

Ripley's

Believe It or Not!

SOUTH AFRICAN TOUR



DISPLAY 1
Hulk

DISPLAY 2
Mirror Maze

DISPLAY 3
Dinosaurs

DISPLAY 4
Mummies

DISPLAY 5
Space

DISPLAY 6
Giants & Little People

DISPLAY 7
Earl Hughes

DISPLAY 8
Oriental

DISPLAY 9
Africa

DISPLAY 10
Skeleton 1 - Dodo

DISPLAY 11
Robert Wadlow / Art

DISPLAY 12
Marine

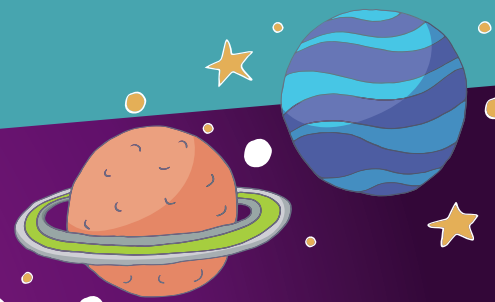
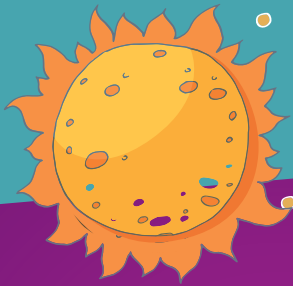
DISPLAY 13
Human Oddities



HIGHVELD MALL
THE MALL WITH MORE

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DISPLAY 1

THE INCREDIBLE HULK



The comic book character the Hulk was created when reserved physicist Bruce Banner was affected by an explosion of gamma rays. Mild-mannered Banner turns into the rampaging Hulk when he gets emotionally stressed or angry. As the Hulk he has superhuman strength and is virtually invulnerable - unfortunately he cannot control his anger and strength and often acts like a savage monster.

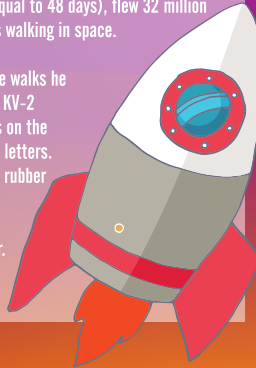
The Hulk figure displayed here stands over 3.4 metres tall and was built in Thailand, entirely from used automobile parts! Believe It or Not! His head alone weighs over 140 kilograms!

DISPLAY 5

ASTRONAUT STEPHEN ROBINSON SPACE GLOVE

Stephen Robinson was an employee of NASA for 26 years and an astronaut for 17, flying on four separate Space Shuttles to Space Station missions: STS-85, 95, 114 and 130. In total he logged 1156 hours in space (equal to 48 days), flew 32 million kilometres and spent 20 hours walking in space.

During those 20 hours of space walks he wore this Russian-made Sokol KV-2 space glove. His name appears on the cuff written in Russian Cyrillic letters. The glove is nylon with flexible rubber fingers that allow for the manipulation of tools, and the palm is reinforced with leather.



DISPLAY 13

THE MEXICAN VAMPIRE WOMAN



Maria Jose Cristerna used to be a lawyer, but now she is a tattoo artist and the world's most unusual woman. Nearly 100% of her body is covered in tattoos - many of which she applied to her body herself - and many have deep significance to her, symbolising parts of her childhood and past family misfortunes. Maria also designs all of her own "Goth" jewellery. Maria was an abused teenager and reinvented herself in her late 20's as a vampire, as a sign of her new found inner strength to overcome all adversities. In addition to her tattoos, Maria has titanium implanted horns all around her head, across her upper chest and down her forearms, real implanted fangs, dozens of body piercings, stretched earlobes, and even two small metal horns that can screw and unscrew into the centre of her forehead! Believe It or Not!

DISPLAY 11

NELSON MANDELA DUCT TAPE MURAL

Believe it or Not!, this stunning portrait of Nelson Mandela was made by James Hawkins of Chicago, USA entirely from thousands of small pieces of coloured duct tape!

Duct tape is a fabric-based, multi-purpose adhesive tape. It is generally silver or black in colour but actually comes in over 40 different colours, including "hot pink". Duct tape was originally developed during World War II in 1942 as a waterproof sealing tape for ammunition cases. It was also used to quickly repair military equipment, including Jeeps, guns, and aircraft.

After the war, the housing industry boomed and people started using duct tape for many other purposes. The name "duct tape" came from its use on heating and air conditioning ducts, a purpose for which it, ironically, has been deemed ineffective. Its strength, low cost, and remarkable versatility make it a household staple for temporary repairs and general purpose use.

Nelson Rolihlahla Mandela (1918 - 2013) spent his entire life fighting against racism, and for freedom and democracy in South Africa. Upon his release from prison in 1990, he jointly won the Nobel Peace Prize with F.W. de Klerk, and in 1994 became the first democratically elected President of South Africa. By the time of his death, Mandela had come to be widely considered "the father of the nation" within South Africa and "the founding father of democracy".



DISPLAY 13

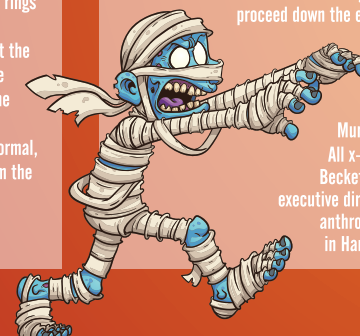
PADUANG LONG-NECKED WOMAN



Believe It or Not!, women of the Paduang tribe in Myanmar (Burma) wear heavy brass rings around their necks! Starting at an early age with five rings, women gradually stretch their necks up to 40 cm's long, by adding a ring annually, until they reach 25 rings. The brass neck rings are worn for life and are seldom removed. Removal of the rings is dangerous because over time the neck muscles atrophy and often cannot support the weight of the woman's head without the brass rings. Though it appears as if the wearer's neck has been stretched, in reality the neck is no longer than normal, but the collarbone has caved in from the weight of the rings.

DISPLAY 4

ORIGINAL RIPLEY CARTOON - MAY 15, 1931



Drawn on location in Cairo in March of 1931, Ripley visited Egypt three times in his career. The first time, in 1923, he was there specifically to see the newly excavated tomb of King Tut. In 1931, when this drawing was made, he travelled across the Sahara Desert from Morocco to Egypt. Two years later in 1933, he would arrive in Egypt from Italy, then proceed down the entire length of the continent to Durban and Johannesburg.

Ancient Egyptian Mummified Remains: X-Rays
All x-rays provided by Ron Beckett and Jerry Conlogue executive directors of Quinnipiac's Bio anthropology Research Institute in Hamden, Connecticut.

DISPLAY 13

LIZARD MAN

Believe It or Not!, Eric Sprague of New York, for the last ten years has been transforming himself into a reptile! He has green scale-like tattoos from head to foot and has even forked his tongue! In addition to looking a little unusual, Eric also performs a number of jaw-dropping stunts, including having concrete blocks broken over both his chest and his groin with a sledgehammer, and a giant corkscrew pushed thru his nostrils, out his mouth and back into his ear!



HIGHVELD MALL
THE MALL WITH MORE