

# Timeline of the History of Electricity

## Electrical events:

Italian physicist Alessandro Volta reveals his new invention: the first battery! **1800**

British physicist Michael Faraday invents the first, very simple, electrical motor. **1821**

The first telegraph system – a way of sending messages over long distances using electricity – is built in Britain. People are amazed at how fast it is. **1837**

William Armstrong builds Cragside as his country home. **1863**

Scottish-born inventor Alexander Graham Bell invents the telephone in America – it's quite quiet and difficult to hear! **1876**

## ...and other events:

**1805** Admiral Nelson defeats the French and Spanish navies at the Battle of Trafalgar, confirming Britain's navy as the strongest in the world at the time.

**1807** The slave trade is abolished in Britain: buying and selling slaves in the British Empire is now illegal.

**1829** British politician Sir Robert Peel starts the first modern police force in London – they are known as Bobbies, or Peelers!

**1833** Britain abolishes slavery entirely throughout the British Empire: slavery is now illegal.

**1837** Queen Victoria comes to the throne, aged 18.

**1843** Charles Dickens, one of the most famous Victorian authors, writes one of his best known novels, *A Christmas Carol*.

**1853-56** Florence Nightingale and Mary Seacole become well known for nursing British soldiers wounded fighting Russian forces during the Crimean War.

**1860s** Bicycles start to become popular – although at the moment they have big front wheels and are quite dangerous to ride.

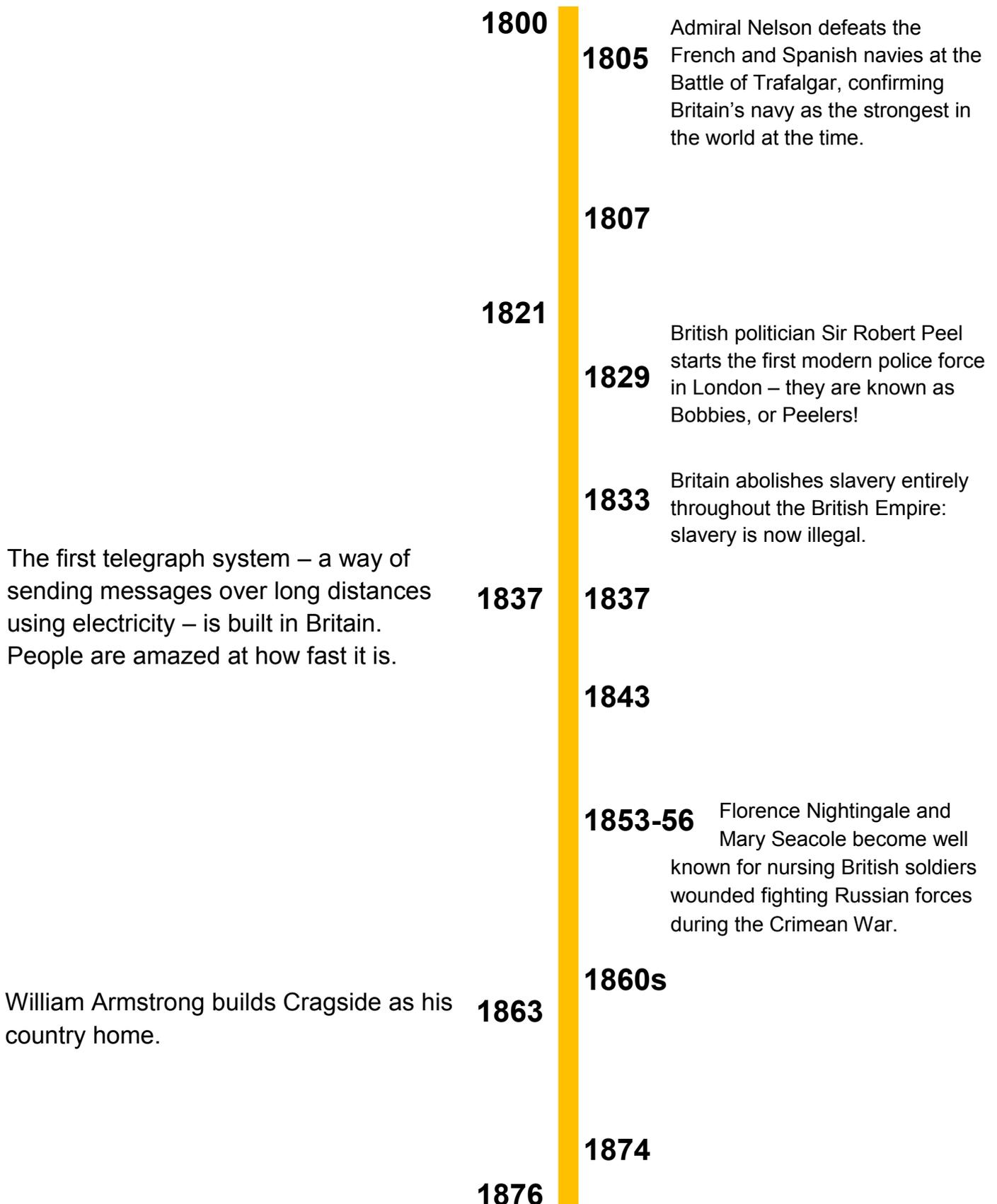
**1874** Winston Churchill is born – he would later be Prime Minister during World War Two.

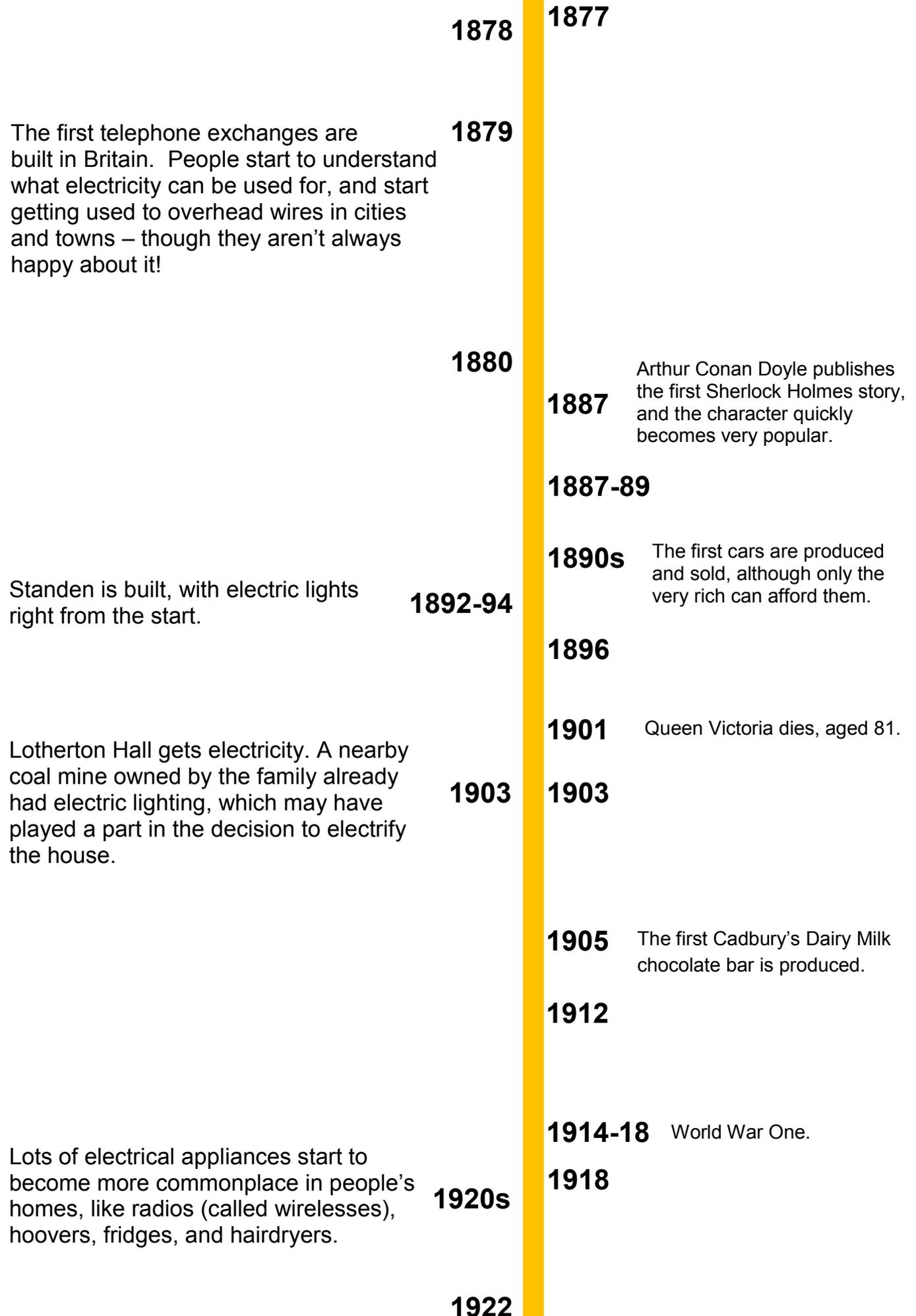
Thomas Edison (America) and Joseph Swan (Britain) both invent the first light-bulbs – independently of one another!	<b>1878</b>	<b>1877</b>	The first Wimbledon tennis tournament is held.
The first telephone exchanges are built in Britain. People start to understand what electricity can be used for, and start getting used to overhead wires in cities and towns – though they aren't always happy about it!	<b>1879</b>		
Cragside is the first house to be lit by Swan's lightbulbs, and the first to be lit by hydroelectricity – the lights are powered by a nearby stream.	<b>1880</b>	<b>1887</b>	Arthur Conan Doyle publishes the first Sherlock Holmes story, and the character quickly becomes very popular.
		<b>1887-89</b>	The Eiffel Tower is built in Paris.
Standen is built, with electric lights right from the start.	<b>1892-94</b>	<b>1890s</b>	The first cars are produced and sold, although only the very rich can afford them.
		<b>1896</b>	First Olympic Games held in Athens, Greece.
Lotherton Hall gets electricity. A nearby coal mine owned by the family already had electric lighting, which may have played a part in the decision to electrify the house.	<b>1903</b>	<b>1901</b>	Queen Victoria dies, aged 81.
		<b>1903</b>	The first Tour de France cycling race is held. In America, the Wright brothers, Orville and Wilbur, make and fly the first aeroplane.
		<b>1905</b>	The first Cadbury's Dairy Milk chocolate bar is produced.
		<b>1912</b>	The Titanic, the largest ship in world at the time, is launched, and sinks on its first voyage when it hits an iceberg.
		<b>1914-18</b>	World War One.
Lots of electrical appliances start to become more commonplace in people's homes, like radios (called wirelesses), hoovers, fridges, and hairdryers.	<b>1920s</b>	<b>1918</b>	Women are given the vote – as long as they are over 30 years old. It's not until 1928 that this is changed to 21, the same as men at the time.
The BBC is founded.	<b>1922</b>		

# Timeline of the History of Electricity — Fill in the Gaps

## Electrical events:

## ...and other events:





Cut and stick the events in the correct places on the timeline:

Thomas Edison (America) and Joseph Swan (Britain) both invent the first light-bulbs – independently of one another!

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The BBC is founded.

The Titanic, the largest ship in world at the time, is launched, and sinks on its first voyage when it hits an iceberg.

Cragside is the first house to be lit by Swan's lightbulbs, and the first to be lit by hydroelectricity – the lights are powered by a nearby stream.

The first Tour de France cycling race is held. In America, the Wright brothers, Orville and Wilbur, make and fly the first aeroplane.

British physicist Michael Faraday invents the first, very simple, electrical motor.

Queen Victoria comes to the throne, aged 18.

Scottish-born inventor Alexander Graham Bell invents the telephone in America – it's quite quiet and difficult to hear!

First Olympic Games held in Athens, Greece.

Italian physicist Alessandro Volta reveals his new invention: the first battery!

The slave trade is abolished in Britain: buying and selling slaves in the British Empire is now illegal.

Winston Churchill is born – he would later be Prime Minister during World War Two.

Bicycles start to become popular – although at the moment they have big front wheels and are quite dangerous to ride.

Women are given the vote – as long as they are over 30 years old. It's not until 1928 that this is changed to 21, the same as men at the time.

Charles Dickens, one of the most famous Victorian authors, writes one of his best known novels, *A Christmas Carol*.