

## **Part 327 for Cathy's blog**

**Saturday 17th to Thursday 22nd, January, 2026**

**Saturday 17th January, 2026.**

We caught a Tuktuk to the supermarket, because David is still "not quite right". It is much quicker by Tuktuk which gave me plenty of time to work on my revision for my end of book language test.

I know I am getting old! I cannot remember things as easily as I once did. I have made some flash cards with the more complicated of the words on them. It is one thing to read the Khmer language, but a harder task to write it. It is phonetic, but there are so many vowels and symbols.

**Sunday 18th January, 2026.**

Another set of people have moved out of our apartment block and new people have moved in upstairs (and they seem nice).

Around the building, it is noisy now, with the work continuing on the new house being built directly on front and a new building going up on the side.

We have thought about it. If the block next door (the tortoise farm) gets developed, we will move. There are many advantages to our place, the position and the size

and we like our landlords, but it is noisy... building works, dogs and of course weddings and funerals.

Probably, where ever you go, you will get some noise.

**Monday 19th January, 2026.**

Temple Day : Wall walk... North Gate to NE Chrung.  
It was good to get out to the temples again, even if there aren't that many insects around.

We walked from the North Gate to Prasat Chrung NE.



**Fallen tree, hollow inside, chainsawed to allow motorbikes to go along the path by the moat.**



**Wind dispersed seeds... the seed is about 2 cm long!**





**Lintel at Prasat Chrung NE.**

**Pyramid log cabin, built by a bag worm (caterpillar).**





**Handsome dragonfly with his cool green stripe.**



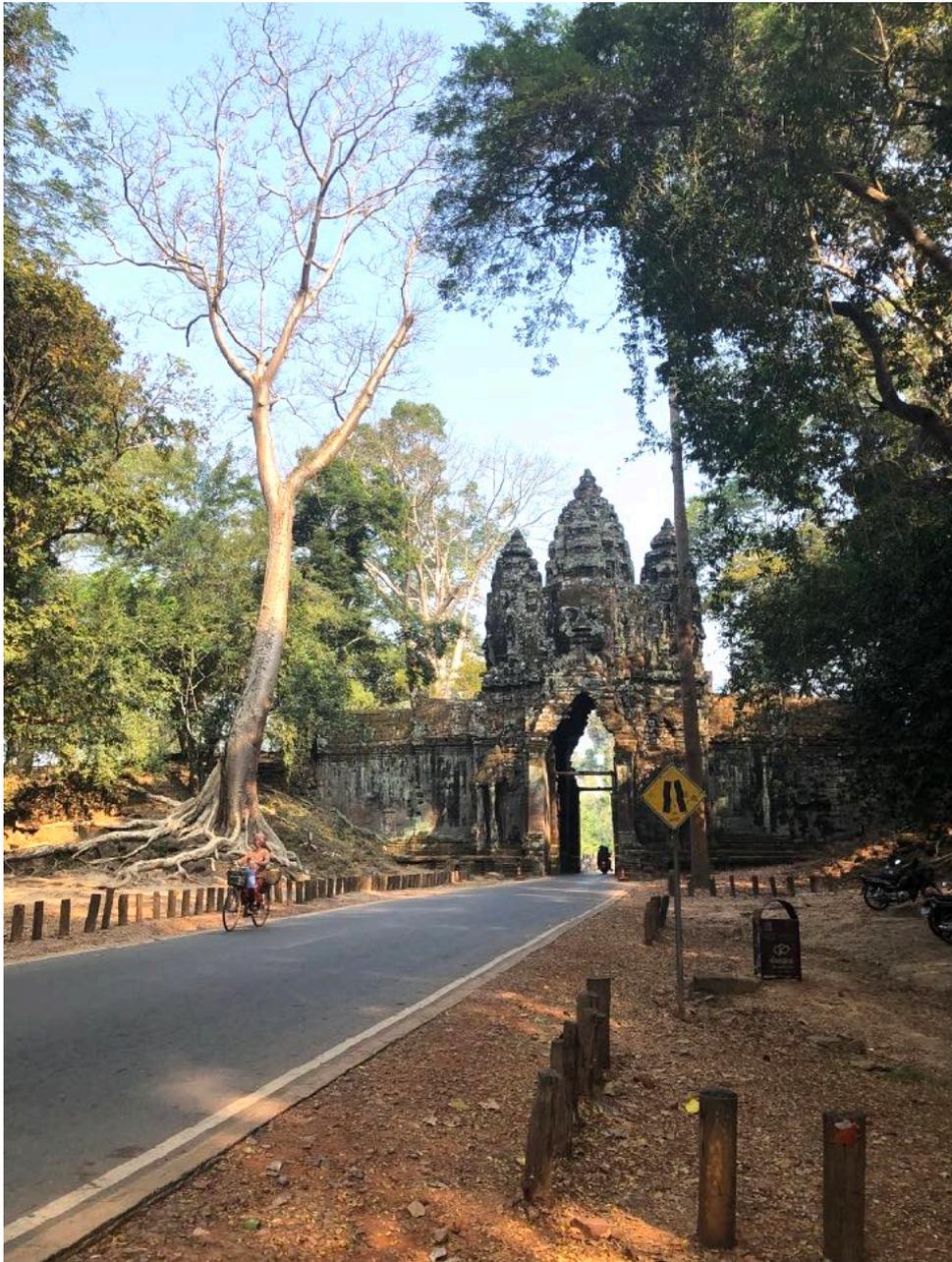
**Interesting texture and colour in this tree bark.**



**We have been calling these spiders Saint George Cross Spiders. Apparently, they are not (even though they spin the X in their webs). They are Golden Orb Spiders.**



**The North Gate (built by Jayavarman VII).**



**Local traffic through the gate.**



**Fire trucks on Road 63.**

**Tuesday 20th January, 2026.**

Temple Day : we walked along the side of the moat, North Gate to NE corner.



**Asuras holding the tail of the Naga, outside the North Gate.**



**We see these trees from the wall. Here, you can see the wall itself and one of the trees growing on the slope (down to the moat around Angkor Thom).**



**As at the temples, the trees grow over the stone work.  
The wall is 8 meters tall.**



**Looking through the hollow tree trunk. I can just look over the top of it.**



**Pretty fungus.**



**Plant defences.**



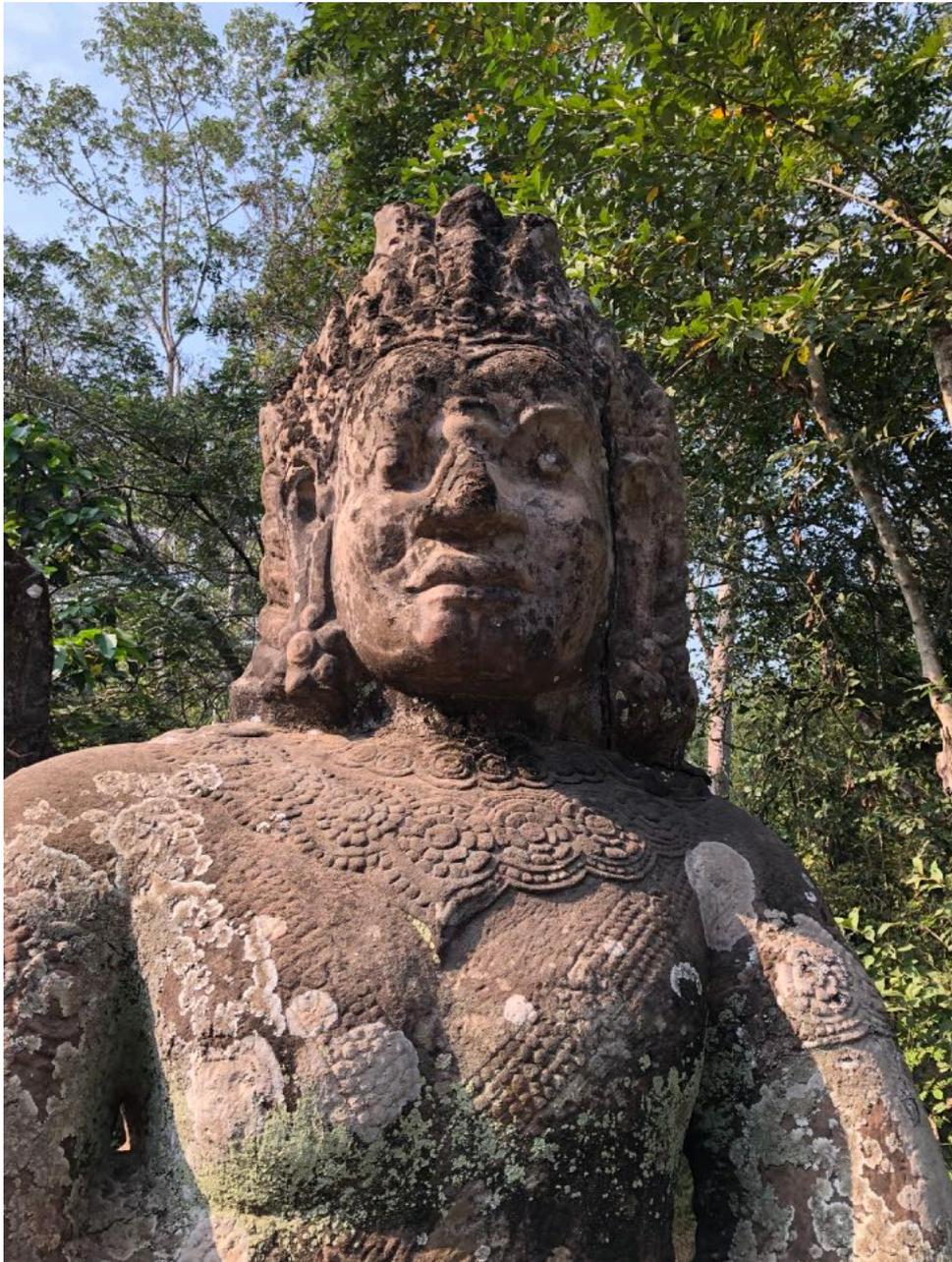
**Wooden supports at the north east corner of the wall.  
Looking at the state of this scaffolding, I am glad we  
can't see it from on the wall.**



**Pretty flowers that fall from the tall trees. There are so many of them, they are almost like a carpet on the ground (or road).**



**More trees growing on the wall. When this one falls, it will take the wall with it.**



**Close up view of an Asura, on the causeway over the moat at the North Gate.**

**Wednesday 21st January, 2026.**

**Anjali and cleaning.**

It is not long until we head back to Australia to see the family, so today, it was time to finish the last bits and pieces I have been sewing for the babies.

**Thursday 22nd January, 2026.**

**Temple Day : Wall Walk. West Gate to SW Chrung**

We tend to resort to wall walks, when we have no other plans for temple visits. The ride out is quite an easy one (about half an hour), the walk is good for us, and we are home but about 10:30 am (by which time the sun is quite warm even if it is cool in the shade).

Often at the West Gate, we are greeted by the dogs and sometimes they walk with us.



**We stopped off at the Bayon, to see the hornbills... see to the left of the tree**

**Then on to the West Gate.**



**The dogs have worked out that David doesn't carry hard boiled eggs for them!**



**The West Gate, with a dog.**



**Be careful brushing past these flowers, because the ants like them.**



**More of these flowers.**



**David doing his part for temple restoration, at Prasat  
Chrung SW.**



**Weathered carvings in the blocks stacked around the temple.**



### **Little butterfly.**

While there are quite a few butterflies, we are looking forward to the rains (but not the heat) due after Khmer New Year in April. Then there will be so many butterflies, at least some of them will sit still long enough to take a photo.

