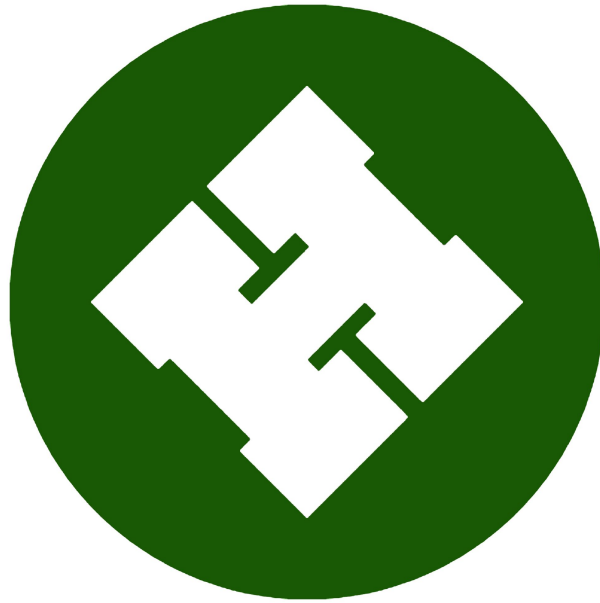
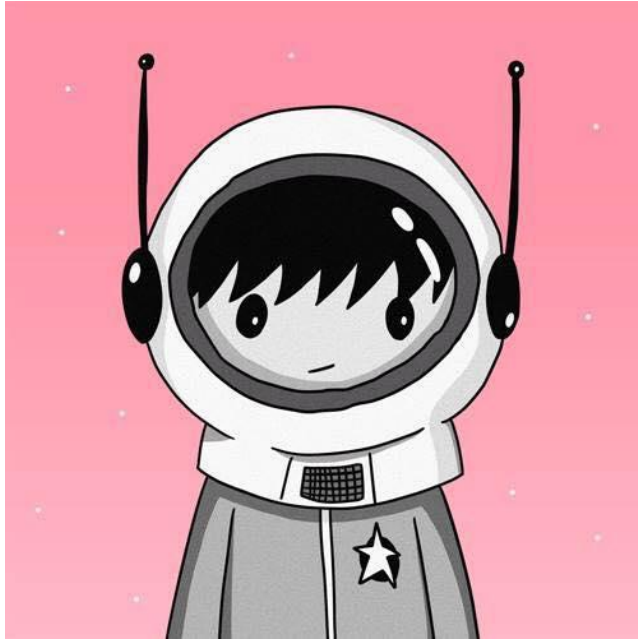


# Nottingham Hackspace **Comics Making Group**



**Nottingham Does Comics, 10<sup>th</sup> of April 2018**



Gareth Howell

aka @GarethDoodles  
**Comics group founder**



Nat Titman

aka @quarridors,  
Nat themselves



A **community workshop** where makers and crafters share tools, space, techniques and time. Pooling resources for bigger projects, funding specialist equipment, and running groups, events and workshops







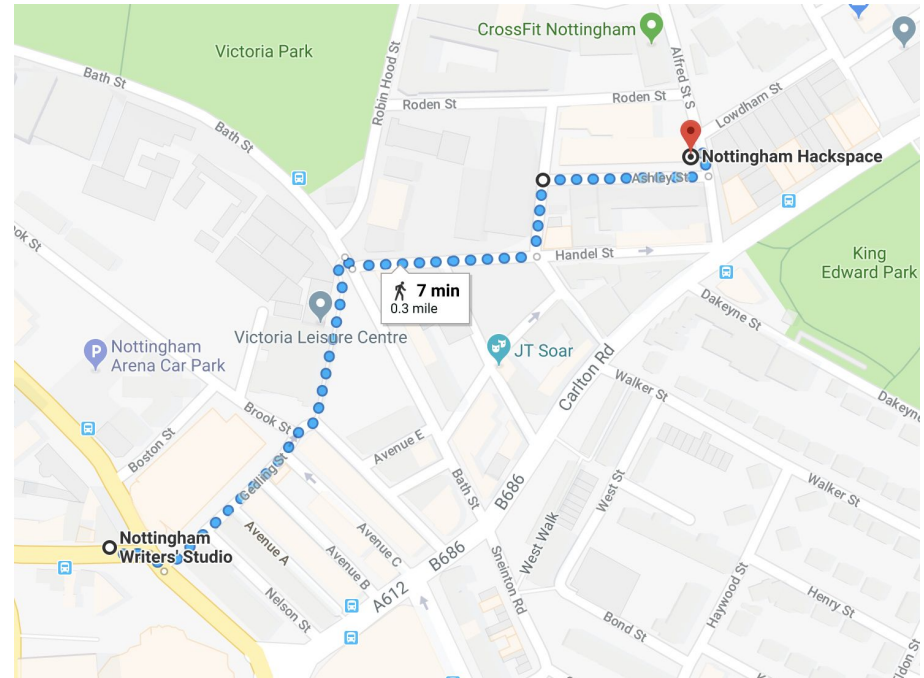


- **Large studio**, ideal for drawing and crafting
- A3 printers, 3D printers, computer room
- Textiles, **sewing machines** and overlocker
- **Screen printing** capabilities
- Fully equipped **electronics** area
- **Woodworking** and **metalworking** facilities
- **Laser printer** and rotary etcher
- Huge numbers of **tools and raw materials**
- **Storage space** for members' projects
- Kitchen, social areas, and more!

# Open Hack Night every Wednesday

Roden House, junction of Alfred Street South and Ashley Street. **7 minutes walk from here!**

Come along **after 6:30pm on any Wednesday** to try out the Hackspace for free!



Regular workshops, groups and events welcome non-members.

**Membership on a ‘pay what you like’ basis**, with 24 hour access to the space, use of tools, equipment and materials.





Natalie Nourigat

**Comics Making Group** started by Gareth in July 2014

# Group ethos

- Open to everyone
- All ability, experience and ‘aspiration’ levels
- *‘Comics-life balance’*
- Open to trying new ways of doing things
- Fun and playful – low pressure



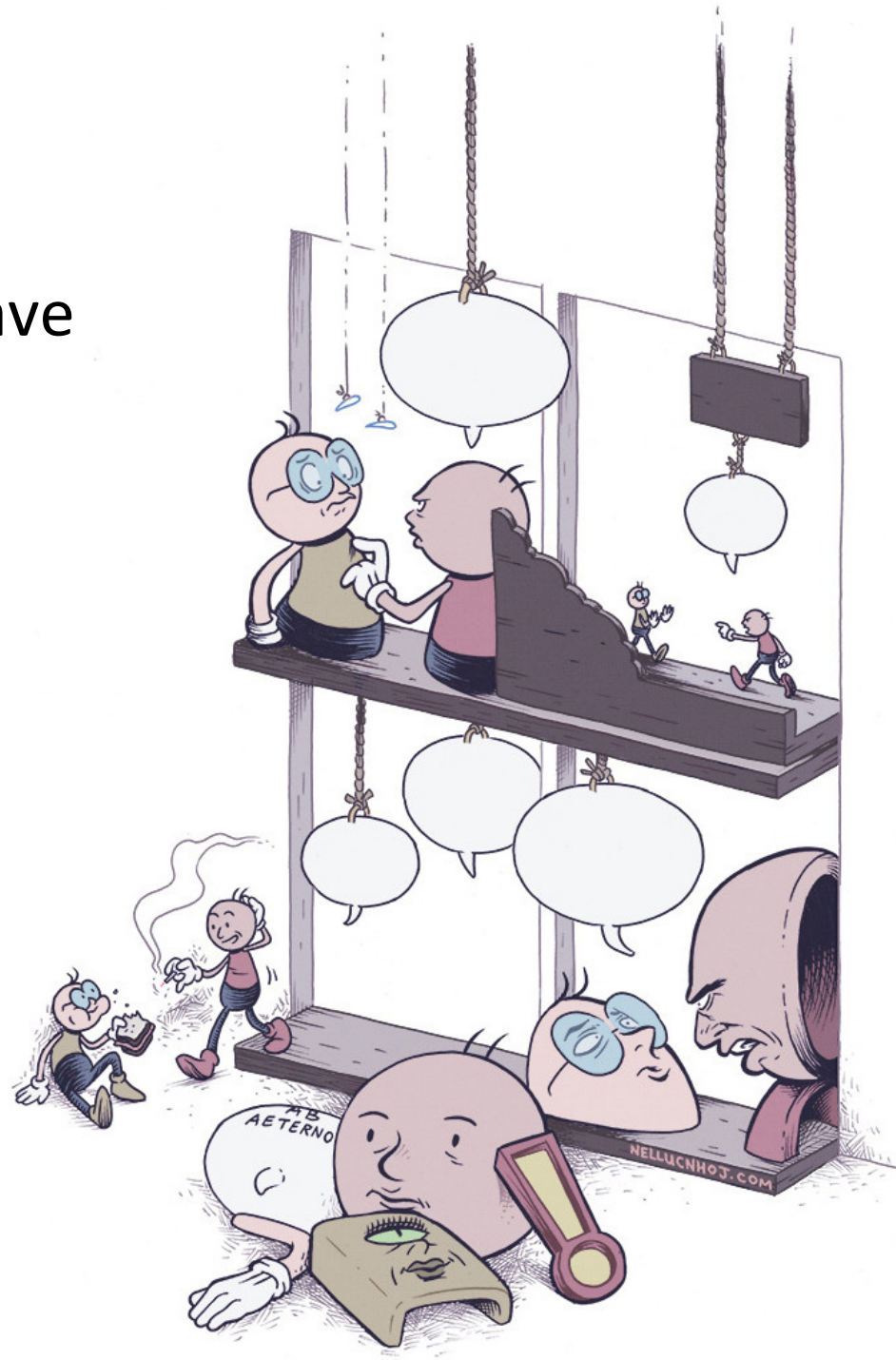
Illustration from “Badger and Vole” by Howard Hardiman



# “Show and Tell”

- Bring along comics that have inspired us
- Examples of techniques
- Tutorials and resources
- Our own work in progress
- Anything else we’ve been enjoying!

Comic by John Cullen, nellucnhoj.com



# Group Exercises

## Embarrassing anecdotes challenge, June 2016

Story by Nat, comic by Daniel Zadik

Annoyed John DeLancie  
(Q from Star Trek TNG)  
by not noticing his signing  
table was there and  
standing in front of  
him chatting for ages



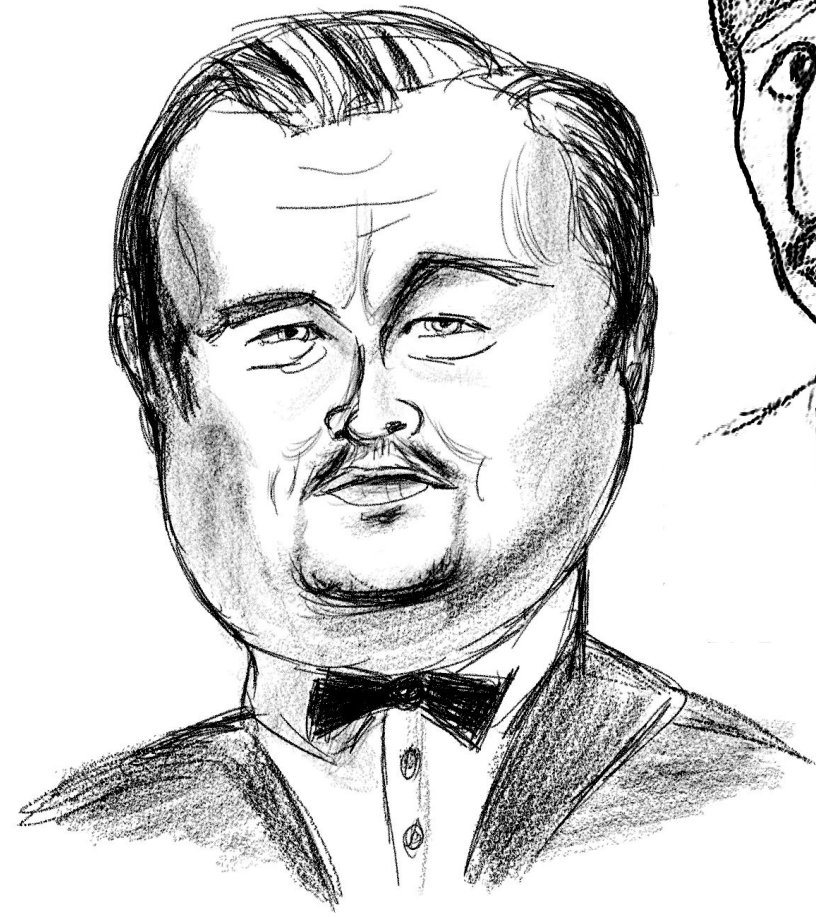


# LEIGH AND THE CLOWN...



# Celebrity caricatures exercise, July 2017

Art by Nat, Dan and Gareth





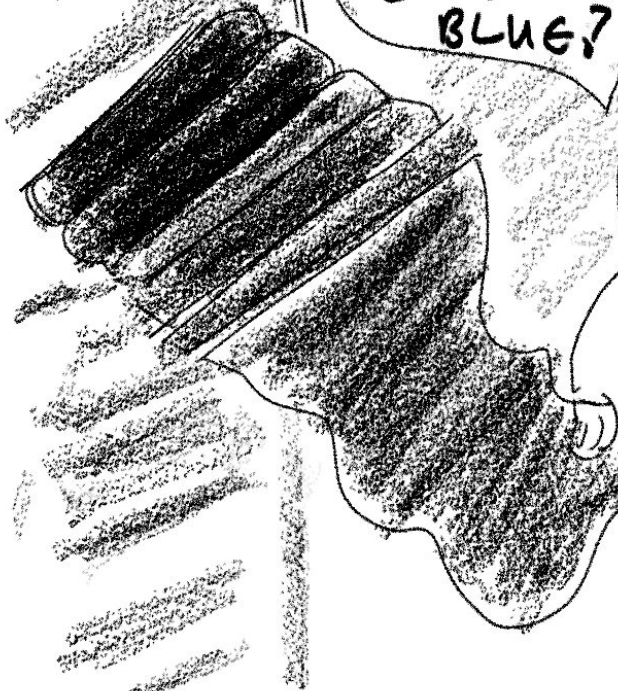
# World Book Day covers exercise, March 2016



Art by Nat and Gareth

# GOthic HABERDASHERY

WHAT WONDERFUL  
FABRIC! DOES IT  
COME IN POWDER  
BLUE?

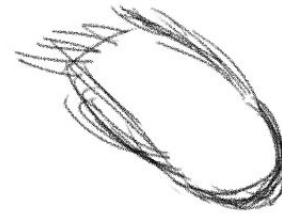


PHILIP PULLMAN  
HIS DARK MATERIALS

# Lessons we've learned:

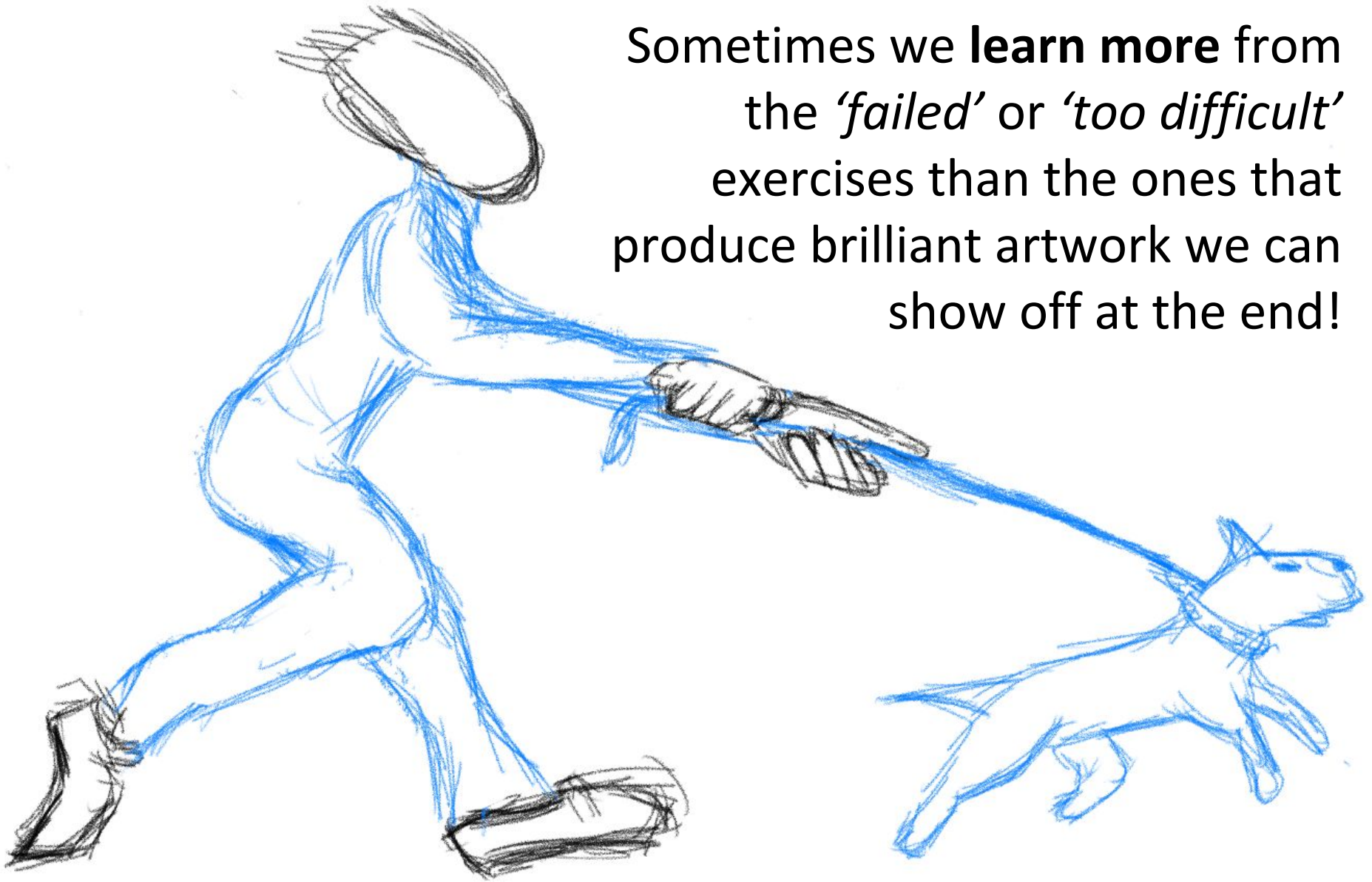
- Keep challenges **simple** and **self-contained!**
- **Limitations** can be **easier** than *possibilities*
- Discussions **before** drawing help loads!
- *Don't set homework!*
- It's **just for fun!**

**Head, hands and feet**  
exercise, December 2016



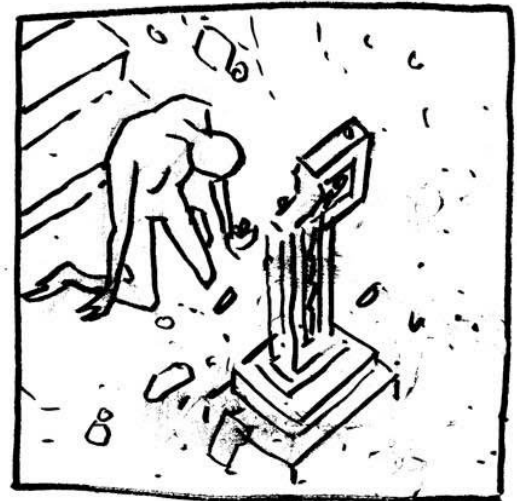
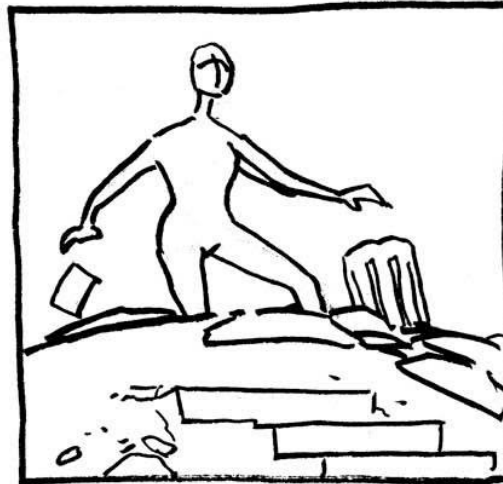


Sometimes we **learn more** from  
the *'failed'* or *'too difficult'*  
exercises than the ones that  
produce brilliant artwork we can  
show off at the end!

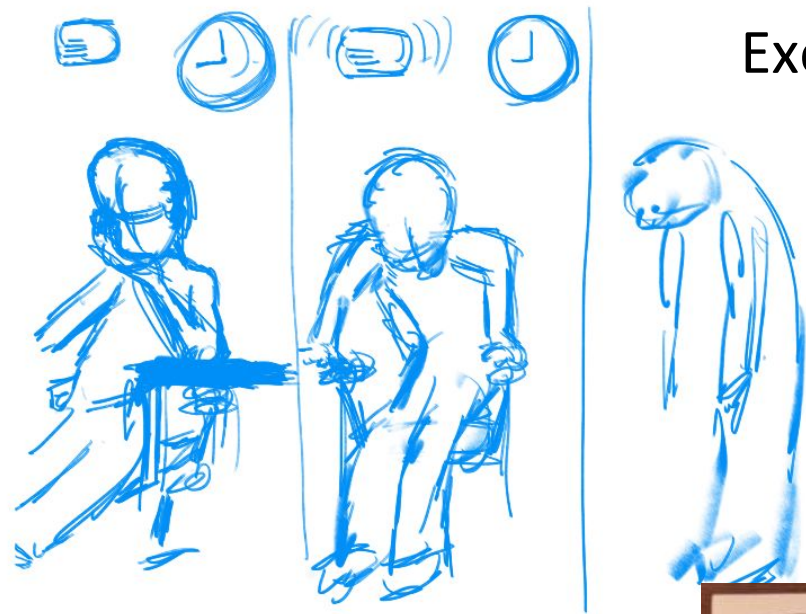


# Faceless and wordless challenge, November 2017

3 PANEL - FACELESS CHARACTER.  
TELL STORY THROUGH BODY LANGUAGE.



Art by Matt Brooker



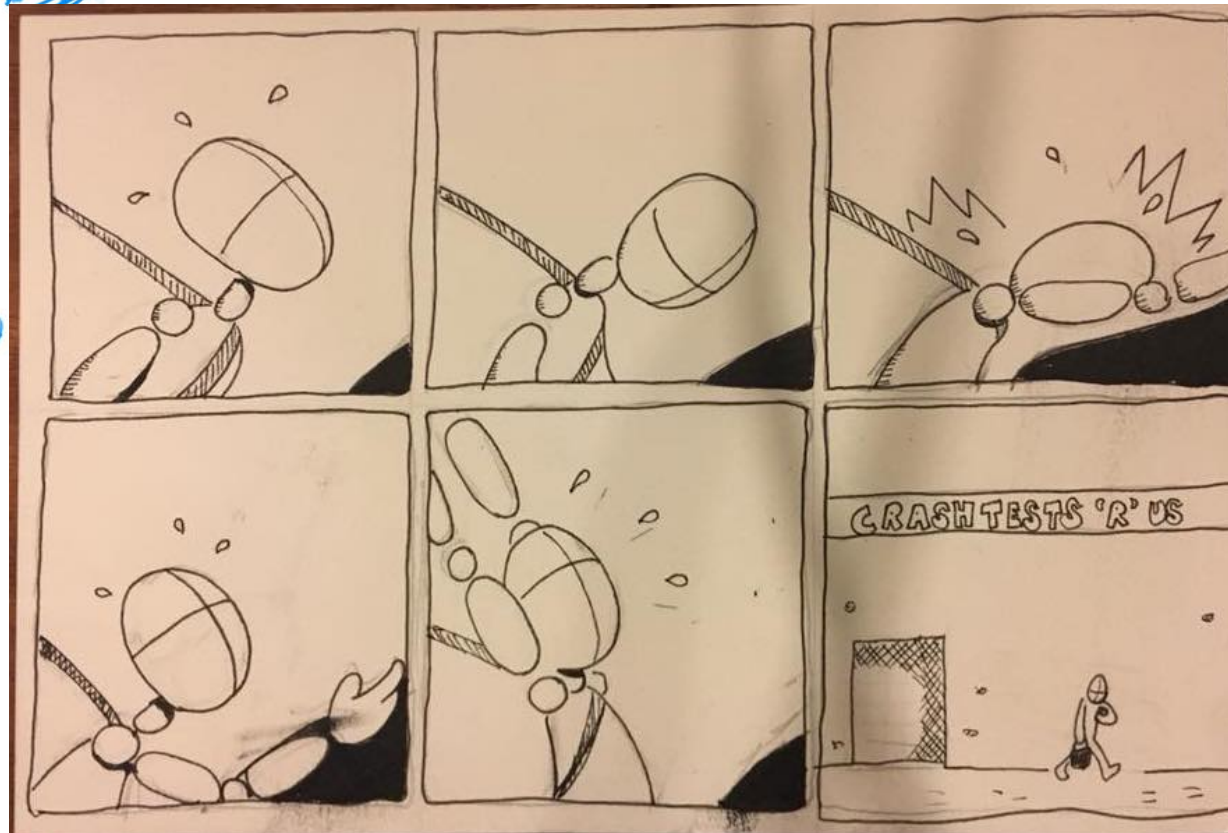
Exercises can be **more about the discussion** we have afterwards than what we draw

Some of us produce **finished comics**, others **notes** or rough pencils

There's a **mixture** of digital, pencils and pens used during challenges



Art by Nat and Gareth

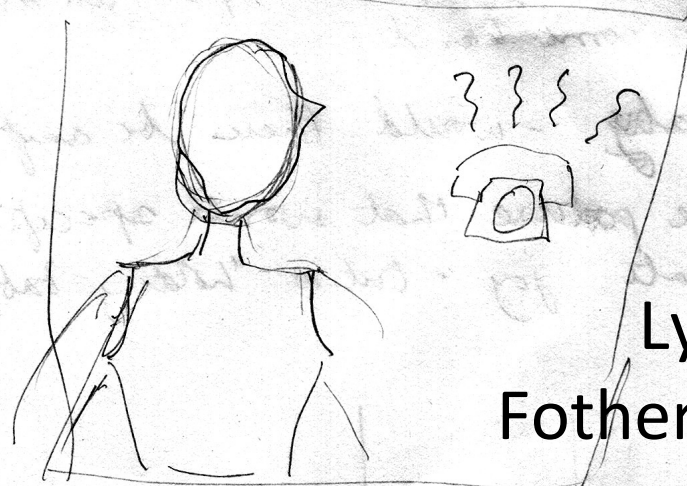






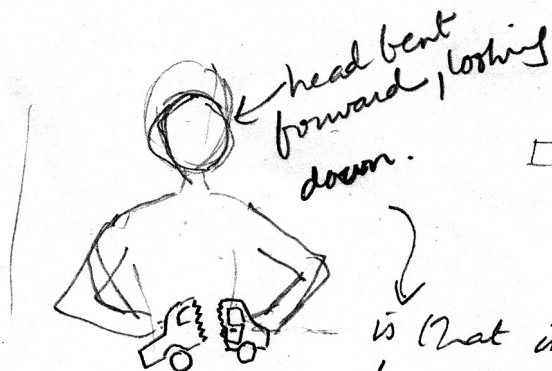
Daniel Zadik

crash test dummy  
depicted about job  
but resigned... ("I hate Mondays")



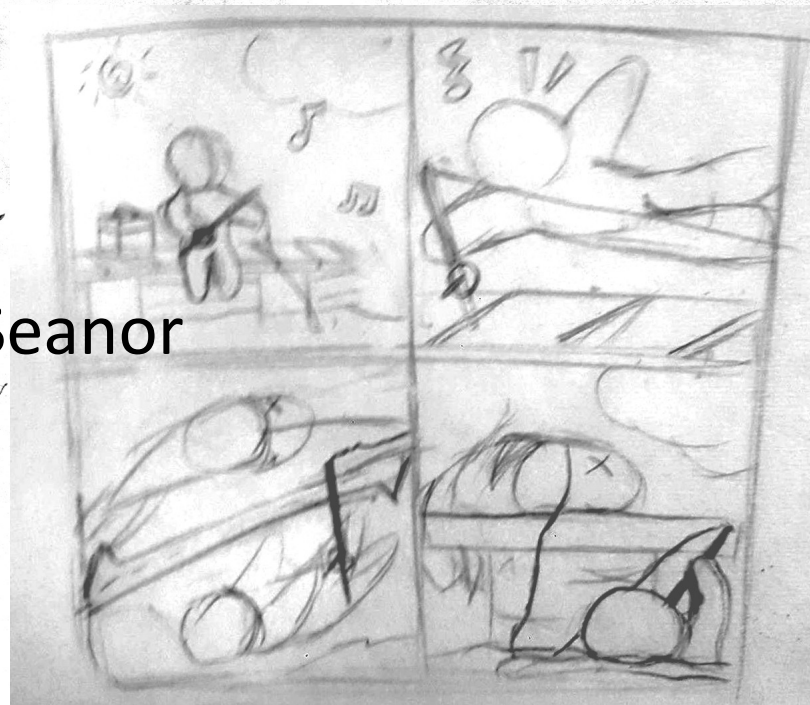
Lynn  
Fotheringham

looking for something: holding hands over  
as you peer into distance



Hazel Seanor

is that in itself enough  
to communicate dejection.



# Questions and Answers

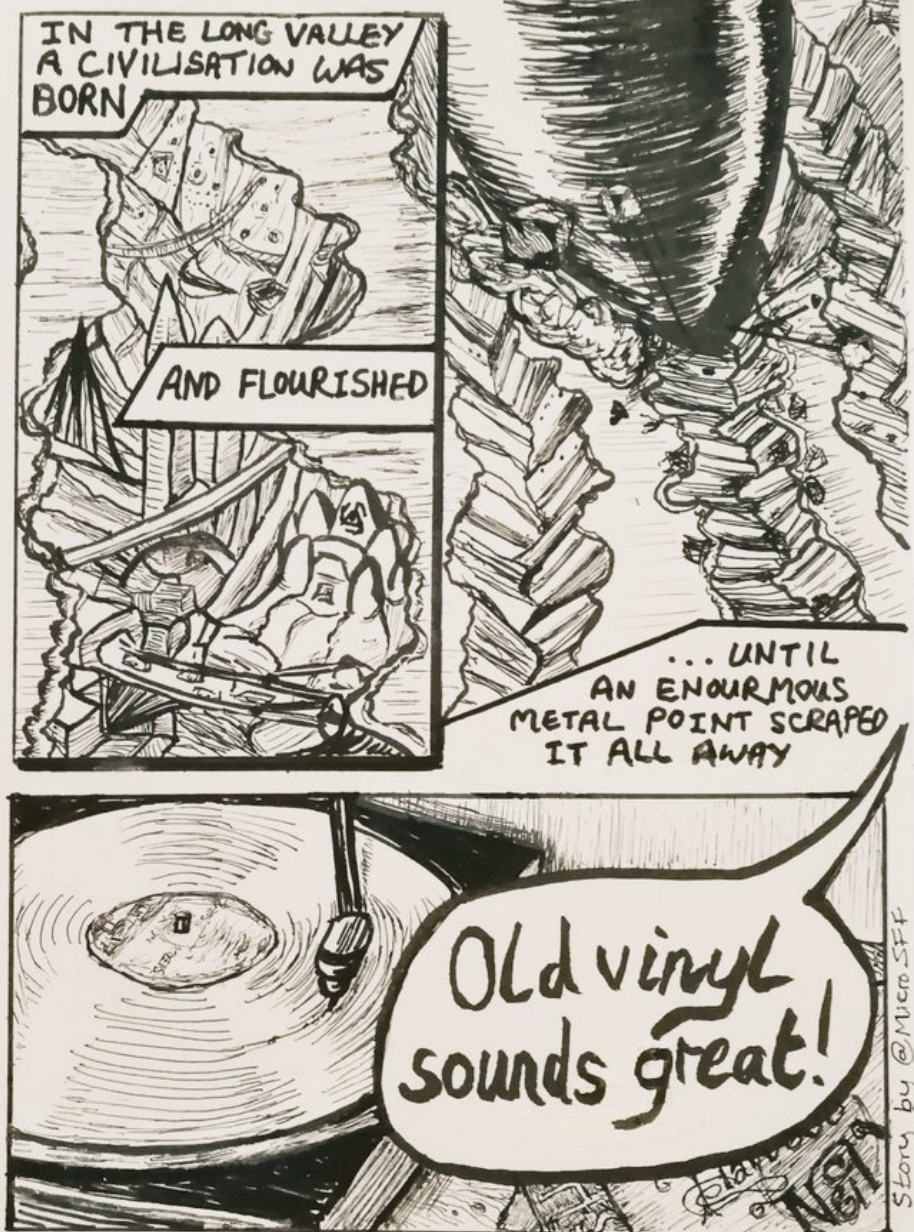
- Any questions?
- Then it's time for a break
- ...and then a drawing exercise...
- Let's **DO** some comics!







Words by @MicroSFF



We've both improved our comics drawing skills thanks to the group!



# Round Robin Comics Challenge

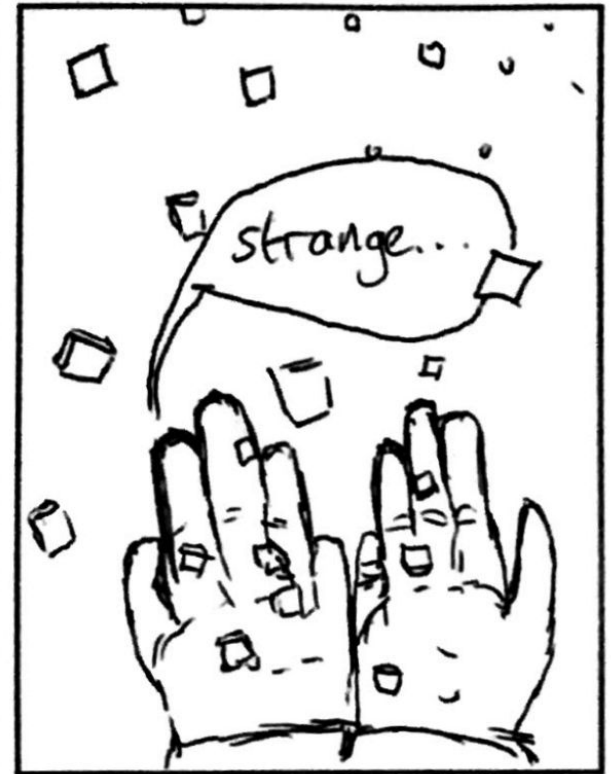
Collaborative 9 panel comics, we give you story prompts, then you **take turns to draw each panel**



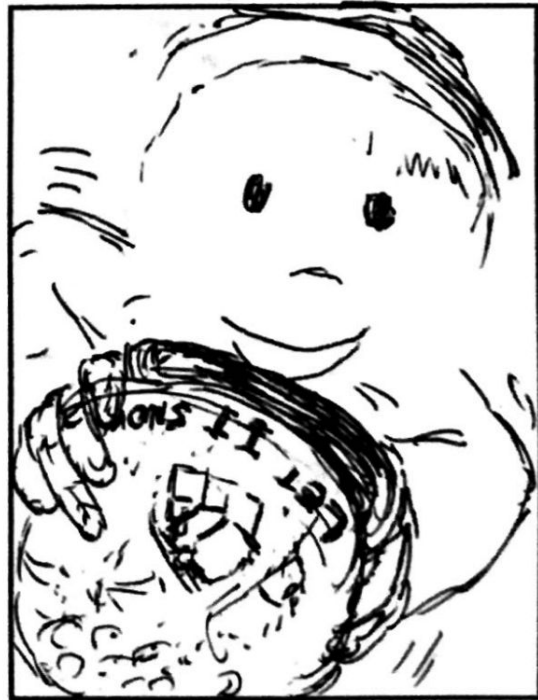
Art by Matt Brooker



Gareth Howell



Nat Titman



# “Invention, Creation and Discovery”

1. The test run of a **time machine** is interrupted by a **visitor from the future** with an important **message**
2. Precocious **kids hack a household appliance**, but then find they **can't control it**
3. Competing **inventors** of the same **travel machine** concept use their **prototypes** to **race to the patent office** and claim the technology as their own - it's **neck-and-neck** up to the last moment, **and then...**
4. An inventor **finishes** constructing a Heath Robinson (Rube Goldberg) **contraption** to perform a **mundane task**, the results of the first **test run** are surprising...



5. A **frustrated engineer** leaves the drawing board behind to **go for a walk**, then finds the **inspiration** needed to solve their **design problem** in an **unexpected place**
6. A **pet translation device** leads to the one family's **animals going on strike**
7. A **birdwatcher** discovers that **missing drones** have gone **feral** and are **acting like wild birds** ...could they possibly be **nesting**?
8. When the **package** arrives, **office workers** are **keen** to **setup** their new **networked 3D printer** ...until it starts receiving **junk mail**

Make a note of which story this is

## **Establish setting, characters and props**

Distinctive characters – clear shapes, hair, hats, etc

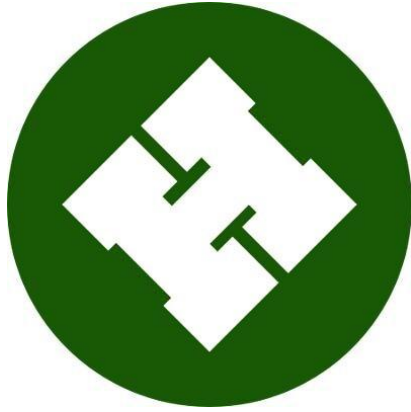
## **Develop the drama / conflict / mystery**

Feel free to use close-ups, labels, dialogue or arrows!

## **Final act – The Big Reveal – The Payoff!**

Get us near to the end of the story

End this thing!



@HSNOTTS

nottinghack.org.uk



@GarethDoodles



@quarridors

quarridors.com

**The Comics Making Group** runs from **7pm to 9pm** on the  
**first Thursday** of every month.

[facebook.com/groups/hackspacecomics](https://facebook.com/groups/hackspacecomics)