

John Logie Baird

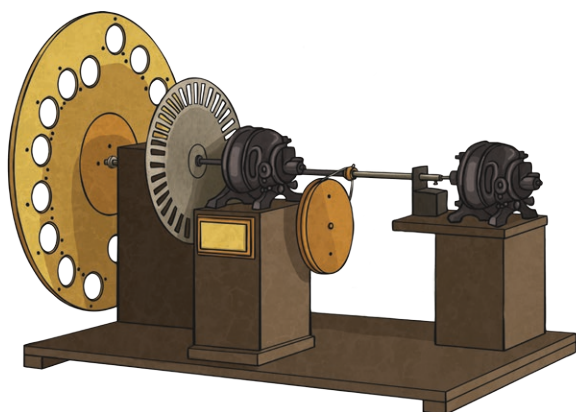
John Logie Baird was born on 14th August 1888 in Helensburgh on the west coast of Scotland. John did not have good health but this did not stop him being interested in inventing things. He set up a telephone system to chat to his friends across the street. John also built a generator, to make electric power to light the house. His family home was the first in Helensburgh to have electricity.

John went to college in Glasgow but did not finish his studies because of the outbreak of the First World War. John was not fit enough to join the army so he worked as an engineer for a power company. John did not stop inventing. He invented a glass razor which would not rust. John suffered from cold feet so he also invented a special pair of warm socks!



John later moved to the south of England and set himself the task of creating a television. To make his first TV, John used boxes, biscuit tins, sewing needles, card and the motor from an electric fan. By 1924, he managed to transmit a flickering image over a short distance. On 26th January 1926, John demonstrated the world's first television. In 1927, his television was demonstrated over 438 miles between London and Glasgow. In 1928, John's television company made the first transatlantic television transmission between London and New York. He also gave the first demonstration of colour television.

However, Baird's television system was quickly becoming out of date. Electronic systems were being developed by a company called Marconi-EMI in Britain and America. Marconi-EMI developed a better system in 1937 and Baird's system was dropped by the BBC.



Television broadcasts stopped during the Second World War but the government asked Baird to help plan television for when the war ended. TV started again in 1946 and Baird was planning to

John Logie Baird

broadcast a victory parade. Sadly, he fell ill and died on 14th June 1946. He was 58 years old. John was buried in his home town of Helensburgh.

TV today works in a different way to Baird's first system, but almost every home has a TV. John Logie Baird showed that television was possible and, thanks to his ideas, TV today brings us news, sport and entertainment from around the world.

Questions

1. Where and when was John Logie Baird born?

2. What did John invent when he was a child?

3. What did John use to invent his first TV?

4. When did John first demonstrate the world's first television?

5. Between which two cities was John's first transatlantic television transmission made?

6. Why was John's television system dropped by the BBC in 1937?

7. Why do you think it was important for the government to plan television for when the Second World War ended?

8. Why do you think John Logie Baird's invention of the television was important?

Answers

1. Where and when was John Logie Baird born?
John Logie Baird was born on 14th August 1888 in Helensburgh on the west coast of Scotland.
2. What did John invent when he was a child?
**John set up a telephone system to chat to his friends across the street.
John also built a generator, to make electric power to light the house.**
3. What did John use to invent his first TV?
To make his first TV, John used boxes, biscuit tins, sewing needles, card and the motor from an electric fan.
4. When did John first demonstrate the world's first television?
On 26th January 1926, John demonstrated the world's first television.
5. Between which two cities was John's first transatlantic television transmission made?
It was made between London and New York.
6. Why was John's television system dropped by the BBC in 1937?
Marconi-EMI had developed a better electronic system.
7. Why do you think it was important for the government to plan television for when the Second World War ended?
Various answers. Perhaps because it would be important for the country to get back to normal and to have some entertainment after the war years.
8. Why do you think John Logie Baird's invention of the television was important?
Various answers. Perhaps because it showed that television was possible and thanks to his ideas, TV today brings us news, sport and entertainment from around the world.

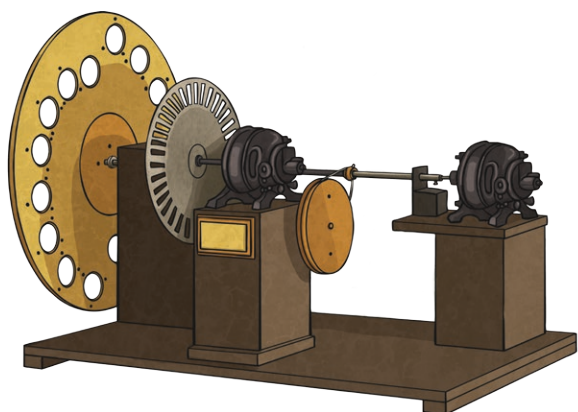
John Logie Baird

John Logie Baird was born on 14th August 1888 in Helensburgh on the west coast of Scotland. John's health was not good but this did not stop him being interested in inventing things. He set up a telephone system to chat to his friends across the street. When he was 13, John built a generator, to make electric power to light the house. His family home was the first in Helensburgh to have electricity.

John went to college in Glasgow but did not finish his studies because of the outbreak of the First World War. He was not fit enough to join the army so he worked as an engineer for a power company. However, John did not stop inventing and he invented a glass razor which would not rust. John suffered from cold feet so he also invented a special pair of warm socks!

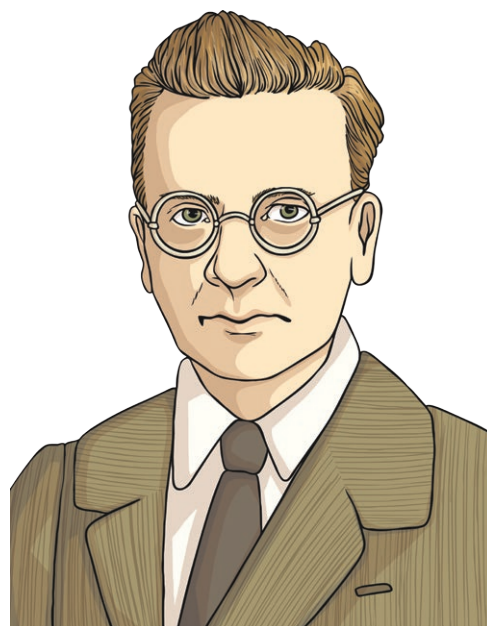
John still suffered from poor health so his doctor advised him to go and live somewhere warmer. He went to the island of Trinidad in the Caribbean. He started a factory there making jam and pickles. When he came back to Britain, he opened a shop in London. He sold a soap that he invented, called **Baird's Speedy Cleaner**.

John moved to the south of England and set himself the task of creating a television. To make his first TV, Baird used boxes, biscuit tins, sewing needles, card and the motor from an electric fan. By 1924, he managed to transmit a flickering image over a short distance. On 26th January 1926, John demonstrated the world's first television. In 1927, his television was demonstrated over 438 miles



between London and Glasgow. In 1928, John's television company made the first transatlantic television transmission between London and New York. He also gave the first demonstration of colour television.

However, Baird's system was quickly becoming out of date as electronic



systems were being developed by a company called Marconi-EMI in Britain and America. In 1935, the BBC tested Marconi-EMI's television system. Marconi-EMI's system proved to be better and in 1937 Baird's system was dropped.

Television broadcasts stopped during the Second World War but the government asked Baird to help plan television for when the war ended. TV started again in 1946 and Baird was planning to broadcast a victory parade. Sadly, he fell ill and died on 14th June 1946. He was 58 years old. John was buried in his home town of Helensburgh.

Television today works in a different way to Baird's system, but almost every home has a TV. John Logie Baird showed that television was possible and, thanks to his ideas, TV today brings us news, sport and entertainment from around the world.

Questions

1. When and where was John Logie Baird born?

2. How did John chat to his friends across the street?

3. What 'first' did John achieve as a boy because of his interest in inventions?

4. Why couldn't John finish his studies at college?

5. Which of John's next two inventions do you think would be most useful?
Explain your answer!

6. Why did John choose to go to Trinidad to live?

7. 'In 1928, John's television company made the first transatlantic television transmission...'
What does this mean?

8. Why was Baird's television system quickly becoming out of date?

9. Why do you think TV broadcasts stopped during the Second World War?

10. Why do you think John Logie Baird's invention of the television is important?

Answers

1. When and where was John Logie Baird born?
John Logie Baird was born on 14th August 1888 in Helensburgh on the west coast of Scotland.
2. How did John chat to his friends across the street?
John set up a telephone system to chat to his friends across the street.
3. What 'first' did John achieve as a boy because of his interest in inventions?
John's family home was the first in Helensburgh to have electricity because he built a generator to make electric power to light the house.
4. Why couldn't John finish his studies at college?
John could not finish his studies because of the outbreak of the First World War.
5. Which of John's next two inventions do you think would be most useful?
Explain your answer!
Various answers. John invented a glass razor which would not rust, perhaps this would mean less waste and it would be safer to use. John invented a special pair of warm socks, perhaps these would have health benefits for other people!
6. Why did John choose to go to Trinidad to live?
John still suffered from poor health so his doctor advised him to go and live somewhere warmer like Trinidad.
7. 'In 1928, John's television company made the first transatlantic television transmission...' What does this mean?
This means that the transmission was made or a programme was broadcast across the Atlantic between London and New York.
8. Why was Baird's television system quickly becoming out of date?
Baird's system was quickly becoming out of date because electronic TV systems were being developed by a company called Marconi-EMI in Britain and America.
9. Why do you think TV broadcasts stopped during the Second World War?
Various answers. Perhaps because during war time, people were involved in the war effort, rather than in television production or perhaps the government did not want information being broadcast on television at this time.
10. Why do you think John Logie Baird's invention of the television is important?
Various answers. Perhaps it is important because John Logie Baird showed that television was possible and thanks to his ideas, TV today brings us news, sport and entertainment from around the world.

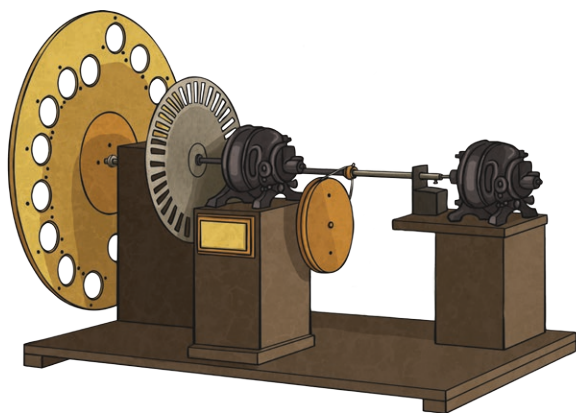
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John Logie Baird was born on 14th August 1888 in Helensburgh on the west coast of Scotland. John's health was not good but this did not stop him being interested in inventing things. He set up a telephone system to chat to his friends across the street. When he was 13, John built a generator, to make electric power to light the house. His family home was the first in Helensburgh to have electricity.

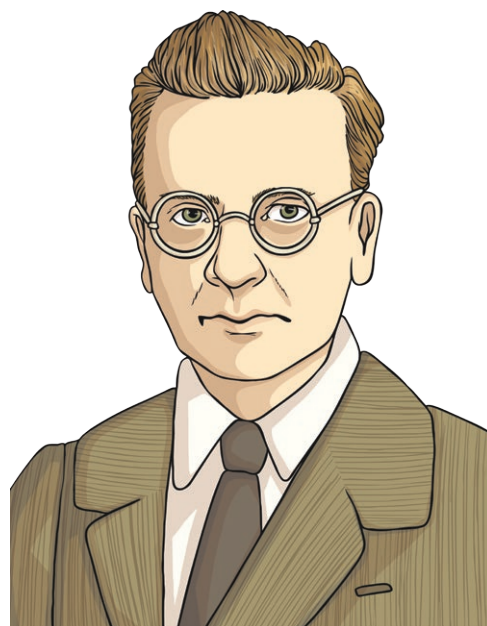
John went to college in Glasgow but did not finish his studies because of the outbreak of the First World War. He was not fit enough to join the army so he worked as an engineer for a power company. However, John did not stop inventing and he invented a glass razor which would not rust. John suffered from cold feet so he also invented a special pair of warm socks!

John still suffered from poor health so his doctor advised him to go and live somewhere warmer. Baird went to the island of Trinidad in the Caribbean. He started a factory making jam and pickles. When he came back to Britain, he opened a shop in London. He sold a soap that he invented, called Baird's Speedy Cleaner.

John moved to the south of England and set himself the task of creating a television. To make his first TV, Baird used boxes, biscuit tins, sewing needles, card and the motor from an electric fan. By 1924, he managed to transmit a flickering image over a short distance. On 26th January 1926, John demonstrated the



world's first true television to a group of scientists. In 1927, his television was demonstrated over 438 miles of telephone line between London and Glasgow. In 1928, John's television company made the first transatlantic television transmission between London and New York. He also gave the first demonstration of colour television.



However, Baird's system was quickly becoming out of date as electronic systems were being developed by a company called Marconi-EMI in Britain and America. Baird had also been trying out electronic systems but, in 1935, the BBC tested Marconi-EMI's television system and Baird's. Marconi-EMI's system proved to be better and in 1937 Baird's system was dropped.

Television broadcasts stopped during the Second World War but the government asked Baird to help plan television for when the war ended. Baird hoped to give people colour television as well as 3D and High Definition (HD) televisions. TV started again in 1946 and Baird was planning to broadcast a victory parade. Sadly, he fell ill and died on 14th June 1946. He was 58 years old. John was buried in his home town of Helensburgh.

Television today works in a different way to Baird's system, but almost every home has a TV. John Logie Baird showed that television was possible and, thanks to his ideas, TV today brings us news, sport and entertainment from around the world.

Questions

1. Summarise John Logie Baird's early life in your own words.

2. Why was John unable to go and fight in the First World War?

3. Choose one of John's inventions - the glass razor or the warm socks - and create a short persuasive paragraph describing the invention, what it does and what its benefits might be for the customer. Remember to say who invented it!

4. Why do you think John chose to live in Trinidad in the Caribbean?

5. Using information from the text, make a timeline that shows the development of John Logie Baird's invention of the television. Your timeline should have dates and concise information.

6. What type of systems were being developed that would make John Logie Baird's system out of date?

7. Why do you think television stopped during the Second World War?

8. Why do you think the government felt it was important to plan for television after the war ended?

9. What plans for televisions did John Logie Baird have that are available today?

10. How did John Logie Baird's invention change people's lives?

Answers

1. Summarise John Logie Baird's early life in your own words.

Various answers. Pupils should as far as possible explain this in their own words.

Text says: John Logie Baird was born on 14th August 1888 in Helensburgh on the west coast of Scotland. John's health was not good but this did not stop him being interested in inventing things. He set up a telephone system to chat to his friends across the street. When he was 13, John built a generator, to make electric power to light the house. His family home was the first in Helensburgh to have electricity.

2. Why was John unable to go and fight in the First World War?

John had poor health and was not fit enough to join the army.

3. Choose one of John's inventions - the glass razor or the warm socks - and create a short persuasive paragraph describing the invention, what it does and what its benefits might be for the customer. Remember to say who invented it!

Various answers.

4. Why do you think John chose to live in Trinidad in the Caribbean?

Various answers. John chose to live there because the doctor had advised him to live somewhere warmer to improve his health.

5. Using information from the text, make a timeline that shows the development of John Logie Baird's invention of the television. Your timeline should have dates and concise information.

1924 - John Logie Baird transmits a flickering image over a short distance.

1926 - 26th January - John demonstrates the world's first true television.

1927 - John's television demonstrated over 438 miles between London and Glasgow.

1928 - John's TV company makes first transatlantic TV transmission between London and New York. Colour TV also demonstrated.

6. What type of systems were being developed that would make John Logie Baird's system out of date?

Electronic systems were being developed by a company called Marconi-EMI in Britain and America that would make John Logie Baird's system out of date.

7. Why do you think television stopped during the Second World War?

Various answers. Perhaps because during war time, people were involved in the war effort, rather than in television production or perhaps the government did not want information being broadcast on television at this time.

8. Why do you think the government felt it was important to plan for television after the war ended?

Various answers. Perhaps because they wanted to try and return people's lives to some

normality with information and entertainment being broadcast as soon as possible.

9. What plans for televisions did John Logie Baird have that are available today?

Baird hoped to give people colour television as well as 3D and High Definition (HD) televisions. All of these televisions are available today.

10. How did John Logie Baird's invention change people's lives?

Various answers. Today, almost every home has a TV. John Logie Baird showed that television was possible and thanks to his ideas, TV today brings us news, sport and entertainment from around the world; allowing people to have information from all around the world.