

Arran David Swales

Prop Maker

Portfolio



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Client Commission

1/2 Scape Subnautica Peeper Animatronic

Silicone Peeper Faux Taxidermy Animatronic, Motion and Sound

The body of the Peeper is made from 2-part silicone which was slush cast out of a silicone mould. The eyes are comprised of mainly vacuum formed HIPS with a halved ping-pong ball as the pupil surrounded by 2 halves of a clear bauble. The body surrounds a wooden armature that holds the servo for the tail, the speakers and LEDs. The armature is connected to the base via a hollow aluminium tube, allowing the wires to exit the fish and enter the base securely.

The client requested lights, sound and movement when the button on the base is pressed. To achieve this, there is a servo housed inside the base connected to all components in the fish. When the button is pressed; the Peeper's eyes glow yellow, the Subnautica theme plays and the tail will sway left and right respective to the fish's direction.



Client Commission



1/2 Scape Subnautica Peeper Clay Sculpt and Mould

Clay Sculpt and 2-part plaster jacket silicone mould of Peeper for Taxidermy Animatronic

The Peeper is sculpted from air drying clay with a wooden armature.

The mould is made from 2-part silicone with a plaster and scrim jacket. The mould was then coated with a non silicone release agent.



Client Commission



University Project

Full Size K9 Unit

Fully RC Plywood K9 Unit

Made over the span of 8 weeks, this 1:1 Scale K9 is an amalgamation of all the models of K9 from Doctor Who.

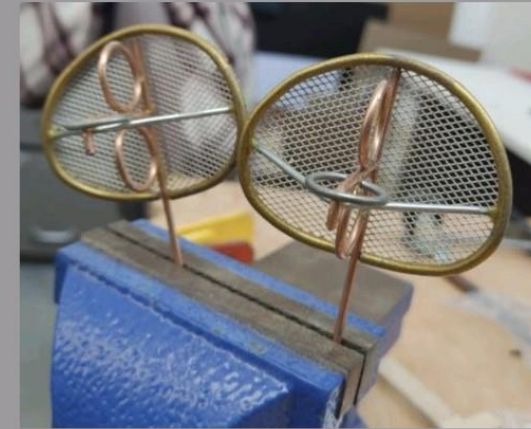
This K9 is made from 6mm plywood which was hand cut and marked out. He was then filled with body filler to get rid of the grain and sanded to a smooth finish. He is coated in automotive gun metal grey paint and lacquer.

He is fully remote control, featuring; 2 programmed hoverboard hub motors for movement, several servos ranging from 9g torque to 60kg for his tail, gun ears and neck, an extending probe in his eye section, a thermal printer, light up back panel buttons and various interactive touch sensors. K9 also includes a Bluetooth speaker and built in phrases that can be looped or individually activated.





University Project



Realistic Interpretation of Minecraft Lantern

A realistic Minecraft Lantern USB powered bedside table lamp

The lamp is made from oak and 2mm aluminium sheet. The windows of the lamp are 2mm clear cast acrylic

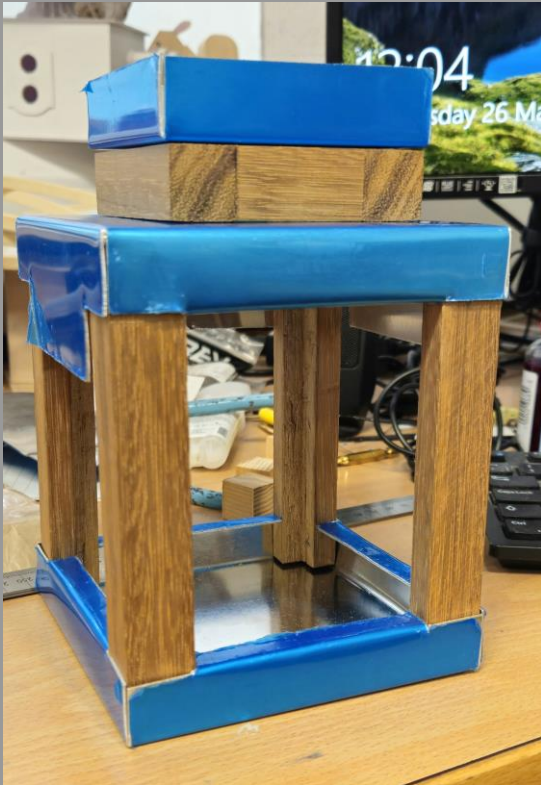
Within the top section is the lamp is a latching button which is activated when the top section is pushed down. An LED array is housed on the underside of the stop section pointed down.

The aluminium has been tarnished with sand paper and a patina wash. The oak has been stained with various wood stains and coated in Danish oil.

The lamp is USB powered with a cable that plugs in at the bottom of one side.



Client Commission



Stencil and Paintwork on Shields For Netflix 'The Witcher'

Stencil and Paint work on Shields for Season 2 Of the Netflix series The Witcher

Paint details and stencils were applied by myself and one other whilst working freelance at Tarver Productions LTD.

The canvas shields were coated in an acrylic primer and then red and gold acrylic paint by us with the stencils placed on top of uneven surface.

The shields were then coated with a dark acrylic wash and clear matte hardened top coat.

Whilst working there I also helped cast and trim a variety of stunt weaponry for the series including the main stunt swords.



Client Commission



Collaborative Client
Commission

1/6 Scale Stonehenge Outdoor Feature

Fibreglass 1/6 Scale Stonehenge Garden Feature Commission

Made over the span of 6 weeks by myself and 3 others, this 1/6th scale replica of Stonehenge consists of 28 individual Celotex stones carved to reference. The stones were then covered in 2 layers of fibreglass and polyester resin before being covered in several layers of sand for texture. The stones were then painted with high pigment acrylic paints and washes, then sealed. Steel rods were then looped and fibre glassed to the inside corners of each of the stones which were then pegged into the ground.



Collaborative Client
Commission

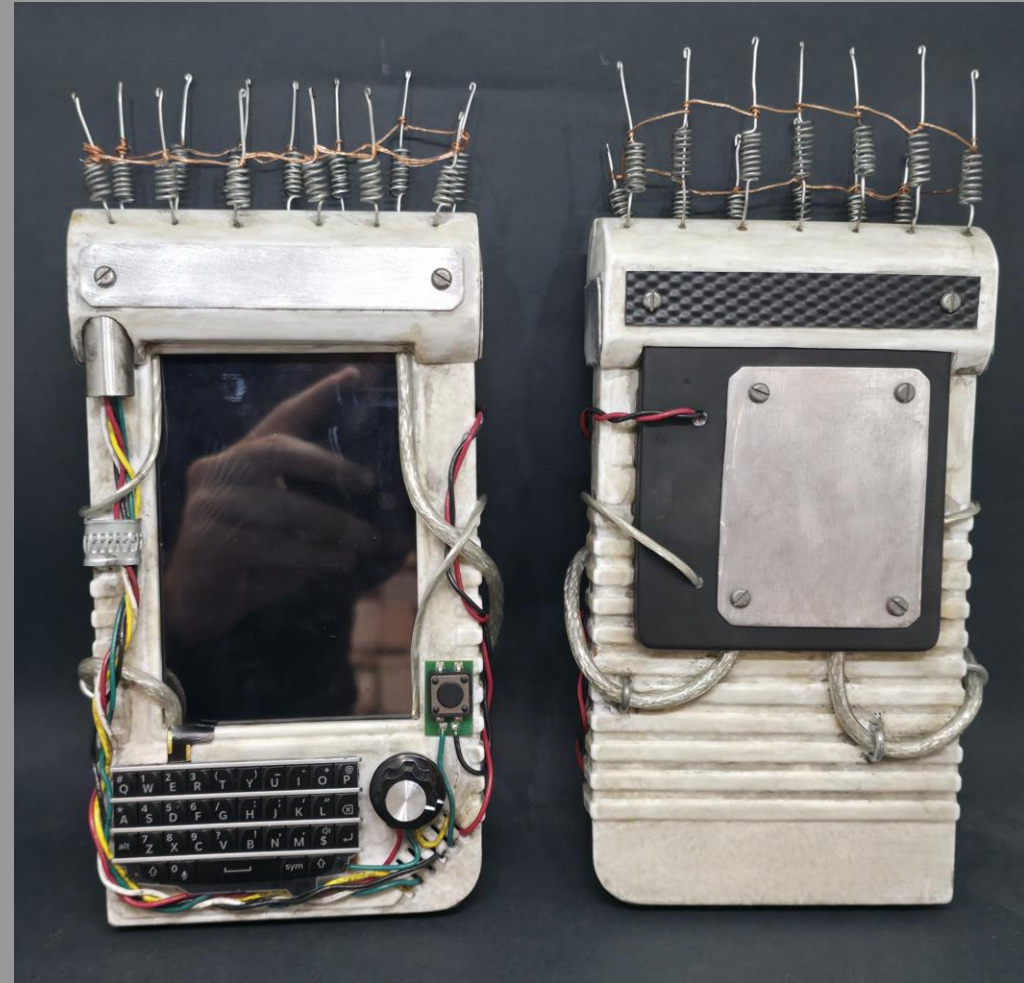
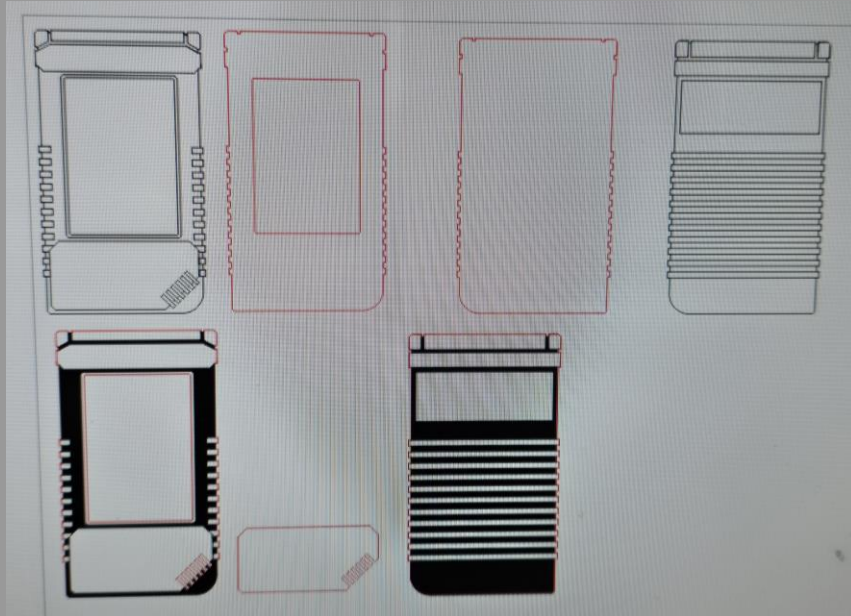


Smartphone Time Machine Hero Props

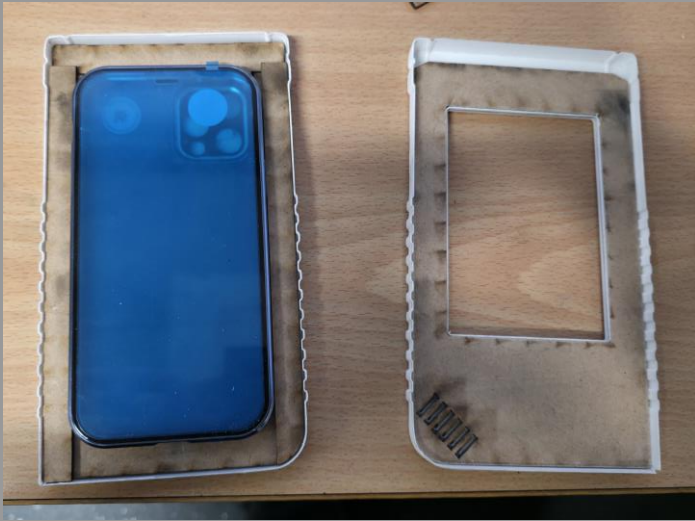
2 Smartphone Time Machine Hero Prop Cases commissioned by director Forest Sebastian for Sci Fi Production

The body of the props were designed using 2d CAD. The design loosely resembles a game boy at the client's request. The outer shells are made from HIPS with MDF supports on the inside. Built in is a phone case which is attached to the top section and can be slid out to access you remove to place in an iPhone.

The props are weathered with acrylic paints, patinas and Rub n Buff and coated in a chip resistant matte top coat.



Client Commission



Static XL Scorpion Prop

XL Static prop made from repurposed scorpion anatomy toy commissioned by director Forest Sebastian for Sci Fi Production

The base used for the scorpion is a children's anatomy model which has been modified to fit the clients needs. The client wished for a static realistic scorpion in a natural position when held by the tail. This was achieved by detaching and heat forming the legs. The scorpion is painted and weathered with impact and chip resistant acrylic paint with a satin top and is coated in hundreds of 10mm flock strands glued by hand.



Client Commission



Miniature Tardis For The UK Games Expo

Miniature Tardis for The UK Games Expo's Display 'Treasure Pile'

The miniature Tardis is made out of various thicknesses of plywood and completed within a day. The panel work was modelled on the computer and then laser cut.

The 4 main panels are held together by dowels with the panelling glued on top.

The Tardis is coated in an impact and chip resistant acrylic with a satin top coat.

The Tardis is situated in the Treasure pile of the UK Games Expo large dragon model.



Client Commission



Collaborative Client
Commission

Nevermore Bowler Staff Plague Pits Production

Nevermore Bowler Staff commissioned by director Peter Thorndike to be used in his film The Plague Pits

The Staff was made by 3 individuals including myself. It is made from plywood and oak with PVC pipe brackets and detail added with epoxy sculpt. The wing section I made solely. It was cut from 9mm plywood with feather detailing added to both sides of each wing with epoxy sculpt. All sections were then coated in button polish to seal the wood and then painted and weathered with graphite powder.



Collaborative Client Project



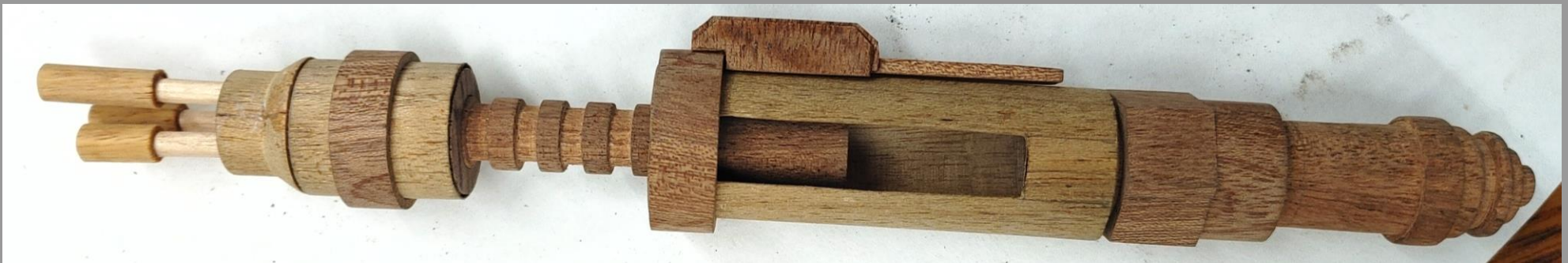
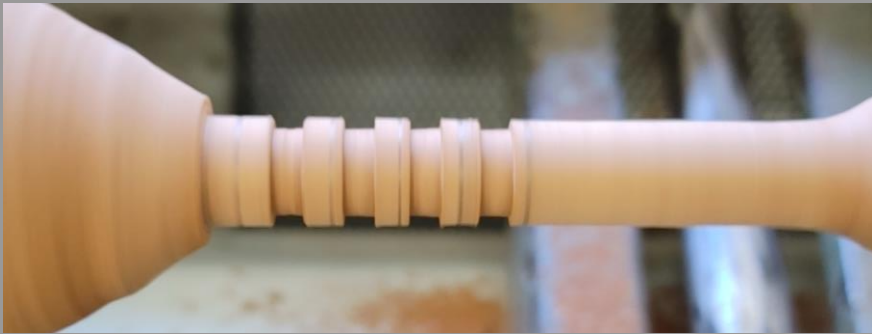
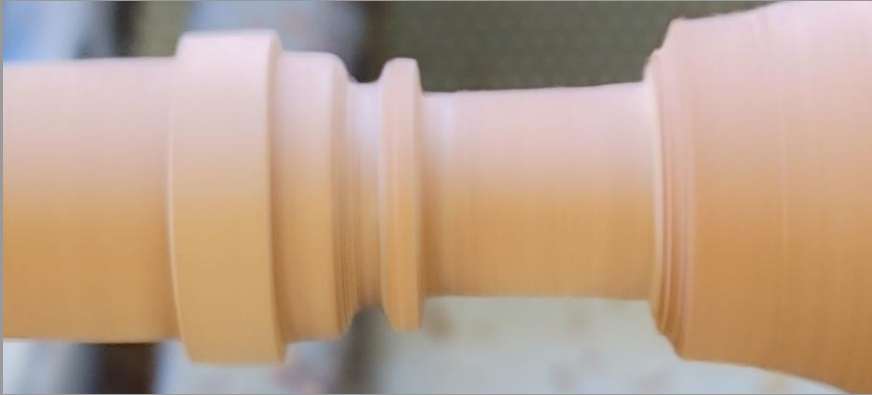
Wooden Laser Screwdriver

Lathe Turned Functioning Replica of The Master's Laser Screwdriver

The main body, head, neck, pommel and inner detailing are all wood turned on a lathe. The activation button and its housing are all carved individual sections. The screwdriver is held together by screws so can be disassembled if desired. The screwdriver springs to its full extension when the activation button is pressed, this extends the stem and 3 prongs at the top of the emitter. However, the screwdriver can be positioned at 3 different extensions: the stem un-extended with the three prongs extended, the stem extended without the 3 prongs extended or both the prongs and the stem extended.



University Project



Polystyrene Carving/ Sculpting

Victorian Hat Shop Sign

Made of scrim coated polystyrene and painted with high pigment acrylic paints.



Personal Project



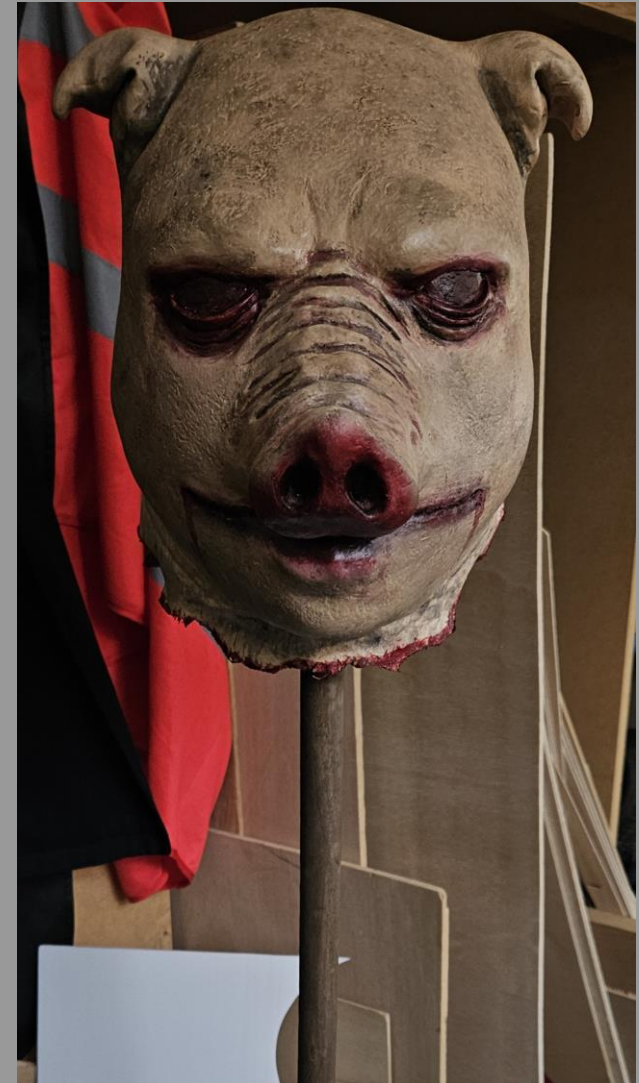
Dismembered Pig Head from Repurposed Mask

Budget Dismembered Pig's Head From Repurposed Latex Mask For Stage Production of The Lord Of The Flies

The prop was made on a tight budget with materials supplied by the client. The head is a latex pig mask that has been filled with polyester stuffing and closed off with more latex.

Within the mask is a plywood plate attaches to a broom handle. The mask is painted with a variety of pigmented latex.

The items was competed in 2 days.



Client Commission



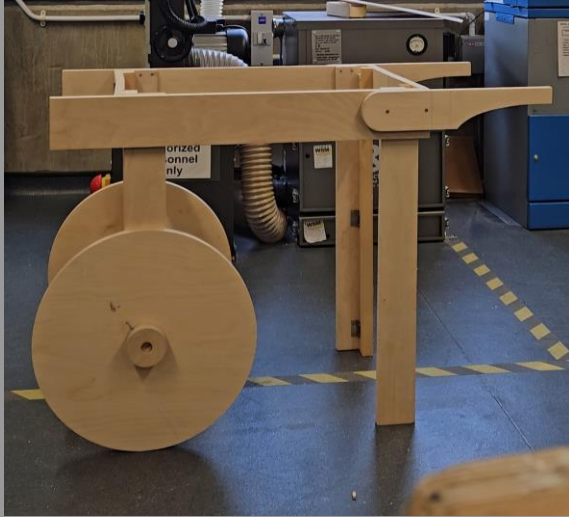
Flat-Pack Timber Sweet Cart

Flat Pack Events Sweet Cart for an Academy

The cart is made of various thicknesses of plywood and pine beams. The main body of the cart folds in on itself, laying close to flat. The roof it rested on to and hinged in the middle. The frame on top is held together with 3 slotted planks at the top which, when removed, allows the frame to be slid up and out from the main body in 2 pieces.



Client Commission



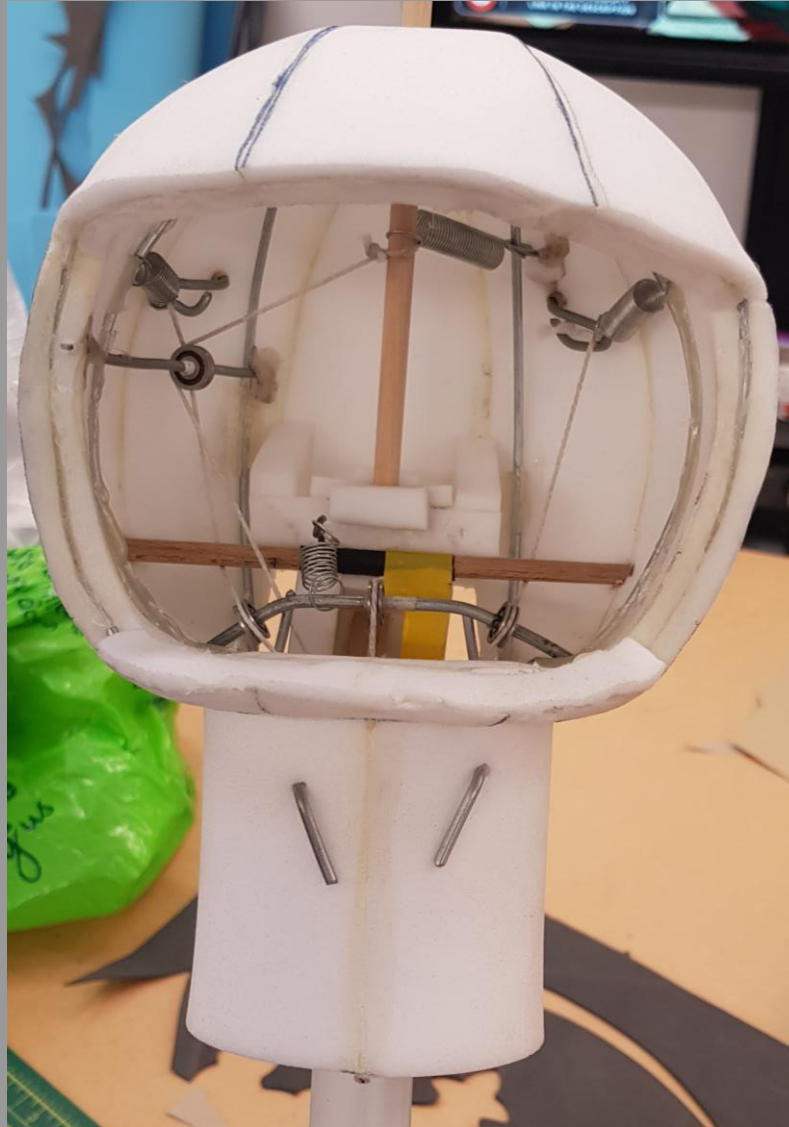
Soft Ventriloquist Puppet

Foam Puppet of King Arthur From Monty Python and the Holy Grail

Foam ventriloquist style puppet made from Plastazote foam and coated in Nylafleece. The Mouth and eyebrows are controlled from the control rod which is attached to the head and feeds through the body. Both arms are made from wood with elastic joints in both shoulders and a hinged joint in the elbow. Left arm moves freely whereas the sword arm is manipulated through a control rod that feeds through the sword.



University Project

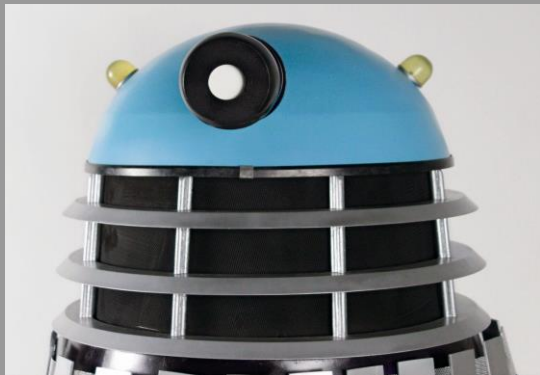


Collaborative Client
Commission

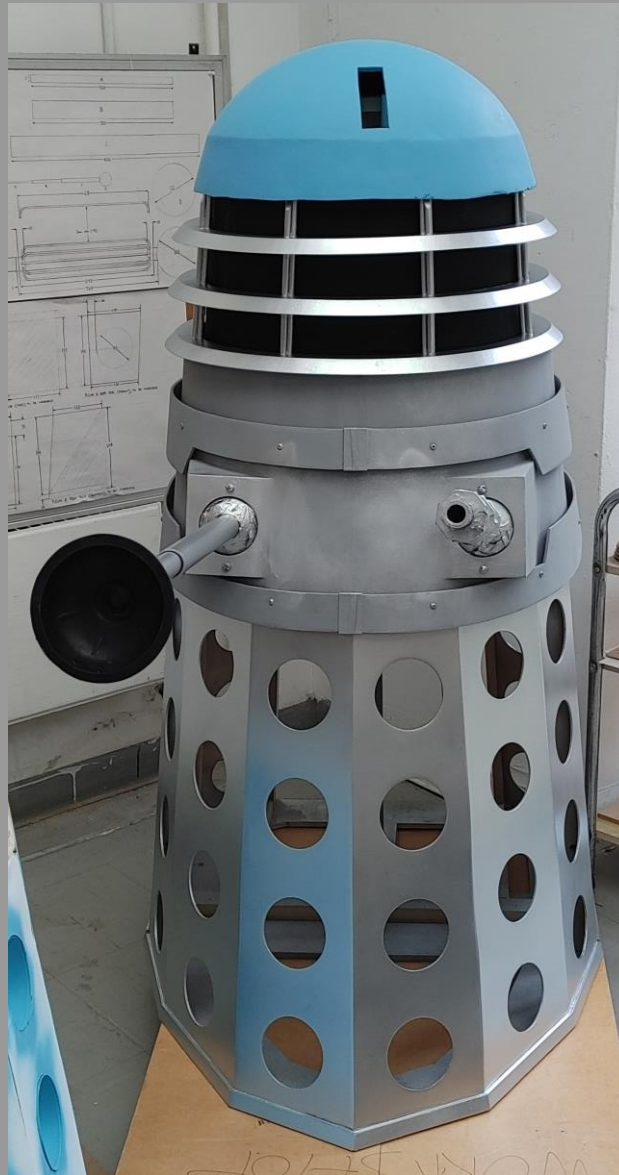
Full Size Promotional Dalek

Full size Promotional Mk 3 Classic Era Dalek Built for Northbrook College

Full Size Dalek Built by myself and 3 others in 6 weeks. Primarily made from 6mm plywood and can be disassembled, coming apart into 4 separate sections; head and neck, shoulders, skirt and base with the 'skirt' splitting into two pieces for ease of transport. Includes articulating manipulator arms and swivelling head, removable cabinet.



Collaborative Client Commission



Wooden Wands

Personal Project

Turned Wooden Wand and Carved Wooden Wand

Own Custom Designed wands.

Thicker wand turned on the lathe and stained this a mahogany wood stain.

Thinner wand carved by hand and stained with mahogany wood stain.

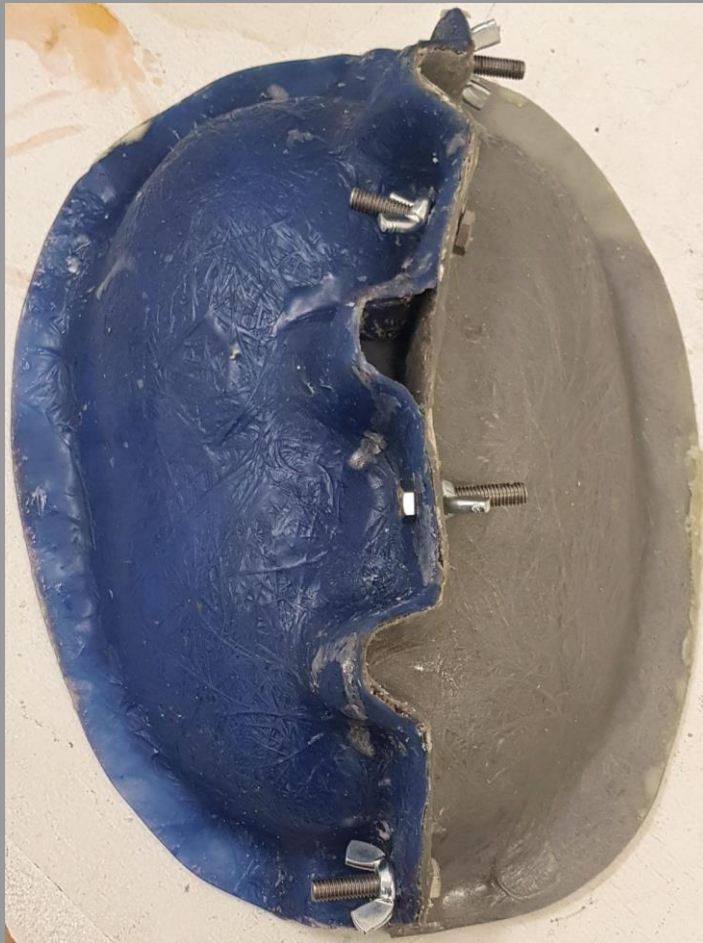


Fibreglass Jacket Silicone and Plaster Moulds

University Project

Fossil Tooth and Fruit Mould

Silicone mould of clay Megalodon tooth with a 2-part fibreglass jacket. Plaster mould of star fruit coated in shellac.



University Project



Clay Sculpting

University Project

Clay Fossil Tooth and Knight/King

Clay sculpture of a Megalodon tooth in rock to be moulded and casted.

Clay knight/king sculpted in the art style of Terry Gilliam.



Paint work and Effects #1

Cast Megalodon Tooth

Polyurethane fast cast Megalodon tooth painted with high pigment acrylic paints through both an air brush and by hand.



Paint work and Effects #2

Client Commission

Hasbro Water Pistol and 'Basic' Lightsaber

Plastic Star Wars Han Solo Water pistol painted and dry brushed with high pigment acrylic paints and enamel paints.

Plastic 'basic' lightsaber toy, modified with extended sections and belt clip attachment. Painted with high pigment acrylic paints and enamel paints.



Paint work and Effects #3

Weathered Hasbro Cyberman Helmet

Hasbro Cyberman helmet distressed and weathered to give a battle-damaged look. Inspired by the 'handles' prop. Weathered with a mixture of acrylic paints and controlled burning.



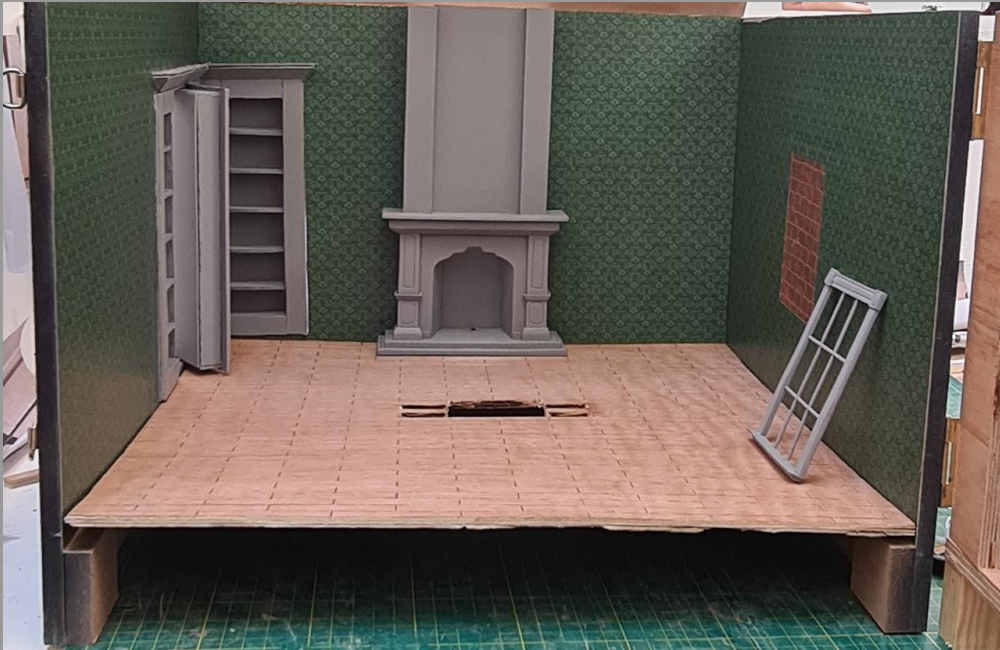
Miniature 'Stop Motion' Model

Miniature Wardrobe to Scale and original Design Interior

Handmade chemi-wood wardrobe with miniature brass hinges and cut with a scalpel. Plywood flooring and chemi-wood window, fireplace and bookshelf painted with high pigment acrylic paints.



University Project



½ Scale Dalek

Client Commission

Half Scale New Series Dalek Body and Painted/adjusted Hasbro Dalek Helmet

Dalek built on a budget. All materials provided by the client.

Body made of cardboard and covered in 3mm EVA foam then painted with automotive primers and paints. In addition, LED base lighting and gun lighting wired to the helmet with larger battery.

Helmet adjusted to fit measurements from Dalek makers group schematics and weathered with enamel and high pigment acrylic paints.



Paper/Card Maquettes

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Working Paper Laser Screwdriver Maquette

A Spring-Loaded Paper Laser Screwdriver Maquette

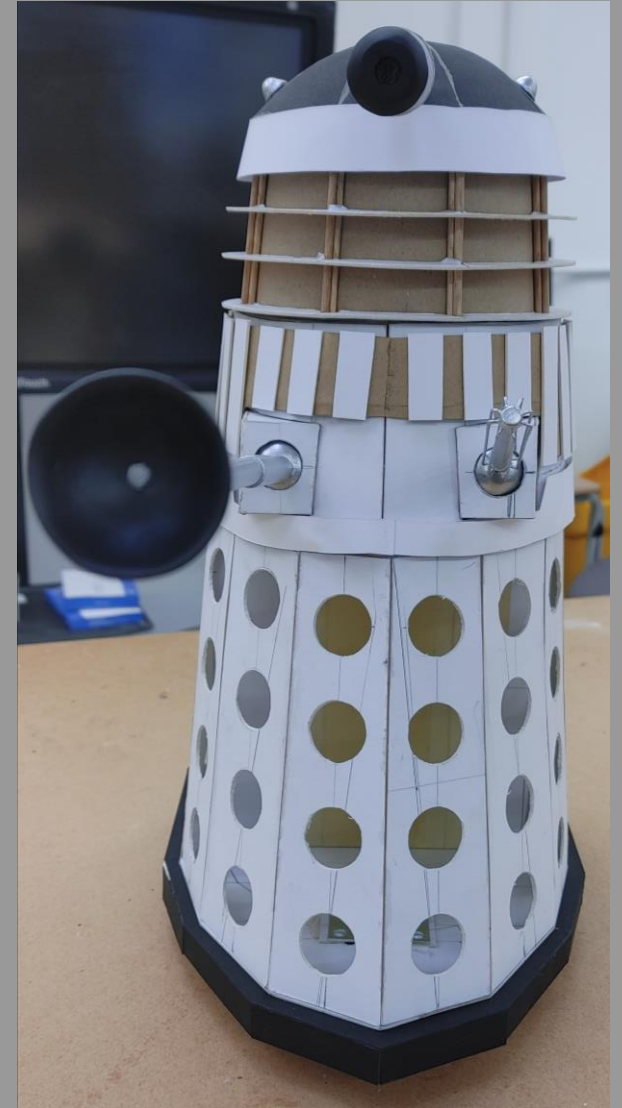
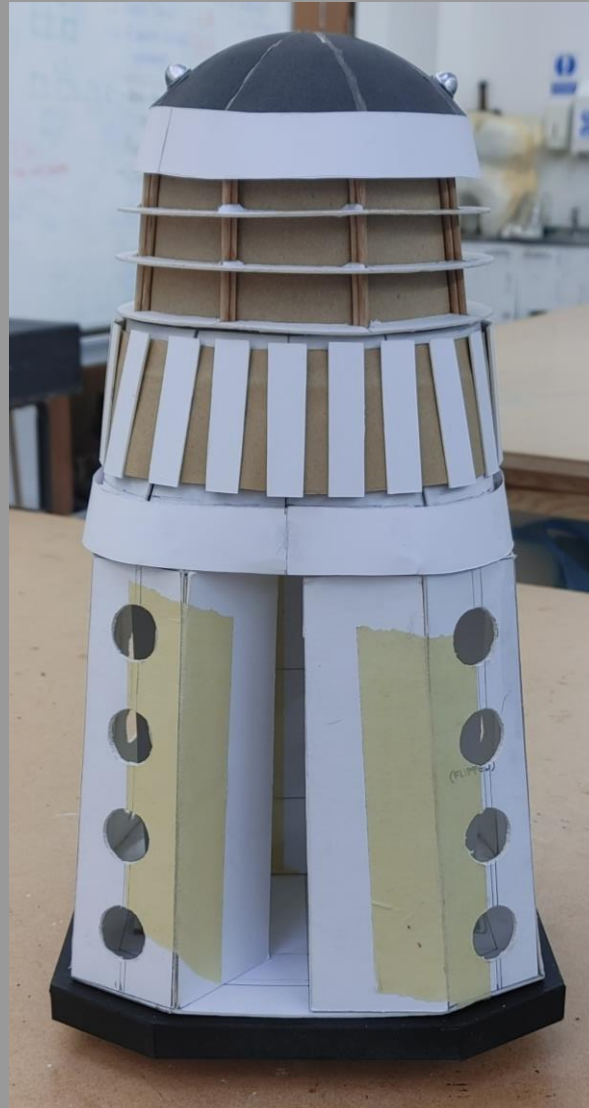
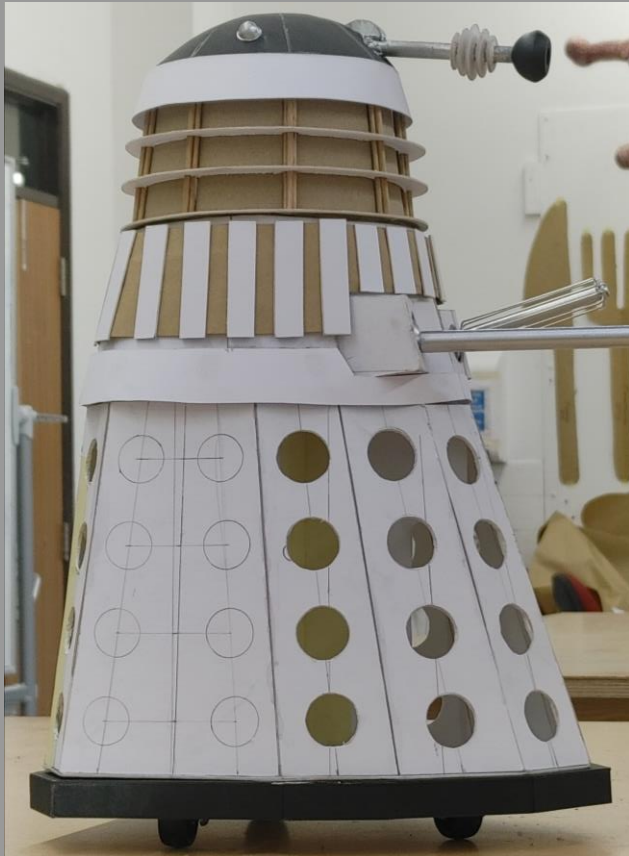
The maquette functions identically to the wooden laser screwdriver replica, extending at the push of a button and locking at 3 separate intervals.



1/6 Scale Card Dalek Maquette

Card 1/6 Scale Model of a MK III Dalek

1/6 scale card model a Mk 3 dalek the was used to test templates and assembly.



Full Size K9 Foam Board Maquette

1:1 Scale Foamcore board Model of a MK II K9 Unit

Full Size K9 foam board maquette to test measurements and component spacing



Functional Card Cryptex' Maquette

2 Functional Corrugated Card Maquettes

Both maquettes were designed by myself and modelled from scratch using A 2D CAD program and then laser cut out of thick card stock. Both mechanism work, requiring the correct code to be entered to release the compartment.



Functional Card The Conjuring Zoetrope Maquette

Rotating Card Maquette of Zoetrope from The Conjuring 2

Functional turning zoetrope maquette with working crank. Made from thick and corrugated card stock.



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