

The collection I have prepared for this exhibition is centred on Doctor Who merchandise. In my collection I have three Sonic Screw Drivers, three Tardises and two Daleks. I will further discuss how I started my collection and how it has grown, my favourite piece in the collection, how Doctor Who merchandise has affected me and the community.

I first started collecting Doctor Who merchandise when I was 12 in 2011 at the height of the Matt Smith Era. After watching for a few months and going through the last couple of seasons I had missed and loved it. Although my first experience with Doctor Who, at the time David Tennant, was at age eight with my cousin who was also a huge fan and still is. The first piece I picked up was from the Armageddon Expo where I purchased a small replica of Matt Smith's Sonic Screw Driver (copper, silver and white with a functioning green LED). Since then I have purchased 4 other pieces in my collection, The Matt Smith Era large Sonic Screw Driver, the small blue Peter Capaldi Sonic Screw Driver, the soft toy Dalek and the small Tardis on a key chain. My family know of my obsession with Doctor Who and have gifted me the rest of my collection on birthdays and Christmas, this includes the Large Tardis, the medium sized Tardis, and the small Dalek.

I have arranged my collection by categories such as, Tardis, Sonic Screw Drivers and Dalek. I then placed them biggest to smallest and in a way to fit in the most visually appealing way as well as within the constrictions with the draw display I was given. The items chosen for the exhibition were picked for their size as they represent the variation in my collection without being too big unlike the multiple Doctor Who posters I own and display.

When expanding my collections there isn't much I won't buy as I have bought soft toys to replicas to board games. I don't have many limits on what I'll buy as long as it's something I don't already have I'll buy it. Unfortunately because I am a poor student, money is the biggest road block and as many pieces have to be imported from England, the Doctor Who, Capital of the world, the prices for quite simple things can be quite high. Such as for a chunk of plastic moulded into everyone's favourite blue flying space box. Although as I work I intend to purchase bigger and better pieces as the money is available.

My favourite piece in my collection is my Large Sonic Screw Driver with lights and sound effects and a spring loaded body for extendable action. This is because it was given to me as a gift from my parents on Christmas day as well as being the most screen accurate piece in my collection; which is where most of the pride comes from when that device that has seen screen time or a close to screen replica is created.

Doctor Who has a very large fan base throughout the world but especially in its country of origin England and has been cemented into Nerd culture, Pop culture and the science fiction genre being one of the original Sci-Fi shows ever. The passionate fan base demands the products produced are of a very high quality and have only increased my enthusiasm for the show. The collectables created are mainly centred around the most iconic pieces from recent episodes however, The Tardis, The Doctor and the original villains, as they are recognised over different generations, for example: the Dalek's or Cyber men. Due to their recognisability they are always in demand and I have a few of my own in my collection. Unfortunately I have nothing in my collection from earlier than 2011 of both the modern series and the originals. My favourite Doctor is Matt Smith as I started with him. This has caused me to purchase more from his time although I do like Peter Capaldi. The shows writing as of late has been sub-par compared to the previous story arcs that started my love for the franchise. Even with the shows short comings of recent I still love the show and will continue to watch with the promise of a better story and new a Doctor next season.

I have a deep passion and loyalty to the Doctor Who franchise. I have many fond memories with collectables making them more than just collectables to me. There are happy memories associated with all parts of my collection; mainly bring my extended family together for Birthdays and Christmas lunches and dinners but also friendships formed and preserved because of the collective relationship my friends and I have towards the Brand, TV show and community that we enjoy so much. I intend to expand my collection slowly as products are available and as they are gifted to me so more memories can be stored within.

My dream for the future would be to get a full metal screen accurate Sonic Screw Driver as they are collector items with an extremely high build quality. Unfortunately these devices are extremely expensive (\$4000 usd) and rare to come by as they are extremely limited. I wouldn't mind which version if I was fortunate enough to get my hands on one but if I had a choice it would have to be my favourite Doctors version, Matt Smith's. I love the interaction between the copper, stainless steel and green LED, as well as the contrast between the black and cream handles in both colour and form.



<https://qmxonline.com/products/11th-doctors-sonic-screwdriver>

The Doctor who franchise has been around since 1963 and has cultivated a large passionate fan base filled with many generations of people from around the world. I have been sucked in by Doctor who like so many people and love it. With great story telling and fan cultivation through merchandise sales this community could grow to rival another science fiction giant, Star Wars.