

Week 6



Another week suddenly passed by and last week the building site was closed as was one of the schools, Ban Bangmuang. All the schools are now coming into exam times and during exam weeks they don't want any extra classes so my schedule is less full for a change. It gives me more time to plan the last weeks of teaching. At the moment I need many new good ideas as it feels I have reached a point with my music classes where I'm starting to repeat myself which I don't want to do. It's not good enough to go to work and rely on old material as the kids get very bored. For Ban Tahan school I want to try some non music stuff, maybe Rounders or similar, or maybe just some English teaching.

Music classes

During week six at both Tahan and Pakklong, we tried the violin most students had a little go but with this instrument you need time and it doesn't sound good until after a few weeks or maybe months but at least they have tried and they now know what a violin looks and feels like. We also tried some more guitars but most students are still a bit small for guitar. There are of course smaller guitars to buy but the ones I have found sounded pretty bad. We also tried the fantastic John Travolta dance from Saturday Night Fever, The Hustle, and I think might be up for a part if they ever make a re-release of that movie. We all had loads of fun.

Thai Wedding

During the week I had the honour to be invited to a wedding in Pakklong. It was just a small local wedding with about 400 people. The whole thing was very relaxed with people coming and going all the time and as I was the only non thai there many people came up to say hello. Huge amount of Thai food was served on each table and people, mainly the men, were sipping on beer and Thai whiskey. I decided to wear a tie, it seemed to take ages to get the knot right and after an hour I got it to look OK. My first ever self produced tie knot, not bad at all!

So, a wedding without karaoke is of course no wedding in Thailand and, believe it or not I finally debuted on stage in front of 300 or so people, it was bloody hard, I tried to learn a song in advance but got bit nervous just when I was about to sing so I would say it sounded like s***. But at least I tried, I got some plastic flowers and everyone was happy.

Thunderstruck

In Thailand the year is divided in rainy season and hot season. At the moment we are in the hot season but last week we had rain on five of the evenings and it's not really drizzling when it rains here. One night during dinner it started to rain and suddenly, from nowhere, the lightning hit the restaurant I, Noi and her husband Herbie were sitting in. In a second the whole restaurant went light to complete darkness. It was a very scary experience but at least everyone was ok afterwards.

Next week, week 7.