

# Robert Owen

## His Early Life

Robert Owen was born on the 14th of May 1771 in Newtown, Wales to Robert and Anne Owen. He was one of seven children.



## His Early Career

Robert started working when he was just ten years old. He worked hard and soon became noticed by powerful people working in the cotton business.

### Date of Birth

14th May 1771

### Place of Birth

Newtown, Wales

### Occupation

Mill Owner

## His Time at New Lanark

Thousands of people worked in cotton across Britain during Robert's life, but it was not an easy job to be in. Conditions were tough, hours long and wages low.

Robert Owen was a different type of mill owner. He was concerned for the health of his workers and wanted New Lanark to be fairer.

Owen started a nursery and day school at New Lanark. He opened a shop, created a woodland park and hosted dances and concerts. He built houses for his workers, paved the streets and made sure the streets were clean.



## Life after New Lanark

In 1825, Owen sold his share in the New Lanark Mill and sailed for America. Later, he came back to Britain and continued to share his ideas until his death on the 17th of November 1858.

In 2001, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) made New Lanark a world heritage site. They wanted to take care of a place that helped change the way workers were treated.