Part 405 for Cathy's blog

Sunday 1st November,2026.

My Khmer homework was to write a story in Khmer. I wrote the story of the Rainbow snake and learned words like "wea" which is crawl (which is what snakes do in Cambodia) and " ka-oot " = vomit and "layng jay" which is tickled. Otherwise, it was a quiet day at home.

Monday 2nd November, 2026.

Temple Day : Don Mao and Prasat Top West



Hello from this friendly dragonfly.

Time to get some more insect videos (which I post on Instagram).



Cute caterpillar.



Is this butterfly adapted for this flower?



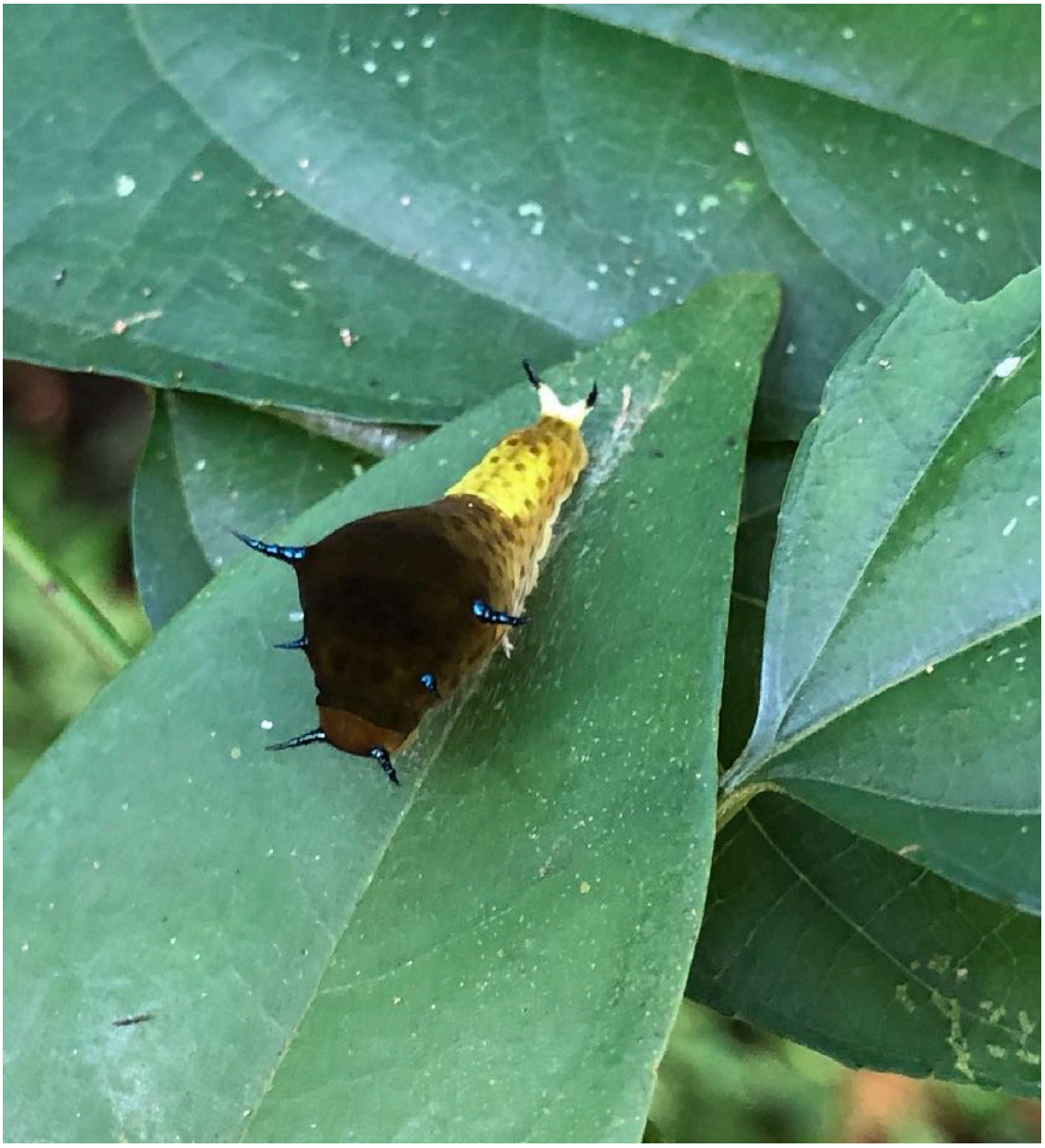
The new steps at the “Eastern Pier” at Don Mao Temple. The colours have changed : we know the weather has changed.



This is the fruit piercing moth caterpillar. We were just saying we hadn’t seen many recently.



This grass dragon hasn’t quite finished shedding his skin.



Another caterpillar… a slug caterpillar.



East Top Temple, set on a small hill, a short walk from the Small Circuit Road (between Ta Keo and Ta Promh Temples).

A quick visit out, then a ride home.



This photo shows a mobile grocery “shop”. This lady drives around our local streets, stopping to sell meat, eggs, vegetables and fruit, and things like fish sauce and cooking oil. She has stopped at my hairdresser’s shop. To get your hair done, cut, washed or coloured, you sit under the verandah and my hairdresser works while people drive and ride and walk by (here on Road 63, by the Siem Reap River).

Tuesday 3rd November, 2026.

Temple Day : Chorm Temple (and some of the Preah Pithu Group).

At the moment, you cannot ride in to Chorm Temple, because the area is flooded. The temples in the group are on “islands” and you have to go to each one separately. This group of temples lies behind the remaining food vendors at the end of the Elephant Terrace.



We walked along this raised (western) entrance to Kor Sak Temple.



Kor Sak Temple, inside the wall.



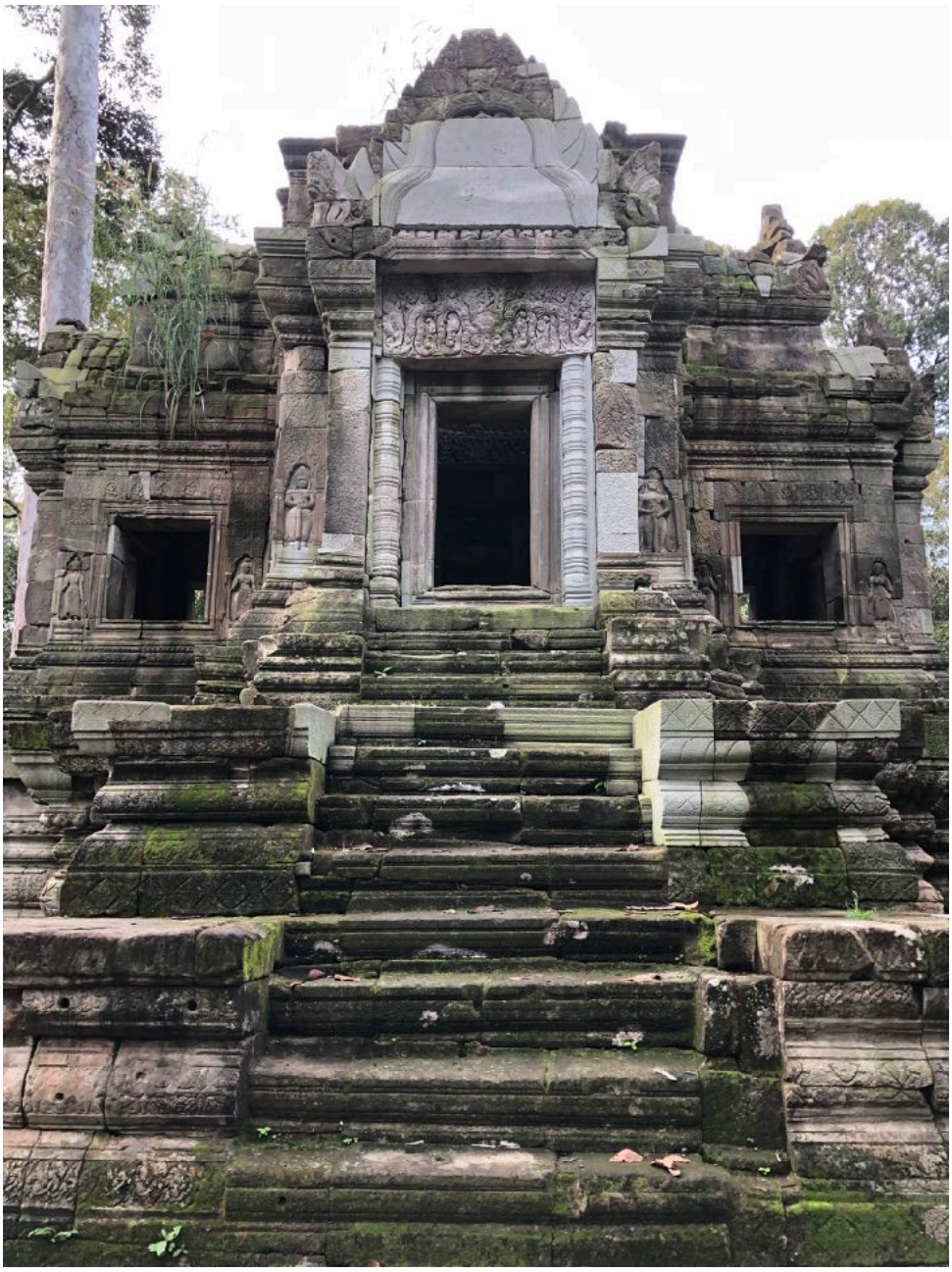
This water is to the side of both Kor Sak and Chorm Temples.



We found mum and three babies, well protected, in the scaffolded blocks of the eastern gopura of Kor Sak.



From here, you can see Chorm Temple. Much of the restoration work still looks new, but it is softening.



The steps up to Chorm.





Water on two sides of Chorm Temple.



Some of the fine details of carvings at Chorm Temple.



We walked back around Kor Sak and the walked further to the east (away from the road).



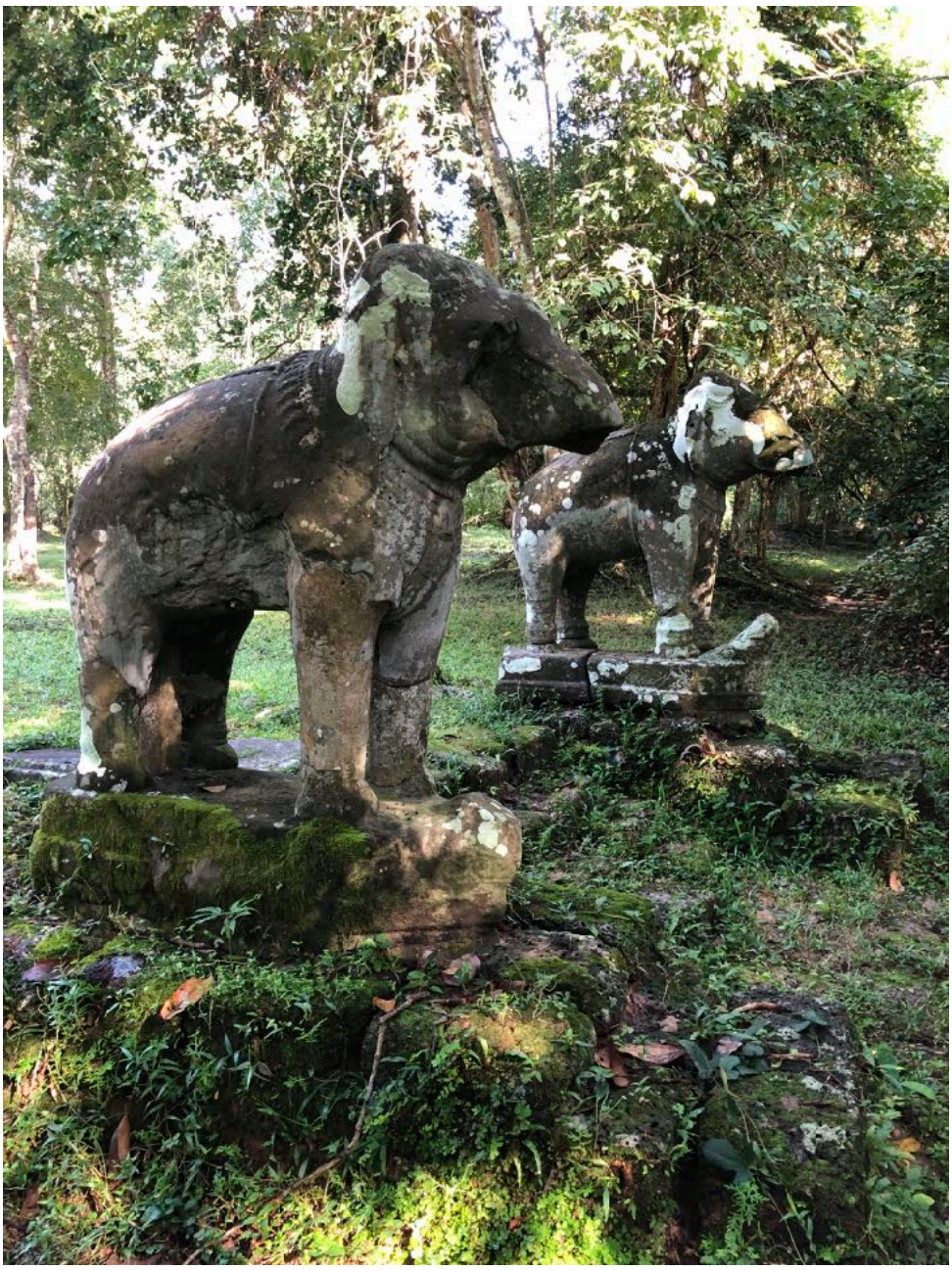
You can find the remains of Daun Mea Temple, a laterite base and some loose stones and an offering site.



This is the east side of Ta Tuot Temple. One of the beautiful big trees has fallen and staff have begun to cut it up. We think it was over 50m tall.



David by the roots of the tree beside the wall of Ta Tuot Temple.



A walkway extends east about 150m and is guarded by these two worn elephants. I could not get further away to photograph them, because the ground is flooded (to the right of the photo and behind me, the ground is covered to about knee deep in water).



Another basin with water and “duckweed”.



Chorm Temple from a different angle.



Back at the entrance to (the walkway to) Kor Sak Temple, the food vendors are busy at work, washing and peeling vegetables and getting their generators going.

All the backward and forward walking around these temples added up to a long morning and lots of good pictures.