

# Putting it All Together

So Far we have considered the action and the face and head.

Now for the simple matter of putting it all together well fairly simple not all the heads fit all bodies , I use to love going to the seaside and pushing my head through the hole and being photographed with the body of a fat lady or muscle man it was fun...

I don't think you want it to look like the head has just been plonked on the drawing you have been very careful to make sure that the head and the body are facing in the same direction.

Remember what we said about balance and equilibrium and centre of gravity..

This is okay...



This is Better...



The shoulders neck and head fit together something like this...



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Having fitted the head to the body now step back and look at the finished figure.

Mmm.. not quite right an arm is a little to long the hand is not in the position I want it to be or maybe just a finger or a shoe lace..

I keep a stock of white adhesive patches so I can make alterations at this stage..

Now it is time to add a little incidental information in the background or foreground maybe a pot plant or a handbag maybe even the garden shed..



By now the drawing looks a bit of a mess bits stuck on patches ,lines and marks deleted with white paint and so on ...

Praise God for the photocopier !!!

I take my messed up picture and from it produce a clean copy and this is the one I now proceed to colour in always do a few copies you might make a mess of one or in my case two.

You are now two thirds of the way to producing a finished caricature all we need now is to colour the subject in..

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You may choose to colour up using a computer program the results are excellent if you want flat colours or simple colour gradients , air brush is wonderful too if you have the time and patience.

But I still choose to use the old fashioned brush / Marker combination for faces and I am going to assume that this is what you will be using for the rest of this exercise..



With markers and water colours being transparent you can build up your colour gradually begin with a very soft flesh colour leaving the white paper for only the very highlights.

The light on the example from the left.

The highlights in this case would be the forehead , the cheekbones , the top of the ear , the top the nose ,above the lip , the bottom lip and the chin..

The eyes and the teeth might also be left white ..



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Build up the colour on the side of the head away from the light.

Notice how one of the ears for example has little or no colour while the other is completely in the shade..



Only at this stage should you add the colour I.E. the red of the lips and cheeks , the blue of the jaw and also the eyes and hair colour...

Add the finishing touches to the drawing using your black pen once again and white paint where necessary...



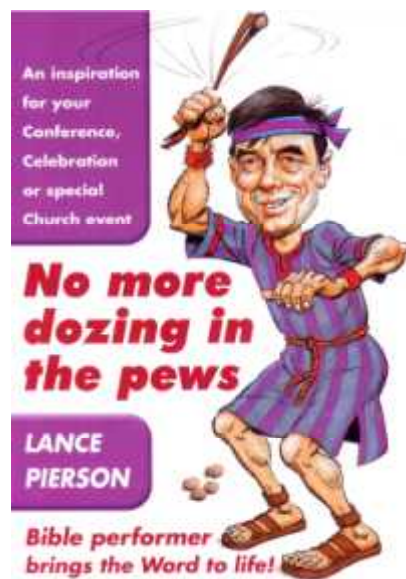
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I always colour in the face and head first because it is the most important detail of the finished picture.

So if I do make a mess of it I can turn to my reserve copy...

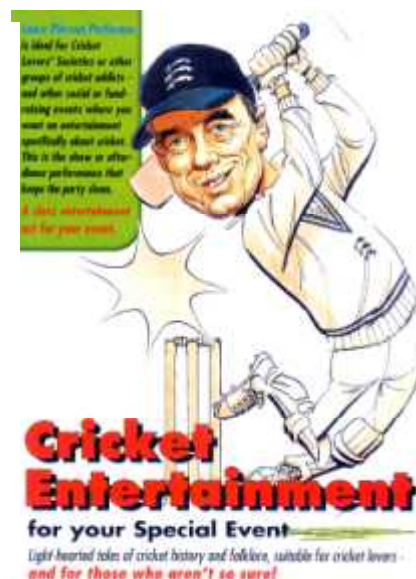


Happy with the face I then proceed with colouring up the remainder of the caricature again using a mix of markers and water colours. That's just my preferred media for colouring and may not be your choice..



This is the same man in two other situations poses..

These leaflets publicise his speaking activities...



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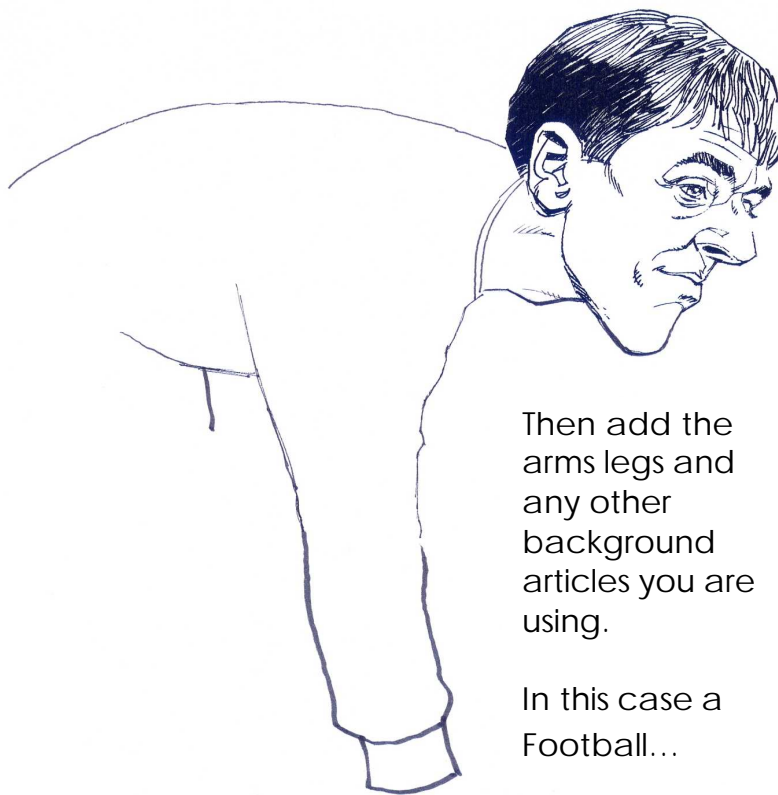
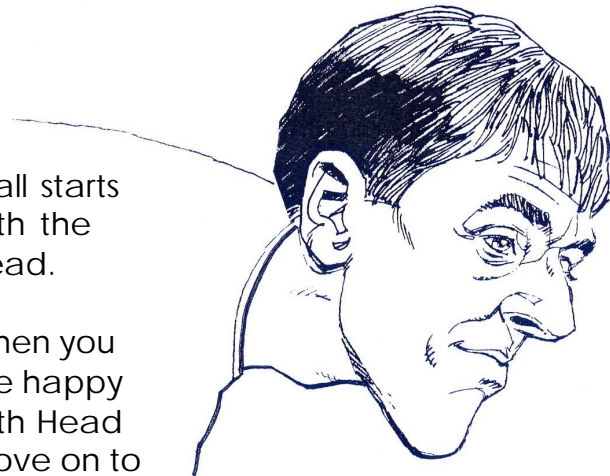
I usually add the name of the subject before I sign the picture..

Here is a sequence from the creation of the caricature of Matt Le Tissier showing the first lines of the drawing of the face to the finished name and signature...



It all starts with the Head.

When you are happy with Head move on to the Body...

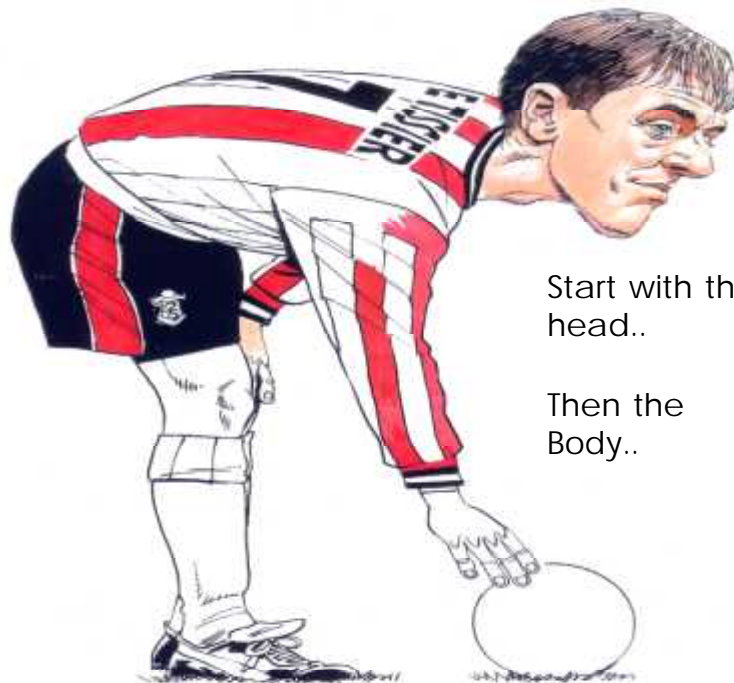


Then add the arms legs and any other background articles you are using.

In this case a Football...

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Now it time for the colour ...



Start with the head..

Then the Body..



Then colour the rest of the caricature in..

Step back take a look and give yourself a pat on the back...

MATT LE TISSIER

