rode the long way home and got caught in the rain. We stopped to put on our cheap plastic raincoats which saved us from getting too wet. In the afternoon, we both had language classes. On our way out for tea, we picked up my new glasses. At tea, we listened to Aussies cheering while watching Essendon play St. Kilda. Another week has passed. Where did the time go?

