Alexander Graham Bell

The Telephone

In the early 1870s, Bell was living and teaching in Boston, America. He spent years trying to develop a device to transmit the human voice over electrical wires.

On 10th March 1876, he began working with Thomas Watson, a skilled electrician. Together, they continued experimenting and developing a way to transmit speech.

On March 10th 1876, Alexander and Thomas were working in separate rooms. Bell made the first ever telephone call, saying "Mr Watson, come here. I want to see you!"

Following this success, Bell began to demonstrate his telephone in a series of public shows.

The Bell Telephone Company was set up in 1877, and by 1886 over 150,000 people in the USA owned telephones.

Examples of Bell's early telephone equipment.