DOCTOR WHO

- it's a question

and

a statement...

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http://aetw.org/omega.html

DOCTOR WHO - it's a Question, and a Statement ...



Every now and then, I read comments from Whovians about how the programme is called:

"Doctor Who"

- and how you shouldn't write the title as:

"Dr. Who".

Also, how the central character is called:

"The Doctor",

and should not be referred to as:

"Doctor Who" (or "Dr. Who" for that matter)

But of course, the Truth never quite that simple
As the Evidence below will show...

* * * * * * *

THE PROGRAMME

Yes, the programme *is* titled: "Doctor Who", but from the very beginning – in fact from *before* the beginning, the title has *also* been written as: "**DR WHO**".

From the BBC Archive Original 'treatment' (Proposal notes) for the 1963 series:

"DR. WHO"

General Notes on Background and Approach

A series of stories linked to form a continuing serial; thus if each story ran 6 or 7 episodes there would be about 8 stories needed for 52 weeks of the serial. With the overall title, each spisode is to have its own title. Each episode of 25 minutes will begin by repeating the closing sequence or final climax of the preceding spisode; about halfway through, each episode will reach a climax, followed by blackout before the second half commences (one break).

Each story, as far as possible, to use repeatable sets. It is expected that RP will be available. A reasonable amount of film, which will probably be mostly studio shot for special effects. Certainly writers should not hesitate to call for any special effects to achieve the element of surprise essential in these stories, even though they are not sure how it would be done technically: leave it to the Effects people. Otherwise work to a very moderate budget.

Source: http://www.bbc.co.uk/archive/doctorwho/6403.shtml?page=1

And as to the central character ...

Just as with the programme itself - from before the beginning, the central character has also been referred to as: "DR. WHO".

[From the same original proposal document:]

There are four basic characters used throughout:-

CHARACTERS

BRIDGET (BIDDY)

A with-it girl of 15, reaching the end of her Secondary School career, eager for life, lowerthan-middle class. Avoid dislect, use neutral accent laced with latest teenage slang.

MISS MCCOVINE (LOLA) 24. Mistress at Biddy's school. Fimid but capable of sudden rabbit courage. Modest, with plenty of normal desires. Although she tends to be the one who gets into trouble, she is not to be guyed: she also is a loyalty character.

CLIFF

27 or 28. Master at the same school. Might be classed as ancient by teenagers except that he is physically perfect, strong and courageous, a gergeous dish. Oddly, when brains are required, he can even be brainy, in a diffident sort of way. - Try of he class - product or

These are the characters we know and sympathise with, the ordinary people to whom extraordinary things happen. The fourth basic character remains always something of a mystery, and is seen by us rather through the eyes of the other three

A frail old man lost in space and time. They give him this name because they don't know who he is. He seems not to remember where he has come from: he is suspicious and ospable of sudden muligrance; he seems to have some undefined enemy; he is searching for something as well as fleeing from something. He has a "machine" which enables them to travel together through time, through space, and through matter.

In the BBC's own 'Radio Times' TV guide (issue dated 14 November 1963), both the programme and the central character are called: "**Dr. Who**"



On page 7 of the BBC 'Radio Times' TV guide (issue dated 21 November 1963) there is a short feature on the new programme:



Again, the programme is titled: "DR. WHO"

"In this series of adventures in space and time the title-role [i.e. DR. WHO] will be played by William Hartnell"

This time, however, in the text of the article itself, the character is also referred to as:

"the Doctor". So, it would seem that, from the outset, *both*: "the Doctor" *and*: "**Dr. Who**" were correct ways of referring to the character.

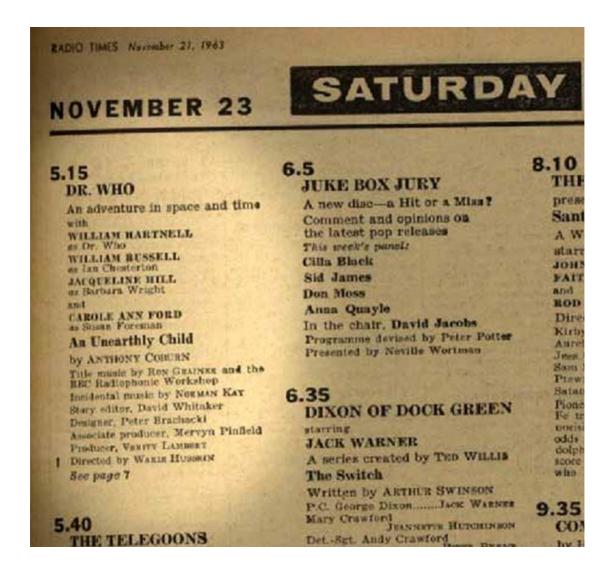
In the same issue of the BBC 'Radio Times' TV guide

- in the actual listings for 23 November, 1963 [the first ever Episode], again we see the programme titled as:

"DR. WHO"

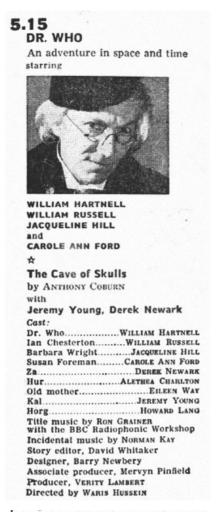
and William Hartnell's character is also listed as:

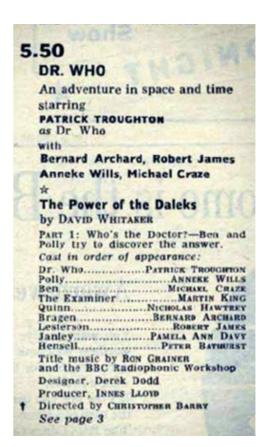
"Dr. Who"



And so it would be continuously throughout the years up into the fourth incarnation of the central character.

Although he was primarily referred to as "the Doctor" *in-episode*, he was referred to as: "**Dr. Who**" in the episode listings:







RADIO TIMES DATED 11 APRIL 1974

Also, for the first eighteen years of the programme's history (1963 – 1981), in the closing credits for the first four incarnations of the Time Lord, the character is listed as either:

"Dr. Who" or: "Doctor Who" - not as: "The Doctor"









In fact, it is not until the beginning of the fifth (Davison) incarnation that the character is listed in the credits as: "The Doctor" - something which would also continue through the Colin Baker and Sylvester McCoy years, up to the suspension of the programme.







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When the programme returned to television in 2005, the character was once again listed as: "**Doctor Who**"



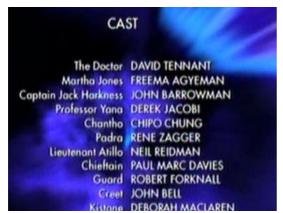
In the final episode of the Eccleston era: "The Parting of the Ways", the credits include:

"and introducing DAVID TENNANT as **Doctor Who**"



It was only in the Tennant era *proper*, beginning with the Christmas Special: "The Christmas Invasion", that the character was again listed as:

"The Doctor"





It seems fairly clear that it was acceptable, for those actually working on the programme, to refer to the character as: "**Dr. Who**".

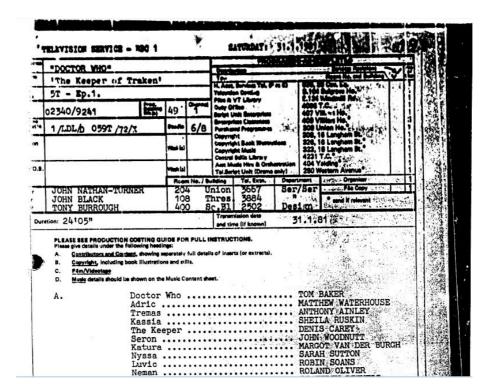
In an interview promoting the story: "The Three Doctors" (December '72 - January '73), Barry Letts, the programme's then producer, explains "The new story is that there is a black hole in space through which cosmic energy is draining. Everybody is helpless. Even **Dr. Who** - if he is alone. So the only people he can draw on to deal with it are his other selves."

And Verity Lambert, the programme's original producer, states: "I cast William Hartnell as **Dr. Who**, after seeing him playing a rugby talent scout in the Richard Harris film This Sporting Life."



In fact, right up to the end of season 18, the character was still officially being referred to as: "**Doctor Who**":

[Production paperwork for the story: "The Keeper of Traken"]



Admittedly, season 16 had seen one story: "The Power of Kroll" where the production paperwork identified the character as "The Doctor".

Then in season 18, three of the seven stories also saw the character listed as "The Doctor" ["The Leisure Hive", "Full Circle" & "Logopolis"]

Yet it was only really with the last of these - the very last story of season 18 and the final story of Tom Baker's tenure - that the character reference formally changed to: "The Doctor" in the production paperwork.

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And even then, there would be a small handful of stories where - in the production paperwork - the character would still be identified as: 'Doctor Who' [i.e. "Four to Doomsday", "The King's Demons", "Resurrection of the Daleks", "Time and the Rani" & "Battlefield"]

Also, from 1966 to 1986, Annuals were produced to accompany the programme. [No annual was produced for 1972]

All of the annuals from 1966 to 1979 were titled: "THE DR WHO ANNUAL". Only in 1980 did the title change to: "DOCTOR WHO".

The second annual (1967) simply states:

"As played by WILLIAM HARTNELL",

and the annuals for '68, '69, and '70 state:

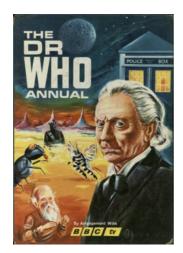
"As played by PATRICK THROUGHTON".

However, all of the annuals from 1971 to 1981 clearly refer to the character as: "DR WHO"

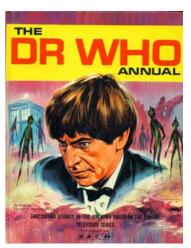
The Annuals for '71, '73, '74, and '75 bear the wording:

"Starring JON PERTWEE as DR WHO".

Those for '76, '77, '78, '79, '80, and '81 - "Starring TOM BAKER as **DR WHO**"

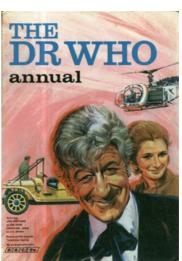


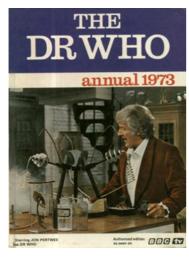




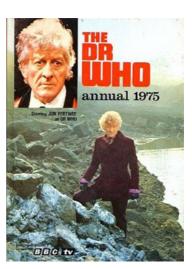
















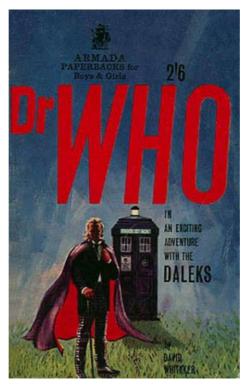








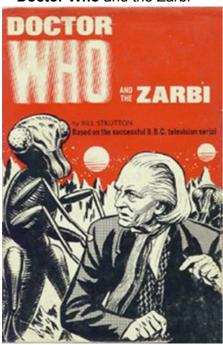
And of course, there were also the Doctor Who novelizations, beginning in 1964 with:

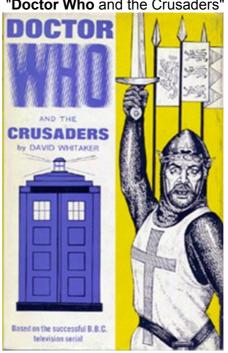


[Paperback Edition]
"Dr WHO in an exciting adventure with the Daleks"

This was followed in 1965 by:

"Doctor Who and the Zarbi" and: "Doctor Who and the Crusaders"





These were reprinted in 1973, and in the years from '73-'94 they were followed by somewhere in the region of 150 further novelisations - of which, 66 out of the first 70, had titles clearly referencing the Time Lord as:

'Doctor Who'

Doctor Who and the Auton Invasion

Doctor Who and the Cave Monsters

Doctor Who and the Doomsday Weapon

Doctor Who and the Day of the Daleks

Doctor Who and the Dæmons

Doctor Who and the Sea-Devils

Doctor Who and the Abominable Snowmen

Doctor Who and the Curse of Peladon

Doctor Who and the Cybermen

Doctor Who and the Giant Robot

Doctor Who and the Terror of the Autons

Doctor Who and the Green Death

Doctor Who and the Planet of the Spiders

Doctor Who and the Loch Ness Monster

Doctor Who and the Dinosaur Invasion

Doctor Who and the Tenth Planet

Doctor Who and the Ice Warriors

Doctor Who and the Revenge of the Cybermen

Doctor Who and the Genesis of the Daleks

Doctor Who and the Web of Fear

Doctor Who and the Space War

Doctor Who and the Planet of the Daleks

Doctor Who and the Pyramids of Mars

Doctor Who and the Carnival of Monsters

Doctor Who and the Seeds of Doom

Doctor Who and the Dalek Invasion of Earth

Doctor Who and the Claws of Axos

Doctor Who and the Ark in Space

Doctor Who and the Brain of Morbius

Doctor Who and the Planet of Evil

Doctor Who and the Mutants

Doctor Who and the Deadly Assassin

Doctor Who and the Talons of Weng-Chiang

Doctor Who and the Masque of Mandragora

Doctor Who and the Face of Evil

Doctor Who and the Horror of Fang Rock

Doctor Who and the Tomb of the Cybermen

Doctor Who and the Time Warrior

Doctor Who and the Android Invasion

Doctor Who and the Sontaran Experiment

Doctor Who and the Hand of Fear

Doctor Who and the Invisible Enemy

Doctor Who and the Robots of Death

Doctor Who and the Image of the Fendahl

Doctor Who and the War Games

Doctor Who and the Destiny of the Daleks

Doctor Who and the Ribos Operation

Doctor Who and the Underworld

Doctor Who and the Invasion of Time Doctor Who and the Stones of Blood Doctor Who and the Androids of Tara Doctor Who and the Power of Kroll Doctor Who and the Armageddon Factor Doctor Who and the Keys of Marinus Doctor Who and the Nightmare of Eden Doctor Who and the Horns of Nimon Doctor Who and the Monster of Peladon Doctor Who and the Creature from the Pit Doctor Who and the Enemy of the World Doctor Who and An Unearthly Child Doctor Who and the State of Decay Doctor Who and Warriors' Gate Doctor Who and the Keeper of Traken Doctor Who and the Leisure Hive Doctor Who and the Visitation Doctor Who and the Sunmakers

And then of course, in London's newly-completed G.P.O. Tower:

