

## The view of the Temple of Pleasure

The airport terminal at Vardick had collapsed under a snowfall the previous winter, and the Construction company, Constructybrick, was under investigation and had been sued for huge damages and the loss of 10 lives.

There is nothing better than to get up in the morning to a fresh bottom. After a quick shower we went to the Temple of Pleasure, one of the sights in the city of Vardick.

The Temple of Pleasure had a Garden of Eventual Happiness. It had a tarmac path in a circle around it, a sheltered place for smoking which normally had a plastic upholstered turquoise chair with wooden legs and arms, and a circular path around the shelter in a lighter coloured tarmac.

Novice monks at the temple are injected with a drug which induces religious euphoria, called rasputin. The Garden is used by them.

The Garden had an octagon in wooden slats positioned horizontally between the two circuits, set up for reasons unknown, and a park bench looking out onto the tarmac outer circuit to a very high wooden wall beyond which it was impossible to see. Alongside one wall of the Temple at the side of its main entrance to the Garden was a path alongside the adjoining wall which had windows with grill meshes so that it was not possible to look directly out. At the far end of the Garden in the grass beyond the outer circuit were the contours of a gate that was permanently closed. On the other side of the straight path was another path a right angles along another wall with offices. These did not have grills on the windows.

Dogshitt asked the guide, Purna Thong, why the wooden fence was so high.

Purna answered 'There was once a novice to the Temple who had not completed his full training, and tried to escape from the roof with the offices below outside the compound. He was apprehended, but it was decided to double the height of the fence as a precaution. There used to be a nice view, but it is now totally obscured, which is rather a pity'.

The Bumrun Buddhism session begins with a 'ding' on a bowl, given by a pestle which then circulates the bowl as the contemplation session begins.

'Maybe your head is floating around. Bring your head back to your body and connect it to your feet'.

'Now I want you to ask – where are your trousers? – concentrate on your trousers and where they are'.

This was interrupted by preparations for a concert that night of Schönberg's Piano concerto.

The pianist for the practice section who had begun with the march, informed the worshippers that next week they were preparing for Pendericki's Threnody for the Victims of Hiroshima.