

# Chair Adventures

by Ema Cooley



My intention for this project was to create a scrap book type photo album containing photographs of my chair in lots of different locations. The reason for this was for the audience to view all the different places the chair had been. I chose to use a disposable camera, inspired by photographers Richard Billingham and Martin Parr, who used cheap film. This complemented their subject matter, adding to the authenticity and frankness of their work. The other reason for this is that I wanted the photos to look like old family snaps, as we now live in a digital age and photos can be lost in the oblivion of an anonymous computer file. After lugging it around in the back of my car to lots of different places, I began to become quite attached to my chair. It became part of my life for a few weeks, going with me everywhere I went. My friends, family and even my dog was part of the project. It became a friend, a family member- so I



named it 'Polly'. I shot the chair in lots of different locations. I took it with me while walking the dog, and put it in the middle of a field. Some cattle came to investigate, and I got a few shots of them licking the chair, to see what it was. This was the exact effect I

wanted- complete spur-of-the-moment, exciting images. This really gave the effect of journey and adventure, shaping Polly's personality. Within the photos for my project, I also took a few shots of just me and my friends, which have nothing to do with the actual final piece. However, I decided to include them, as they give it another dimension- the shots were all taken along the journey, and back up the idea that Polly became my friend too. The finishing

touches of my final piece included covering the book with a photocopy of Polly's seat, to make it more purposeful.

When you flick through the book, you can relate to Polly, and see where she's been. Feedback from audiences has been positive- some felt a connection with Polly after looking through the scrapbook. Comments were made on how they wanted to see more adventures, as they became attached to her too!

