Part 406 for Cathy's blog

Wednesday 4th and Thursday 5th, November, 2026

Wednesday 4th September, 2026.

Wall walk : Gate of the Dead to SE Prasat Chrung



There is a new sign at The Gate of the Dead. This is where we have seen the otters on a number of occasions (but not today). At the end of this walk, a staff member asked me if we had seen the otters and I said no (all in Khmer!)

We have seen this worker here often. He has seen us. A few years ago, he warned us that the otters bite.

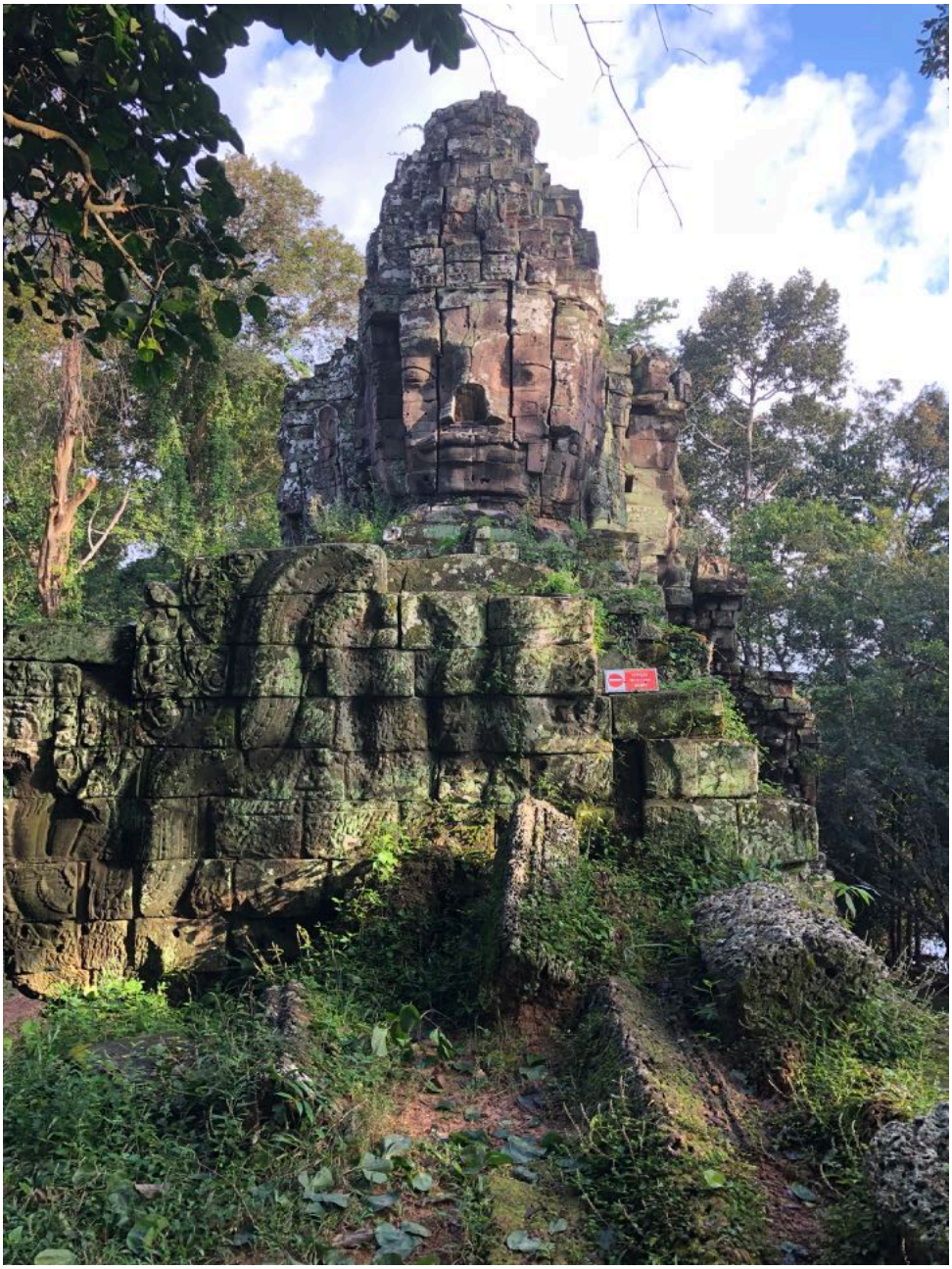
I wonder what he thinks about finding us here (looking for the otters)?



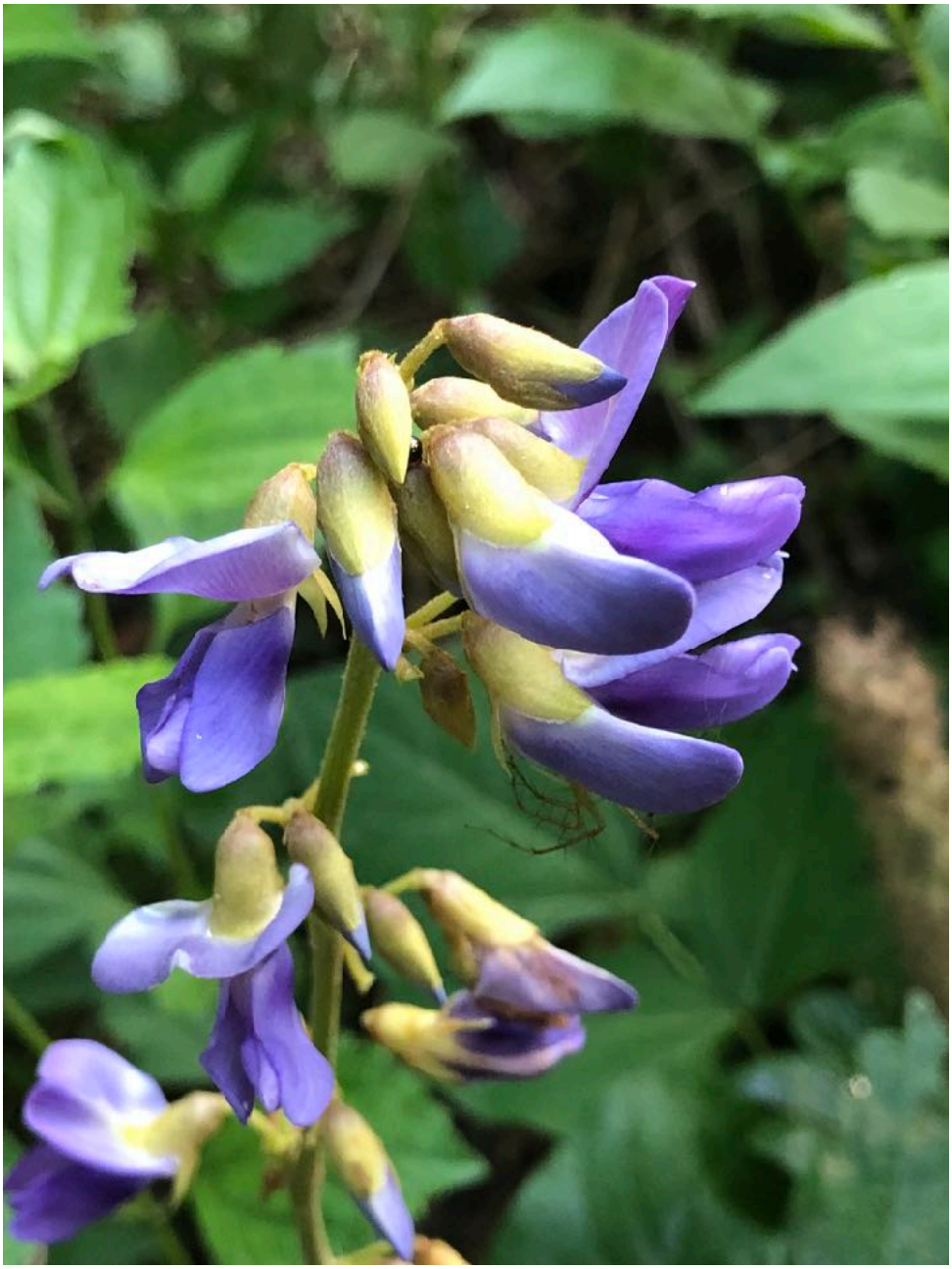
Our “cappuccino” fungus.



This is path from level with the base of the Gate up to the Wall.



Here are the huge, stone heads of King Jayavarman VII, on the four sides of the tower of the Gate.



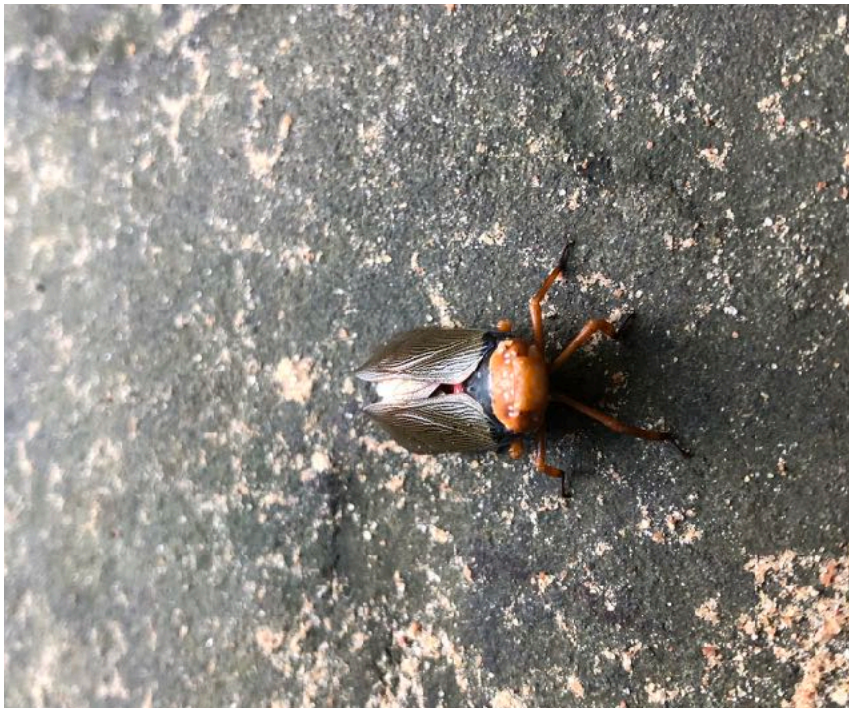
Here are a some of the flowers we see on our walks.

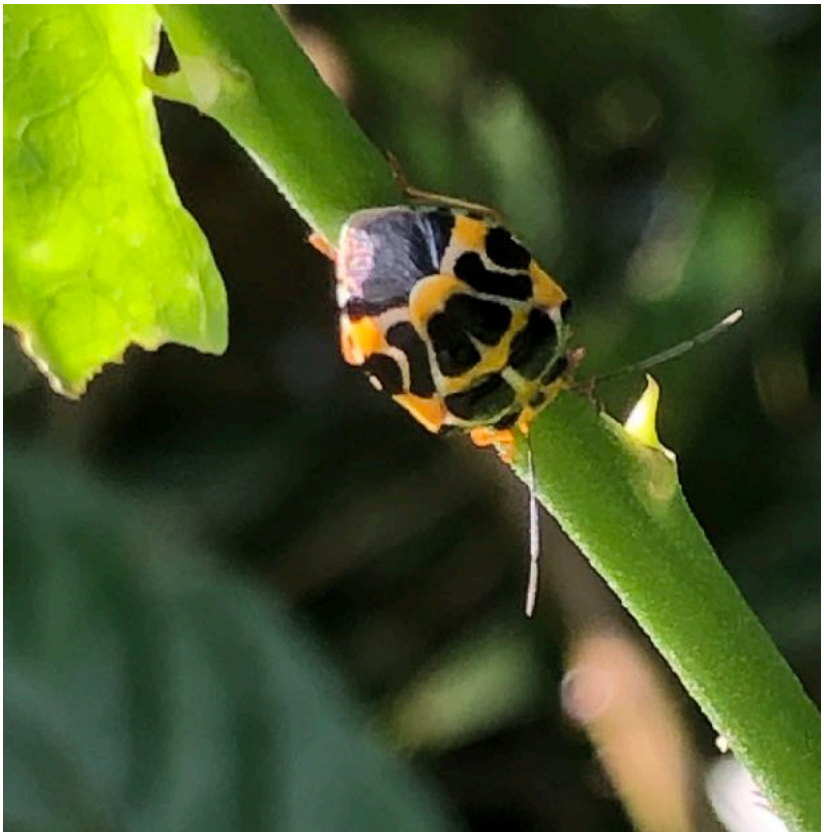






And here are some of the insects (and spiders).











At the temple, the weeds have grown. The green of their foliage contrast with the grey of the sandstone.





This is another of the butterflies which have “feelers” at the back (to trick any predators). I like the striped body (abdomen).



Sometimes, I get a lucky shot.

I am continuing with my language lessons. I learn new words and new grammar etc every week. Sometimes, it is hard work. I know that when I practise, revise and do my homework, it is easier. There were quite a few corrections to my Rainbow Snake story.

Thursday 5th November, 2026.
Temple Day : Angkor Wat

For today's outing, we went to Angkor Wat. We park at the East Gate (through a road barrier, into a ramshackle car park) because the only designated parking on this side is for push bikes. The tour mini buses and the tuktuks all just park along the edges of the two roads (single direction, one in to the East Gate and one out).







A “wild” cucumber patch.



An unexpected home to a female rhinoceros beetle.



A Monarch butterfly?



We have seen this grasshopper before.



Handsome red dragonfly.



Another dragonfly.



Doorway and Apsara at Angkor Wat.



Inside the grounds at Angkor Wat, there are several (working) pagodas.



Look at his eye-brows.



The Three Teachings of Buddha.



The back corner of Angkor Wat.

It is hard to image how big Angkor Wat is.

The central tower is 65m tall (it represents Mt. Meru).

Each side is 215m long.

It is a lot of walking!



Under the trees in the “garden” (often more like a forest) around the temple itself, you can find the rotting remains of big trees that have fallen. This means lots of fungi.











It is nice to see the groups of tourists back at Angkor Wat (and in Siem Reap). Here is an Italian group near the Eastern Gopura.

Just a walk across the causeway, a quick ride (about 8km) and we are home.