## Richard Rudge

'Gordon the Monkey' (2024),
Comic Illustration, Pen and Ink drawing, digitally coloured

Richard Rudge is a creator of comics and illustrations inspired by the intersection of nature, culture, and technology. He has developed a condistinct graphic style, using traditional pen and ink techniques that are developed from various comic book influences.

For this illustration, his main character is Gordon, Solihull's iconic monkey, seeking "to give him a voice". As the artist says, "He's moved around, talked about, but never talked to, just a part of the furniture of Solihull. I wondered what Gordon felt his purpose was, what a surreal conversation that would be, something local Silhillians would recognise fondly."

While self-publishing his stories, Rudge produces private portrait commissions plus illustrations for art trails and public display. In 2020 he took part in Making Trails' Burton Swan Trail, followed by the Big Burton Carousel Trail in 2022. He has exhibited in the Core Theatre, Solihull and is currently working on an abstract graphic novel project 'It All Comes Together, It All Falls Apart'.

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