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Alexander Graham Bell

1847-1922
Biography

He was an eminent scientist, inventor and innovator who is widely credited with the invention of the telephone.

His father, grandfather, and brother had all been associated with work on elocution and speech, and both his mother and wife were deaf, profoundly influencing his life’s work. His research on hearing and speech further led him to experiment with hearing devices that eventually culminated in his being awarded the first U.S. patent for the invention of the telephone in 1876. In reflection, he considered his most famous invention an intrusion on his real work as a scientist and refused to have a telephone in his study. Upon his death, all telephones throughout the United States "stilled their ringing for a silent minute in tribute to the man whose yearning to communicate made them possible."

Many other inventions marked his later life including groundbreaking work in hydrofoils and aeronautics. In 1888, he became one of the founding members of the National Geographic Society.
As far as I can remember these are the first drawings made of my telephone - an instrument for transmitting vocal utterances by electricity.