

Part 382 for Cathy's blog

Tuesday 25th to Saturday 29th August, 2026

Tuesday 25th August

After more than three weeks in cold (but mostly sunny) Melbourne, we have returned to Siem Reap. We will miss all the girls. And we are already looking forward to seeing them again in December.

Although it was a fantastic trip, and a good break from our routine here, it was also a long time to be living out of a suitcase and as guests in other people's houses.

We got back home (yes, Siem Reap is home now), unpacked, put some washing on and had a snooze (in the incredibly HARD bed!).

We ordered a Tuktuk to head out for tea, then walked on to the supermarket where we did a reasonable shop, before heading back home to an early night.

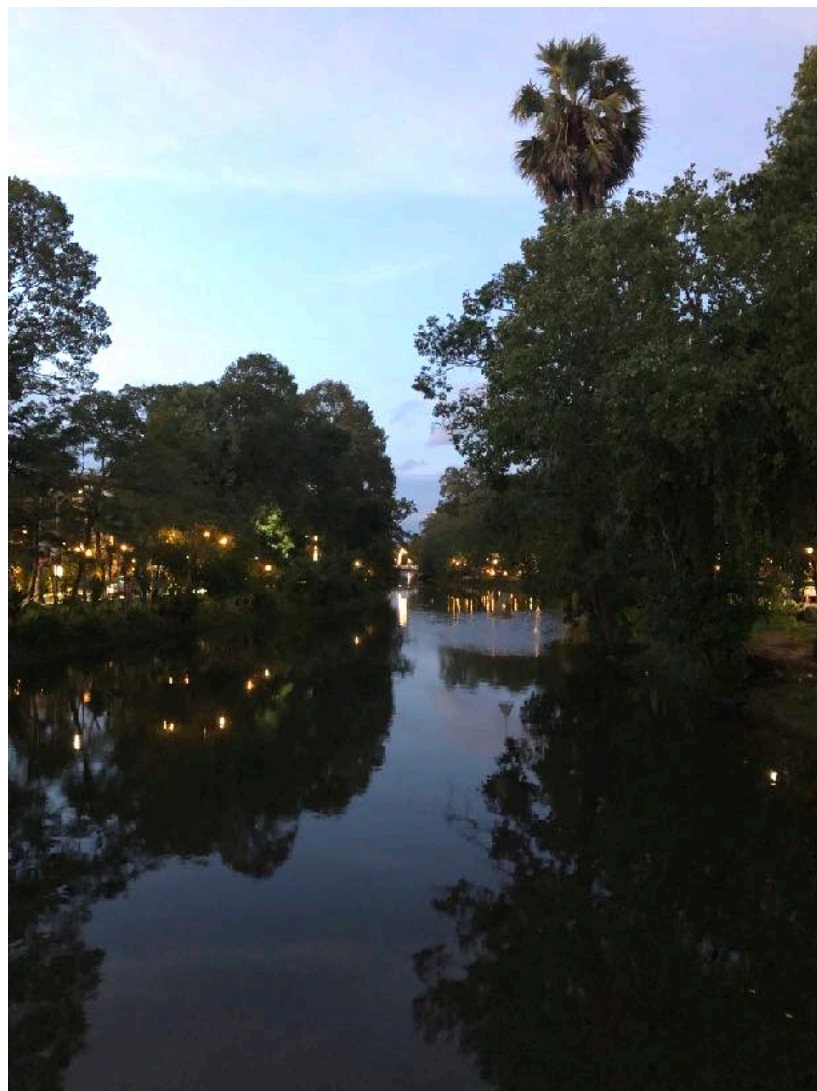
Wednesday 26th August, 2026.

Perhaps it is not surprising that we didn't sleep well over night and so we stayed at home today. We had a bit of sorting of our Melbourne shopping to do. We have returned with three sets of "baby things"... the neighbours across the road are expecting twins (a boy and a girl) in October and our former cleaner friend from our apartment is also

expecting, due in September (we don't know the sex of this baby!)

David had a quick run of the motorbike, to make sure the battery was in good order.

We walked out for tea. We have to increase the exercise and decrease the calorie intake compared to Melbourne... but we are pleased to announce only a 1kg weight increase despite eating fish and chips, pies, apple crumble, home-made butter chicken and a variety of other delicious food in Melbourne.



The Siem Reap River at night.

On our return to our apartment, we chatted with our neighbour who makes fish hooks. Of course, we had to show off the photos of the grand-daughters.

Thursday 27th August, 2026.

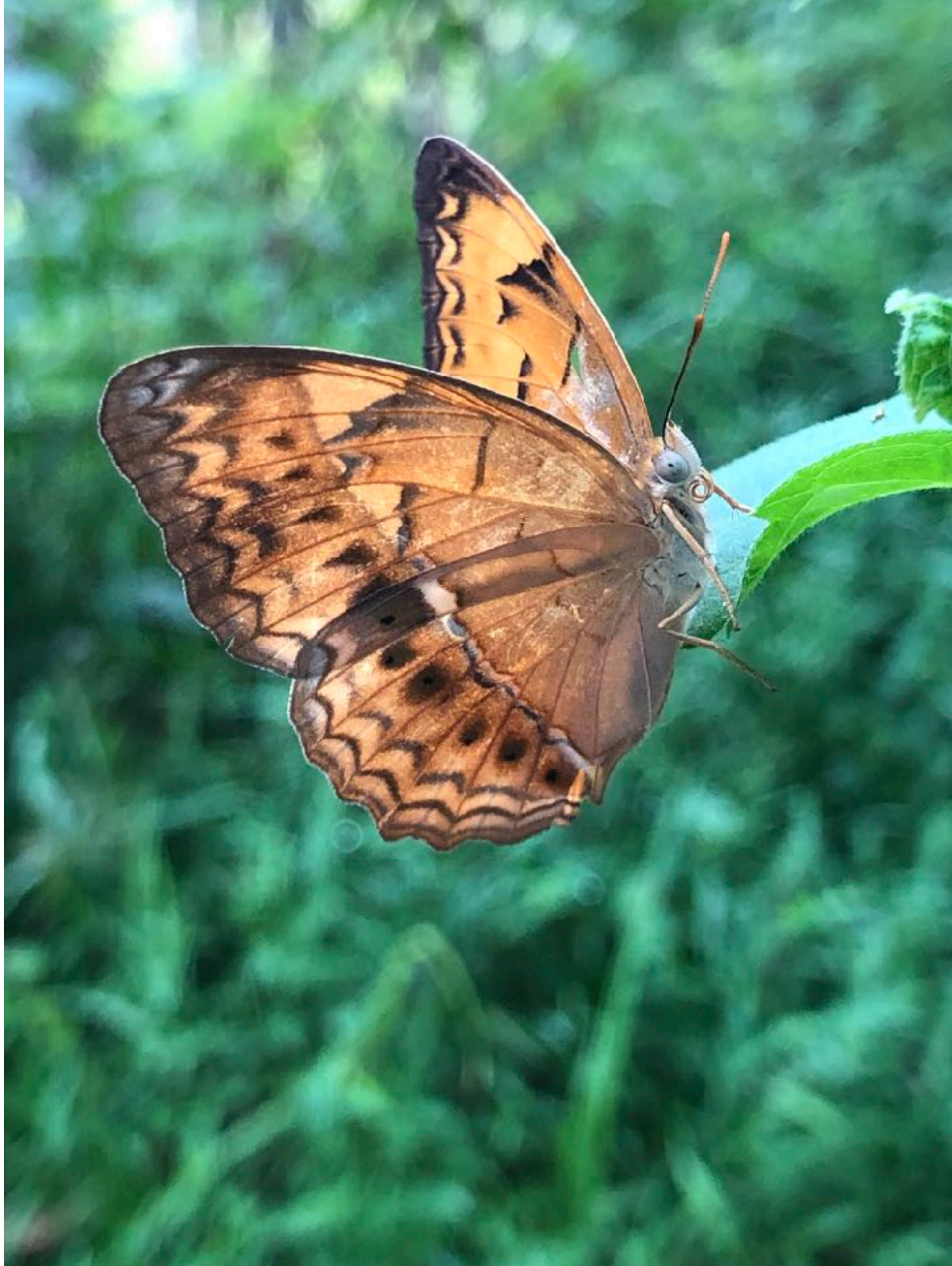
Wall walk : North Gate to Prasat Chrung NE

We were feeling much better by Thursday, but woke up quite early (thanks to Melbourne time!) and headed out for a wall walk. We had been looking forward to seeing a lot of fungi, but there wasn't much about.

There were lots of other things to look at.



A common dragonfly.



A different butterfly.



Funny cluster of seed pods.



Interesting tree bark.



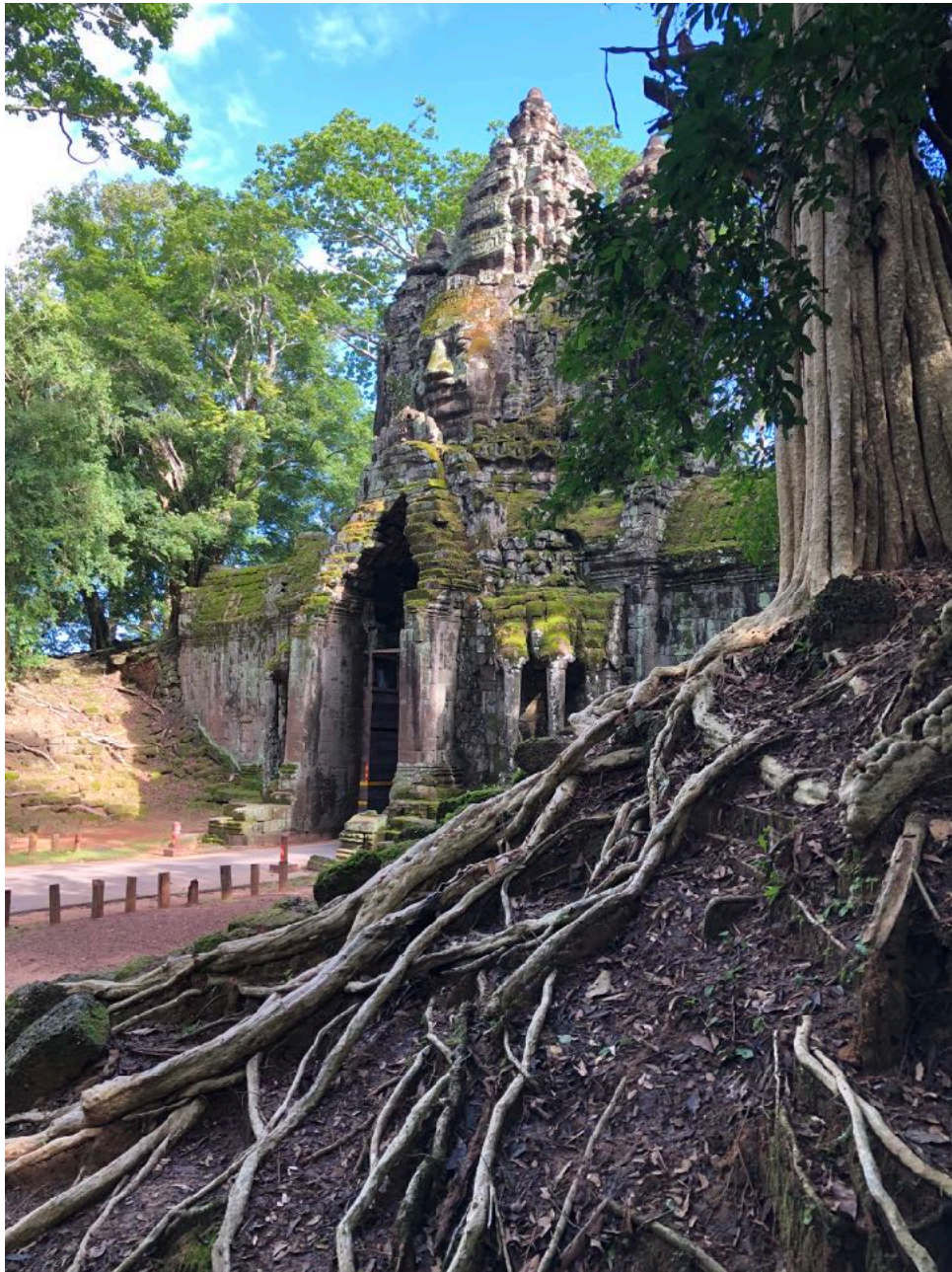
A carving of a person praying (at Prasat Chrung North East).



More seeds.



They were trimming trees at the North Gate. There is a lot of scaffolding to get the workers to (nearly) the top of the tree.



Inside the North Gate of Angkor Thom.



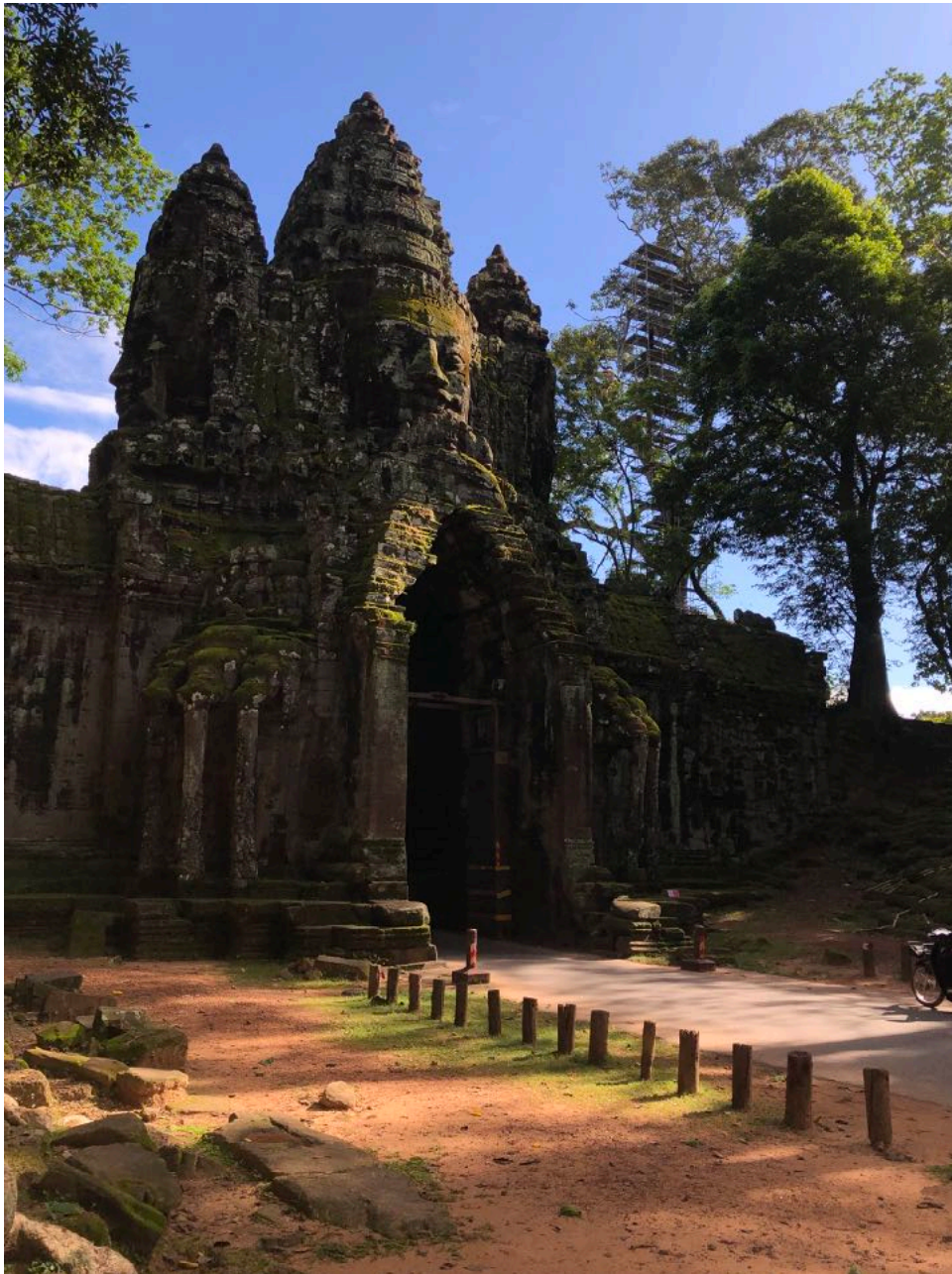
Walking into town again for tea, we came across this young supervisor at a building site on Road 63 (along the Siem Reap River).

Friday 28th August, 2026.

Wall Walk : North Gate to Prasat Chrung NW

We walked the other side of the North Wall.

You can see the scaffolding in the tree behind the stone work of the gate.





More dragonflies (damselflies).



And more butterflies.



These funny moths flutter around and try to hide under the leaves.

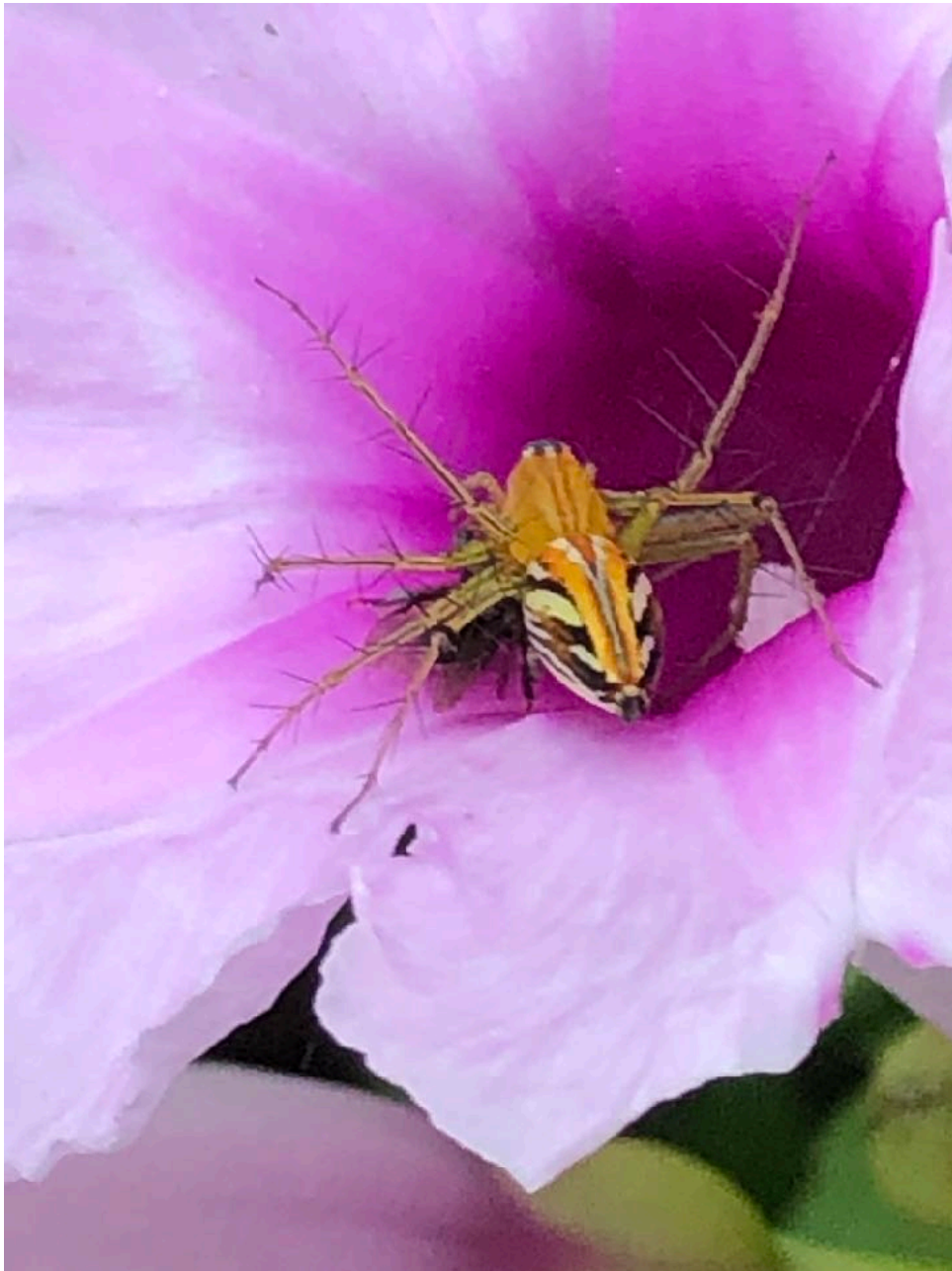
Idalus spp. (Either the crown faced tiger moth or the broad winged tiger moth).



**We have “spikey-bottomed spiders” here in Cambodia.
What can we call this fly?**



Handsome damselfly.



A spider with breakfast, resting in a flower.

It hasn't rained much here in Siem Reap, but it did rain this afternoon.

Saturday 29th August, 2026.

We did our usual walk to Angkor supermarket.

Our shopping was a big bigger than usual, to top up things like flour, eggs, and some meat for the freezer.

And the day was spent catching up on Facebook and Instagram posts, this blog and some language revision (as I did next to none in Melbourne!)