



1954-1955: TOOK A TEACHER TRAINING COURSE- BUT -INSTEAD OF TEACHING - TOOK
TEMPORARY JOB AS SET-DESIGNER WITH PRINCE OF WALES

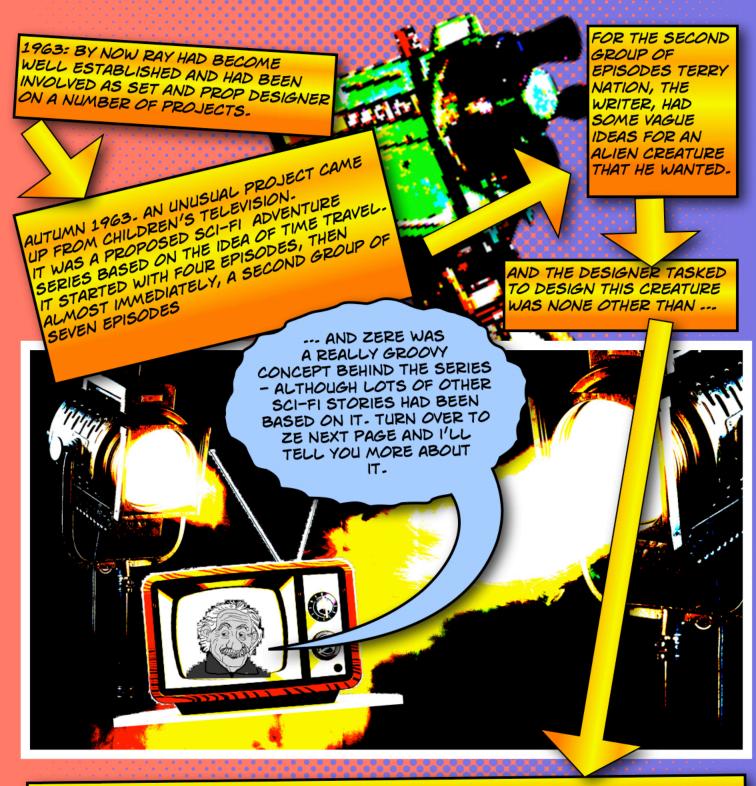
1956 - 1958: TOOK JOB AS A TEACHER AS SHORT TERM FILLER' . HOWEVER, THIS LASTED FOR OVER TWO YEARS.

HIS NEXT JOB WAS PROBABLY AS NEAR AS

1958 - 1960: BECAME A SET DESIGNER AT WIMBLEDON THEATRE AND MET LOTS OF PEOPLE - ACTORS, DESIGNERS ETC WHO WORKED IN TELEVISION

SO --- IN 1960 --- RAY APPLIED TO JOIN THE BBC AND ITV AT THE SAME TIME, HOPING ONE WOULD COME UP- OFFERED BOTH POSTS, HE DECIDED TO GO WITH THE BBC. EMPLOYED, AT FIRST, ON

'HOLIDAY RELIEF' BASIS - HE WAS SOON MADE PERMANENT.



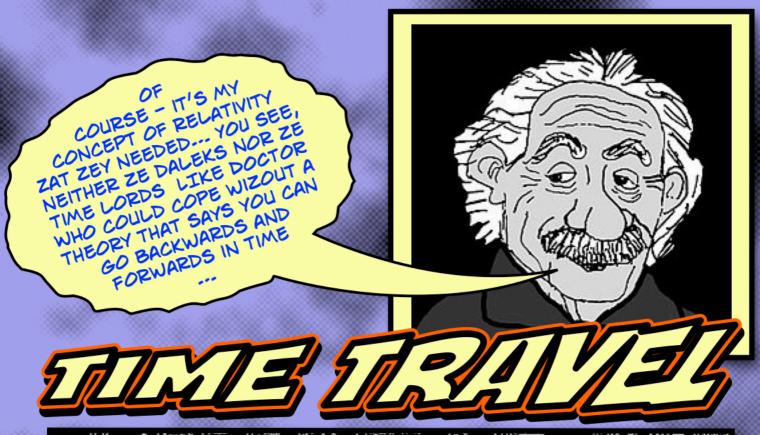
--- RIDLEY SCOTT - THE MAN WHO WENT ON TO BECOME A HUGELY SUCCESSFUL FILM PRODUCER OF SUCH FILMS AS BLADE RUNNER, THELMA AND LOUISE AND GLADIATOR.

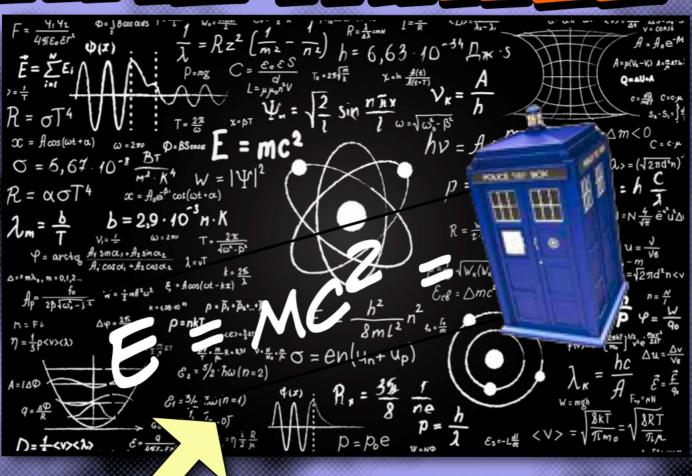
HOWEVER, SCOTT WAS INVOLVED WITH OTHER THINGS AND SO THE DESIGN BRIEF WAS PASSED ON TO ---

.. PAY CUSICK, OF COURSE. AND THE REST, AS THEY SAY, IS HISTORY.

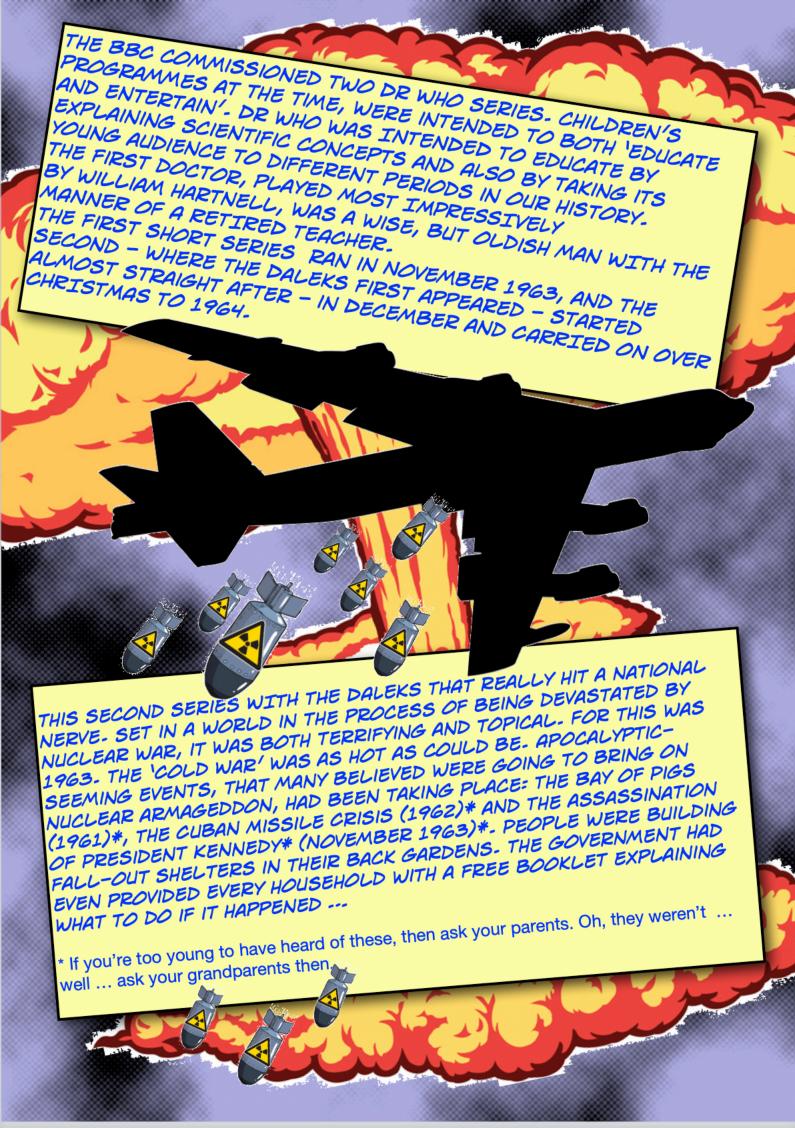
(AND WE'LL FIND OUT A BIT MORE ABOUT THAT IN OUR NEXT FEW PAGES)

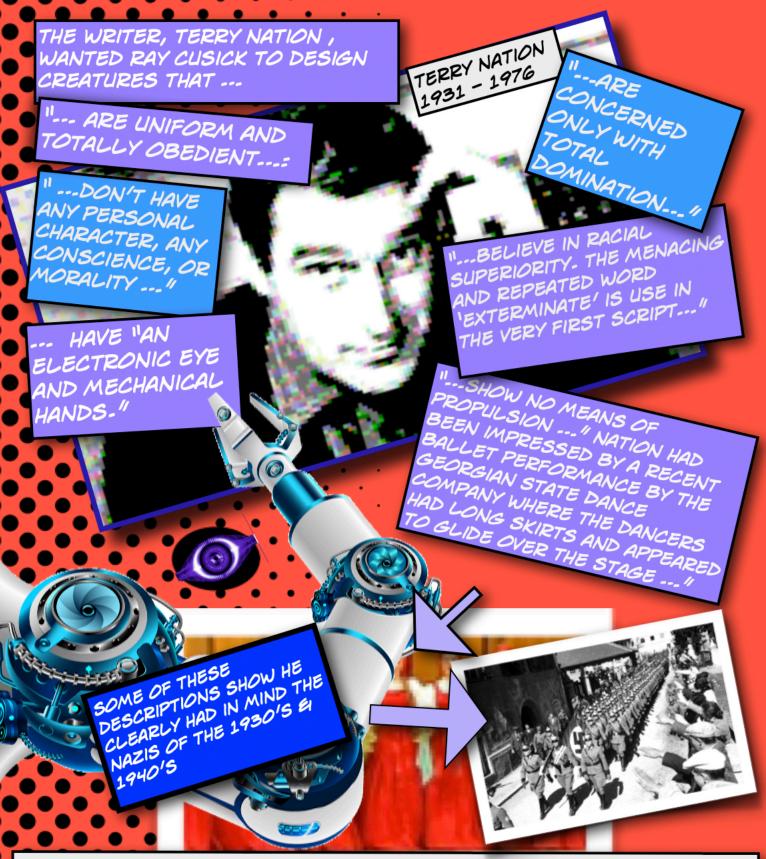
IT WAS IN LATER LEAVING THE BBC, THAT RAY AND HIS FAMILY CAME TO LIVE IN HORSHAM





HERE'S A SIMPLE EXPLANATION OF HOW TO BUILD YOUR OWN TARDIS AS SHOWN ON EINSTEIN'S BLACKBOARD. THE CONCEPT OF RELATIVITY IN THE TIME-SPACE CONTINUUM ALSO EXPLAINS THE INSIDE OF THE TARDIS).





WRITING THESE HUGELY POPULAR SERIES OF DOCTOR WHO WITH THE DALEKS WAS A REAL BREAKTHROUGH FOR TERRY NATION. HE HAD STARTED HIS CAREER AS A STAND-UP COMEDIAN (NOT VERY SUCCESSFUL). HE THEN BECAME A JOKE AND SCENE WRITER FOR SUCH COMEDIANS AS TONY HANCOCK AND ERIC SYKES (ONLY A LITTLE BIT MORE SUCCESSFUL). AFTER DR WHO, HE WENT ON TO WRITE SCRIPTS FOR THE SAINT, THE PERSUADERS AND THE AVENGERS. HE DEVISED AND WROTE SCRIPTS FOR ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL SCI-FI SERIES - BLAKE'S 7. LIKE THE PROGRAMME DR WHO ITSELF, NATION OWES A GREAT DEAL TO THE DALEKS.

A HUNDRED THOUSAND TOY DALEKS WERE SOLD FOR CHRISTMAS 1964 AND WITH FOLLOW-UP STORIES FOR DR WHO - OFTEN INCLUDING THE DALEKS - OVER THE NEXT FEW YEARS, TERRY NATION BECAME VERY WEALTHY INDEED. .

RIY CUSTUS DESCRIBE

THE LEGEND: WITH LITTLE TIME TO PREPARE THE DESIGN, RAY WAS SITTING WITH A FRIEND IN THE BBC CANTEEN -AND, PUSHING A PEPPER POT ACROSS THE TABLE, SUDDENLY REALISED THE WAY THE DALEKS NEEDED TO MOVE PLUS ITS OUTLINE SHAPE.

AS A FULL-TIME EMPLOYEE OF THE BBC, UNLIKE TERRY NATION, CUSICK WAS NOT ENTITLED TO RECEIVE ANY OF THE ROYALTIES FROM THE MERCHANDISING OR SALE OF THE MANY SERIES FEATURING THE DALEKS THAT FOLLOWED - HE WAS, HOWEVER, SOME YEARS LATER, GIVEN A £100 GRATUITY FROM AUNTY BBC IN RECOGNITION OF HIS CONTRIBUTION TO THE SUCCESS OF THE

SO HOW PDDA

BECOME

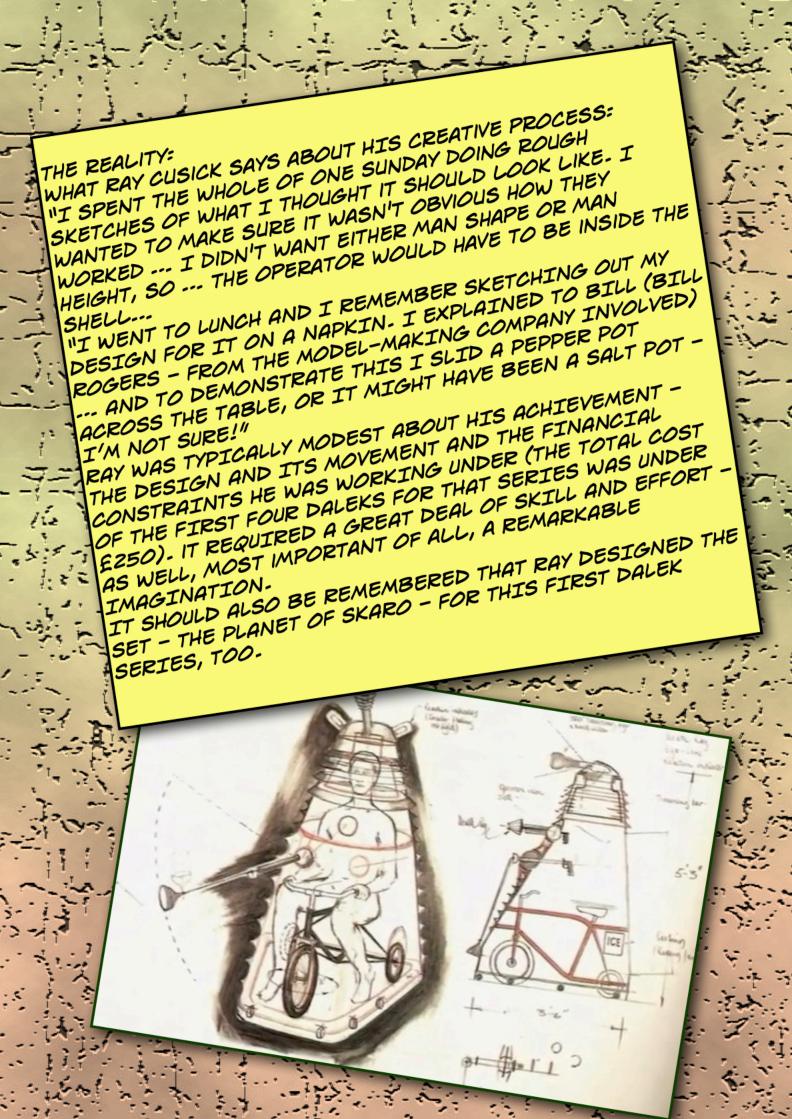
OR THIS.

WELL ... I SUPPOSE IT COULD HAVE BEEN WORSE

WE
COULD HAVE
LOOKED LIKE
THIS



OR EVEN





THE PLOT:

IN SKARO, THE HOME PLANET OF THE DALEKS, THERE HAD EXISTED TWO HUMANOID RACES - THE DALS AND THE THALS. A NUCLEAR WAR BROKE OUT AND BOTH SUFFERED MASSIVELY - THOSE THAT

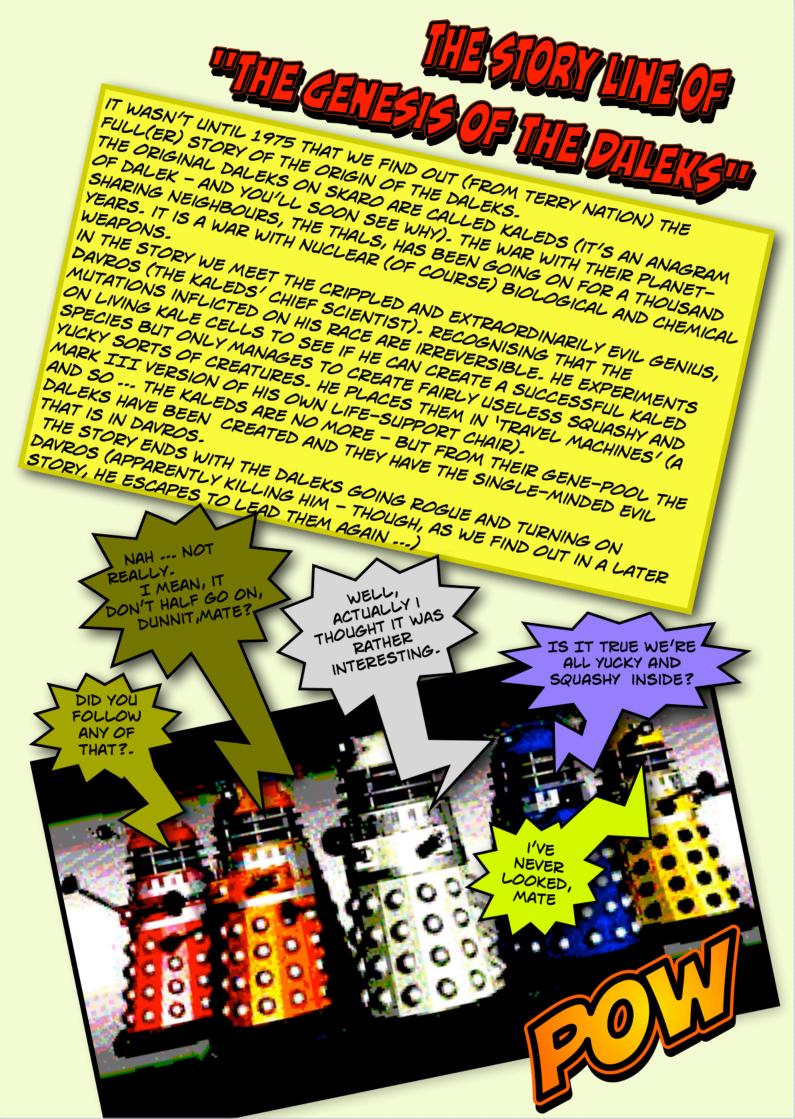
REMAINED WERE HORRIBLY MUTATED. THE DALS, HOWEVER, DEVISED METAL CONTAINERS TO ALLOW THEIR WEAKENED BODIES TO MOVE -



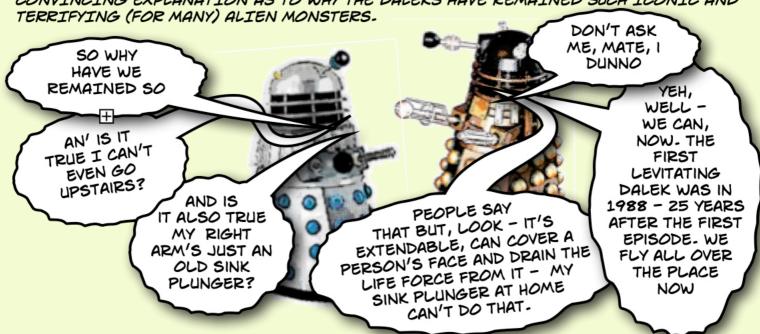
--IN THIS NEXT SERIES WE ARE IN A DIFFERENT TIME. HERE THE DALEKS HAVE TAKEN OVER THE EARTH (IT'S THE MID-22ND CENTURY). THE DOCTOR EXPLAINS THAT THIS IS A MILLION YEARS BEFORE THE ABOVE EVENTS IN SKARO). HE DOESN'T EXPLAIN WHY THEY ARE ALREADY WEARING THEIR METAL JACKETS! HOWEVER, IT WASN'T FOR ANOTHER 12 YEARS THAT THE FULL BACKGROUND STORY WAS EXPLAINED (SEE NEXT PAGE).

AT THE END OF THE SERIES IT LOOKED LIKE THEY HAD SUCCEEDED IN WIPING OUT THE (NOW EVEN MORE NASTY) DALEKS. BUT, AS THEY SAY, YOU CAN'T KEEP AN EVIL ALIEN SPECIES DOWN. AND ANYWAY, AFTER THAT FIRST APPEARANCE, DALEK-MANIA BROKE OUT ACROSS THE LAND. THE PUBLIC WANTED THEM BACK! SO THEY APPEARED IN A NEW SERIES CREATED ESPECIALLY ONLY A COUPLE OF MONTHS

WITH THE COMBINATION OF THE DISTURBING AND THREATENING DALEK-VOICE, DEVELOPED, WITH THE HELP OF A RING MODULATOR, BY BRIAN HODGSON, AND THE BRILLIANT AND HAUNTING PIECE OF DR WHO THEME MUSIC FROM RON GRAINER, REALISED BY DELIA DERBYSHIRE IN THE NEW BBC RADIOPHONIC WORKSHOP WHERE THE STRANGE, DRAMATIC SOUND EFFECT FOR THE ARRIVAL OF THE TARDIS WAS ALSO CREATED BY BRIAN HODGSON, WE CAN SAY THAT THIS COMBINED, SOMEWHAT ACCIDENTAL, TEAM OF WRITER, DESIGNER AND SUPPORTING TECHNO'S CREATED A REALLY GREAT PIECE OF TELEVISION HISTORY.



THERE ARE ALL SORTS OF THEORIES, BUT NOBODY HAS REALLY COME UP WITH A TOTALLY CONVINCING EXPLANATION AS TO WHY THE DALEKS HAVE REMAINED SUCH ICONIC AND



--- WHAT IS CERTAIN WAS THAT, BY THE NEW TERM OF JANUARY 1964, IN SCHOOL PLAYGROUNDS THROUGHOUT THE LAND, DALEKMANIA HAD TAKEN HOLD --- THE DALEK INVASION WAS A COMPLETE SUCCESS.



BY 1966, RAY HAD ENDED HIS CONNECTION WITH DOCTOR WHO. HE RETIRED FROM THE BBC IN 1988. BY THEN, HE HAD BEEN PROPERLY RECOGNISED AS THE ACTUAL CREATOR OF THE DALEKS. HE NOW PURSUED HIS SPECIAL INTEREST - THE NAPOLEONIC WARS - BECOMING QUITE AN EXPERT IN THE SUBJECT.

IN 2002 HE HAD SAID; "IT CONTINUES TO SURPRISE ME AFTER ALL THIS TIME THAT THERE IS SUCH STRONG INTEREST IN DOCTOR WHO, AND ESPECIALLY MY CONTRIBUTION. IT IS ALL VERY FLATTERING ... WHAT I DID FOR THE SHOW FROM 1933 TO 1966 IS VERY SHARP IN MY MEMORY. BUT WHEN IT COMES TO OTER PRODUCTIONS I HAVE WORKED ON SINCE, MUCH MORE AMBITIOUS AND PRESTIGIOUS PRODUCTIONS, MY MEMORY IS BLANK."

RAY CUSICK DIED IN HIS SLEEP AT HOME, IN HORSHAM, IN FEBRUARY 2013,

AGED 84.

