**It’s what you don’t see**

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For my research project a new sensor is being developed and the image captures a top view of the electronic circuit sitting in its enclosure. Nowadays, many people are not aware of the internal workings of the technology they use day in, day out; and a smartphone is hardly different from a magical device for most of its users. Even in the photograph only some top-level components can be seen, yet the connections and other vital components of the circuit remain hidden on the underside of the board and the nanoscopic transistors (effectively electricity’s cog wheel!) inside these components will never be seen by the naked eye.

However, the same is true for society! Much of the effort by the small cog wheels in the work force to keep society and established systems running smoothly is quickly overlooked, especially with an over-focus on the rich and famous and a government that puts profit over societal needs.

The image is therefore a metaphor that reminds us that every individual is necessary for a functioning society and should be valued and acknowledged, and a motivation that everybody needs to do the best at their job. If this hasn’t sunken in yet, take the NHS for example. If the hospital isn’t clean, everybody will get sick and die. It’s as simple as that. A praise to cleaners! A praise to the cogs that allow us to continue to do research! Sadly, their contribution is never seen.