

Short Subjects

Doctor Who Experience

Exhibit in Cardiff Bay, Wales celebrates 50 years of the iconic BBC TV series

For *Doctor Who* fans attending Worldcon in London or planning a vacation in the UK, “The Doctor Who Experience” in Cardiff Bay, Wales is a worthwhile side trip. This exhibit features *Doctor Who* costumes, props, and sets from the BBC to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the TV series. “The Doctor Who Experience” brings together material from the BBC archive as well as items from individual collectors.

Costumes include not only the Doctors' but also ones from supporting characters River Song and Astrid Perth. There is also an extensive exhibit of the Tardis sets, Daliks, and even the third Doctor's yellow roadster, “Bessie.”



Representative costumes for the first six Doctors from the “Doctor Who Experience Exhibit” Photo: [HMCP](#).

Photos from the exhibit have been posted to a number of sites, including Hollywood Movie Costumes and Props (HMCP), which has a number of articles showing representative [costume displays](#) for the first eleven Doctors.

The “Doctor Who Experience” also features a gift show with an extensive line of *Doctor Who*-related merchandise, including clothing and replica props.

Timed tickets are available online or at the location. Prices are £13.00 for adults and £9.00, with special packages available at higher prices. For more information, visit the “Doctor Who Experience” [website](#).

Interview with First *Doctor Who* Costume Designer

Interview in 3Story Magazine reveals secrets of designing for first Doctor Who.

An interview with the costume designer Maureen Heneghan Tripp in the online magazine 3Story reveals that costuming for William Hartnell, the first Doctor in 1963, required good people skills as well as clever costuming.

According to the article, “William Hartnell was not an easy man to work with. He was an angry actor, not simpatico. And he had definite ideas of what he wanted *Doctor Who* to look like.” Heneghan,

discovered that the trick was to make sure the actor wants to act in the costume and really wants to wear it. Finally, she observed, “you learn never to say 'no' to an actor.”

Heneghan was always fascinated by the history of dress, and decided on the last 19th C. and edwardian periods for the first Doctor's clothing. “It had to be something related to the 20th century but not too far away from it,” she remembers.

She also had to deal with the shine from Hartnell's bald head, which caused problems for the TV cameras of the day. She finally decided on a wig and hats. She presented Hartnell with a half dozen hats, and he was delighted with an Astrakahn, which he thought suited his face.

Read the complete interview with Maureen Heneghan Tripp on the 3Story Magazine [website](#).



William Hartnell in his Astrakahn hat.

Instructions Online for TARDIS Blue Envelope

Accessorize your costume or invite friends to a picnic with this TARDIS Blue envelope.

In the opening episode of the sixth *Doctor Who* season, “The Impossible Astronaut,” Amy Pond, Rory and River Song received a summons to Utah, USA, by the Eleventh Doctor. The summons arrived in a “TARDIS blue” envelope with a Royal Mail sticker, and a particular set of postage stamps. On the flap of the envelope was a number.

For those who want to re-enact these characters, the “TARDIS blue” envelop is an essential accessory. It is also great for inviting your friends to a *Doctor Who* themed picnic or party. Many fans have scrambled to find the right color of paper and the right set of stamps and stickers. Now, an article on the website Instructables shows how to do it.

The article includes a list of materials, step-by-step instructions, and a printable page with the right Royal Mail sticker and set of postage stamp images to glue to the envelope. The article estimates the time to completion at 10-15 minutes. The article even includes a link to a website where fans used their skills to find the specific stamps.

This is a great project for *Doctor Who* cosplayers and for young fans, too. Visit the Instructables page “[How to Make a Doctor Who Envelope](#)” for details.



Replica "Tardis Blue" envelope from "The Impossible Astronaut" episode.

Fantasy Makeup: The Doctor Who Universe

Website has reference pages and photos for Doctor Who creatures played by women.

A website called The Makeup Gallery has a special *Doctor Who* landing page that shows thumbnails of the prosthetic makeup for many of the creatures in the *Doctor Who* universe that were portrayed by actresses.



Neve McIntosh as Rastac.

Behind each thumbnail is a reference page on the creature, and the actress who portrayed it on the series, and notes about the makeup and the actress' experience wearing it.

For example, the page for “Alaya & Rastac” has a photo of actress Neve McIntosh, a progress photo of the makeup being applied, and seven high-resolution photos of the makeup itself from different angles. The page introduces the Silurians, which episodes the makeup was worn in with brief synopses, the name of the makeup designer (Barbara Southcott), makeup supervisor (Pam Mullins), and builder (Neill Gorton's MillenniumFX studio). There are also quotes from McIntosh about her experience wearing the makeup and some of the challenges she faced.

In addition to *Doctor Who* creature makeup, this amazing website also features the work of many movie and TV makeup artists who create makeup for actresses. The transformations from actress into character are illustrated with before and after shots and, wherever possible, with behind the scenes shots of the makeup design and application. The site also has a place to register for notification when page are updated. According to the site, registration is private.

To learn more about the makeup for creates from *Doctor Who* and the actresses who wore it, visit The Makeup Gallery's “[The Doctor Who Universe](#)” page.

Parting Shot

A photo that's just too good not to use.

Sometimes a story has a great leftover photo that deserves to be used, but there's no room left or it's slightly off-topic and doesn't fit in. A case in point is this photo (far right) of Jennifer Wylie as "The Impossible Astronaut" from the *Doctor Who* episode. Only, that's not the costume that Jennifer describes how she made in her article in this issue. It is *the* screen-worn costume from the *Doctor Who* episode that was made in Utah. The story of how she came to be wearing it is almost as strange as the episode.

Mid-February 2014 found Jennifer at the annual Gallifrey One celebration in Los Angeles, mixing with other fans and many who worked on the show, including actors who played the Doctor and other characters.

That's where Jennifer encountered a fellow named John Harrington, who brought the screen-worn suit from a costume house in northern Los Angeles where the production rented it. Would she like to try it on? Yes!!!

"The suit is designed to be zipped into from the back, so the person wearing it is basically steps into it and puts it on backwards. The suit is somewhat adjustable.



The shoulders were almost too big for me. If I had worn my football pads underneath, it may have not been as much of an issue; I just didn't think to bring them up to that hotel room. The crotch came almost halfway to my knees, even with all the adjustments. Actress Alex Kingston is 5ft 7in, so she had no problem with it fitting correctly!

"Jade Falcon is very good at posing subjects, so she was able to direct me to stand in the best possible way to make it look "right", but I was still swiiiiiiiiimming in it. John told me I could even go so far as to walk the floor if I wanted, but I didn't want to do that because the suit isn't mine and I didn't want anything to happen to it. Once I was buckled up into it, I don't think I could have done it anyway!"

"The suit was moderately uncomfortable due to the size, and the weight, especially the backpack, was phenomenal. I could only stand wearing it about 10 minutes! Now I don't feel so bad about the fact that I went through all that trauma to get mine to fit me correctly!"

One detail Jennifer learned was that another patch had to be used instead of the NASA "meatball logo" patch, as NASA hadn't given clearance for its use. At left is the actual patch on the screen worn costume.

Right: Jennifer Wylie as River Song at Gallifrey One 2014 in the screen-worn "Impossible Astronaut" space suit. Photo: [Jade Falcon](#). *Left:* Design used instead of the NASA "meatball" patch.

