

**Friday 10 February 2012 – Laem Chabang, Thailand - 30° overcast**



Back in Thailand and most of the other passengers will be taking the two and a half hour journey each way to Bangkok. We're not keen on those long coach journeys and have a two centre holiday, Bangkok and sea resort in mind for the future. Nong Nuch Village, a real tourist spot was our choice for today. The visit started off with a Thai show featuring folk dances from various regions of Thailand. The beautiful dancers with long curling finger nails and amazing costumes looked like painted dolls while they moved gracefully to the exotic music. This was followed by some Thai boxing, the number one sport in Thailand, and then sword fighting. I was so enthralled and then even more so when the elephants came on. It was straight onto the Elephant Show which we both enjoyed enormously. I know a lot of people have problems with these type of shows but elephants have an age old affinity with man much like the camel. They rode bicycles, played football, darts and netball and lots more. In between events they would come to the audience and eat the bananas. You have to be careful to separate the bunch otherwise they will eat the lot, they love bananas. Jen would have been in heaven seeing all this. On the way back to the coach you could have have your picture taken with a tiger, this I was really uncomfortable with. They were subdued which made me think they may have been sedated. Next stop was the orchid gardens and also lots of lakes where we enjoyed watching the school children feed fish to the snapping tuna. On the way back to the ship we had the usual shopping stop which I hate, I am not a shopper! Anyway, it was at a supposedly gem factory with a huge shop full of loads of jewellery and handbags that I could buy if Rick had remembered his credit card. Actually thank goodness he didn't.



Since the dynamics of our table have changed nobody turned up tonight in the restaurant. We found

Hilly and Stu in the Buffet area and we had a catch up as we hadn't seen them for a couple of days. It's exhausting visiting a different country every other day and am looking forward to a day off tomorrow.

Italian divers searching the cruise ship found two Glaswegians at the bar, they have told the divers to clear off. They are "All Inclusive" and they still have twelve days left.

Paddy and Murphy are on the cruise ship Costa Concordia and Paddy says "It's awfully quiet on deck tonight". Murphy says "Everyone will be watching the band" Paddy says "There isn't a band playing tonight" Murphy says "I definitely heard someone say "A band on ship".

My apologies to Alistair and Carol