



MEMORIAL GATE

SEB FLANAGAN

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STATEMENT

I will explore war memorials commemorating those who have fallen during World War One. Specifically focusing on the teenagers who enlisted Often as young as 14. 250,000 teenagers answered the call to arms, 20,000 would not return and many more badly wounded. I hope this project can highlight the identity of the soldiers and serve as a place of remembrance for the fallen.



PRIVATE JOE (VALENTINE) STRUDWICK

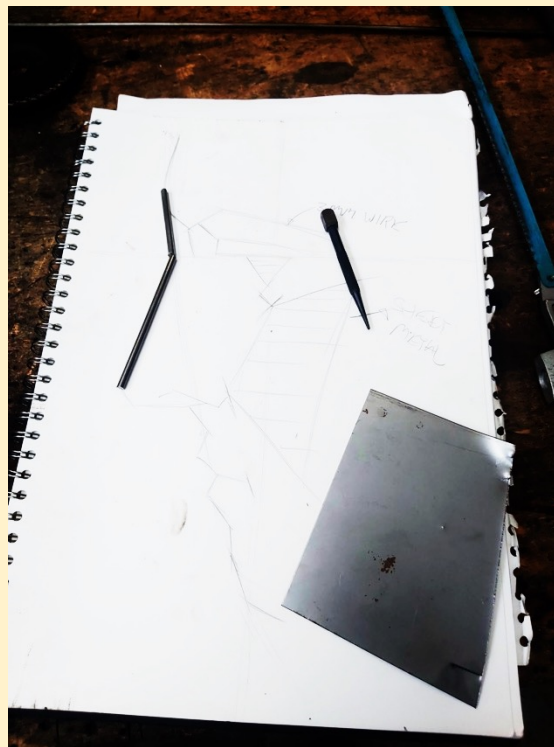
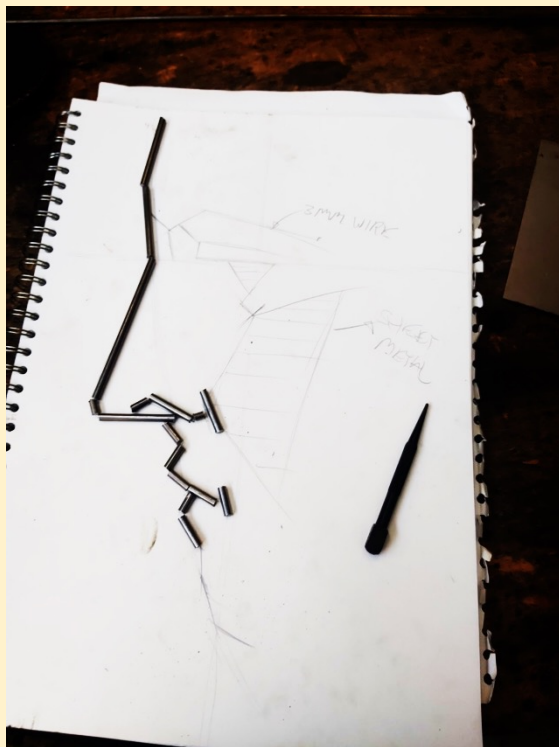
The initial inspiration for this project came after visiting the memorial in my hometown Dorking. I found information on Joe Strudwick. He was born and lived in Dorking, Surrey and went to the same primary school as I did, St Paul's school Dorking. He was born on February 14th 1900 and was appropriately nick-named Valentine, due to his birthday being on valentines day. At age 15 he was killed in Boezinge, West Flanders in Belgium exactly one month before his 16th birthday. He is said to be one of the youngest military casualties of the First World War.

Rather than remembrance through long lists of names and vast abstract numbers, I want to dedicate a memorial gate to Valentine to allow the viewer to connect to the individual, their story and their face.



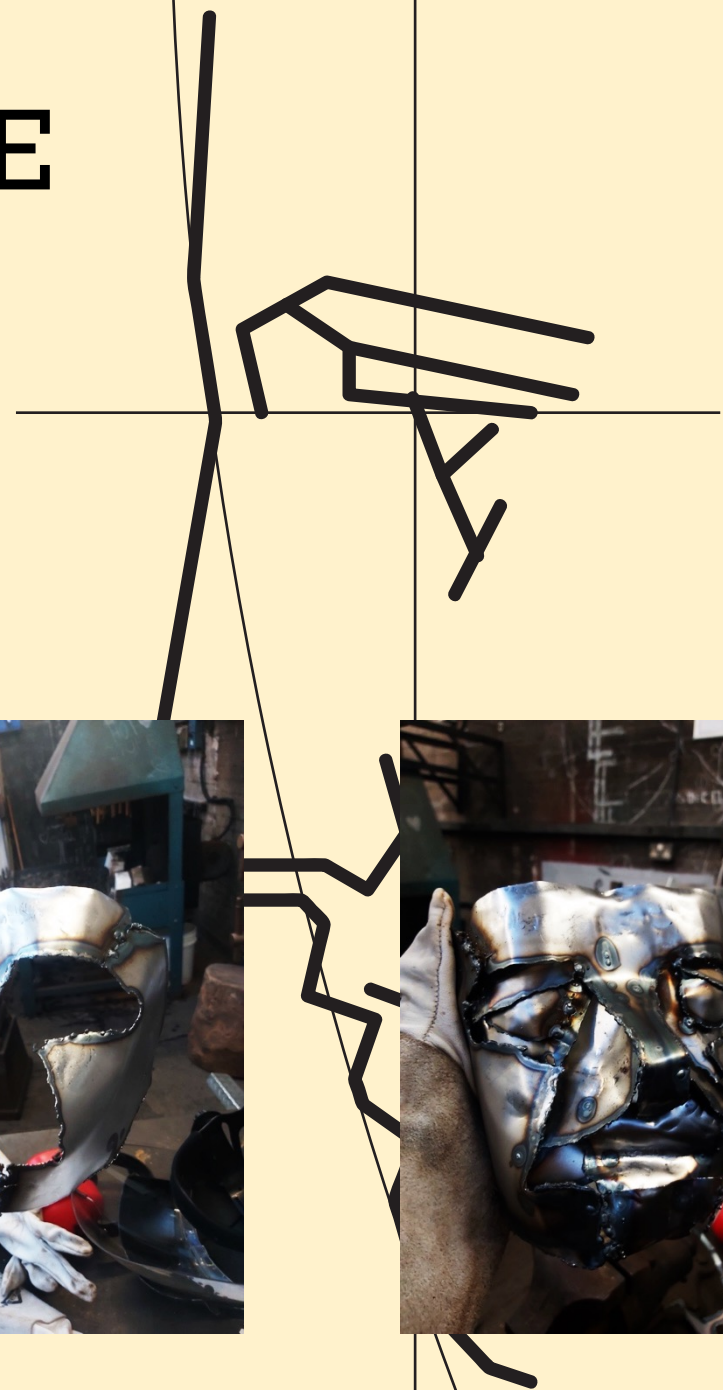
DEPICTING STRUDWICK'S FACE

I began by depicting Strudwick's face through a 2D representation from a drawing.



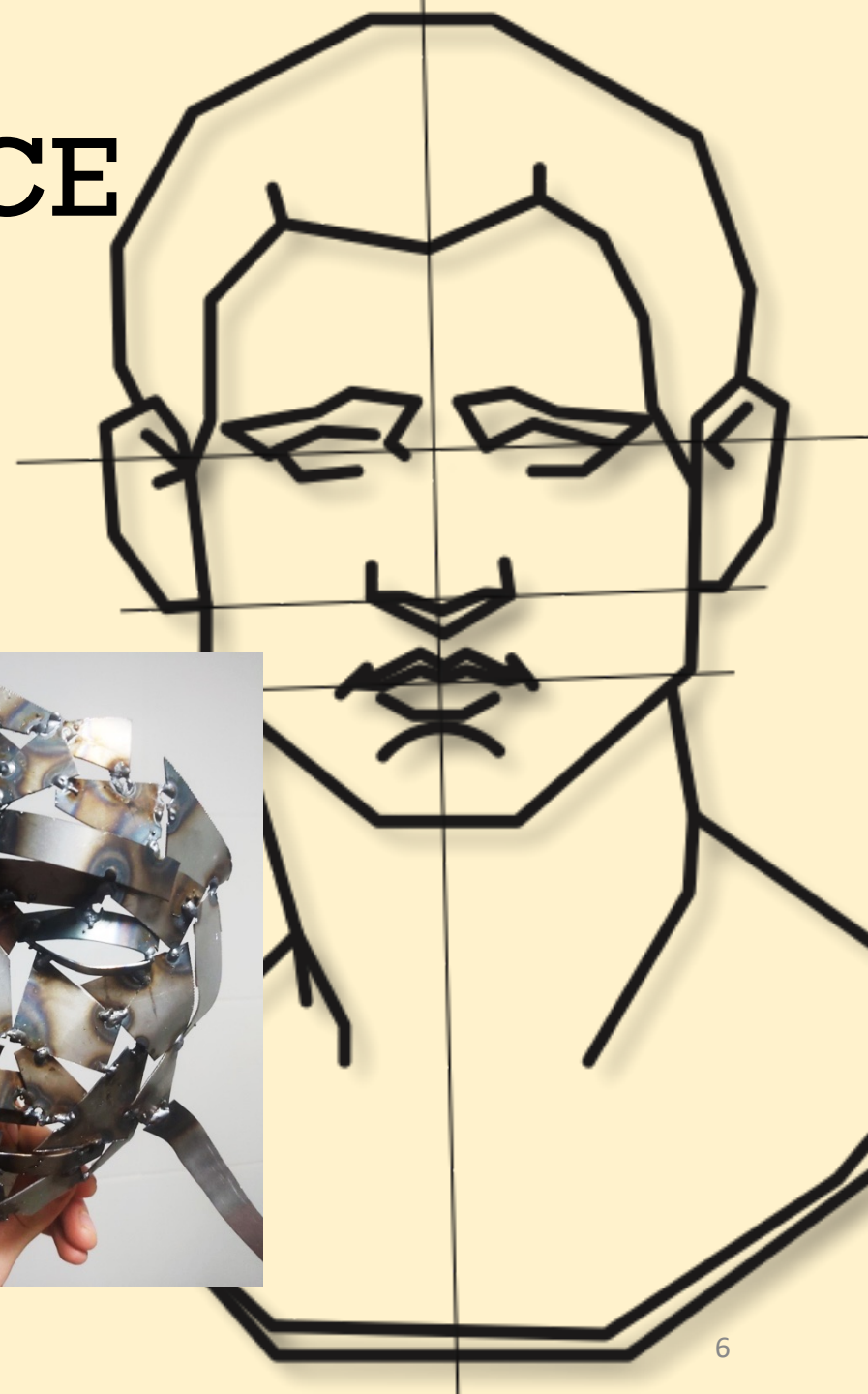
EXPERIMENTING IN THREE DIMENSIONS

I made a plaster cast of my friends face to referencing when creating the 3d form. This piece was a step in the right direction but didn't have the realism I was looking for.



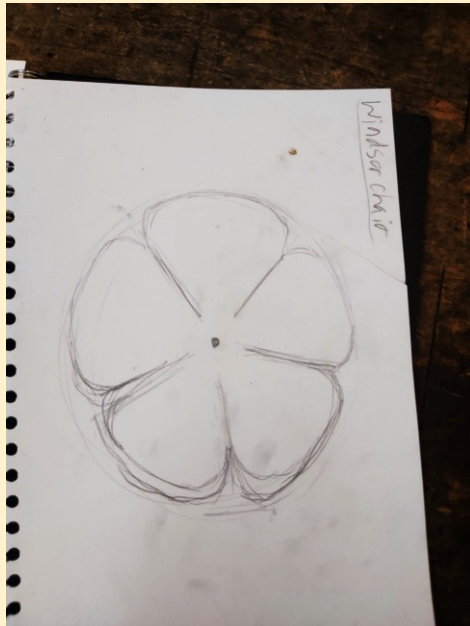
CREATING STRUDWICKS FACE

For my final attempt I welded pieces of sheet steel straight onto the plaster cast which picked up the details and contours of the face exactly as I wanted.



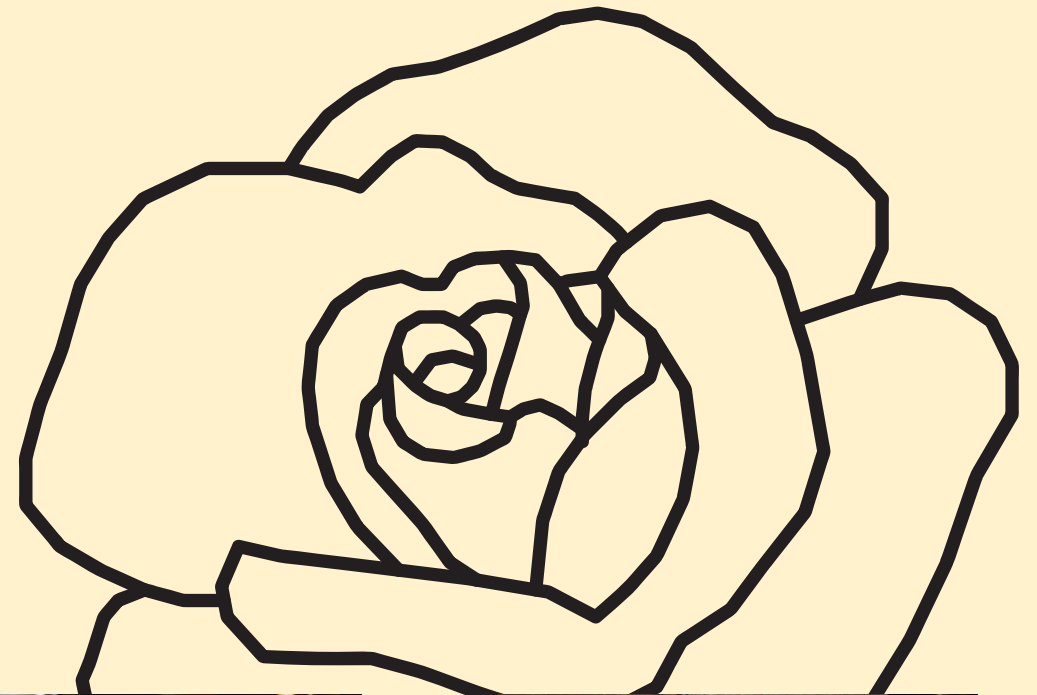
ROSE MAKING

I included roses as they can be used to represent death and mourning when coloured black. This signifies those who died in the war.



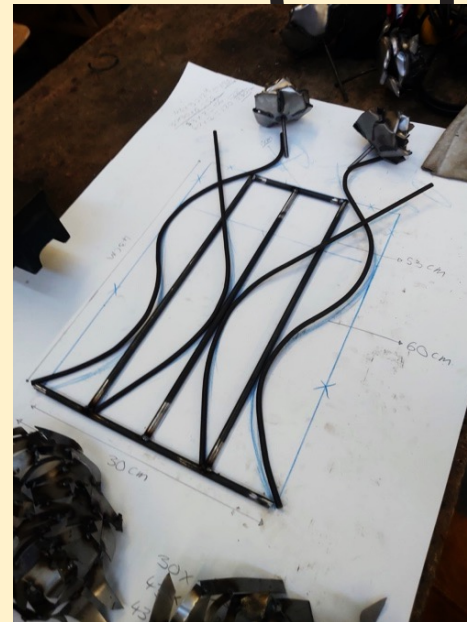
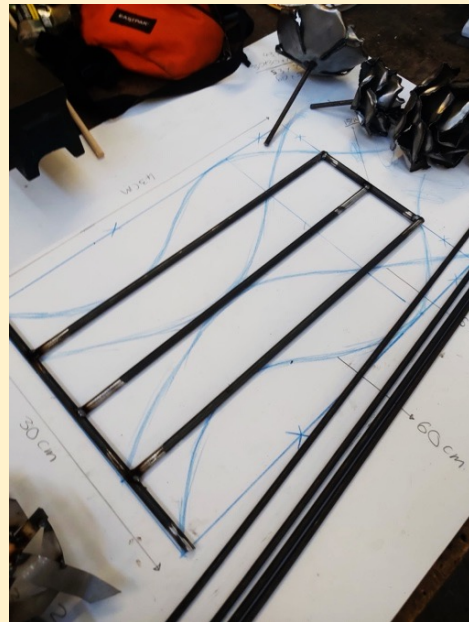
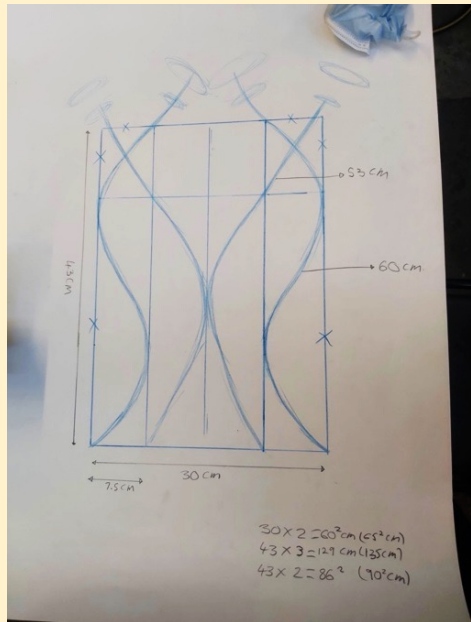
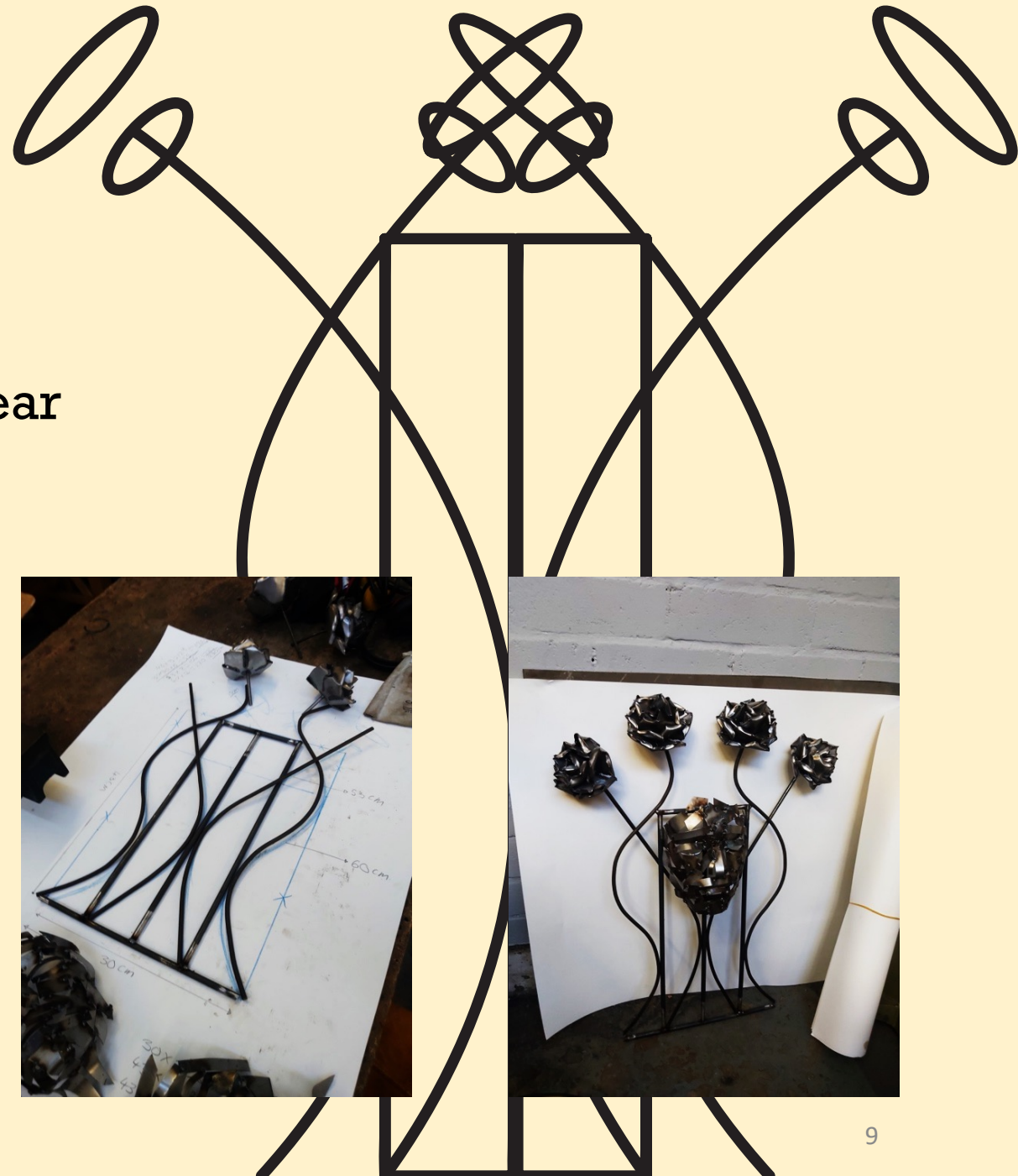
COLOURING THE ROSES

Sand blasting the roses and faces allowed for an even colouring when being heat treated.



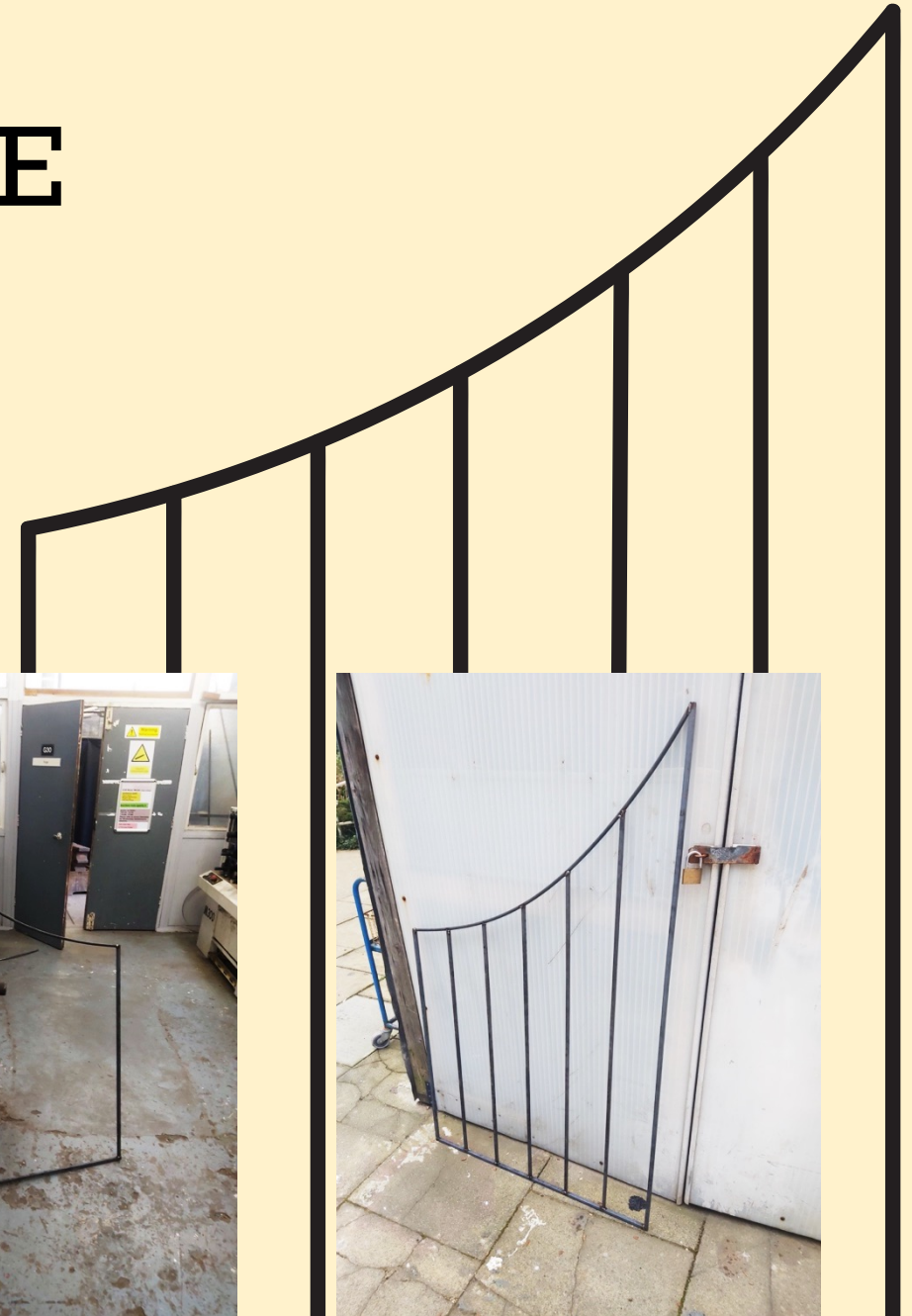
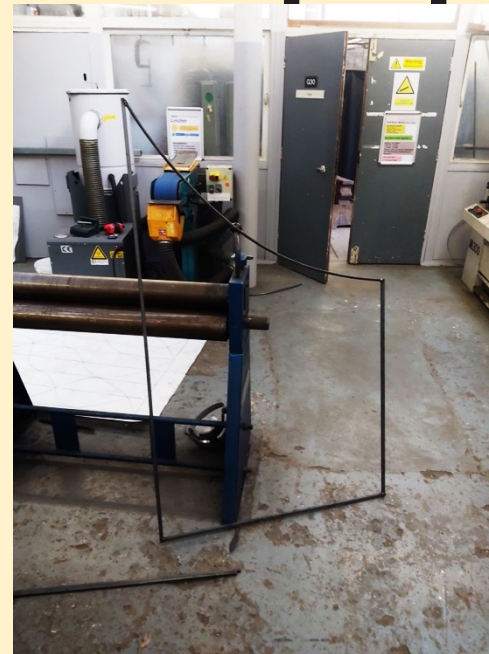
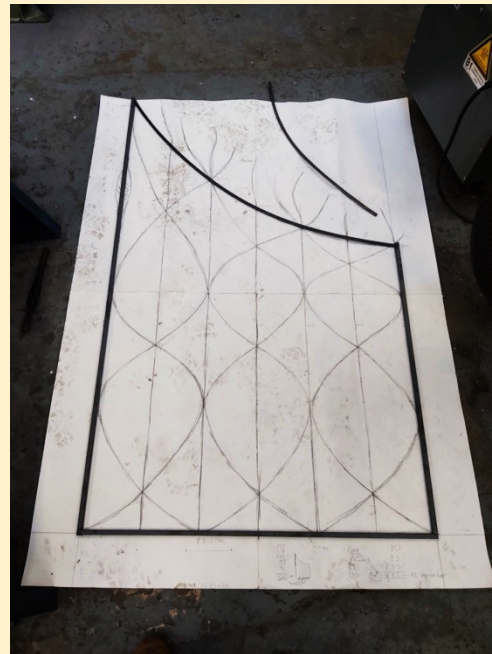
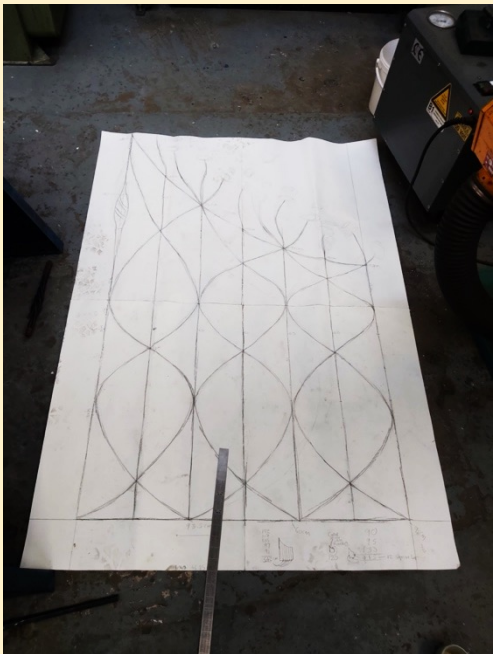
GATE MAQUETTE

The final outcome depicted Strudwick as more of a trophy than a person to be remembered which is something I will bear in mind for the final gate.



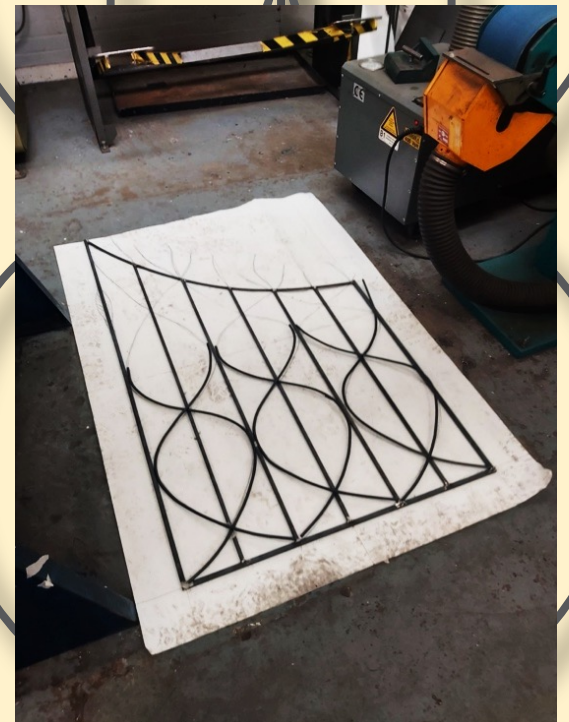
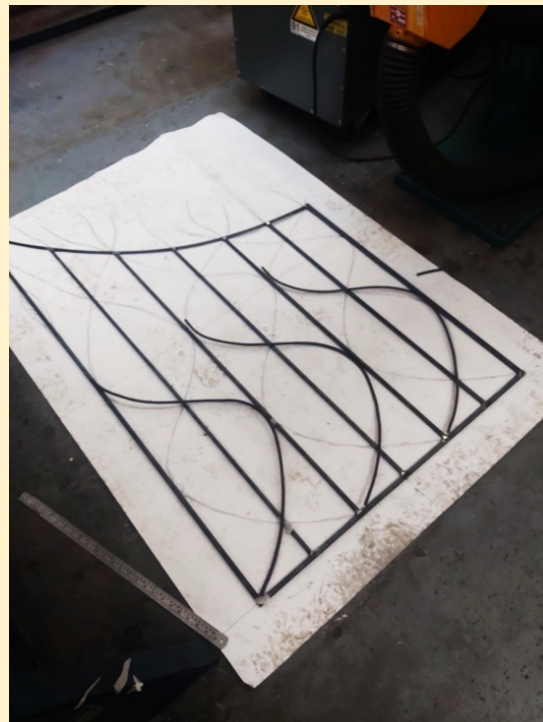
CREATING MY FINAL PIECE

Once I had the full scale drawing mapped out I was able to begin the frame while constantly referring back to the drawing.



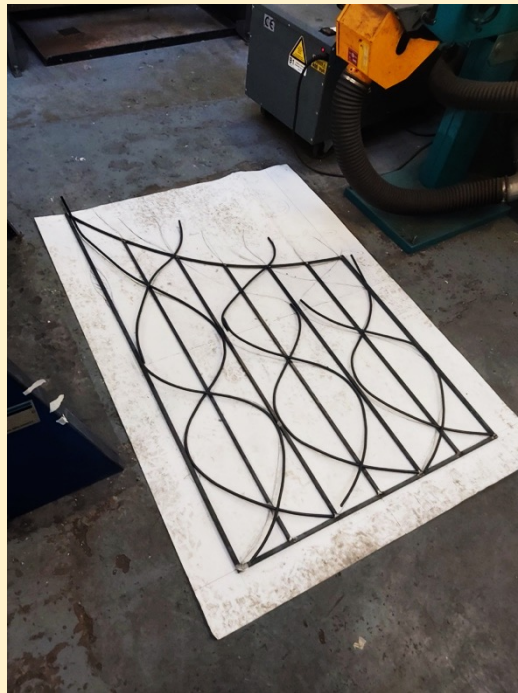
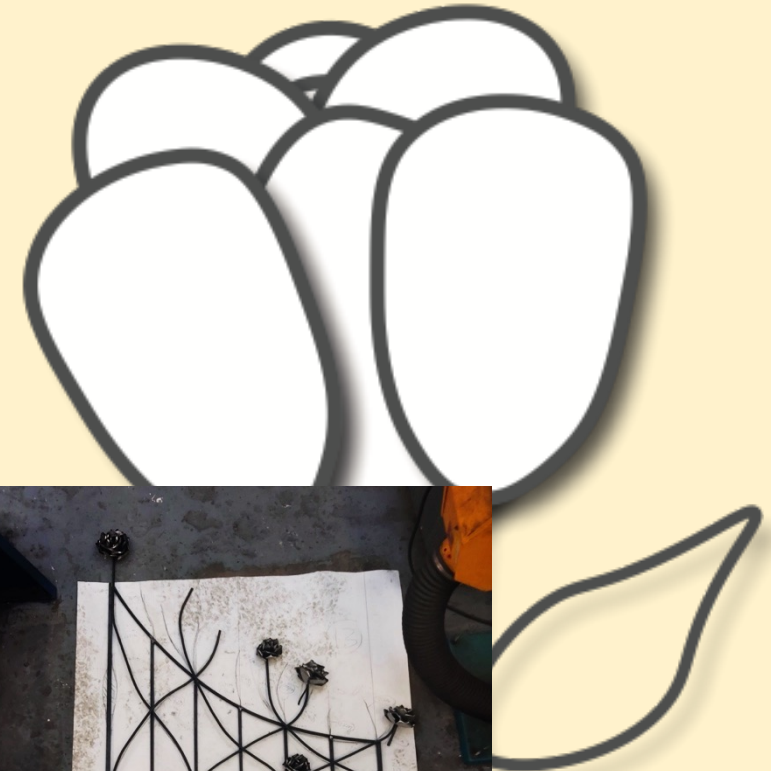
ROSE STEMS

Creating the stems of the roses.



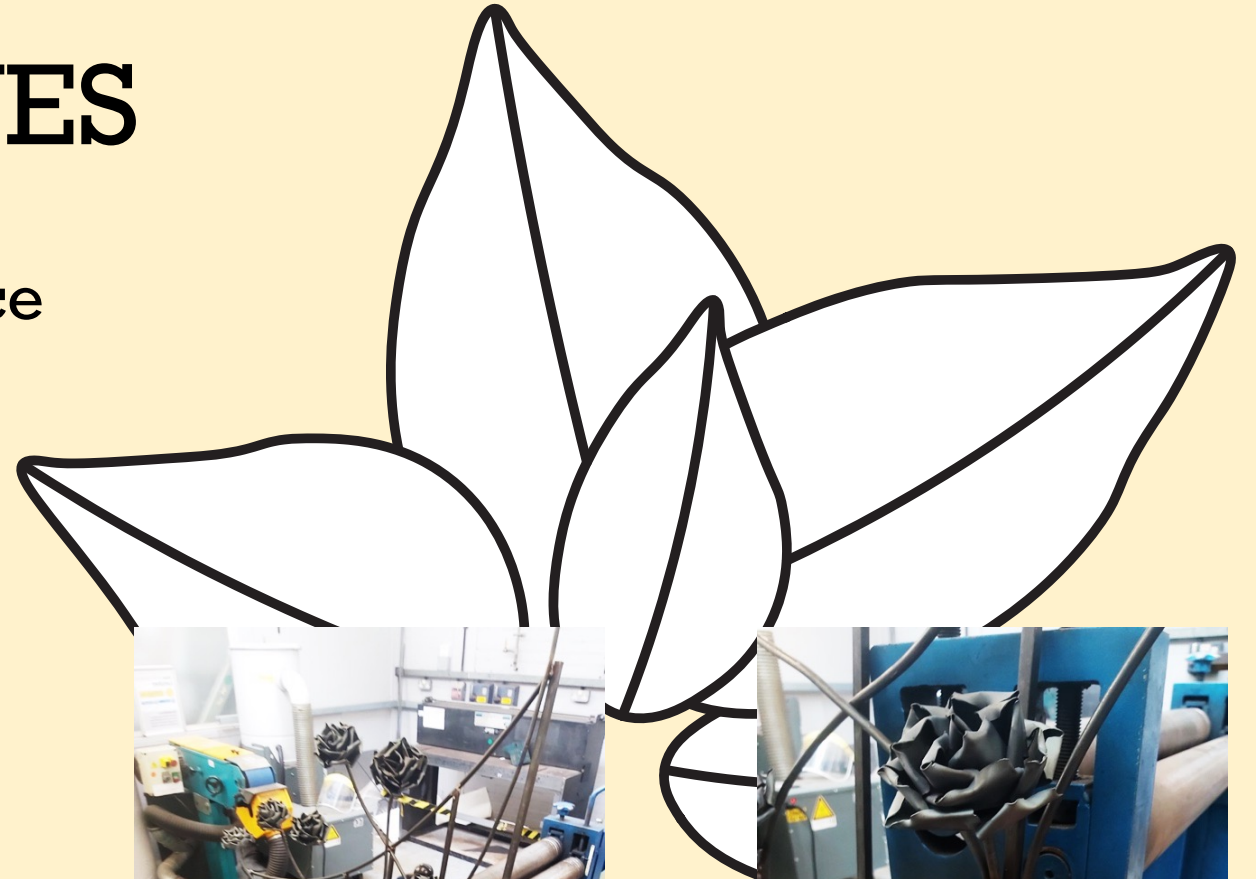
ROSE EXPERIMENTATION

Once the stems were made I could place the roses to see the best placement.



WELDING THE LEAVES

Adding the leaves helped tie the piece together.

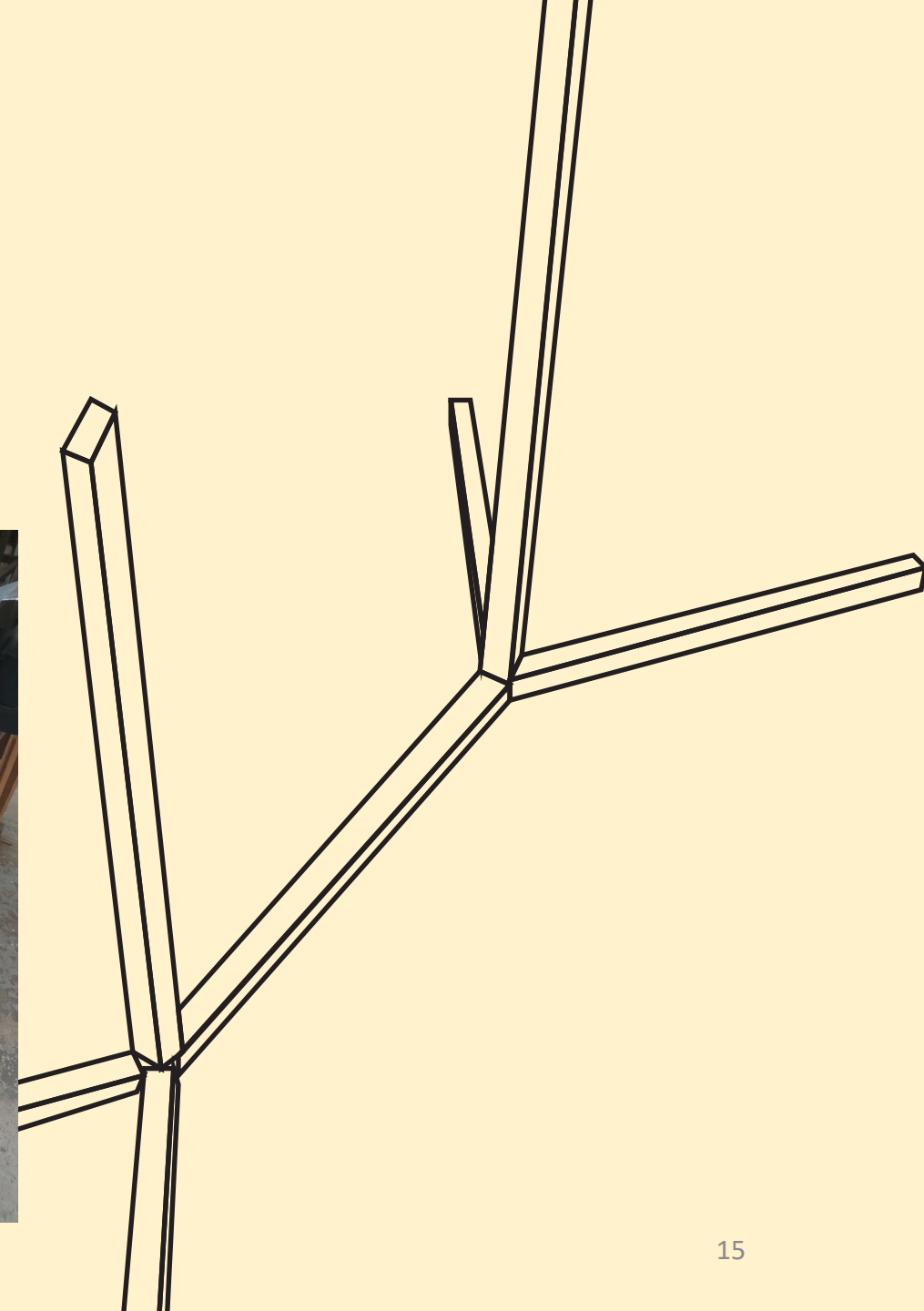


FINAL GATE WITH FACE



FRAME MAQUETTE

I created a scale model of the frame. The full sized version will make the gate useable.



MOCK UP OF THE FRAME

I began taking measurements and laying out the pieces to help me visualise the frame.



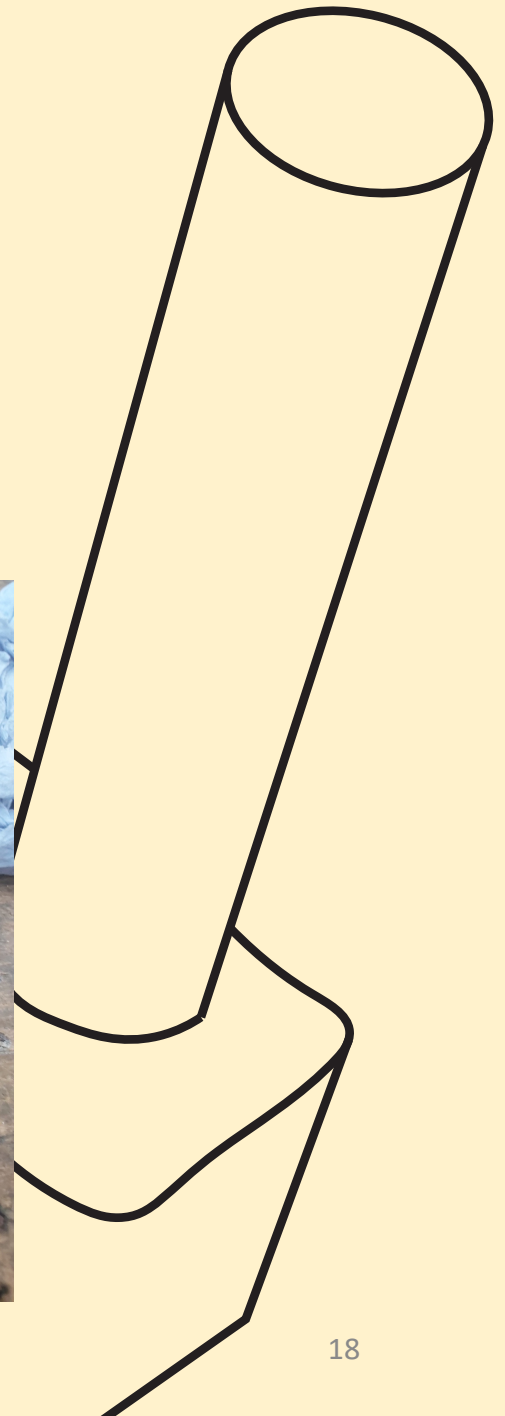
CREATING THE FRAME

Once I was happy with it I could weld the frame and test fit the gate. I then included the 16mm rod which will act as supports.



CREATING THE HINGE

I created the pins using 20mm square bar as they needed to be incredibly strong.



FORGING THE KNUCKLE

The forge allowed me to heat the D-shape steel bar which could be bent around 8mm rod (same diameter as the pin).



TESTING THE FRAME

Testing went smoothly which was surprising as the gate weighed a lot.



FINAL GATE

