

Part 309 for Cathy's blog

Monday 24th to Thursday 27th November, 2025

Temple Day : Ta Nei temple

It is cool in the morning now and as we leave the city and ride through the forest, it is quite cold in the breeze of our movement.

Today we went to Ta Nei Temple.

It is a small temple, but very pretty and usually it is deserted (apart from the ticket officer and perhaps an Apsara staff or two). Sometimes there are tourists, but not very often. Well, today, there were three lots of tourists, two in tuktuks and one group on bikes.

It is actually nice to see them.

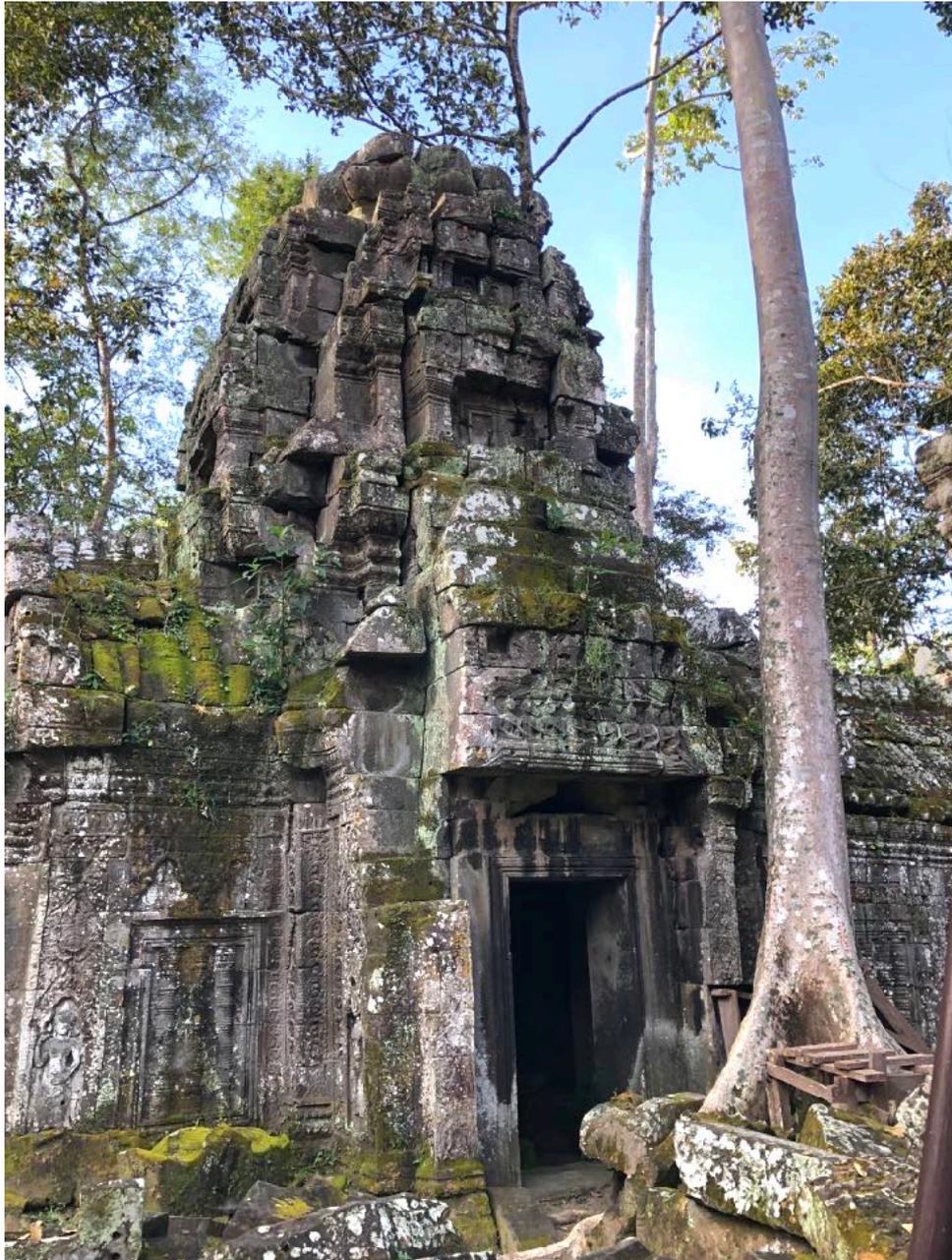


With the sun shining and the sky blue, the colours of the trees, temple stones and “red” dirt are beautiful.



**The towers inside the (part) walls of Ta Nei have fallen.
You cannot climb over them all, and you cannot get
close to many of the carvings.**

This photo above shows the scene above a doorway, showing someone riding a horse. You have to lean out of one tower to take the photo of the lintel over the doorway to another tower.



All the doorways all have stories carved into their lintels. This tower is accessible. Opposite the doorway is a well grown tree, supported by fallen sandstone blocks.



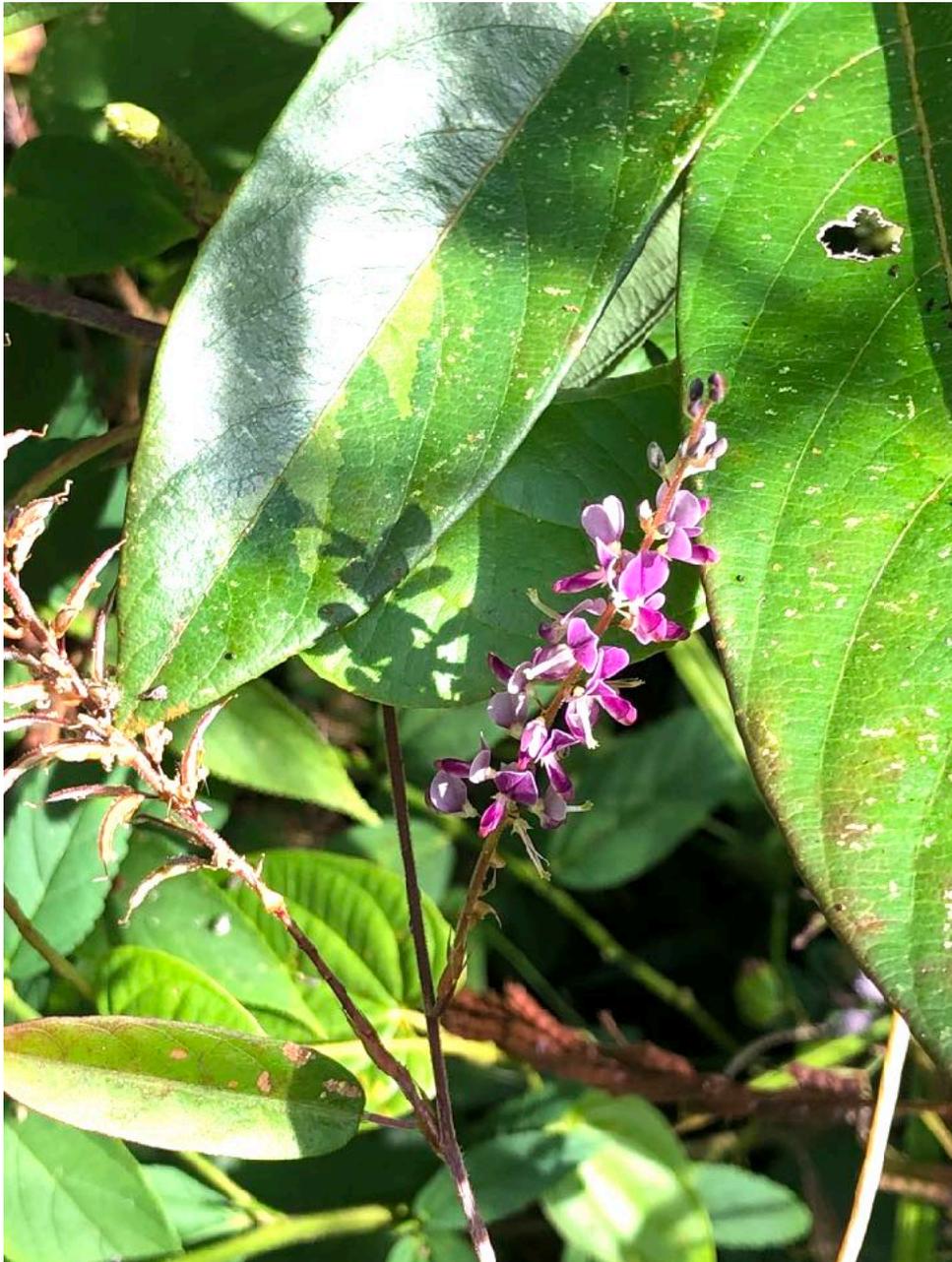
Small building west of the main temple.



There is more excavation work going on at the east of the Ta Nei temple. These are some of the more recently discovered carvings.



The eastern entrance platform and roped off area, sandbagged for preservation.

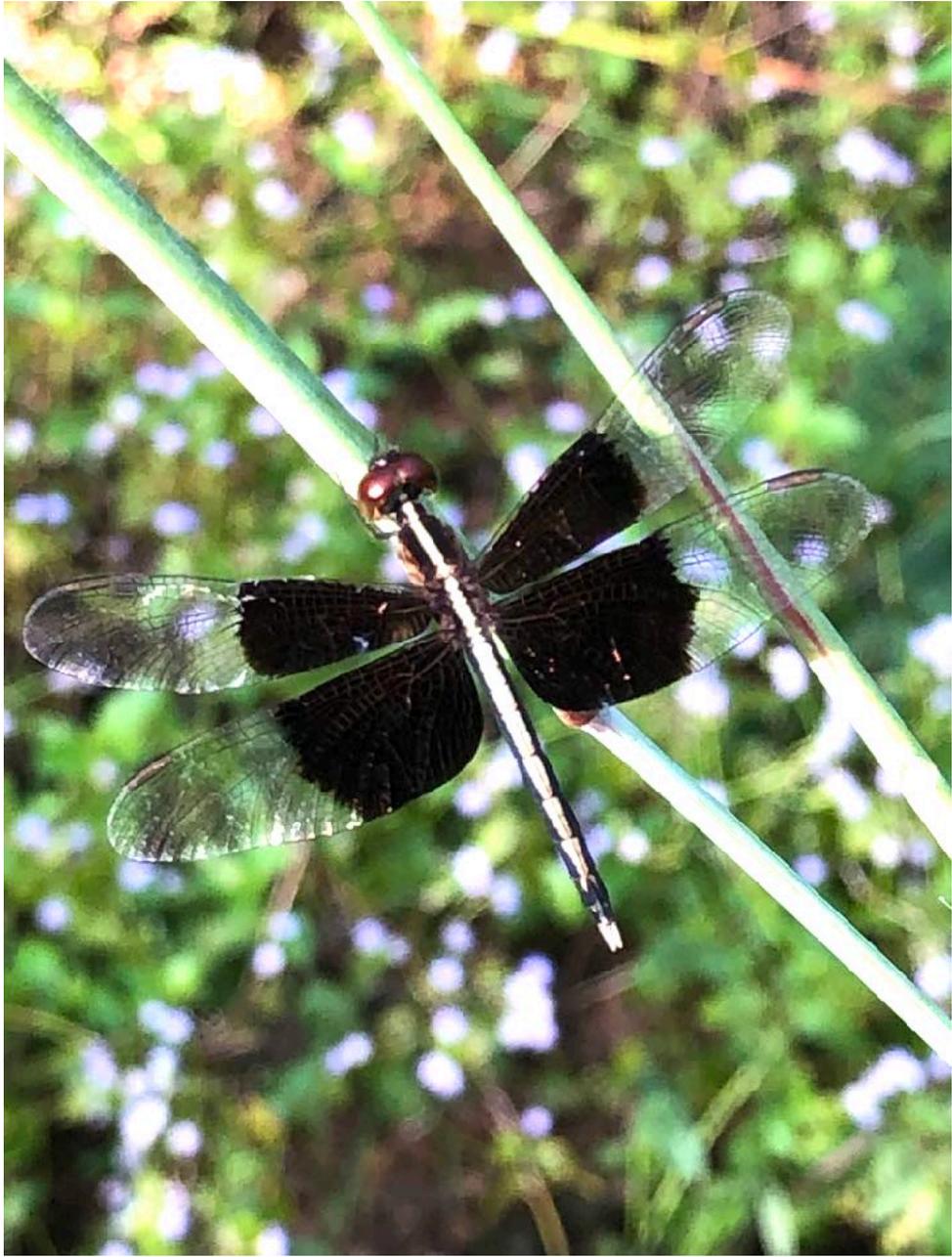


Further east there is another laterite platform which is overgrown with weeds. These weeds are in flower (and seeding) and usually have a lot of butterflies etc. Although there weren't many insects, there were plenty of flowers.











And a dragonfly or two.



And my old favourite, the spikey bottomed spider.



It won't be long and the moss will dry out on this carved sandstone lying in the temple grounds.



Another dragonfly enjoying the early sun.

A quick stop in at the bank on the way home, which is by the river.



The view north, along the river.

We went out for tea with David's old school friend and his partner. Lovely people. It was 50 years ago they were at school together!

After sharing dishes, we went almost in to Pub Street to go to The Old Wooden House, where we had some cocktails.

Our waitress was exceptionally friendly and helped us and chatted with us. It was lovely (until it became a bit too much).

Great cocktail place, if you get a chance!

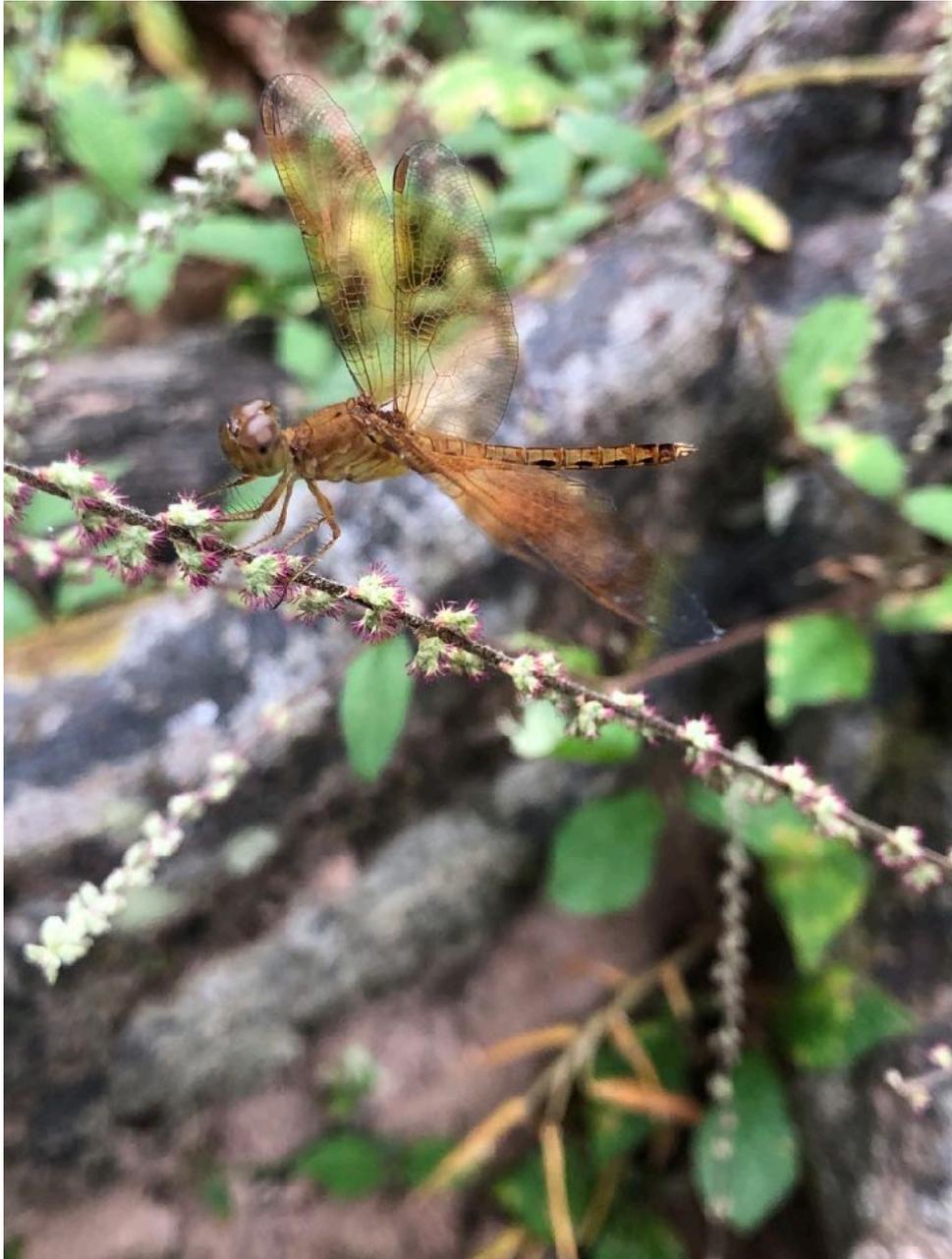
Tuesday 25th November, 2025.

Temple Day (but not a walk) : Don Mao and Prasat Top West.

Don Mao is another temple with excavation work going on. We were pleased to see they had cleared up some of the rubbish from the first lot of digging (takeaway containers and some bits of clothing, plastic sheeting etc ... not tools or stones or piles of dirt).



Numbered blocks and the workers' shelter.



Not many dragonflies etc, but this one was sitting on a different type of flower.



These are probably the last we will see of these flowers until next season.



These little seeds stick to your socks and shoelaces!



Another spikey bottomed spider.



You turn left at the end of this path to walk down to the Don Mao temple.



Just as we were ready to get back on the bike to ride on, we saw this moth!

Prasat Top West is on the same line as Don Mao, but we couldn't get there, because the path was flooded!



The flooded path at Prasat Top West.

On the way home, we detoured in to check out the south gopura of Banteay K'Dei.



Wednesday 26th November, 2025.

Anjali and cleaning day.

Cleaning work done and I got out my sewing.



I made these little patched landscapes.



Embroider a few details.



Line them and turn over the edges to hem them.



Stitch them together onto a box.

**Thursday 27th November, 2025.
Temple Day : Banteay Kdei**



This is the eastern entrance to Banteay K'Dei.



It is hard to choose which pictures to use.

Do I show you the carved figures like this warrior?



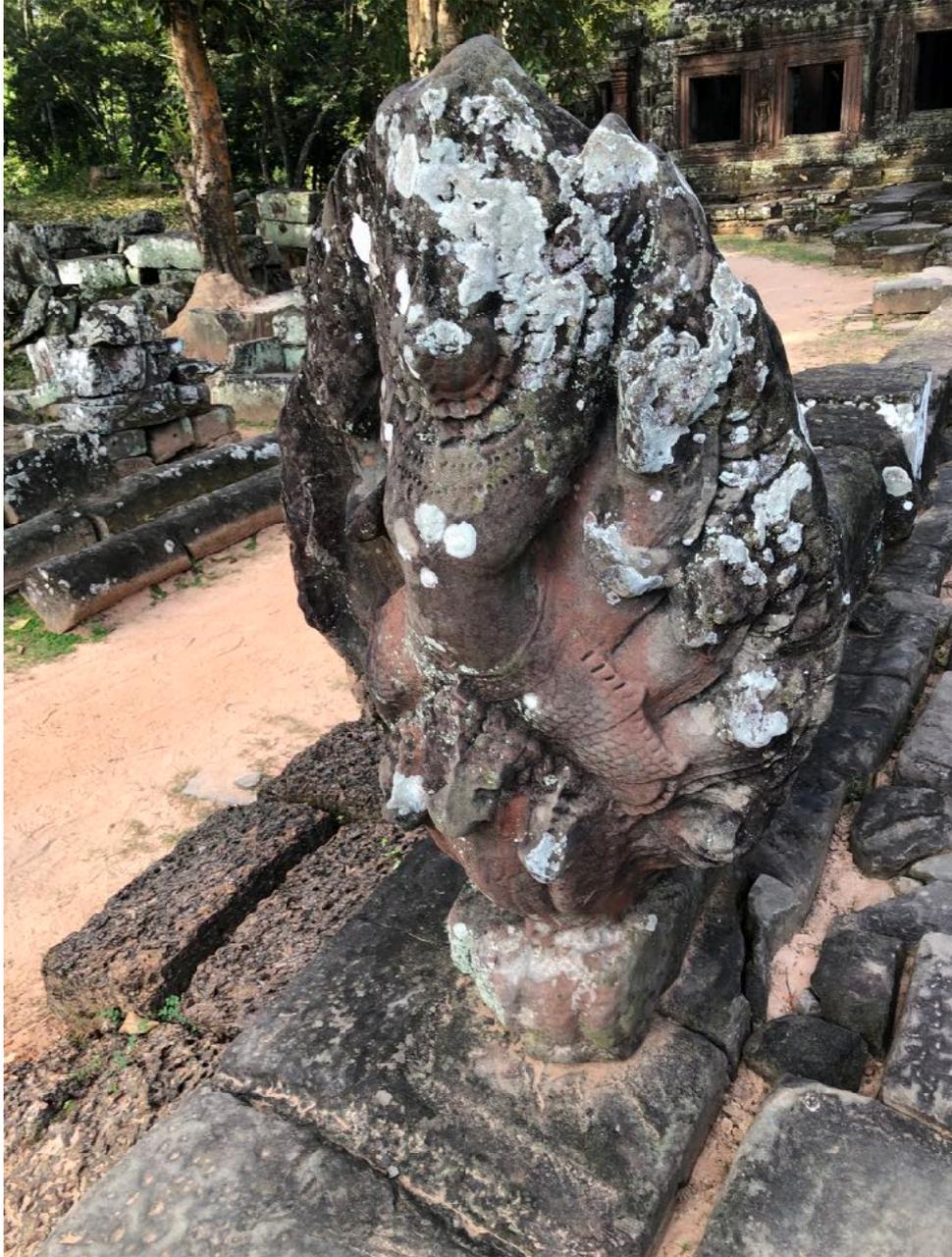
Or views through the stone windows?



Perhaps you'd like to see the towers or the long corridors?



Or reflections in one of the many water reservoirs or the moat?



A naga?



Fallen blocks?



Who doesn't want to see the big trees?



This is the east gopura, the main entrance to Banteay K'Dei.

If you come here, you can see for yourself.

