THUNDERBOLTS AND LIGHTENING; VERY, VERY FRIGHTENING

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Category: Observations

My second and last, day in Bangkok has finished with an amazing thunderstorm and I am dripping wet - though not, I have to say, frightened.

This morning, Francis and I went to church at the Anglican Church (Christ Church) just around the corner from where we are staying. Apart from the multinational nature of the congregation, the service was pretty much the same as we would see at Christ Church in Flackwell Heath, Sunday by Sunday. However, the singing confirmed me in my view that Anglicans should simply not be allowed to sing Methodist hymns. No one, apart from me, seemed to want to sing the male part to Guide Me Oh Though Great Jehovah!

From Church we went off to have lunch at a large shopping mall a couple of miles away. Perhaps the most striking thing about the mall, apart from the crowds and crowds of people, was the floor given over to the sale of luxury cars. If you want to buy a Maserati or Jaguar, you can do so on the fourth floor of the mall. I'm not sure how you are supposed to get it home - perhaps you carry it down the stairs or use the lift.

We spent the afternoon in a very impressive movie theatre watching Wall Street Two. I won't bore you with the details, but it is a film about very rich people getting even more rich by not being very nice.

We stopped off for pizza on the way back and then sat and waited for the thunderstorm to pass over. After the ostentatious wealth of the super car shops, it was depressing to watch the street traders struggling to keep their wares and their selves dry in the downpour. It was a very poignant reminder of the extremes of wealth and poverty which exist side by side in this and many other countries.