

The Cabinet of Curiosities

Jane Watt

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www.thecabinetofcuriosities.org.uk



Wunderkammer or cabinet of curiosities came to prominence in the sixteenth through to the nineteenth centuries as a way of understanding and imagining the world. Private collections of curiosities natural and man-made were displayed in bespoke cabinets and rooms to entice and, as the German name suggests, to provoke wonder. These collections were not about taxonomy. As curator James Putnam points out in his book *Art and Artifact* "This early ancestor of the museum possessed a special quality in tune with the creative imagination, a quest to explore the rational and the irrational and a capricious freedom of arrangement."¹ He goes on to say that there is "an element of free association where the mind could roam at will. The subject matter of such a collection might be both eclectic and personal, bound up with memory and imagination, accumulation rather than sheer calculated order and selection."²

It is in this spirit that I have made *The Cabinet of Curiosities*, both in physical form – by way of a mobile room that houses a collection of cyanotypes made from over four hundred curiosities – and a virtual version of it.³

Over two months my bright blue touring studio visited different locations in the North West area of Cambridge, Girton, Histon and Impington. At each location my assistant Amy Sage and I went through the same ritual: paper ready, aprons on, lights on. The door is opened, the sign put outside inviting people to "Bring in your curious object". Each venue brought many new visitors with unexpected objects and related unique tales.

The mobile space for recording and showing the curiosities challenges preconceived perceptions; outwardly it is a familiar caravan shape but now transformed from the usual white or beige shell by its glorious bright blue finish; inside it is now a white studio interior with processing sink, ultraviolet light, blue and white images pegged up to dry. The only hint of caravan life is the blue upholstered benches that invite the visitors to sit down and have a chat about their curiosities. It no longer



blends into the residential street, car park or field it is parked in. It stands out; it is intriguing; it provokes curiosity and encourages you see what is inside and cross the threshold into an unfamiliar, but welcoming space.

Inside an exchange is repeated over and over again. Fingers uncurl to reveal an object, or something brought out from the bottom of a bag or pocket. It is gingerly handed over, with a tentative query "Is this the sort of thing you're looking for? I've had it for sometime"; "My father gave it to me". They could be things dug up from the ground: fossils, arrowheads. Things from the sky: a fragment of meteorite, a bottle of air from Pisa. Things that are treasured: a thirty-eight year old teddy bear, a pair of sailing boats made from a wine bottle cork. Everyday things: conkers, cutlery, keys. Things that are a passing fad: loom band bracelets.⁴

Then the magic begins. Inside, behind a blackout curtain (this adds to the theatre) the object is arranged on a piece of light sensitive paper and put under ultraviolet light.⁵ Twelve minutes or so pass, enough time to listen, and sometimes record, the owner's story about the object. There is a modest air of delight from the owner that their object, which they were initially reserved to share, is now contributing to a growing collection of images.



Now the object's work is done. It is returned to the owner. A dark blue trace, a positive shadow of the object is visible on the faded blue-green coated paper. The paper is quickly submerged in water and the shadow changes from dark blue to pale blue and eventually white. As the image shifts from positive to negative there is a brief moment half way through where the trace seems to disappear. Slowly the image comes back again to reveal a record of opaque and transparent shapes, sometimes recognizable, sometimes abstract. It is a magical process that illicit fascination and delight by young and old as they see the image on paper transform before their eyes. There is also a sense of ownership through this participation; they have played a part in its creation.

The cyanotype process has changed little in the one hundred and sixty-odd years since Anna Atkins' pioneering development of cyanotypes photograms to record botanical specimens in *British Algae: Cyanotype Impressions* (1853). The true one-to-one scale of the object is captured and sometimes, if the surface is not entirely opaque, an X-ray-type illusion is created as light is refracted onto the paper. The relative simplicity of this process belies the profoundly intricate and honest image that emerges.

Since the invention of the camera obscura⁶, we have strived to use science and technology as a way to replicate, or capture what our eyes see. Writer Jonathan Griffin points out "Photographs tell sweeping, barefaced lies; photograms tell the truth, but only a thin slice of it."⁷ The cyanotype photograms do not use the photographic trickery of mirrors, lenses, pixels. The object manipulates the creation of shadow and refraction of light. The result is a glimpse, a suggestion of form, a trace or as the theorist Rosalind Krauss puts it "The image created in this way is of the ghostly traces of departed objects; they look like footprints in sand, or marks that have been left in dust".⁸

Most objects that were brought along to *The Cabinet of Curiosities* did not fit neatly and flatly onto a sheet of paper. The objects sat sometimes awkwardly on the paper. A two-dimensional shadow cast from the three-dimensional object.⁹ The nearer the surface of the object is to



the paper, the sharper the focus. It determines the brush stroke of light. The object induces a trace that becomes something in its own right. It describes part of the object, just as the audio recordings of the owners' stories about the objects hint at physical, historical, practical and emotional aspects of the object's history and context.

The Cabinet of Curiosities collection is, as Putnam says, both eclectic and personal. There is no hierarchy in terms of curiosity. Over three hundred cyanotypes were made of all the objects that were brought to the studio. The selection was made by the participants when they chose which object to bring along. The resulting collection sees the everyday next to the rare. Each object is important in some way to its owner and now rendered into brilliant cyan and gradations through to white. The size of the image dictated by scale of the object, not importance.

The starting point for this project was a specific location in North West Cambridge. A new residential community, Darwin Green, is planned for this site and I was commissioned by Barratt Homes as artist-in-residence to make work about the site and surrounding community prior to new homes being built, parks created and before new communities are formed. At the time of making the cyanotypes the site was a series of open fields, originally used by the National Institute of Agriculture and Botany (NIAB) for plant test beds. For the past few years the ground has been left to grow wild.

The Cabinet of Curiosities was conceived as a project that would build a unique collection of objects owned by those who lived and worked in the area around the Darwin Green site. It is particular to this place and the people who live and work around it. It incorporates archaeological

finds from the fields, samples, instruments and photographs from NIAB along with things dug up in back gardens, kept in boxes and drawers, or proudly displayed at home. The very personal objects have now become part of a collective marking of people and place, past and present. The result is an eclectic physical and virtual collection that operates as a new *Wunderkammer* that hopefully will intrigue and stimulate imagination and curiosity about the wider world.

1 James Putman *Art and Artifact: The Museum as Medium*. (London: Thames & Hudson, 2001) p8.

2 Ibid p12.

3 The entire cyanotype collection can be seen at www.thecabinetofcuriosities.org.uk

4 Loom bands, small brightly coloured elastic bands, that could be 'crocheted' into bracelets, necklaces and other fantastical shapes were the craze of summer 2014 when *The Cabinet of Curiosities* went on its initial tour.

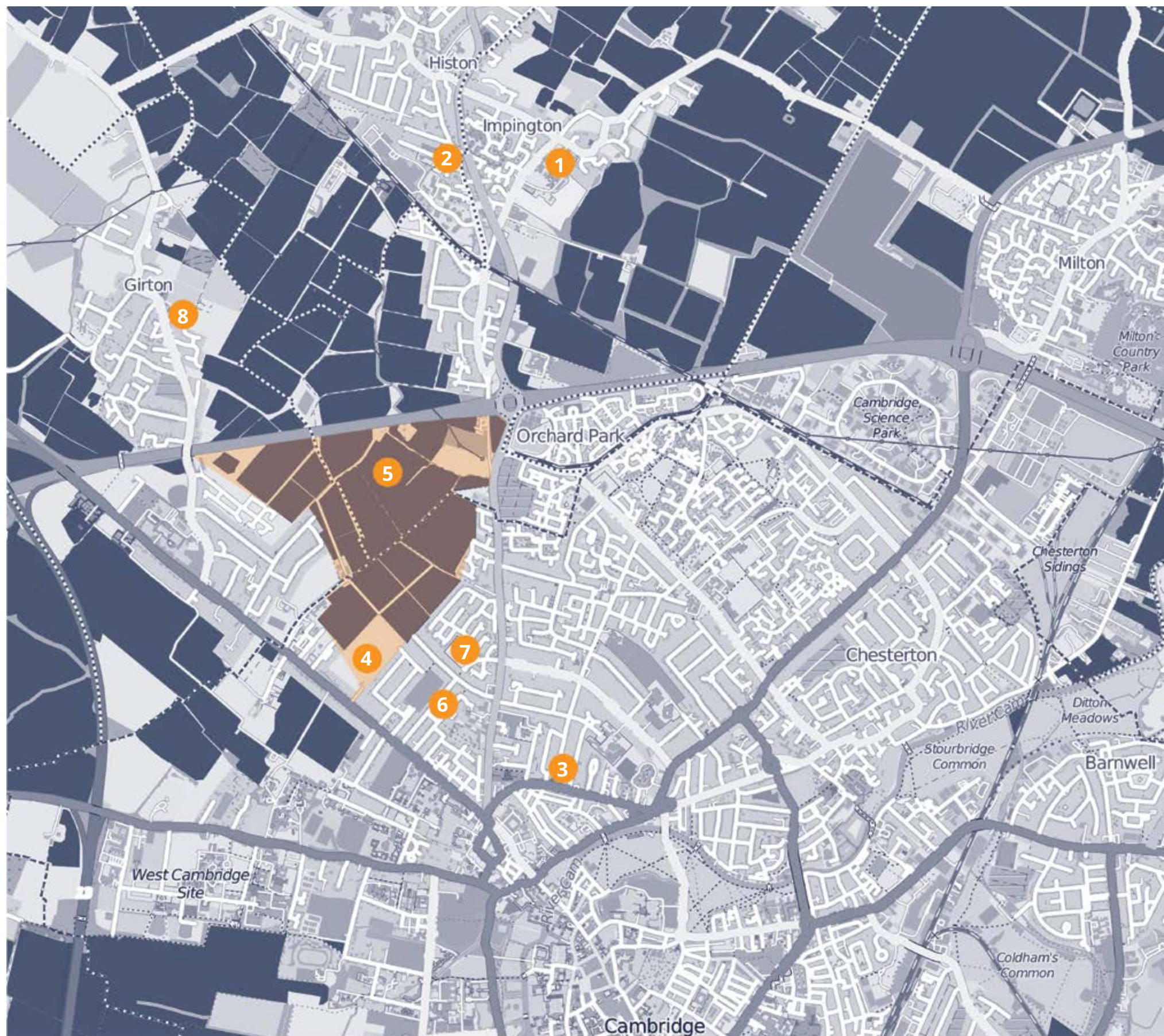
5 An ultraviolet lamp was used for the majority of the cyanotypes that were made, but we did use the sun's rays in a few instances.

6 A room or box with a small aperture refracts light from outside inside the structure, creating a full colour, moving reverse image of outside. The same principle is used in cameras.

7 Jonathan Griffin 'Out of the Shadows'. *Tate Etc.* Issue 33: Spring 2015.

8 Rosalind E. Krauss refers the idea of indexicality and here discusses Man Ray's use of rayograms, or photograms in *The Originality of the Avant-Garde and Other Modernist Myths* (Newhaven: MIT Press, 1986) p203.

9 The exception to this is a series of negatives that were made from the NIAB photograph archive. NIAB 002-027 and NIAB 039-050.



1: IVC: Impington Village College
13-14 September 2014
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2: HBC: Histon Baptist Church
16 September 2014
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3: STLC: St Luke's Church
24-28 September 2014
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4: NIAB: National Institute of Agriculture and Botany
29 September 2014
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5: DG: Darwin Green Field
1 October 2014
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6: STAC: St Augustine's Church
5 October 2014
Page: 78 - 85

7: MPS: Mayfield Primary School
8-16 October 2014
Page: 86 - 101

8: Girton Recreation Ground
18-19 October 2014
Page: 102 - 111

› 'B' brooch	baskets	› Diamonds	› Headphones	› Mermaid diving buckle
› 1914-18 plaque	› Brass bear	› Dice	› Heart	› Metal dragon
› 1914 Christmas box	› Brass mouse	› Diet Coke glass bottle and cap	› Heart locket	› Meteorite
› 1914-18 knife	› Brick	› Dinosaur tooth	› Heart-shaped rock	› Mini postbox for money
› 200 year old door latch	› Brooch	› Distilled water bottles	› Horn	› Mini-tankard
› 35mm film cartridge	› Bug	› Dolphin toy	› Horn and silver goblet	› Model hand
› 4x4 Rubix Cube	› Bug in a glass	› Drawing	› Horse jaw bone	› Monkey
› African arrowheads	› Bunch of keys	› Dream catcher	› Horseshoe from cart horse	› Monkey hat
› African instrument	› Button	› Dried flowers	› Horseshoes	› Moss
› Alice's first shoes	› Button stick	› Dried lava	› Hunting horn	› Mr Chinx (large and small moose)
› Allen key	› Cambs & Suffolk badge	› Driftwood	› Hydrometer	› Mulberry leaves
› American coins	› Candle holder made from wood of Ely Cathedral	› Earphones	› Ice cream shaped rubber	› Mummy's shoes
› Annomite	› Candle holders	› Eiffel Tower ornament	› Ice cream spoons	› Necker
› Apple	› Capo	› Elephant bookends	› Inhaler	› Necklaces
› Arrow head	› Cards	› Evergreen sprig	› Ink	› Neolithic skin scraper
› Baby alligator's head	› Carrots	› Fairy ornament	› Ink pen	› Nose pin
› Baby rattle	› Carved nut	› Feather	› Inside of a stone	› Oat purity analysis
› Badge	› Centaur	› Feather pen	› Invention gone wrong	› Oats
› Bag of gifts	› Chain	› Fern leaf	› Irish penny	› Official seed testing station seed bag
› Ball made of shells	› Child's grass skirt from Papua New Guinea	› Fibre optic cable	› Ivy leaves	› Old box
› Balloon	› Chinese ornament	› Flowers	› Jade necklace	› Old half penny
› Banana	› Clay drainage pipe	› Flower in vase	› Keys	› Old toy platypus
› Barley	› Clay moustache	› Flowers and garland	› Keys – baby's favourite toy	› Orange vintage squidgy Packman
› Bat Man	› Clay pipe	› Football	› Korean monkey	› Ornament
› Bayonets from 1914	› Clay pumpkin	› Football top trumps	› Large old door key	› Oyster shells
› Beech nuts and husks	› Clay tardis	› Fork	› Large spoon	› Paper dragon
› Beer bottle opener	› Clip cord	› Fossils	› Lava	› Peacock feather
› Berry branch	› Cockerel toast rack	› Fragment of brooch	› Leaves	› Pencil case
› Bicycle identification	› Coin	› Funny fly box	› Leek	› Pendant
› Big Daddy aka Mr Bubbles	› Comb knife	› Giant marble	› Lego figures of Homer and Marge Simpson	› Penguin badge
› Big key	› Commemorative coin with container	› Giant pencil	› Lego man	› Pens
› Bike clips	› Conkers	› Giant shell	› Lego piece	› Perfume sample bottle
› Bike light	› Contents of makeup bag (selected)	› Glass	› Lego pen	› Person lying down
› Bike lock	› Converse shoes	› Glass droplet rod	› Letter opener	› Phones
› Bird's egg	› Coprolite	› Glass ink pot	› Light bulb	› Phone case
› Biscuit barrel	› Coral	› Glass palette	› Little Key	› Photographs
› Bishop's silver cross of nails	› Cork boats	› Glass trophy	› Loom band	› Piece of broken bowl
› Black and white diamond cross	› Cow whistle	› Glass water jugs	› Loom bands	› Piece of metal/rock
› Black hat	› Crocodile	› Glasses	› Magnetic diamond shapes	› Fragments of Roman pottery
› Blott rubbers	› Cup	› Glitter love heart	› Magnifying glass	› Pinecone
› Blues crystal rock	› Cutlery	› Go board game	› Mallorca keyring	› Plastic elephant and hippo
› Blue glass	› Cuttlefish bone	› Grapes	› Maori greenstone pendant	› Plastic millipede
› Bob Dylan CD: Highway 61 Revisited	› Daisies	› Hair bow	› Maori Kete	› Plastic spider
› Books	› Dalek toy	› Hairbrush	› Marine badge	› Plate
› Bottle of Evian water (1litre)	› Dandelions	› Hairclip	› Medal	› Police badge
› Bottle of Italian air	› Darth Maur Hammerbeads	› Hairgrip	› Medal	› Police whistle
› Bottle opener	› Darth Vader Mask	› Hairband	› Medals	› Poppies
› Bouncy ball	› Deer neckleace	› Hairclip	› Medicine bottle and potter head	› Postcard
› Bracelet		› Half drunk bottle of Coke	› Megalodon tooth	› Pot of goo
› Bracelet watch		› Hand hoe	› Mermaid	
› Branding iron for fruit chip		› Hat		

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| › Pumice | › Subbuteo |
| › Puppet of me | › Sunglasses |
| › Purses | › Sword |
| › Reading book | › Tea pot |
| › Red wig | › Teddy bear |
| › Regiment badges | › Teddy lolly |
| › Rib cage | › Telephone |
| › Ribbon | › The Invisible Woman |
| › Ring holders | › Tic Tacs |
| › Rocks with a ghost and face | › Tiger hat |
| › Rose leaf | › Tilda's shells |
| › Rubber | › Timer |
| › Rubber hairband | › Titanic coin |
| › Rugby ball | › Torch |
| › Salt and pepper | › Tortilla maker |
| › Sand | › Toy caravan |
| › Sand bottle | › Toy cow |
| › Saw sharpener | › Toy horses |
| › Scorpion paperweight | › Toy knight |
| › Scout scarf | › Toy leopard |
| › Sea shell | › Toy rabbit |
| › Seed analyst's reference collection | › Toyota car commemorative coin |
| › Sellotape foot | › Toy train that can climb |
| › Shard of rock | › Trilobite |
| › Shark's tooth | › Trolley release 'coin' |
| › Shells | › Trophies |
| › Sherry glass and bottle | › Intra-School Sports Day Cup |
| › Shoes | › Key Stage 1 Sports Day Trophy |
| › Shuttlecock | › Trowel |
| › Sight | › Twix wrappers |
| › Silver Dairylea cheese holder | › Two pebbles |
| › Silver rock | › Two sticks holding a spider's web |
| › Sink drainer | › Valve spring compressor |
| › Skeleton | › Watch |
| › Slime | › Water bottle |
| › Slipper | › Wedding ring |
| › Snake skin | › Wheat ears |
| › Soil | › Wildflowers |
| › Soprano saxophone | › Wind shooter |
| › Spelt wheat ears | › Windmill from Southwold |
| › Spider | › Witching stone |
| › Spider paperweight | › Woggle |
| › Spikey toy ball | › Wood shavings |
| › Squishy Ninja | › Wooden fish puzzle |
| › Star biscuit cutters | |
| › Sticks | |
| › Stick plant | |
| › Stone ball | |
| › Stone figures | |
| › Stones | |
| › Stylus | |





IVC 001



IVC 004



IVC 007



IVC 002



IVC 003



IVC 005



IVC 006



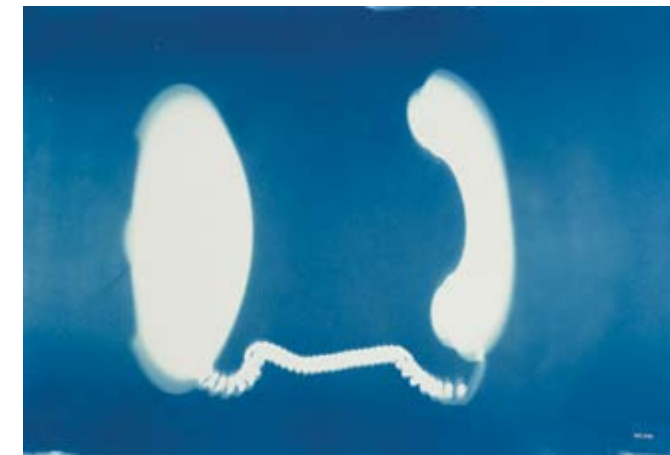
IVC 008

IVC 001 - Impinton Village College - *Plastic elephant & hippo*
IVC 002 - Impinton Village College - *Dried teasels*
IVC 003 - Impinton Village College - *Feather*
IVC 004 - Jane Watt and Amy Sage - *Two Twix wrappers*

IVC 005 - Impinton Village College - *Beech nuts and husks*
IVC 006 - Giovanni - *Balloon, pen, conkers*
IVC 007 - Eleanor Bett - *Cutlery*
IVC 008 - Kate Baxendale - *Bunch of keys*



IVC 009



IVC 010



IVC 011



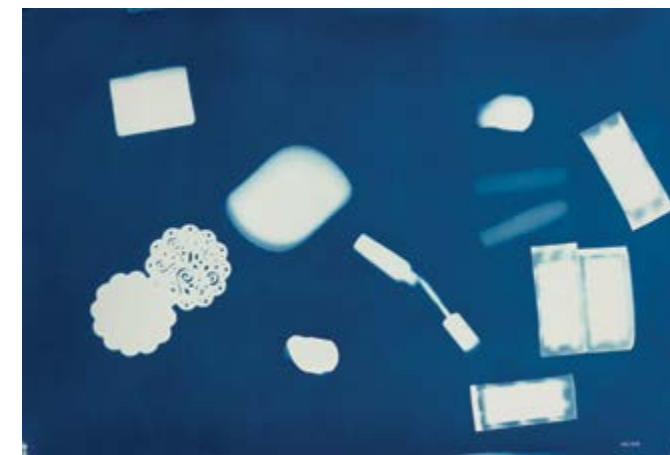
IVC 012



IVC 013



IVC 014



IVC 015

IVC 009 - Ben Rigby - *Half drunk bottle of Coke*
IVC 010 - Impinton Village College - *Telephone*
IVC 011 - Simon Wormald - *Jade necklace*
IVC 012 - Huw Jones - *Bike lock*

IVC 013 - Christina Wortley - *Mallorca keyring*
IVC 014 - W. Jackson - *Bicycle Identification*
IVC 015 - Bridget Jadeson - *Contents of makeup bag*



IVC 016



IVC 017



IVC 018



IVC 019



IVC 020



IVC 021



IVC 022



IVC 023



IVC 024



IVC 025



IVC 026



IVC 027



IVC 028



IVC 029



IVC 030

IVC 016 - Amy Sage - *Diet Coke glass bottle & cap*
IVC 017 - Impinton Village College - *Sherry glass & bottle*
IVC 018 - Maddie Jameson Potts - *Feather pen*
IVC 019 - Reid, Corrine & David Potts Jameson - *Dalek toy, old film cartridge, spikey toy ball*
IVC 020 - Angela Jameson Potts - *The Invisible Woman*
IVC 021 - Ann Winterborn - *Trolley release "coin"*
IVC 022 - Hannah Jones - *Conkers*
IVC 023 - Thomas & Eleanor Baxter - *Lego piece, leaf & conker*

IVC 024 - Wai See Li - *Rubber hair band*
IVC 025 - Jack Van Praag - *Ice cream spoons*
IVC 026 - A. Kocinska & C. Fanti - *Phones x2, headphones, Converse shoes, keys, bracelet & watch*
IVC 027 - Ade - *Hairband*
IVC 028 - Rhian Bond - *Glass ink pot*
IVC 029 - Nia Miles - *Model hand*
IVC 030 - Jon Miles - *Hydrometer, capo, stylus, bottle opener*



IVC 032



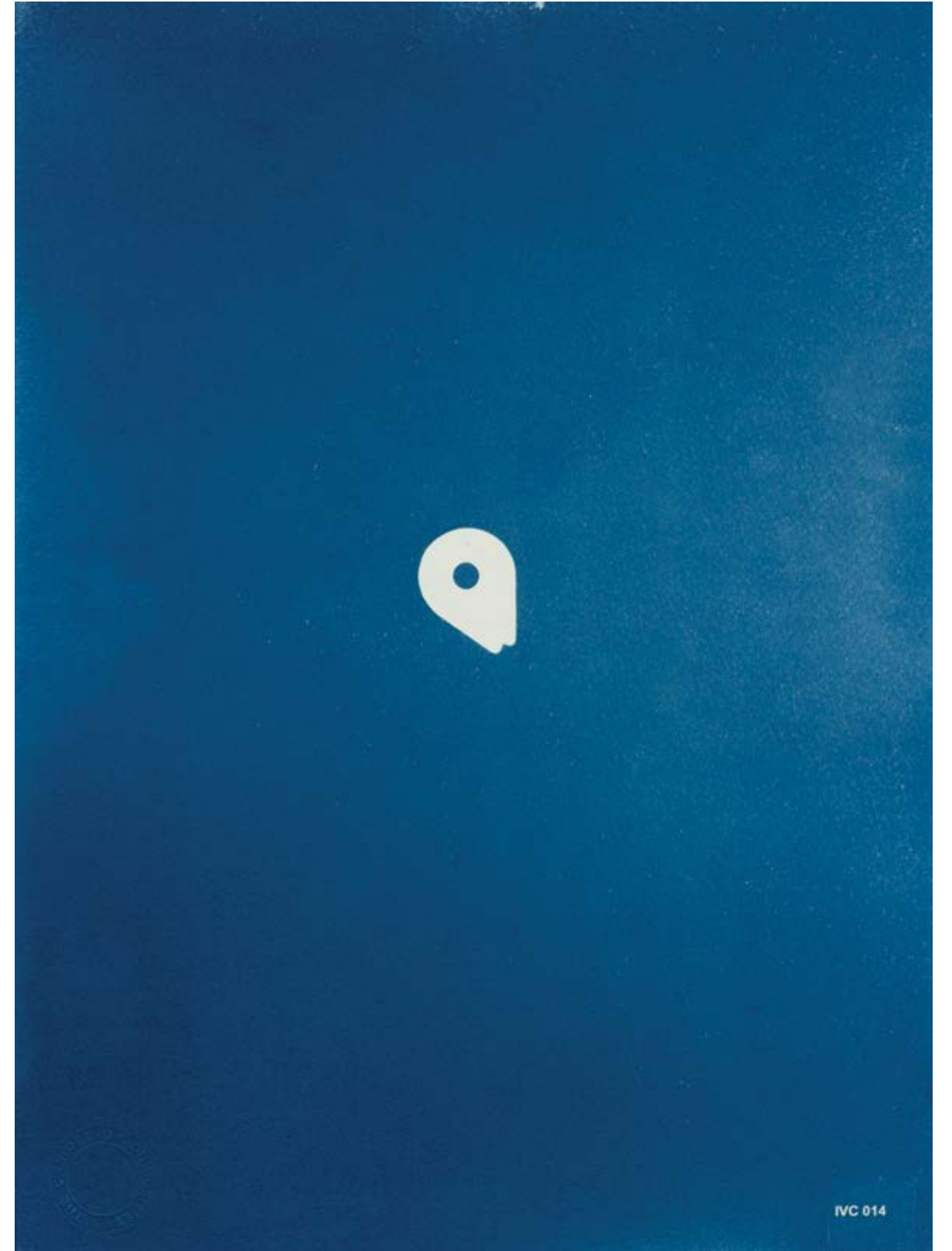
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IVC 033



IVC 034



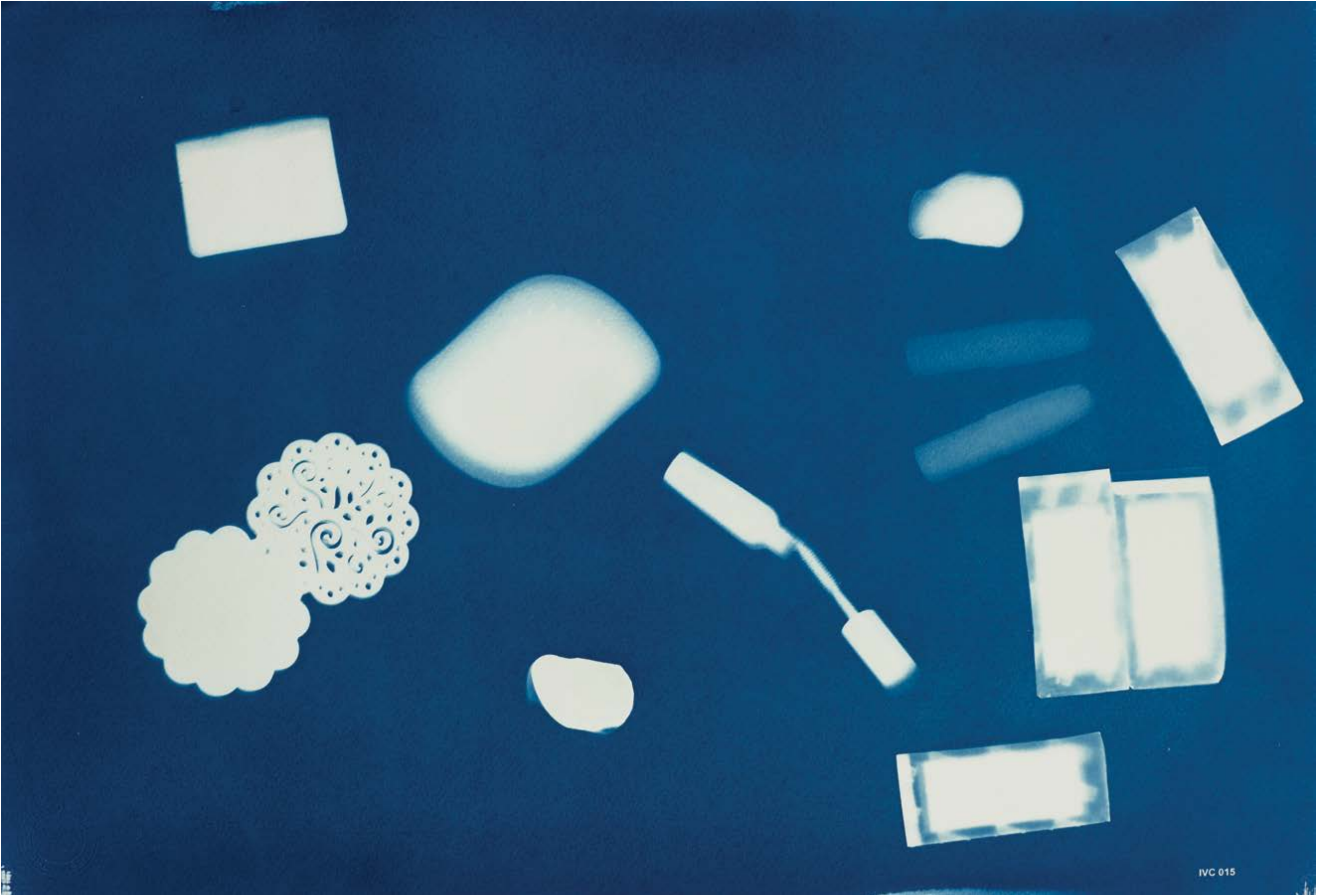
IVC 014

IVC 031 - Rhian Bond - *Witching stone, Maori Kete, Maori - greenstone pendant*


IVC 032 - William Miles - *Toy Spider, millipede & conkers*

IVC 033 - Kat, Seba, Pablo - *Watch, sunglasses, phone, earphones, chain*

IVC 034 - Antony & Lucy Quinn - *Wedding Ring & Hair Clip*

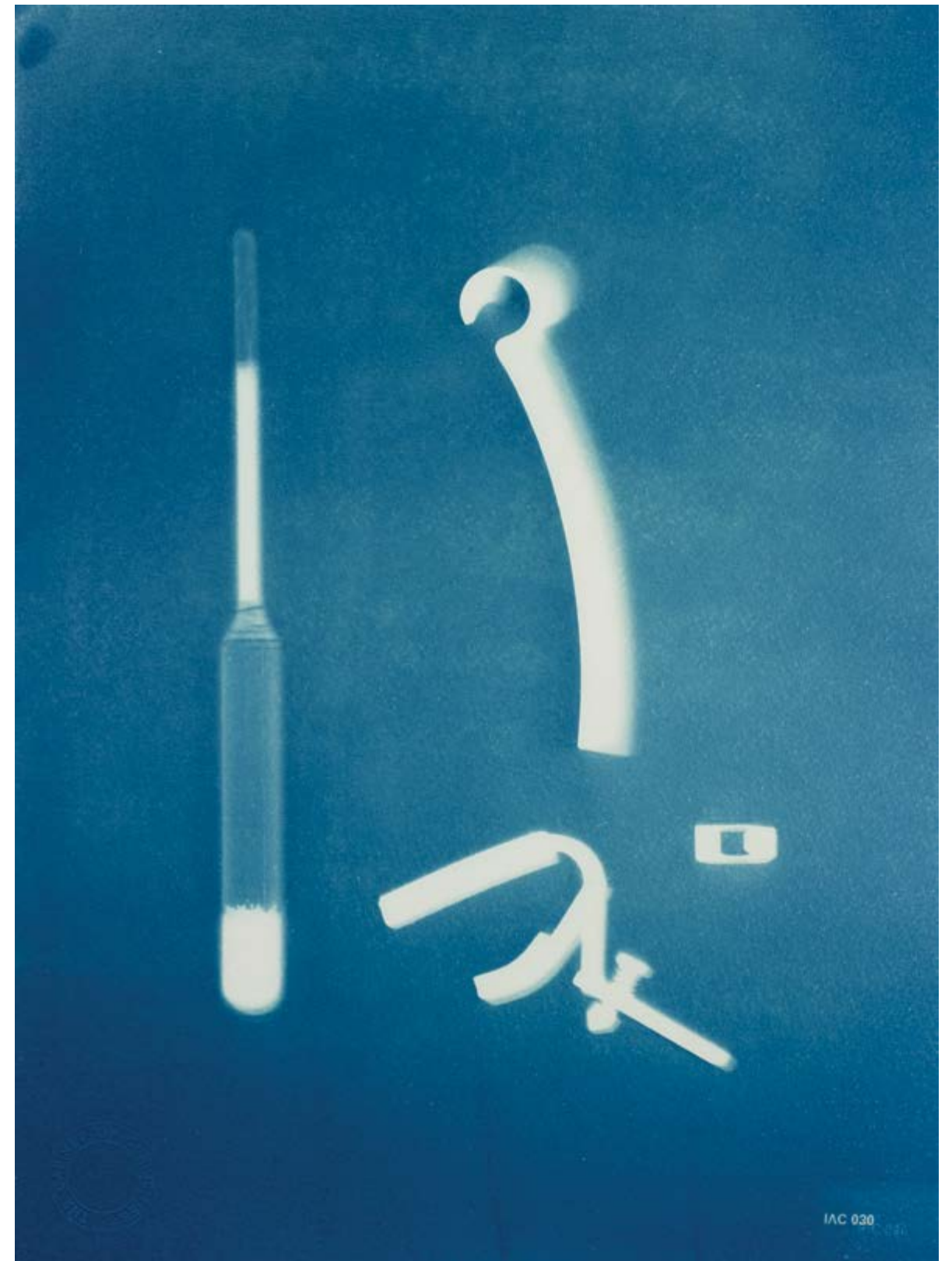


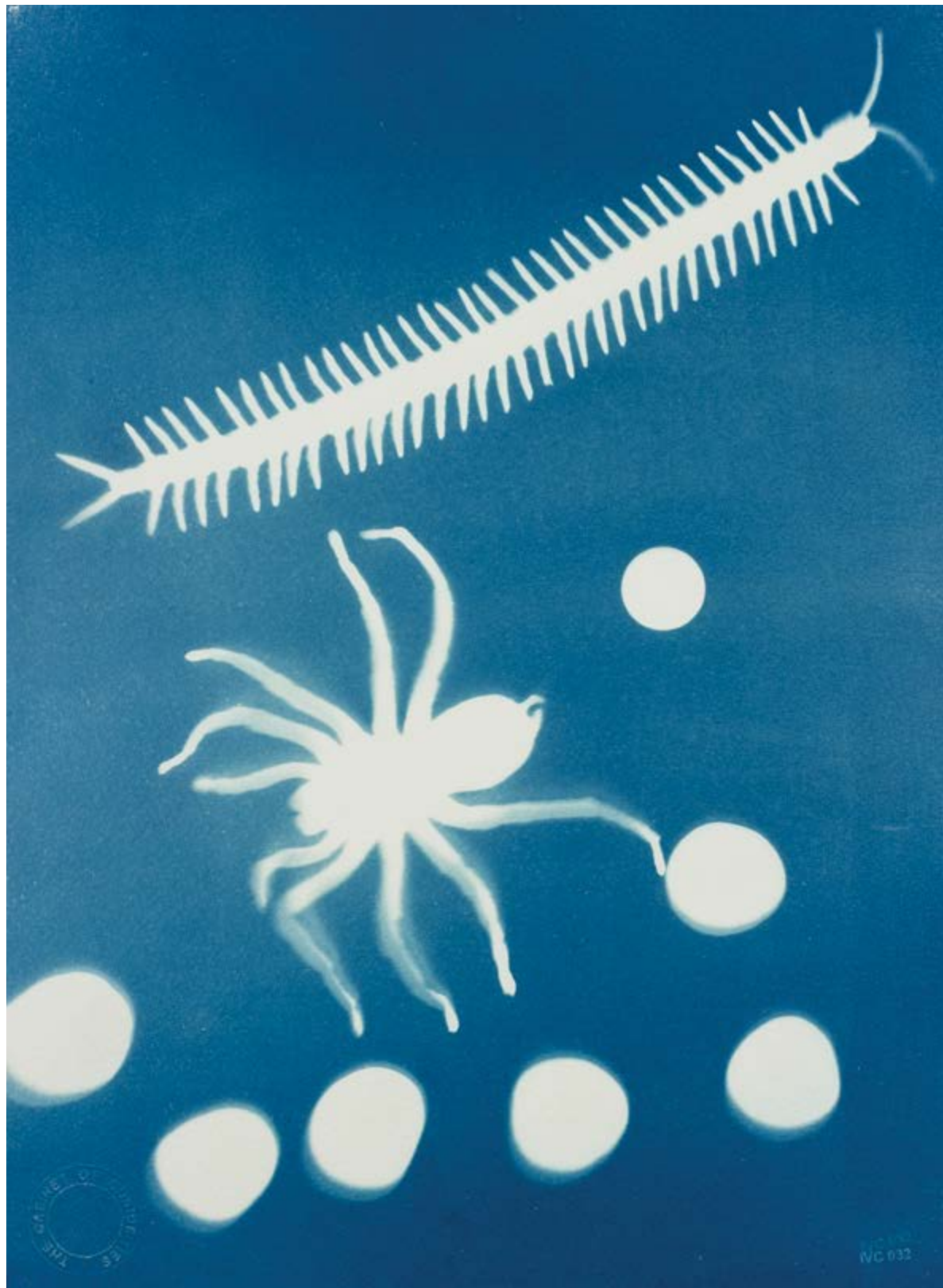
IVC 015



THE CABINET
OF CURIOSITIES

Archive No: IVC 030
Object: HYDROMETER, CAPO, STYLUS, BOTTLE
Owner: JON MILES OPENER
Place: Impington Village College
Date: 14/09/14
Description: I picked these objects because
I thought they were unusual. They
are also all practical

“I have brought along a hydrometer which is used to measure the density of liquid and is used in beer and wine making. I’ve got a capo which is used on guitars to shorten the neck and change the key in which you’re playing. This is a stylus from an old record player which I have, an old worn out one. And then this last object is a bottle opener and I picked them because they all look unusual and I’m an engineer so I think that’s why I chose practical things.”






THE CABINET
OF CURIOSITIES

Archive No: IVC 032

Object: Toy spider, millipede + conkers

Owner: William Miles (age 3)

Place: Impington Village College

Date: 15.9.14

Description: I am from America and I'm visiting my Uncle + Auntie in Histon. In their house I found these toys, and the conkers on the way here.

"These toys belong to my son who's just about to turn sixteen. Last summer he went on the IVC [Impington Village College] trip to Berlin and in his bag, I noticed that he'd packed that spider and when I asked him about it he said he'd got plans to play a trick on somebody in his dorm, and sure enough, a few days after they had returned, I saw the prank that had been filmed of some poor person who had been scared out of their wits in the dark by that very same spider."





HBC 001



HBC 002



HBC 003



HBC 004



HBC 005



HBC 006



HBC 007



HBC 008



HBC 009



HBC 010

HBC 001 - Anne Kidman - *Clay pipe and post box (money)*
HBC 002 - Marjorie Cross - *Fur daffodil brooch*
HBC 003 - Elaine Adams - *Chinese ornament*
HBC 004 - Unknown - *Spider*
HBC 005 - Emily Haysom - *Cork boats*

HBC 006 - Emily Haysom - *Perfume sample bottle*
HBC 007 - Joseph Robinson - *Ivy Leaf*
HBC 008 - Unknown - *Two sticks holding a spiders web*
HBC 009 - *Dandelions*
HBC 010 - Dominique - *Wild findings*



HBC 011



HBC 012




HBC 013

HBC 011 - John Hopkins - *Button stick, 1914-18 knife, Book a Rendezvous with Death by Oliver Hopkin, Cambs & Suffolk badge 1914-18, saw sharpener, Toyota car commemorative coin, branding iron for fruit chip baskets*

HBC 012 - John Hopkins - *1914 Christmas box, Regiment badges, 14-18 plaque, tea pot, biscuit barrel*
HBC 013 - Unknown - *Bayonets from 1914*





THE CABINET
OF CURIOSITIES

Archive No: HBC 002

Object: BROOCH

Owner: MARJORIE CROSS


Place: H.B.C

Date: 16 - 9. 2014

Description: KANGAROO FUR BROOCH



HBC 005


**THE CABINET
OF CURIOSITIES**

Archive No: HBC 005

Object: cork boats

Owner: EMILY HAYSON

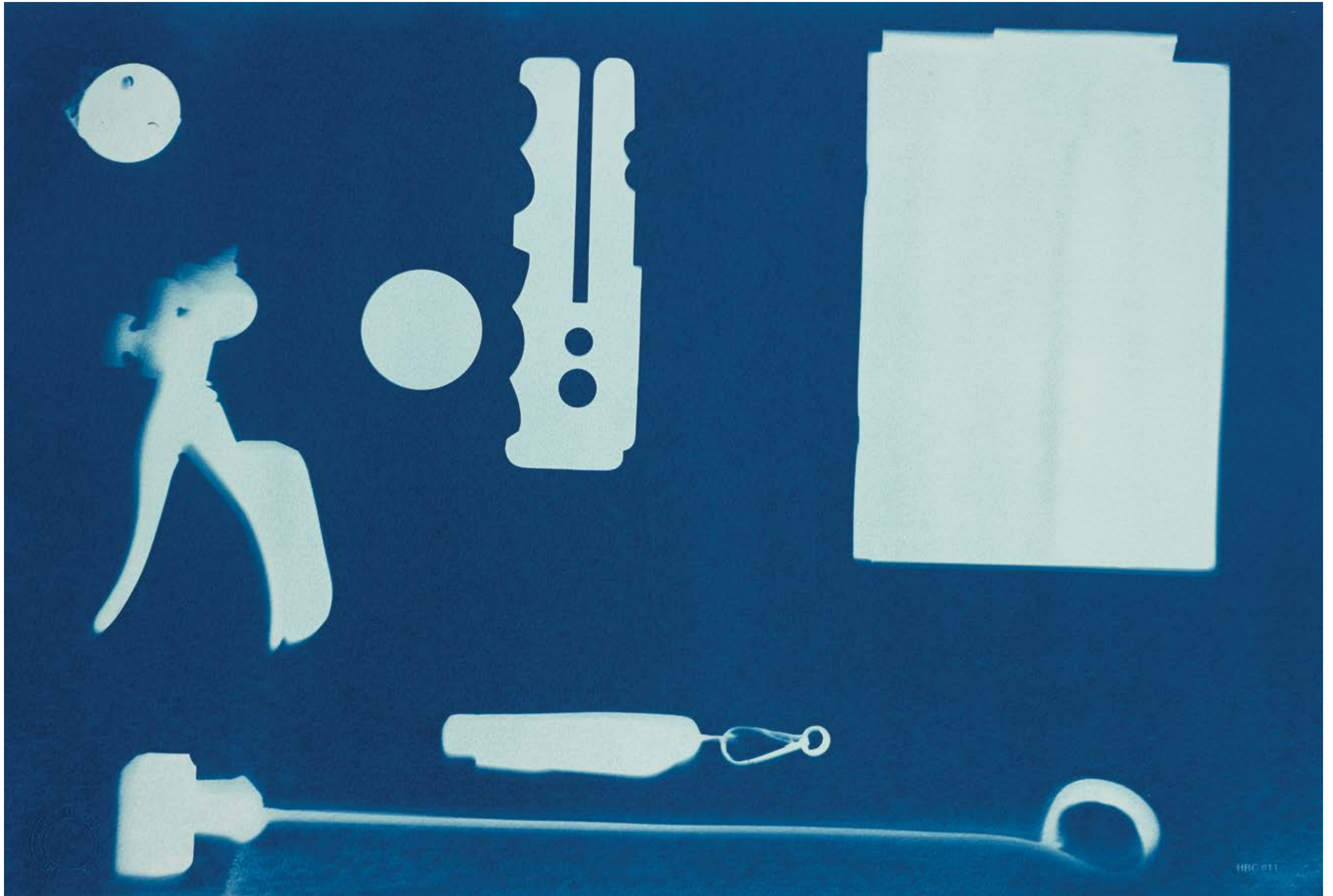
Place: HISTON BAPTIST CHURCH

Date: 16/9/14

Description: Two small boats made from wine corks,
masking tape, made by my son Alban

"I brought these along, they're two little boats that my son made a couple of years ago when he was about nine. He's made these out of one wine cork, cocktail sticks, masking tape, anything he can find. And they float beautifully. They've got drawing pins just to weight them down, a ballast I suppose it's called. And just looking at them now, I've looked at them so long at home, I've just noticed the bird's nests."

"I just picked up a few odd things. With your army button, you slid that button stick between the back of the button and the tunic and sat there for an hour polishing away. That was my uncle's knife, Cambs & Suffolk was the regiment he was in. It's a long story about my uncle. There he is: Oliver Hopkin. The family moved into the village in 1916 and then they were told he had been killed at the Battle of Arras [1917]."





STLC 001



STLC 002



STLC 003



STLC 004



STLC 005



STLC 006



STLC 007



STLC 008



STLC 009



STLC 010



STLC 011

STLC 001 - St Luke's Church - *Dried flowers*
 STLC 002 - St Luke's Church - *Leaf*
 STLC 003 - Clair and Abigal Gibbs - *Necklaces*
 STLC 004 - Unknown - *Necklace*
 STLC 005 - Charlotte Heywood - *Keys, baby's favourite toy*
 STLC 006 - Emily Ellis - *Toy rabbit*

STLC 007 - Jackie, Gary and Lily - *Orange squidgy Packman*
 STLC 008 - Olga Peppercorn - *Horn and silver goblet*
 STLC 009 - Simon Barrington Ward - *Bishop's 'cross of nails'*
 STLC 010 - Sheila Stem - *Keys*
 STLC 011 - Amanda Bailey - *Old half penny, Irish penny*
 STLC 012 - Heather Taplin - *Flowers and garland*



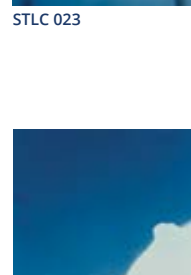
STLC 012



STLC 013



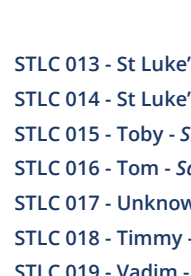
STLC 014



STLC 015



STLC 016



STLC 017



STLC 018



STLC 013



STLC 016



STLC 017



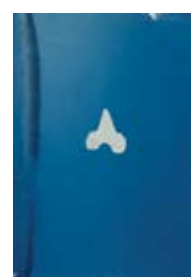
STLC 018



STLC 022



STLC 024



STLC 026



STLC 025



STLC 028



STLC 027

STLC 013 - St Luke's Church - *Evergreen sprig*
 STLC 014 - St Luke's Church - *Salt and pepper*
 STLC 015 - Toby - *Shell*
 STLC 016 - Tom - *Sand bottle*
 STLC 017 - Unknown - *American coins, postcard*
 STLC 018 - Timmy - *Wind shooter*
 STLC 019 - Vadim - *Stones*

STLC 022 - Anna - *A carved nut*
 STLC 023 - Eleanor - *Timer*
 STLC 024 - Dylan - *Rocks with a ghost and face*
 STLC 025 - Sammy - *Old toy platypus*
 STLC 026 - Ben - *Shark's tooth*
 STLC 027 - Jon Lakin-Hall - *Rib cage*
 STLC 028 - Max - *Sight*



STLC 029



STLC 030



STLC 031



STLC 033



STLC 034



STLC 035



STLC 037



STLC 032



STLC 039



STLC 038



STLC 040



STLC 041a



STLC 036

- STLC 029 - Archer - *Heart locket*
STLC 030 - Romilly Laken-Hall - *Shoes, necklace*
STLC 031 - Jago - *Darth Maur Hammerbeads*
STLC 032 - Lilou - *Torch*
STLC 033 - Sam - *Crystal*

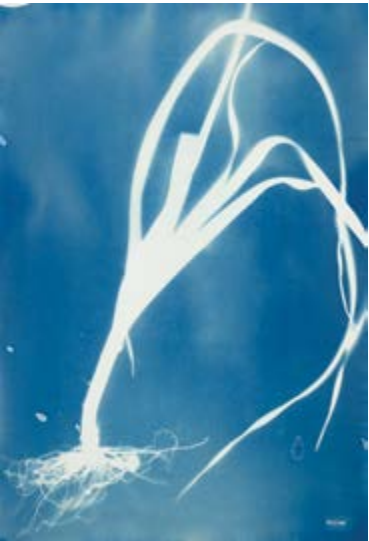
- STLC 034 - Henry - *Glasses*
STLC 035 - Joseph - *Cow Whistle*
STLC 036 - Floriene Laken-Hall - *Sellotape foot*
STLC 037 - Chris Scott - *Scout scarf, mermaid diving buckle*
STLC 038 - Sarah Jacques - *Glass palette, light bulb*



STLC 041b



STLC 042a



STLC 042b



STLC 043



STLC 044

- STLC 039 - James - *Titanic coin, fossil*
STLC 040 - Christopher - *Conkers*
STLC 041a - St Luke's Church - *Flower*
STLC 041b - St Luke's Church - *Glass water jugs*
STLC 042a - Amy Sage - *Bottle of Evian water (1 Litre)*

- STLC 042b - Karina Wells - *Leek*
STLC 043 - Mrs Karina Wells - *Uchihuri pumpkin*
STLC 044 - Joel, Nicolas, Ethan, Iro, Ollie - *Police badge, whistle and shoulder badge, metal dragon, blue crystal rock, pumice, marine badge, crocodile*



STLC 045



STLC 046



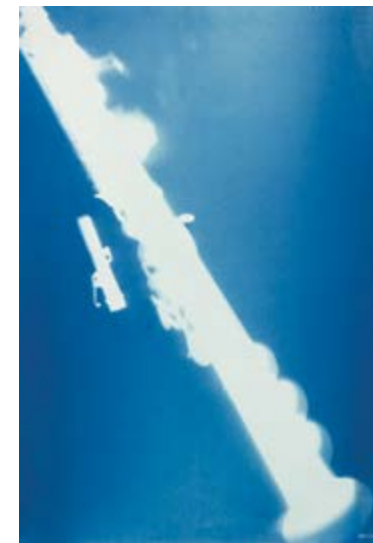
STLC 048



STLC 047



STLC 049



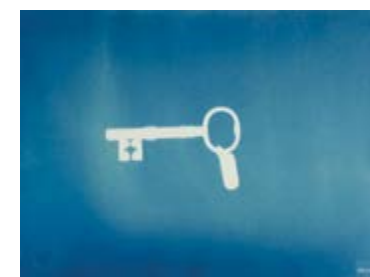
STLC 050



STLC 053



STLC 056



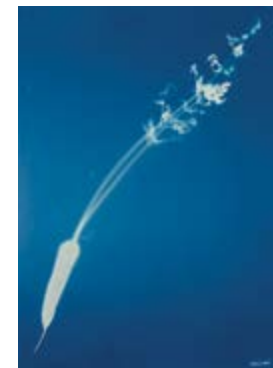
STLC 057



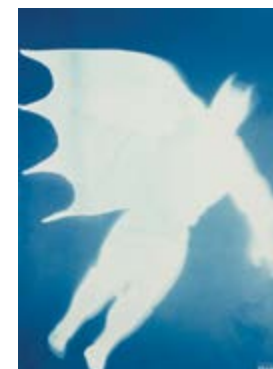
STLC 051



STLC 052



STLC 054



STLC 055



STLC 058

STLC 045 - Ellan, Prea, Nicholas, Giovanni, Sam, Leonard - *Woggle, phone case, mini tankard and sword, Italian crab catcher, crystal, African instrument*

STLC 046 - Joseph, Jack, Paul, Joseph B., Sophie - *A hair grip, bike, bike light, conker and chestnut, allen key, 4x4 Rubix Cube*

STLC 047 - Etienne, Josh B., Kalen - *Big Daddy aka Mr Bubbles, necker, glasses*

STLC 048 - Charlotte Heywood - *Cup, plate, baby rattle and letter opener*

STLC 049 - Chris - *Puppet of me*

STLC 050 - Pascal - *Soprano saxophone*

STLC 051 - Mr Smith - *Valve spring compressor*

STLC 052 - Adam Smith - *Meteorite*

STLC 053 - Mummy, Tilda and Alice - *Mummy's shoes, funny fly box, Tilda's shells and Alice's leaves*

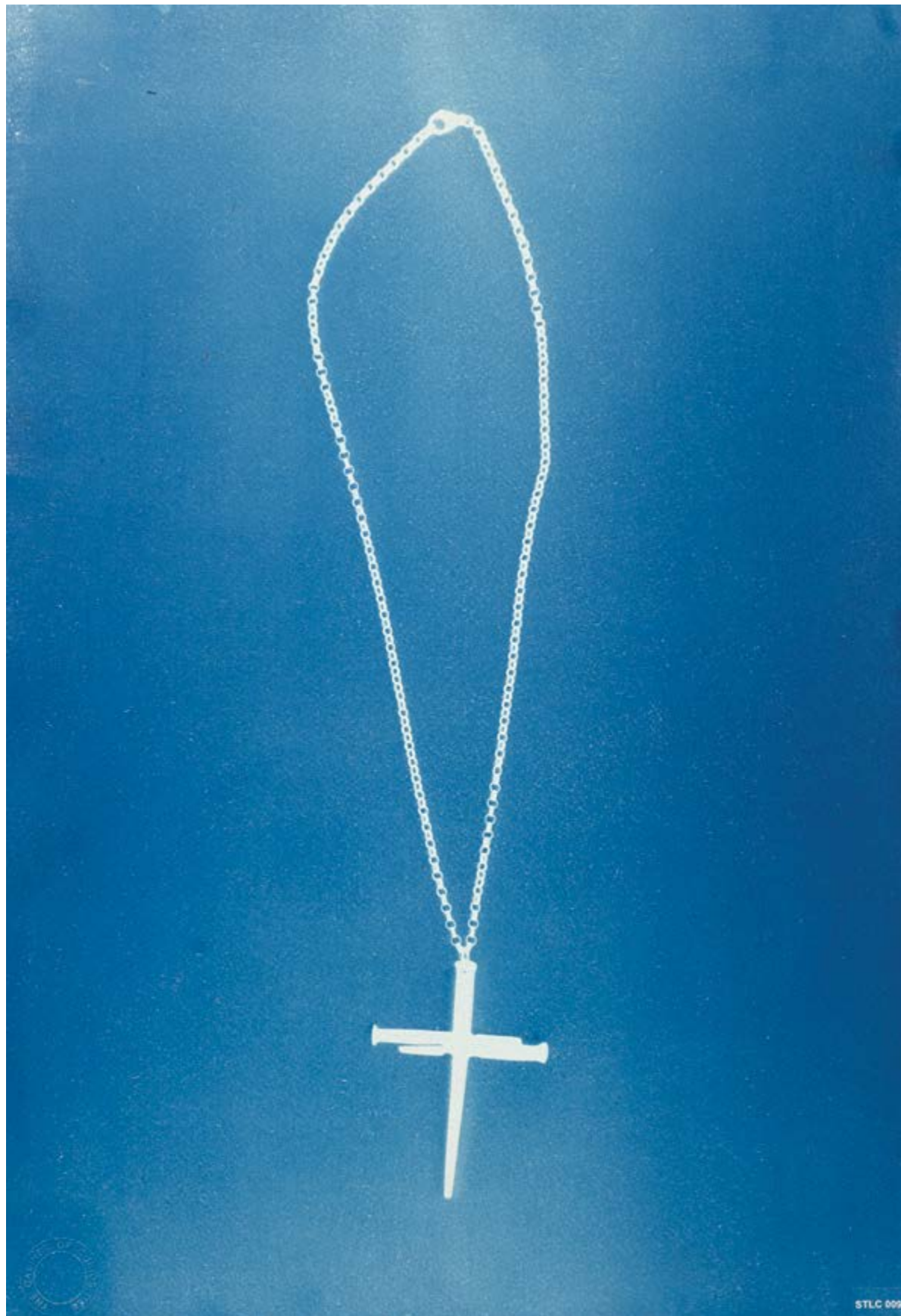
STLC 054 - Rab - *Carrot*


STLC 055 - Rab - *Bat Man*

STLC 056 - Floriene Laken-Hall - *Shuttlecock*

STLC 057 - St Luke's Church - *Large old door key*


STLC 058 - Jane - *Toy caravan*



 THE CABINET OF CURIOSITIES

Archive No: STLC 009
 Object: Bishop's silver 'cross of nails'
 Owner: Retired Bishop (of Coventry) Simon Barrington-Ward
 Place: St Luke's Cambridge
 Date: 24th September 2014
 Description: Episcopal cross designed and made in Coventry Diocese

"This cross was made by people linked to Coventry Cathedral. There was a morning where the roof of the cathedral, which had been bombed [1940] had fallen in. Nails were scattered all over the yard outside. People gathered them up. These are some of the nails and they are covered in silver. It is a form of the cross used in the Coventry Diocese. It came out of the bombing and then the recovery of the Cathedral. The Diocese gave it to me when I became Bishop of Coventry and I wore it from that moment on. It's a rather nice symbol of Coventry and Coventry Cathedral, a symbol of reconciliation which was our great theme."



THE CABINET
OF CURIOSITIES

Archive No: STLC 049


Object: Puppet of me

Owner: Chris Ward

Place: St Luke's

Date: 26/09/14

Description: Puppet of me which I
was given as a gift during
my year as President of Cambridge
Junior Chamber of Commerce in 1997



THE CABINET
OF CURIOSITIES

Archive No: STLC 041

Object: Glass Water Jugs

Owner: St Luke's Church Kitchen

Place: St Luke's Church


Date: 26.9.14

Description: _____







 THE CABINET
OF CURIOSITIES

Archive No: stLc052

Object: meteorite

Owner: Adam Smith

Place: stLucks

Date: 28.9.14

Description: fragment of meteorite from
Canyon Diablo



NIAB 001a



NIAB 001b



NIAB 002



NIAB 003



NIAB 004



NIAB 005



NIAB 006



NIAB 007



NIAB 008



NIAB 009



NIAB 010



NIAB 012



NIAB 011



NIAB 013



NIAB 014



NIAB 015



NIAB 016



NIAB 017



NIAB 018



NIAB 019



NIAB 020



NIAB 021



NIAB 022



NIAB 023



NIAB 024



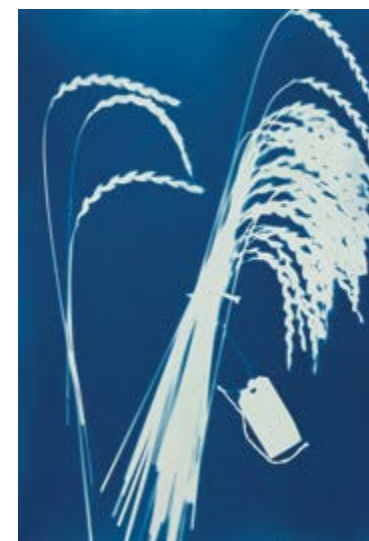
NIAB 025



NIAB 026



NIAB 027



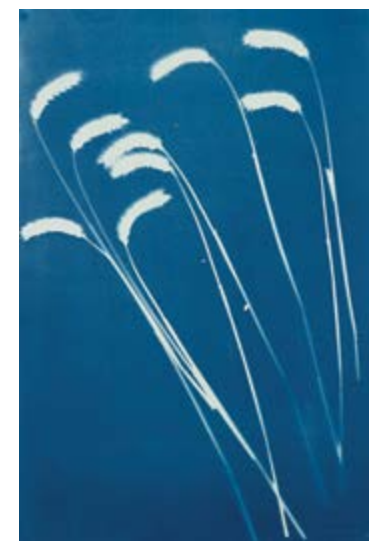
NIAB 028



NIAB 029



NIAB 030



NIAB 031

NIAB 001a - NIAB - *Mulberry Leaves*
NIAB 001b to NIAB 020 - NIAB Archive - *Photograph*

NIAB 021 to NIAB 027 - NIAB Archive - *Photograph*
NIAB 028 - NIAB - *Spelt Wheat Ears*
NIAB 029 - NIAB - *Field pea purity analysis*

NIAB 030 - NIAB - *Oat purity analysis*
NIAB 031 - NIAB - *Wheat ears*



NIAB 032



NIAB 033



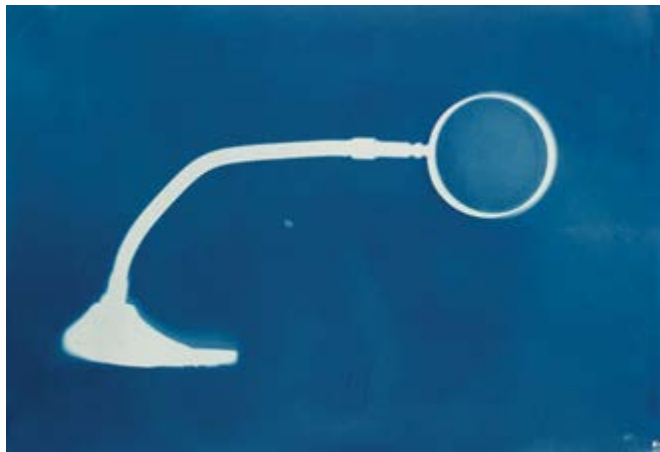
NIAB 034



NIAB 035



NIAB 036



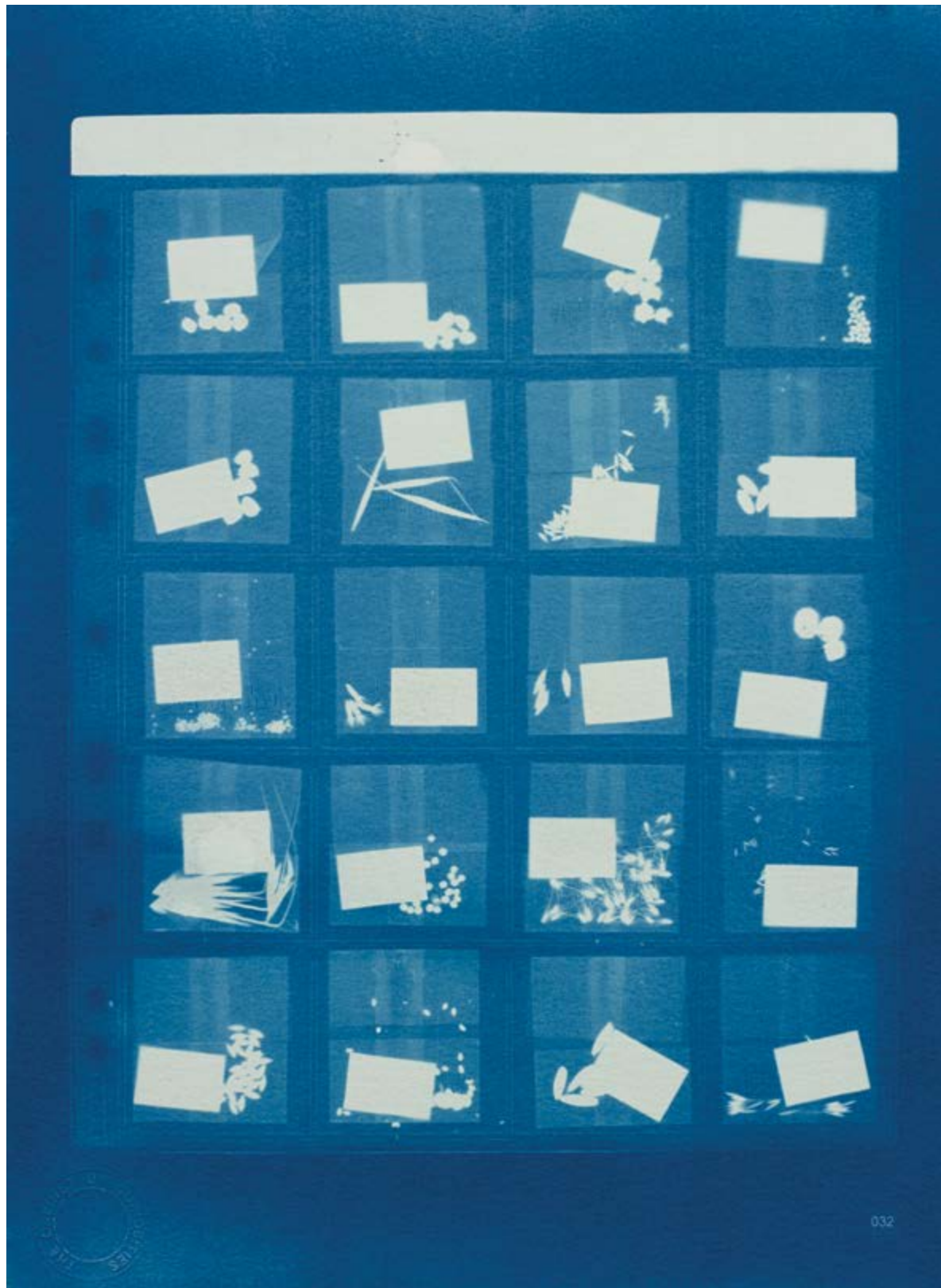
NIAB 037


NIAB 032 - NIAB - *Seed analyst's reference collection*
NIAB 033 - NIAB - *Barley*
NIAB 034 - NIAB - *Oats*

NIAB 035 - NIAB - *Glass trophy*
NIAB 036 - NIAB - *Official Seed Testing Station seed bag*
NIAB 037 - NIAB - *Magnifying glass*



NIAB 006




**THE CABINET
OF CURIOSITIES**

Archive No: NIAB 032

Object: SEED ANALYST'S REFERENCE COLLECTION

Owner: NIAB

Place: OFFICIAL SEED TESTING STATION, NIAB

Date: 29.9.14

Description: _____


"This is a page from a seed analyst's own seed reference collection that they accumulate throughout their training and then add to during their career. It's to help identify any rogue seeds within purity analysis that are of a type not from the crop under test and it aids in the identification. It's organized by Latin name and English name, often by species. These ones here are selected to illustrate the range of size, shape and texture of the weed species that a seed analyst might encounter."



NIAB 021



"We have to go through and look for any impurities that are not pure seed. And then we assess it. Sort it out, See how many we've got of each species. Weigh the broken seed. Weigh the impurities. And calculate the percentage pure seed. We use a spatula, we call it a counter, which has a pointed edge and you can get in and out of the seed more easily. A times ten tripod lens which is very old, but it's very good. Forceps for picking out small species and little watch glasses, or dishes, just to put the impurities in that we take through when we're taking the sample through to weigh."

 THE CABINET OF CURIOSITIES

Archive No: NIAB 029

Object: FIELD PEA PURITY ANALYSIS


Owner: NIAB

Place: OFFICIAL SEED TESTING STATION, NIAB

Date: 29.7.14

Description: _____



 THE CABINET OF CURIOSITIES

Archive No: NIAB 034

Object: OATS

Owner: NIAB

Place: OFFICIAL SEED TESTING STATION, NIAB

Date: 29.9.14

Description: _____



DG 001



DG 002



DG 003



DG 004



DG 005



DG 008



DG 007



DG 011



DG 012



DG 006



DG 009



DG 010



DG 013



DG 014



DG 017



DG 016



DG 015

DG 001 - *Oyster shells*
 DG 002 - *Poppies*
 DG 003 - *Wild flowers*
 DG 004 - *Wild flower*
 DG 005 - *Horn*


DG 006 - *Grasses and daisies*
 DG 007 - *Horse jaw bone*
 DG 008 - *Arrow head*
 DG 009 - *Wild flowers*
 DG 010 - *Daisies*

DG 011 - *Soil*
 DG 012 - *Soil*
 DG 013 - *NIAB employee - Objects found in NIAB fields*
 DG 014 - *Pieces of Roman pottery*

DG 015 - *Pieces of Roman pottery*
 DG 016 - *Piece of Roman pottery*
 DG 017 - *Clay drainage pipe and fragments of soil*





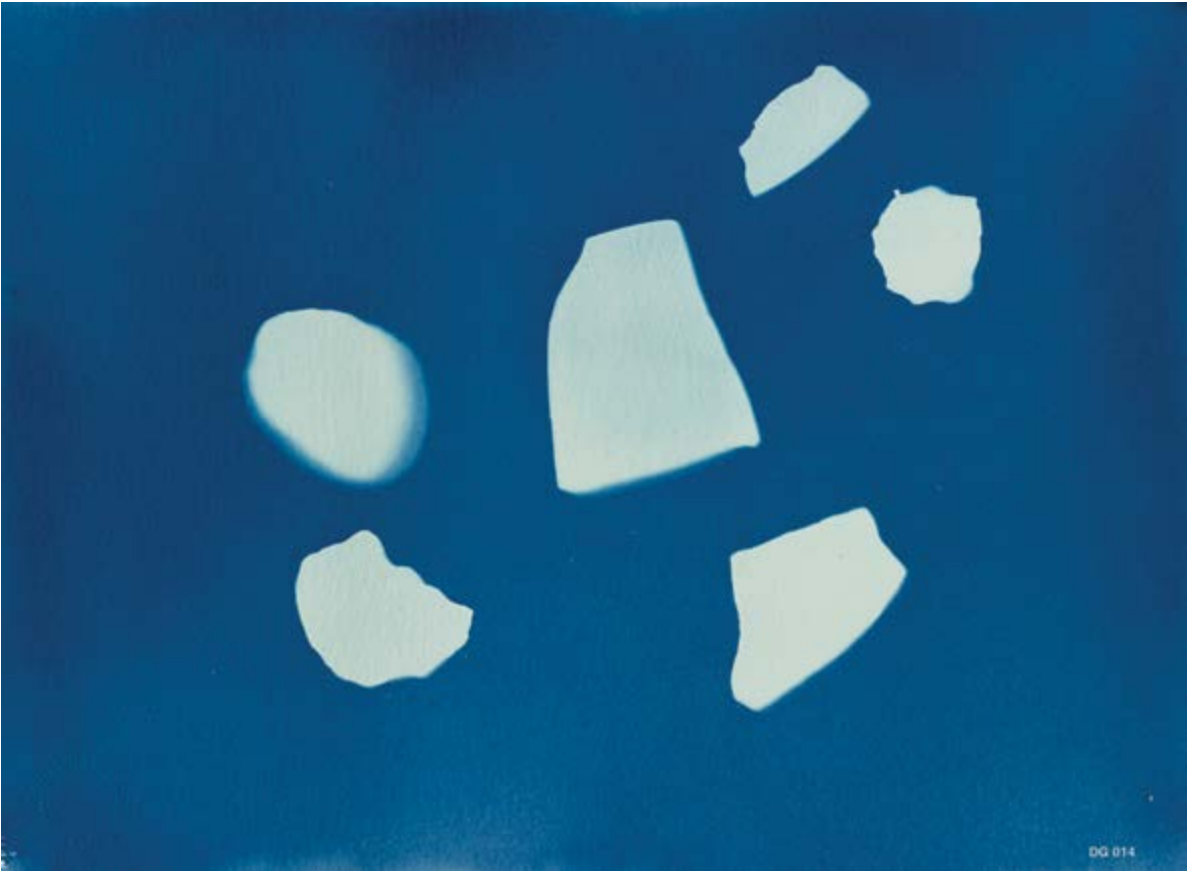
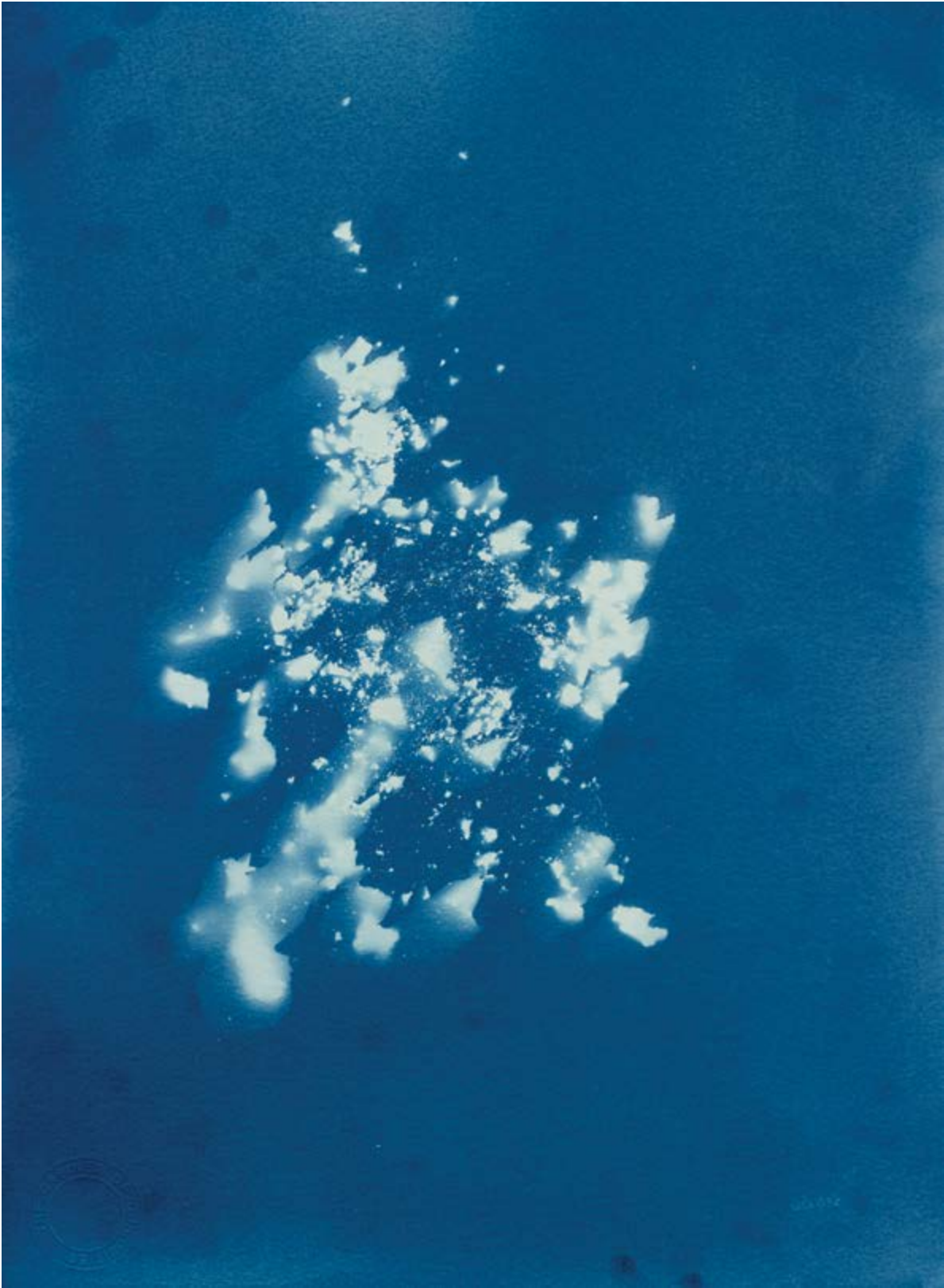
 THE CABINET OF CURIOSITIES


Archive No: DS.013
 Object: Collection of objects found in
NAB fields
 Owner: NAB employee
 Place: Darwin Green field
 Date: 1.10.14
 Description: Including an iron head,
button, copper leaf (possibly Roman)
found in fields over c. 20 years

"I found these in the field over the years and then just chucked them in the back of my drawer. I know they're nothing much, but maybe they are, you don't know do you? I heard you were here so I just brought them down."



013



 THE CABINET OF CURIOSITIES

Archive No: DG 014

Object: Pieces of Roman pottery

Owner: _____

Place: Darwin Green ~~to~~ field

Date: 1.10.14

Description: ^{Roman} pottery pieces uncovered during a archaeological dig at site



STAC 001



STAC 002



STAC 003



STAC 004



STAC 005



STAC 007



STAC 006



STAC 008



STAC 009



STAC 010



STAC 011



STAC 012



STAC 013



STAC 014



STAC 015



STAC 016

STAC 001 - Barbara Trahar - *B brooch*

STAC 002 - Jane Moore - *Horseshoe and large spoon*

STAC 003 - L.W. Bailey - *Black hat*

STAC 004 - Jane Menzies - *Silver Dairylea cheese holder*

STAC 005 - Jane Watt - *Glasses*

STAC 006 - E. L. Adams - *Neolithic skin scraper*

STAC 007 - Andrew Hardert - *Piece of broken bowl*

STAC 008 - Mrs Rolph - *Black and white diamond cross on gold chain*

STAC 009 - Jasmin - *Stone*

STAC 010 - Kaitlin - *Stone*

STAC 011 - Unknown - *Necklace*

STAC 012 - Louis Harbert - *Piece of metal/brick*

STAC 013 - W. Whitmore - *Commemorative coin with container*

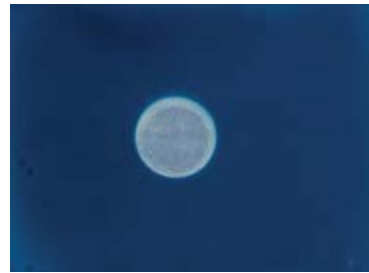
STAC 014 - Owen Spencer-Thomas - *Horse shoe from cart horse, hand hoe*

STAC 015 - Pauline Brown - *Shard of rock*

STAC 016 - W. Whitmore - *Child's grass skirt from Papua New Guinea*



STAC 017



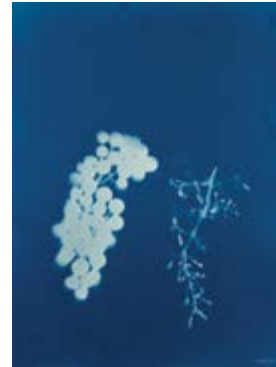
STAC 018



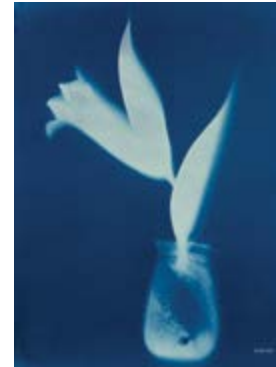
STAC 019



STAC 020



STAC 021



STAC 022



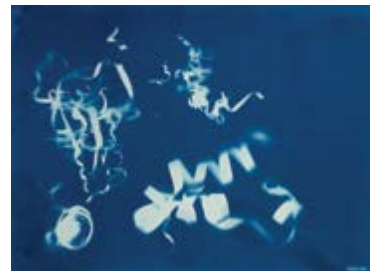
STAC 023



STAC 024



STAC 025



STAC 026

STAC 017 - W. Whitmore - *Nose pin*

STAC 018 - Rev. Janet Bunker - *Candle holder made from wood of Ely Cathedral*

STAC 019 - Henry Walder - *Medicine bottle and pottery head*

STAC 020 - June Taylor - *Wooden fish puzzle*

STAC 021 - Jane Watt and Dominique Rivoal - *Grapes*

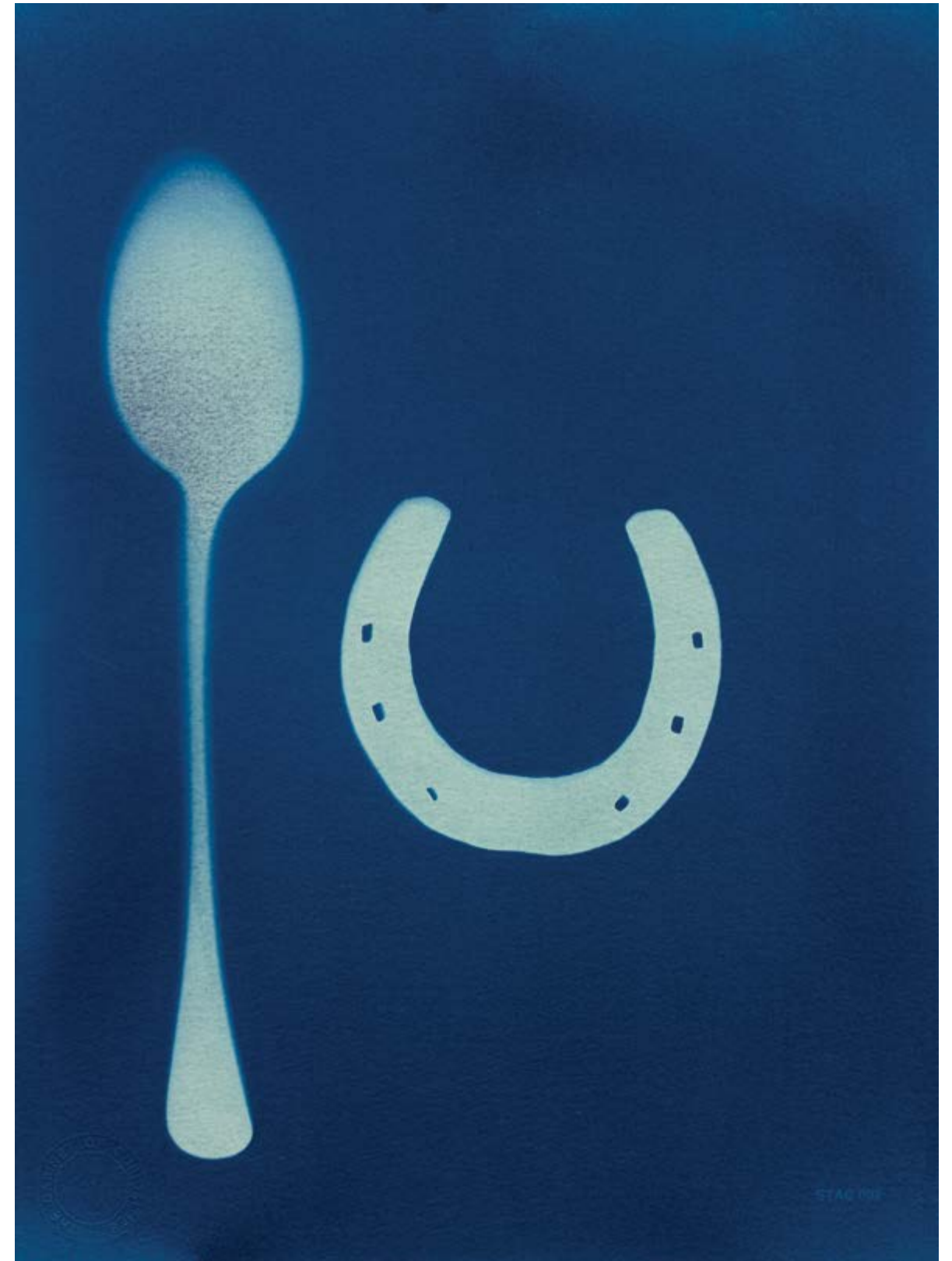
STAC 022 - Colin Maule - *Flower in vase*

STAC 023 - Ruth Campbell - *Candle holders*

STAC 024 - Ruth Campbell - *Star biscuit cutters*

STAC 025 - Colin Maule - *Eiffel Tower ornament, cockerel toast rack*

STAC 026 - Unknown - *Wood shavings*





STAC 016

THE CABINET
OF CURIOSITIES

Archive No: OSTAC 016

Object: Child's grass skirt from Papua New Guinea

Owner: W. WHITMORE

Place: St. Augustine's

Date: 5/10/2014

Description: collected 1964 - not herbal dyes, (I think), but "modern" chemical dyes

THE CABINET
OF CURIOSITIES

Archive No: STAC022

Object: Flower in vase

Owner: Colin Maule

Place: Richmond Rd

Date: 05-oct-2014

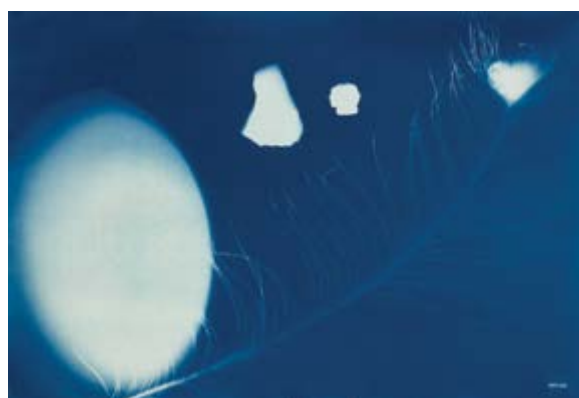
Description: The tily fell of a big bunch of flowers.



STAC 022



MPS 001



MPS 002



MPS 003

MPS 001 - Naomi, Timm, Samuel - *Clay moustache, squishy Ninja, ring holder*

MPS 002 - James, Aylin, Freddy B., Freddie H. - *Peacock feather, sea shell, rugby ball, ammomite*

MPS 003 - Henry, Izzy, Diego, Tommy, Phoebe, Luke - *Apple, things, tortilla maker, heart, old box and silver rock, clay pumpkin*



MPS 004



MPS 005



MPS 006

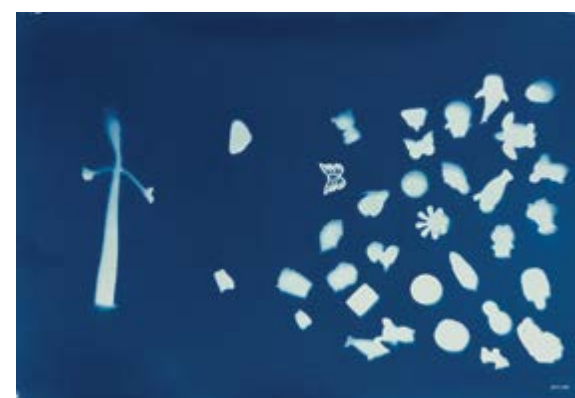
MPS 004 - Joseph, Memis, Piotr, Kathryn, Miriam, Tom - *A train that can climb, football, clay tardis, sand, stone, fossil*

MPS 005 - Magnus, Thomas, Hannah, Daniel, Ethan, Natasha, Tye - *Pencil, ink pen, horse shoe, bug, person lying down, mermaid, glass*

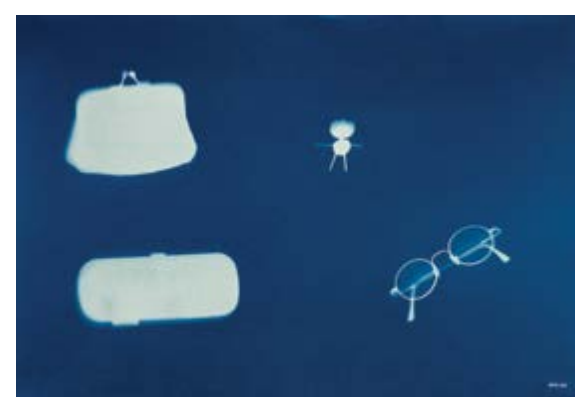
MPS 006 - Junior, Mohammed, Zach, Charles, Alexis, Joy Lego - *Pen, pine cone, bouncy ball, stone or fossil*



MPS 007



MPS 008



MPS 009

MPS 007 - Charlie, Michela, Mollie, Marianne - *Stones, glitter love heart, book*

MPS 008 - Pelin, Dora, Hannah, Faraaz - *Dinosaur tooth, coral, Blott rubber, pen*

MPS 009 - Mila, Misly, Alex C. - *Conker, glasses, reading book*

MPS 010 - Sorer, Marco - *Football top trumps, 200 year old door latch, stone figures*



MPS 010



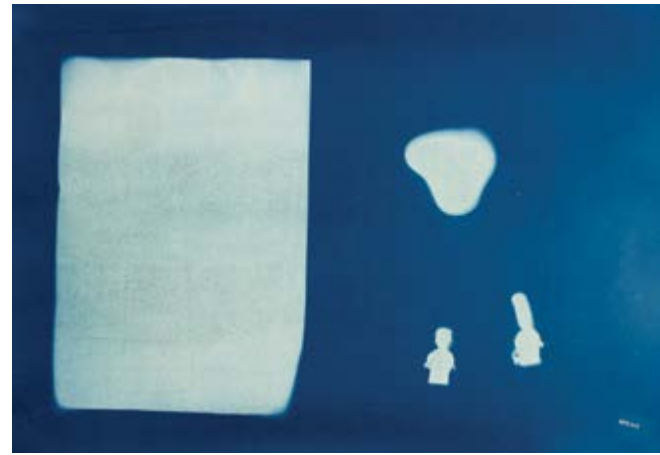
MPS 011



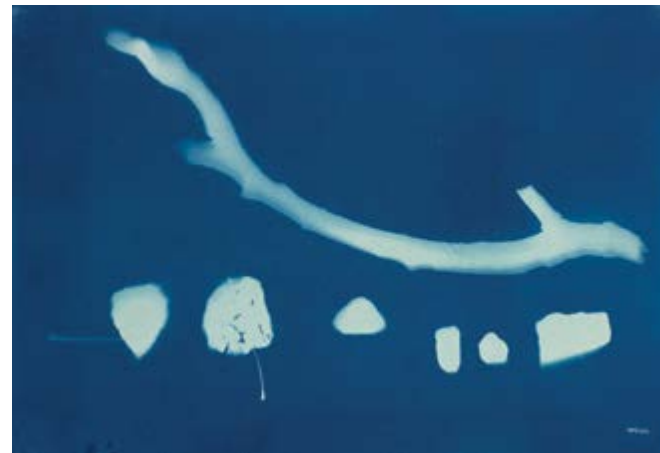
MPS 012

MPS 011 - Fareed, David Bob, Soleun, Poppy, Rowan E. - *Cards, book, inside of a stone, shell, leaf*

MPS 012 - Merryn, Kristina, Auriol, Arron, Lily, Rowan T. - *Brass bear, crystals, feather, monkey hat, rock, tiger hat, lava*



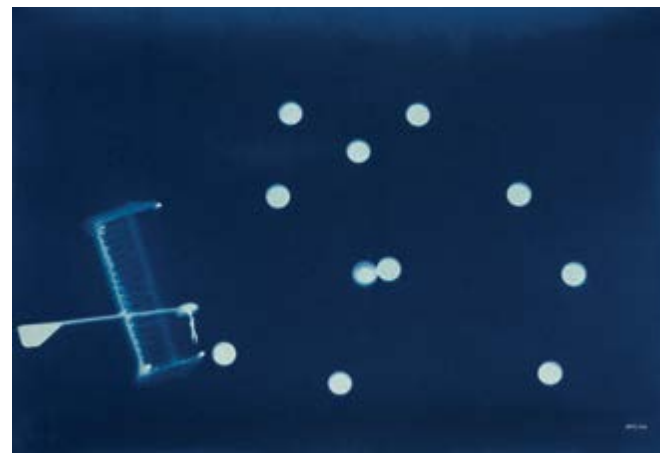
MPS 013



MPS 014



MPS 015



MPS 016

MPS 013 - Isla, Alfie, Ellie - *Heart-shaped rock, Lego figures of Homer and Marge Simpson, drawing*

MPS 014 - Isabel, Oskar, Estelle, Emily - *Fossils, coprolite, coral, leaf, shell, stick*

MPS 015 - Sabiv - *Lego Man*

MPS 016 - Rab - *Subbuteo*



MPS 017



MPS 018



MPS 020



MPS 022



MPS 019



MPS 021



MPS 023



MPS 024

MPS 017 - Debbie Hardyman - *Keys*

MPS 018 - Rab - *Carrots*

MPS 019 - Maxim Kouznetsor - *Ukulele*

MPS 020 - Alice Kitty Nowosad - *Alice's 1st Shoes*

MPS 021 - Felix Harley Nowosad - *Darth Vader Mask*

MPS 022 - Alice Kitty Nowosad - *Windmill from Southwold*

MPS 023 - Michela and Simone - *Berry branch*

MPS 024 - Eve, Faye, Bethany, Harvey - *Elephant book ends, toy leopard, trophy, medals, conkers*



MPS 025



MPS 026



MPS 027

MPS 025 - Izzy, Luca, JJ, Jinjin - *Dream catcher, fern leaf, rose, leaf, sunglasses*
MPS 026 - Alexander, Aymay, Adil, Becky - *Pen, glasses, necklace*
MPS 027 - Prune, Oli, Maya, Ruby - *Fork, cuttlefish bone, dolphin toy, bug in a glass*



MPS 028

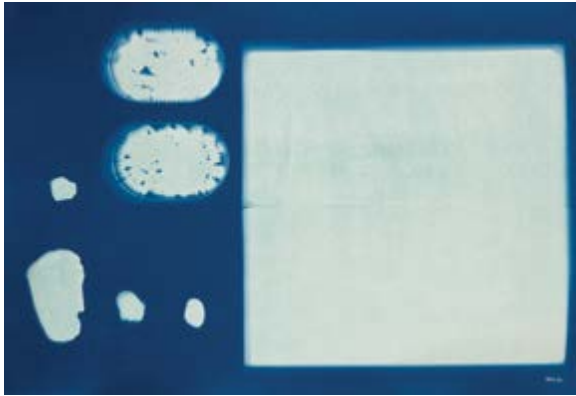


MPS 029



MPS 030

MPS 028 - Sidney B., Toby, Sidney S., Theo - *Centaur, fibre optic cable, medal, glasses*
MPS 029 - Krishna, Georgia, Cara - *Ink, stick plant, dice*
MPS 030 - Katie, Billy, Aysha - *Toy cow, clip cord, flower fossil*



MPS 031



MPS 032



MPS 033

MPS 031 - Isabelle, Greta, David, Sid, Liam - *Crystal, stones, Go board game, trilobite, rubber*
MPS 032 - Muna, Inho, Ross - *Pens, fairy ornament*
MPS 033 - Taslima, Alfie, Tyan, Eamon, Jon, Jacob - *Bracelet, glasses, Blott rubbers, inhaler, slipper, dice*
MPS 034 - Ellie, Torsten, Toby, Anahita, Eilidh - *Giant shell, brick, stones, shell ball*



MPS 034



MPS 035

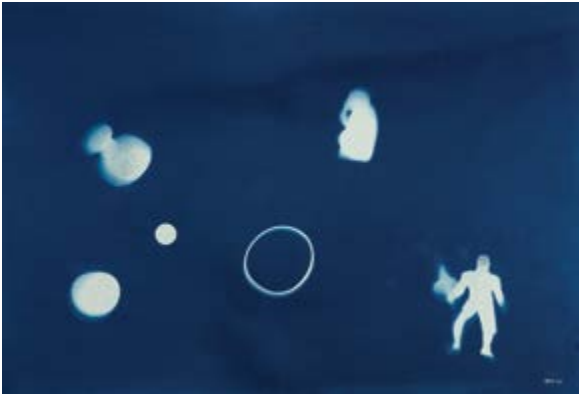


MPS 036

MPS 035 - Leonard, Joseph, Zoe - *Ribbon, paper dragon, purse and giant pencil*
MPS 036 - Max, Mehrab, Leonie, Niam, Tamsin - *Magnetic diamond shapes, spider paperweight, crystal, megalodon tooth, giant marble*



MPS 037

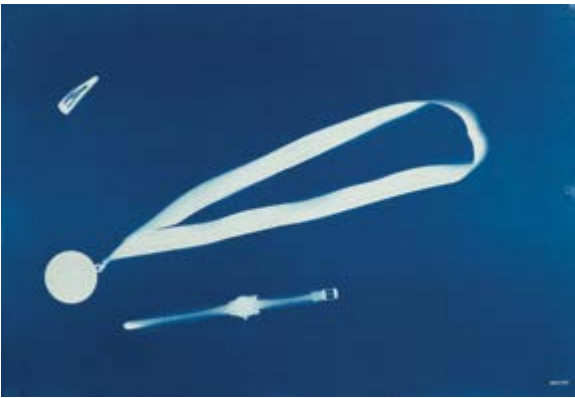


MPS 038



MPS 039

MPS 037 - Alex, Alicia, Muoa, Reka, Alan, Gemma - *Scorpion paperweight, heart pendant, blue glass, snake skin*
MPS 038 - Holly, Kateian, Joseph, Hasin - *Bracelet, monkey, ring holder, toy knight*
MPS 039 - Oskar, Tingkang, Betty, Levi - *Big key an little key, comb knife, hair bow, stick*



MPS 040



MPS 041



MPS 042

MPS 040 - Nickola, Jessica, Elizabeth - *Hair clip, medal, watch*
MPS 041 - Vaisey, Chloe, Justine, Roy, Muntaha, Kayan - *Pencil case, coral, leaves, berries, medal*
MPS 042 - Lola, Julia, Nesta, Molly - *Penguin badge, ice cream shaped rubber, ornament, purse*



MPS 043



MPS 044



MPS 045

MPS 043 - Paul, Simeon, Jasmin, Esme - *Water bottle, shell, starfish skeleton, African arrowheads*
MPS 044 - Amilio, Joshua, Ethan, Maddie, Summer, Daisy - *Conkers, stone, moss, pencil case*
MPS 045 - Caroline, Leonie, Yumin, Andrea - *Pen, invention gone wrong, Korean monkey, bird's egg*



MPS 046



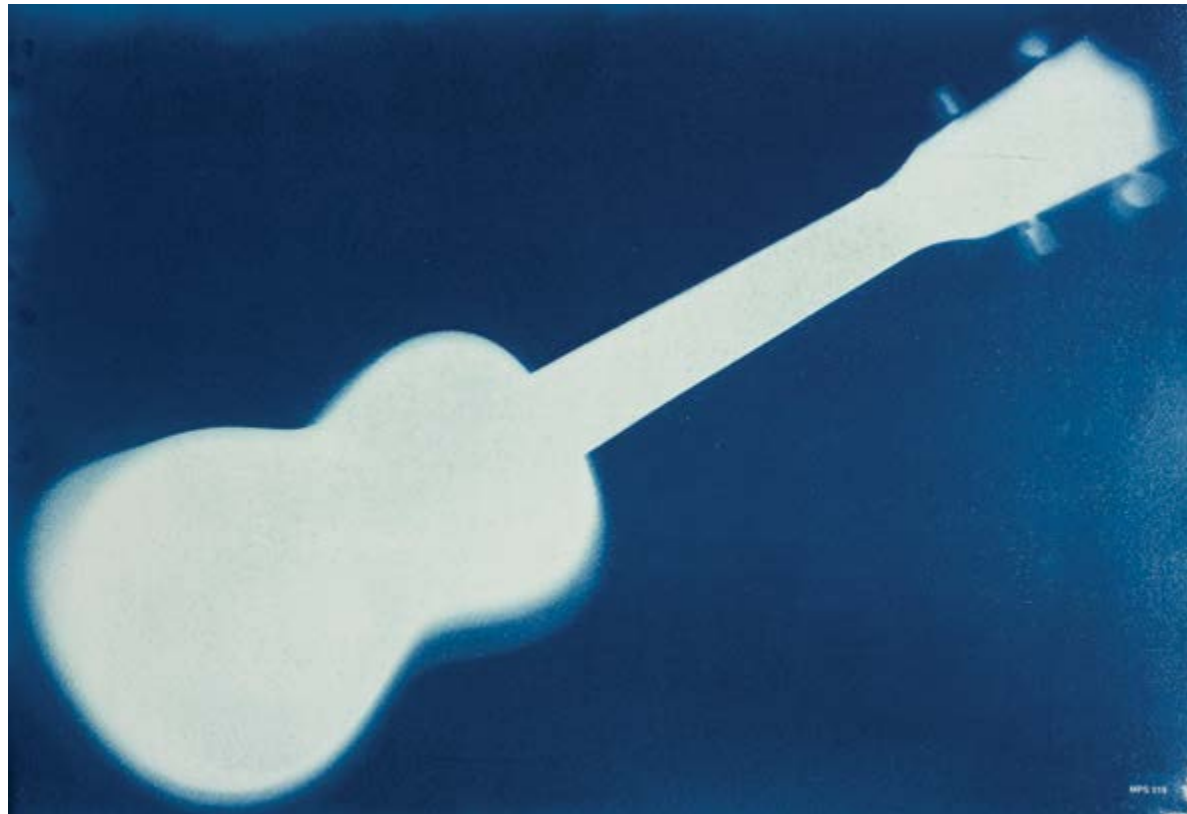
MPS 047




MPS 049

MPS 046 - Elliot, Freya, Esme, Harry, Joseph, Michael - *Fossil, sink drainer, trowel, dried lava, conker, hunting horn*
MPS 047 - Eve, Florri, Scobie, Dan, Ali - *Bracelet, drift wood, baby alligator's head, watch*
MPS 049 - Katie - *Trophy*





 THE CABINET OF CURIOSITIES

Archive No: Mp5019

Object: Ukulele

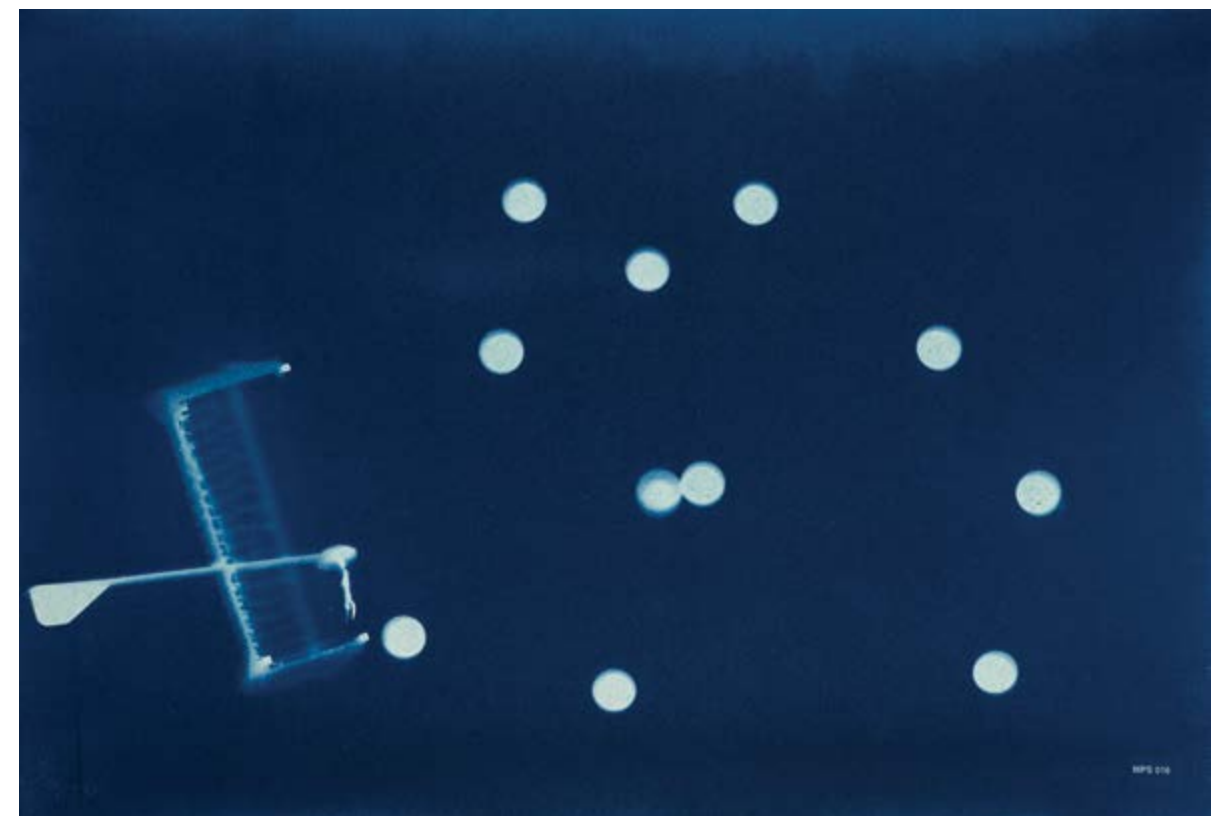
Owner: Maxim Kouznetsov

Place: Mayfield primary school

Date: 11/10/14

Description: I won a competition with my ukulele at APS Cambury primary school, my old primary school.

"My object is some Subutteo players. Subutteo is a game where you have these football players and goal keepers, basically like hand football where you use your hand to flick mini-players to hit the ball and try and score. I've set my people up so that they're going to score a goal against the goal keeper."





MPS 049



Archive No: MPS 049

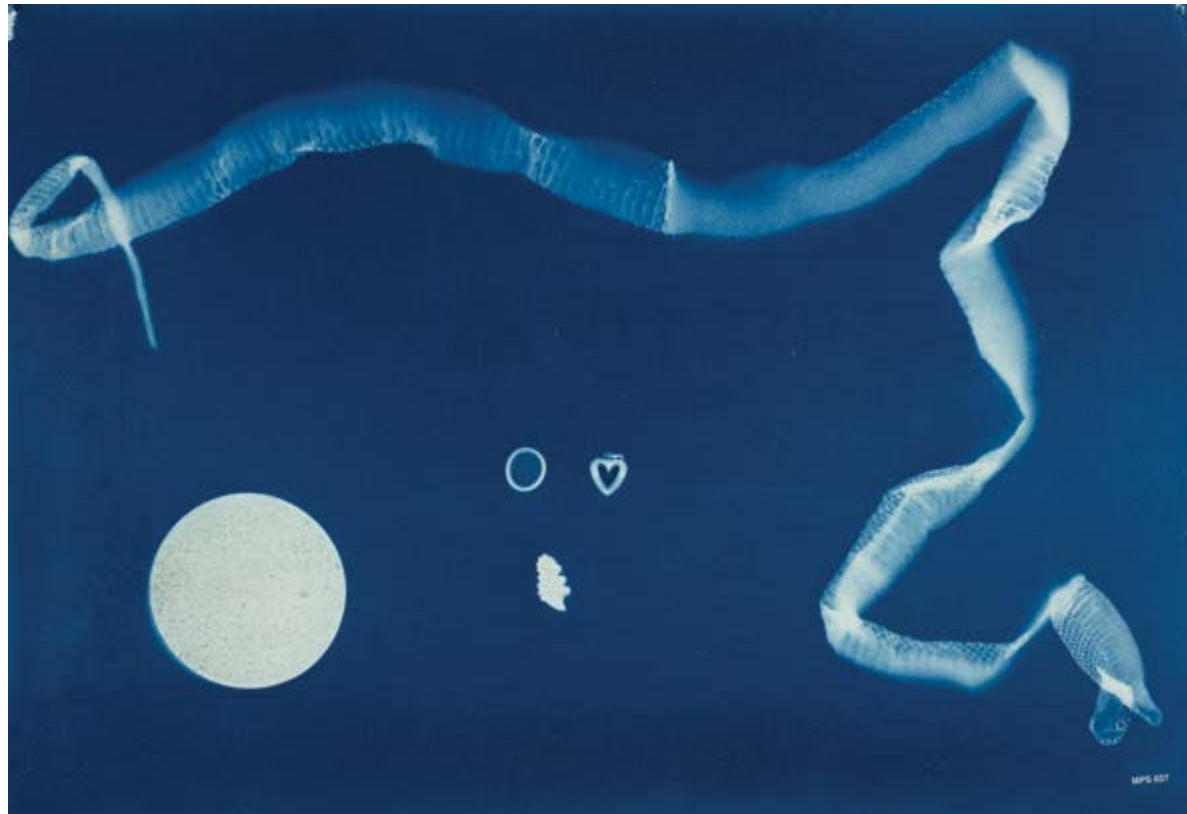
Object: Trophie


Owner: Katie

Place: Mayfield

Date: 14/10/14

Description: my dad's trophie in
 british motor bike cambridge racey
 racing and he came 2nd place



 THE CABINET
OF CURIOSITIES

Archive No: mps 037

Object: Snake Skin

Owner: Gemma

Place: Mayfield

Date: 13.10.14

Description: scaly strange and
cute

"My object is a trowel. I find our garage quite interesting and I was rummaging through some boxes and I found it and wondered what it was."

"I brought in a sink drainer and I brought it in because I thought it was a cool shape."





GRG 001



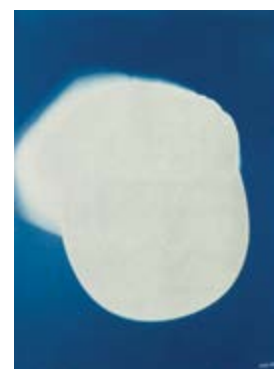
GRG 002



GRG 003



GRG 004



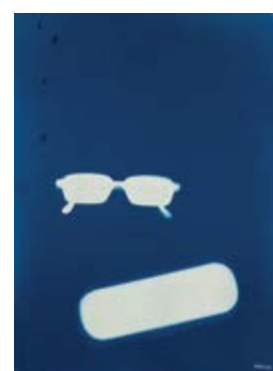
GRG 005



GRG 007



GRG 006



GRG 010



GRG 008



GRG 009

GRG 001 - Ayesha and Zaki Adloune - *Ivy*
 GRG 002 - Rona and Morag - *Windmill*
 GRG 003 - Amy Sage - *Red wig*
 GRG 004 - Girton Glebe School - *Trophy Intra-School Sports Cup*
 GRG 005 - Abbie - *Hat*
 GRG 006 - Tanisha, Nashiya, Esha, Poppy, Aman - *Loom bands*

GRG 007 - Helen Berkin - *Teddy bear*
 GRG 008 - Victoria Howell - *Deer necklace*
 GRG 009 - Girton Glebe School - *Trophy Key Stage 1 Sports Day*
 GRG 010 - Rab - *Glasses*



GRG 011



GRG 015



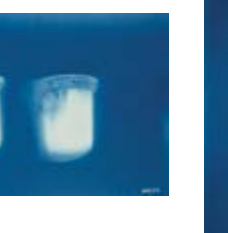
GRG 018



GRG 016



GRG 014



GRG 017



GRG 012



GRG 013



GRG 019



GRG 020



GRG 021

GRG 011 - Jim - *Toy horses*
 GRG 012 - Lucy Wilson - *Brass mouse*
 GRG 013 - Ben Wilson - *Two pebbles and a coin*
 GRG 014 - Zoe Arnold - *Pot of goo/sludge*
 GRG 015 - Victoria Mereu - *Diamonds and teddy lolly*
 GRG 016 - Anna Bailey - *Banana*

GRG 017 - Ahmend Kaplen - *Glasses*
 GRG 018 - Elizabeth Robinson - *Tic Tacs, bike clips, brush, pen*
 GRG 019 - Megan and Anouk - *Beer bottle opener and apple*
 GRG 020 - Freya - *Loom band*
 GRG 021 - Alex Mckenzie - *Slime*



GRG 022



GRG 024



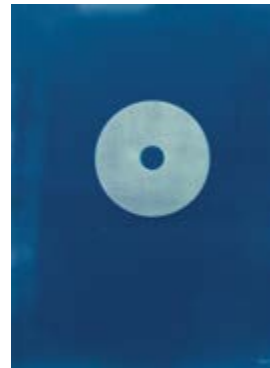
GRG 025



GRG 026



GRG 023



GRG 027


GRG 022 - Petronela Dostalova - *Mr. Chinx*
 GRG 023 - Tony Harrison - *A bag of gifts*
 GRG 024 - Dan - *Bottle of Italian air*

GRG 025 - Natalie Stone - *Glass droplet rod and stone ball*
 GRG 026 - Amy Sage - *Mr. Chinx*
 GRG 027 - Rab - *Bob Dylan CD: Highway 61 Revisited*



GRG 003



 THE CABINET OF CURIOSITIES

Archive No: GRG 011

Object: Toy Horses


Owner: Jim

Place: GRG

Date: 13/10/14

Description: _____

"This is a moose called Mr Chinx. I was working on my dissertation which was about taxidermy in contemporary art and I needed some taxidermy animals. So I ordered a moose and I thought it was going to be a real big moose – the images of it which they advertised made it look like a big moose but then when it arrived it was a tiny little toy moose."

 THE CABINET OF CURIOSITIES

Archive No: GRG 022

Object: MR. CHINX

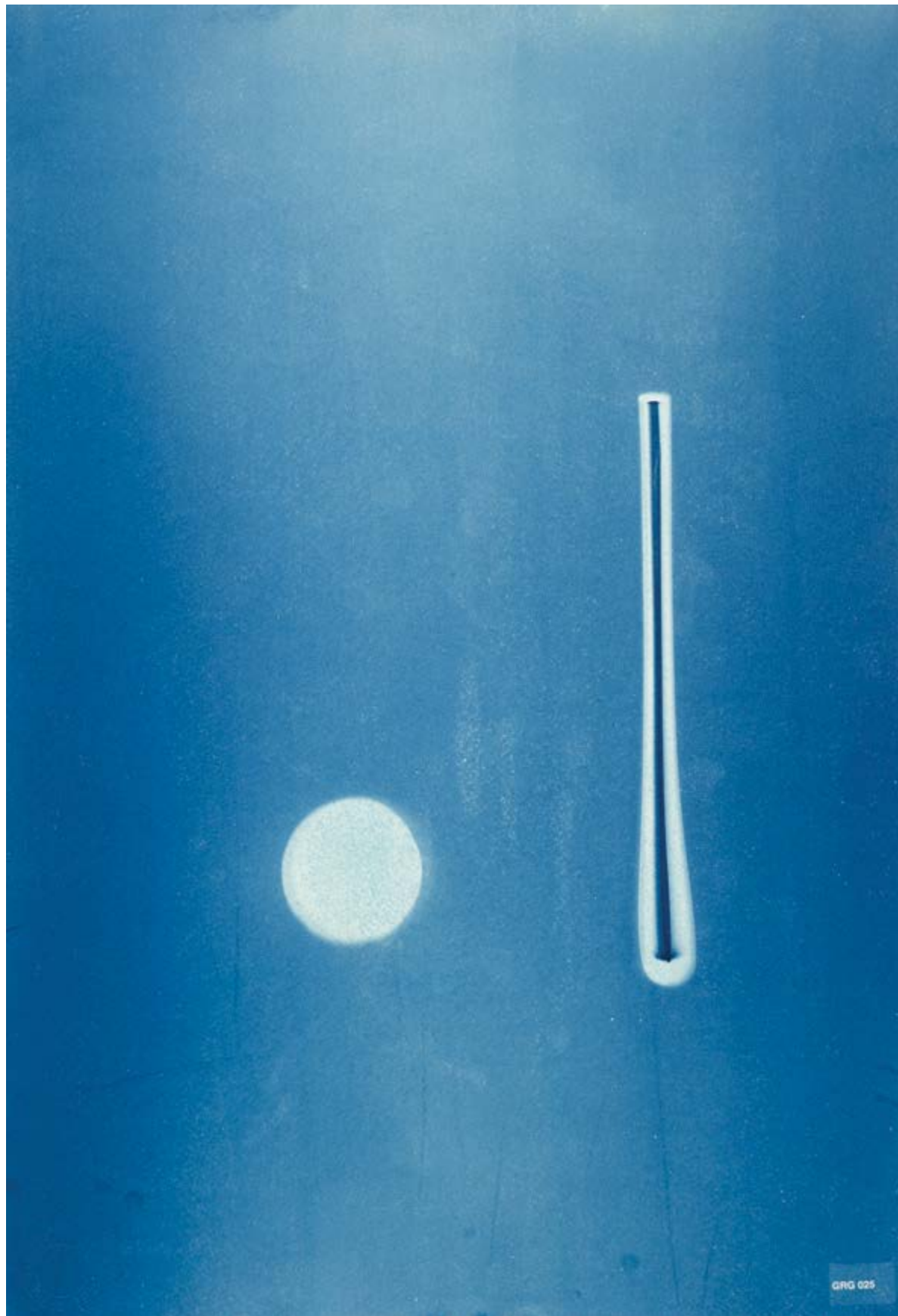
Owner: PETRONELA DOSTALOVA


Place: GIRTON

Date: 18/10/14

Description: MR. CHINX WAS PURCHASED AS A REAL MOOSE (TAXIDERMISED) FOR AN ART PROJECT. WHEN HE ARRIVED HE WASN'T AT ALL AND HE WAS TINY TOO. BUT I LIKED HIM.





 THE CABINET OF CURIOSITIES

Archive No: GRG 025
 Object: Glass droplet rod + Stone ball
 Owner: Natalie Stone
 Place: Girton
 Date: 19th October 2014
 Description: Found when hedge planting
along between ^{new} churchyard + recreation
ground at separate occasions.
River washed pebble or fired from something
during Reformation?

“There are two objects. One is a glass rod, bulbous at one end. I don’t know what it is but it was found next to the recreation ground when they were hedge planting in the new churchyard. It might be a stirrer of some sort. The other item, I have been told, is a river washed pebble but we haven’t got any rivers nearby. I always had a feeling it might be from a musket and being near the church, it could go back to days of the Reformation and shooting the windows of the church. A far nicer story than just being a river washed pebble.”

The Cabinet of Curiosities cyanotype collection of wondrous things could not have been made without the generosity of spirit and enthusiasm of over five hundred people who live and work around the new Darwin Green area in North West Cambridge.

Thank you to everyone in Cambridge, Impington, Histon and Girton who brought along their wonderful curiosities to:

- Impington Village College (13-14 September 2014)
- Histon Baptist Church (16 September 2014)
- St Luke's Church (24-28 September 2014)
- National Institute of Agriculture and Botany (29 September 2014)
- Darwin Green (1 October 2014)
- St Augustine's Church (5 October 2014)
- Mayfield Primary School (8-16 October 2014)
- Girton Glebe School and Recreation Ground (18-19 October 2014)

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www.thecabinetofcuriosities.org.uk
