**Alexa snoring**

Sorry I nearly missed the gig. I’ve been awake since 4am. Wide awake, cosiness gone. Everyone else was fast asleep, even Alexa was snoring.

**Great balls of the Dingo**

The stars outside were so different, the ones the Australians probably see. Gone was Orion’s belt, to be replaced by the Great Balls of the Dingo, or the Kookaburra’s cock.

**Toilets**

I found myself looking beyond the stars, and started wondering about the infinity of the universe. And then toilets.

**Academic rush hour**

Our toilets at work have an inspection sheet signed at 4am. I can’t understand it, because this is a university. No-one appears before mid-day, 12:30 is the academic rush hour.

**Cool geek**

I like to think I’m known as a cool geek, simultaneously getting excited about circuit design and snowboarding in equal measures, and if I ever became incapacitated from skydiving I always have computer programming as a fall-back.

**C3PO**

So I’ve wanted to build robots ever since I saw R2D2 on StarWars in 1977. Not C3PO, that bumbling gold humanoid damaged the conception of robots and gay rights simultaneously.

**Princess Leia**

I wanted to create a droid that would save humanity, defeat the Sith, and free a scantily clad Princess Leia from the clutches of Jabba the Hut.

**Cracker packers Bourbon Fancy farty tune**

The reality hit me hard, one of my first jobs was to build robot cracker packers. McVities wanted to optimise the workforce and so my robots were stacking Custard Creams into boxes, it was all about the biscuit. Boba Fett was replaced by a Bourbon Fancy, and R2D2 was an industrial chocolate dispenser that hummed a farty tune on each squirt of chocolate.

**Rammed biscuits**

Mind you, when robots go wrong, they go horribly wrong. Don’t worry about these things taking over humanity and enslaving us, I discovered that any rogue biscuits misplaced on a conveyor and the robot will ram them all together, ensuring that the extra interloping biscuits will still be jammed into the same packet, 12 will go into 5 oh yes.

**Rich tea**

It’s not exactly saving the world, but ensuring Britain’s sacrosanct tea-break continues with the Rich Tea.

**Mud slingers**

So now, I teach at University, it’s an agricultural university and our robots are developed for farming. The worst thing our robots can do is to sling mud at the humans, but its these kinds of existential problems that keep me awake at night.









