

THE DALEK

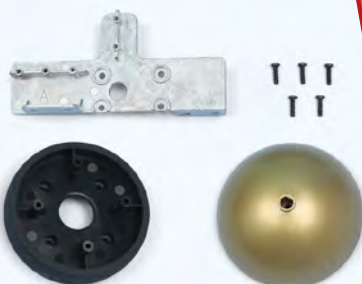
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DALEK

ISSUE 53



ADVENTURES IN TIME AND SPACE: GENETICS OF THE DALEKS

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A lone Dalek threatens the lives of thousands of hibernating colonists.



BEHIND THE SCENES: VOICE OF THE DALEKS - 1

8

Nicholas Briggs has been talking like a Dalek from a young age.



STEP-BY-STEP BUILD: PART 53

10

Another two-part roller, a motor holder and the fixing screws.

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GENETICS OF THE DALEKS

A lone Dalek plans to convert 10,000 human colonists into a new race of Daleks.

**Big Finish Productions
Audio Drama
Released: December 2020**

Starship Future has been travelling in space for 20 years. It carries 10,000 people in cryogenic suspension. Pilot Jake Finlay is brought out of suspended animation by medical officer Harvel Chuke. Security officer Erica Swann is also revived. They meet with Captain Graff, who tells them that science officer Brooke has made an exciting discovery: "A Dalek." She explains that they were taking on fuel in the Oort cloud and picked up the remains of a Dalek trapped inside an ice block. Brooke assures them it is safe – there is no Dalek mutant inside it. Brooke wants to study the casing to learn the Daleks' scientific secrets.

Brooke later meets with the Dalek mutant in secret. It has promised him its technology. Brooke killed the previous security officer when he discovered it. Brooke has followed the Dalek's instructions and built a machine. He is under the creature's mental control.

Finlay wonders why he has no memory of Erica Swann when he was placed in cryosleep. He suddenly realises that Swann is an imposter, but Chuke – who is also an imposter – apprehends him before he can warn Captain Graff. Chuke says that there are a dozen more imposters who "had to leave Earth in a hurry". They are criminals who killed the real sleepers and stole their identities.



Chuke threatens to kill Finlay's wife and children if he doesn't cooperate.

Swann finds evidence that alloys have been stolen from the hold. She comes across a nervous Brooke who runs off.

The Fourth Doctor arrives on Starship Future. He knows the Time Lords have diverted his TARDIS. Swann finds him, assumes he is the thief and takes him to Graff. The Doctor learns that parts for a component applicator have been stolen, along with some duraluminium steel and polycarbides. The Doctor tells them that he noticed some of the cryo-capsules have been recently opened.

The Dalek mutant watches their conversation. It recognises the Doctor.

It tells Brooke to activate the machine. It builds a new gunstick for the Dalek. The mutant is returned to the casing. It plans to create a new army of Daleks.

Finlay and Graff note the energy drain emanating from Brooke's lab. They discover that all the security cameras have been deactivated.

The Doctor is put in a laser cage. Swann and Chuke plot to stage his escape and then kill him. The lasers are shut off, but the Doctor isn't fooled – instead of escaping, he contacts Graff and convinces her that he can be trusted. Swann tries to shoot the Doctor, but Graff knocks her out. The Doctor learns of the Dalek's presence on the ship. He tells Graff that the Dalek probably took control

of Brooke and is making him rebuild its weapons and free its casing from the ice.

Brooke aims a Dalek gunstick at Chuke and forces him to revive a group in Section Four of the cryo-pods. Brooke then searches for the Doctor and captures him. He is marched off to meet the Dalek.

Finlay and Graff seal off the ship's bridge. Finlay tells Graff about Chuke and Swann's plan. Graff tells him to cut the power to the cryo-capsules in Section Four before everyone is fully revived. Finlay refuses – that will kill them all, including his family. Graff orders him at gunpoint, with no success.

Chuke releases Swann. They observe their fellow gang members being revived, but their minds have been altered. "You are an enemy of the Daleks!" one of them cries.

The Doctor meets the Dalek. He wonders how the Dalek might try to replicate itself and then realises the answer. "Of course!" he says. "You'd get Brooke to take cells from your body, open up the capsules in the cryogenics section and inject them into the sleepers." The Dalek's genetic material has infected the humans. The Dalek orders Brooke to inject himself. The Doctor tries to stop him but is paralysed by the Dalek.

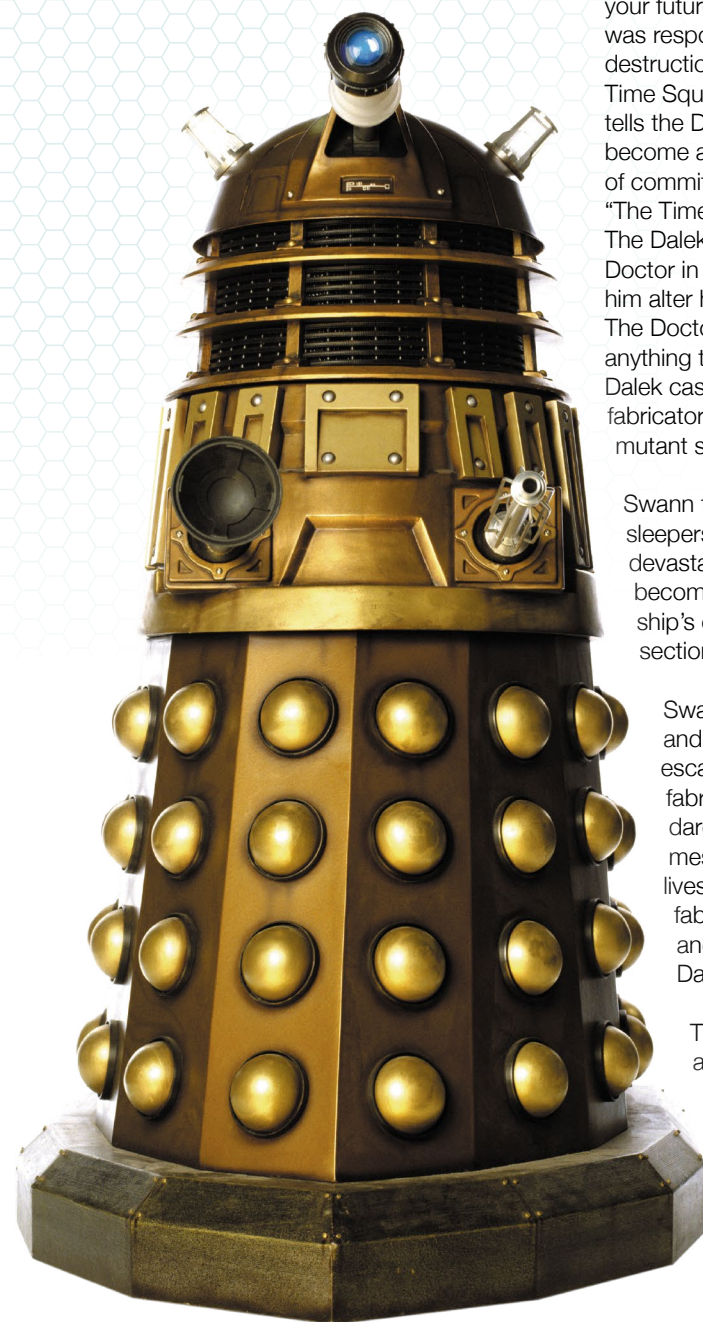
Chuke and Swann watch in horror as the revived sleepers convulse and start to transform into tentacled mutants. Chuke's gun doesn't stop them. He is killed but Swann escapes.

The Doctor wonders why the Dalek has let him live. "You are not the only Doctor I have encountered," it replies. "One of

TIME LORD VICTORIOUS

Genetics of the Daleks was part of *Time Lord Victorious*, an ambitious and bold multimedia *Doctor Who* event launched in 2020. Devised by writer James Goss, it connected stories told in audio, prose, comics, animation and even a live-action escape room game. It mostly featured the Eighth, Ninth and Tenth Doctors and the Daleks. The audio story was particularly pivotal as it functioned as a prequel to the immersive escape room game *A Dalek Awakens* staged in various UK cities including Reading, Birmingham, Norwich, Cheltenham, and London by the company Escape Hunt.





your future incarnations was responsible for the destruction of the Dalek Time Squad.” The Dalek tells the Doctor that he will become a warrior capable of committing genocide: “The Time Lord Victorious.” The Dalek is warning the Doctor in an attempt to make him alter his own future. The Doctor doesn’t believe anything the Dalek says. A new Dalek casing emerges from the fabricator machine. The Brooke mutant slides into it.

Swann tells Finlay and Graff about the sleepers being transformed. Finlay is devastated to learn that his family have become monsters. Graff can’t get the ship’s computer to seal the cryogenics section off from the rest of the ship.

Swann distracts the two Daleks and gives the Doctor a chance to escape. She stands in front of the fabricator, knowing that the Daleks dare not risk damaging it. “Nobody messes with the Syndicate and lives,” she says. Swann enters the fabricator, causing it to malfunction and explode. She dies, but both Daleks avoid destruction.

The Doctor is reunited with Graff and Finlay. Graff is leading the transformed humans to an airlock. Finlay and the Doctor head for the computer server room. The Doctor knows that the Dalek is mentally linked to the ship’s computer. “It’s the nearest thing the Dalek has to an



Achilles’ heel,” he says. The Dalek is monitoring the Doctor’s activity and turns the ship’s defences on him and Finlay. They are pinned down by energy beams.

Graff lures the mutated humans into the airlock and opens it. Graff sacrifices her life as they are all blown into space.

The computer re-routes power to close the airlock, halting the defences in the server room. The Doctor seizes the chance to create an electrostatic wave. It scrambles the systems of both Daleks, apparently killing them.

Finlay says farewell to the Doctor who vanishes in the TARDIS. Finlay goes back to the research centre to examine the remains of the two Daleks. The first Dalek’s eye stalk twitches. “This unit is damaged, but my systems can be repaired,” it rasps. “I have been defeated but not destroyed.” It kills Finlay. “Daleks are always victorious!” it continues.

BRIDGING STORY

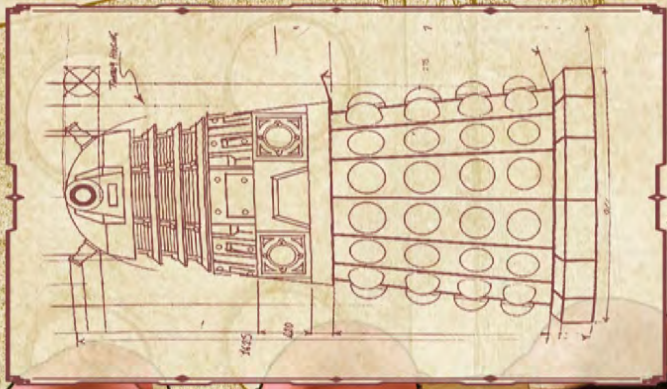
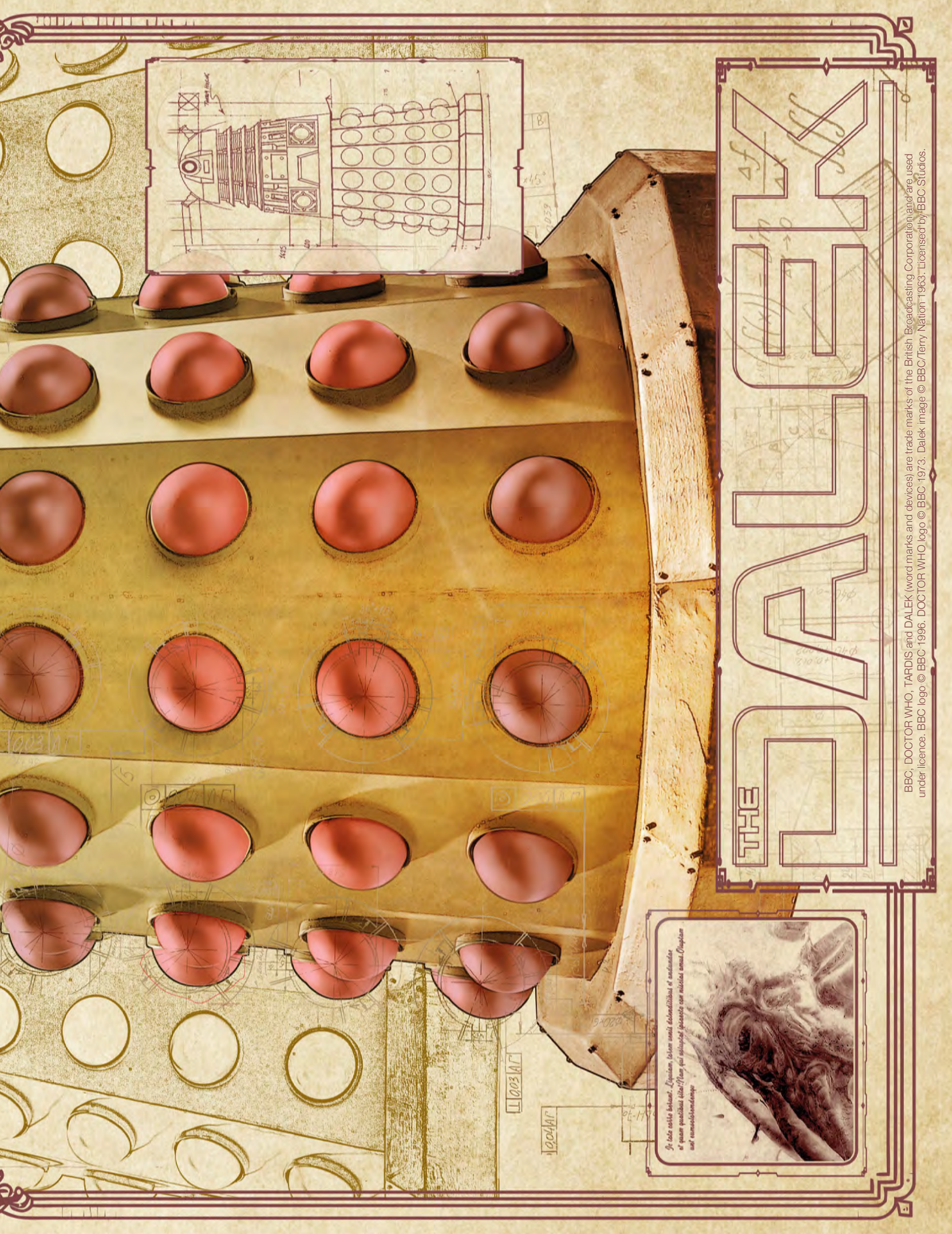
Writer Jonathan Morris was given a complicated brief for the story: “It was an unusual brief because it was kind of like building a bridge. I had the beginning, which had to join up with the end of the previous story [*Exit Strategy*], and I had an ending leading into the escape room experience. I had a monster, the last surviving Time Squad Dalek, and I had a setting: the terraforming *Starship Future*, which was on its way to a distant world carrying 10,000 colonists in cryogenic suspension. So, I basically had to build a bridge in as interesting and diverting a way as possible.”



FRIENDS AND ENEMIES

“Oh, they’ve become my closest friends,” Tom Baker said of the Daleks while recording the story. “You know, after a while, old enemies can become old friends. I really feel fond of them. I have two little Daleks by my bedside, and often, when I wake up in the night, I put the light on and I look at them, and I’m filled with a warm glow. I just feel so grateful, really.”





THE DALEKS



*De tota cella balneat. Equidem, sedem unam delectatissimam et exultantem
et quam quicquid libet illam qui adhibet quicquid est munda omnia. Quicquam
autem remanet hinc inde.*

VOICE OF THE DALEKS - 1

Nicholas Briggs has been the voice of the Daleks since the return of *Doctor Who* in 2005. Born in Lyndhurst in 1961, Nicholas ('Nick' to his friends) became a fan during William Hartnell's tenure as the Doctor, and was introduced to the Daleks with *Power of the Daleks* in 1966.

"They triggered something in me as a kid, and a lot of it was to do with the voice," he remembers. "I can remember a Christmas in the 60s when all my presents seemed to be Dalek-related." Nick also recalls seeing the TV ad for the Palitoy Talking Dalek in 1975: "Someone pressed the button, and the voice sounded terrible, so I didn't want it!

"I played around with tape recorders from a very early age. My brother was always mucking around on an old reel-to-reel tape recorder. When he wasn't around, I'd sneak in and do my own things. I became obsessed with making a Dalek

voice, not realising that you needed a gizmo to do it properly, so I tried shouting into the microphone and distorting it. I did become preoccupied with it, to the point that when *Day of the Daleks* came along, I absolutely knew that there was something wrong with the Dalek voices. It upset me a lot." Nick recorded entire *Doctor Who* stories: "I played all the parts, because no one else was sad enough to do it with me!"

After earning a theatre arts degree at Rose Bruford College of Speech and Drama, Nick became friends with fellow fans Gary Russell, John Ainsworth and Bill Baggs. They all began working on the Audio Visuals, a fan-made series of *Doctor Who* audio stories that were distributed on cassette tape. "Very quickly we did a Dalek story, *The Time Ravagers*. I think I had a vague idea that I could [also] do the Dalek voices, but then Bill Baggs said, 'No, I've met Michael Wisher, he's going to do the Dalek voices.' I said, 'You need this thing

called a ring modulator, we can't record it until we've got that,' because I knew all the details by then. We went around Southampton asking people in shops, 'Have you got a ring modulator?' and they didn't understand what we meant, but we found a shop full of music tech hippies who did. [Hippie voice] 'Yeah, man, in the latest edition of whatever music magazine there's a circuit diagram of a ring modulator. Come back in a



week and we'll have built it for you!' They put it in a funny little black plastic box, and the way you adjusted the frequency was to adjust a little screw at the back with all these wires falling out of it!"

"We had this marvellous session where I was testing it, doing the 'survivors of London, this is your final warning' speech [from the movie *Daleks' Invasion Earth 2150 A.D.*] over and over again from memory, and we listened to it and thought, 'Yeah! Yeah! That sounds like a Dalek! This is brilliant!'"

"For the next Dalek story we did [*The Mutant Phase*], I just did loads of Dalek voices, including the Emperor. Peter Hawkins' Emperor voice is actually much higher than the way I'd remembered it. I remember it being big and booming, but the boominess comes from the echo on it. He just made it more expressive, I think."

Later, Jason Haigh-Ellery established Big Finish, a professional audio company. Big Finish began making BBC-licensed original *Doctor Who* audio adventures in 1999, starring Peter Davison, Colin Baker and Sylvester McCoy. *The Mutant Phase* was adapted and joined *The Genocide Machine* and *The Apocalypse Element* as one of the first three official Dalek audio adventures.

"I said to Gary, 'Can I do the Dalek voices or do you want to see a grown man cry?' But Gary was quite keen on doing the voices himself. So was [sound designer] Alistair Lock. The Audio Visuals' ring modulator had died a death many



Peter Davison with Nicholas Briggs recording *The Mutant Phase*.

years before, so I tried to use a little ring modulator setting on a tiny digital eight-track recorder, but it didn't sound right. And then Alistair said, 'I've got a ring modulator built into this synthesizer.' We spent ages piddling around with it, and then we'd play a video of a TV story and compare the two. We all had slightly different ideas of what a Dalek sounds like. It really hit home to us that the Daleks have almost never sounded the same in consecutive stories. We eventually worked out how we thought it should sound, and then Gary did some Dalek voices. I played them back to him, and he said, 'It's crap, don't let me do the Dalek voices!' So, Alistair and I shared them out."

Technology improved with the fourth Big Finish Dalek story, *The Time of the*

Daleks: "I bought a ring modulator: a Moogerfooger. That changed my life. They stopped making them a few years ago. I bought loads of them. They do break, they just die because it's all just circuit boards. But there's a clone of it called a 'Ringerbringer'. It's three-quarters of the size. It's got physical circuitry. You can send an overloaded microphone signal into it, like the kind of noise you get when a rock star is singing really close to the mic, and that's what gives you a great Dalek voice. You've got an analogue way of producing it. There is a digital version of it, but you can't quite get it to sound the same. Analogue distortion has a warmer, fuzzier quality to it."

Nick created many different Dalek voices for the Big Finish stories, some based on previous performances: "There's the basic Peter Hawkins one, and maybe the 'high' one that he did for the Supremes and the Emperor. And then Roy Skelton's always a good one to differentiate, because of the 'Zippy' quality. And then a bit of Michael Wisher, which always veers towards Alec Guinness. But I would quite often just make some up on the spur of the moment, just distort my mouth in some strange way. I feel the possibilities are endless. The ring modulator exaggerates the differences in your vocal tone. It kind of destroys your vocal tone. If you do anything to shape your mouth differently, it really sounds different."

The first four Big Finish tales were all highly successful, but Nick Briggs had bigger plans in store for the Daleks – and, in a way, they had much bigger plans for him...



Nicholas Briggs working with Colin Baker on an audio recording.

SKIRT SECTION

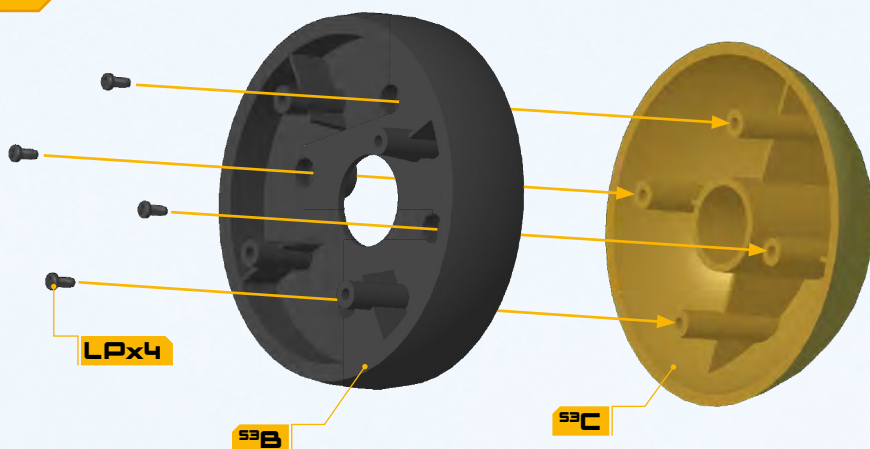
ROLLER ASSEMBLY



COMPONENTS OF ISSUE 53

53A	MOTOR HOLDER (MARKED A)	53B	ROLLER (PART 1)	53C	ROLLER (PART 2)
LP	FIVE 3 X 10MM PB SCREWS (1 SPARE)				

1



#53-01

Take the two parts of the roller **53B** and **53C**. Fit them together so that the raised screw sockets on part **53C** fit into recessed screw holes in part **53B**. Fix them together with four **LP** screws.

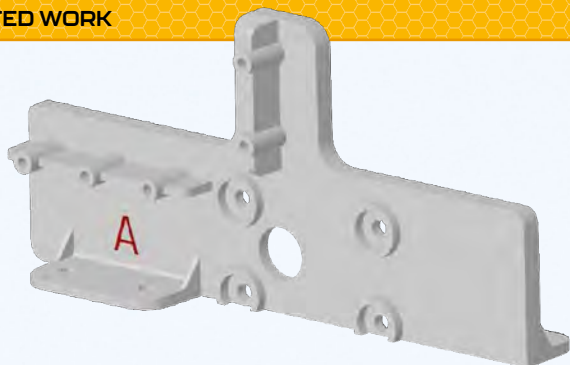
2



#53-02

Check that the **LP** screws are fully fitted so that the heads are well inside the recesses in part **53B** and it is not possible to pull part **53C** away from part **53B**.

COMPLETED WORK



#53-COMPLETED WORK

Parts 1 and 2 of the fourth roller have been assembled. We suggest you store the parts in labelled paper bags until they are needed.





THE DALEK

COMING IN
ISSUE 54

BUILD PART 54

The next issue includes a motor holder connector, two rollers, two roller supports and the fixing screws.



BEHIND THE SCENES



Terry Nation created one of Doctor Who's greatest villains.

ADVENTURES IN TIME AND SPACE



The Daleks attack the colonists in *The Power of the Daleks* – 6

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