

what was the original use of a chainsaw in the early 1800 century?

One of life's most significant issues has recently been raised on social media: what was the original use of a chainsaw? The solution, which has Scottish medical roots, isn't what you may anticipate.

The chainsaws we're accustomed to seeing today are primarily employed for tree cutting. The deadly tool's original purpose was quite different from what it is utilised for today.

That's actually a tremendous comfort considering the chainsaw was created for a particularly gruesome purpose. The first chainsaw was originally invented in 1780 by two Scottish doctors, but why was this dangerous tool produced in the first place?

[what was the original use of a chainsaw](#) in the early days?

Unbelievably, the chainsaw was first developed to help with childbirth. You read it right. All foetuses had to transit via the delivery canal before caesarean sections became regular practice. Babies who are overly big or who are in the breech position, which is when they lie feet first in the womb rather than the customary head-first position, will inevitably get trapped.

In the 18th century, a procedure known as a "symphysiotomy" was performed to remove bone and cartilage to make room if a baby couldn't fit through or became stuck in the pelvis.

Without utilising any type of anaesthetic, the painful and dirty process was carried out by hand with the use of a little saw and knife to cut the bone. Two Scottish surgeons created the chainsaw in the 18th century to simplify the procedure.

You'll be relieved to learn that it wasn't like the current tree-chopper from a horror movie, but rather resembled a little kitchen knife with tiny teeth on a chain that was wound by a hand crank.

The tool did, in fact, make the process simpler and quicker, and it was employed for the majority of the 19th century.

Who was the chainsaw's inventor?

John Aitken and James Jeffray, two Scottish doctors, actually designed the terrifying-looking child birthing apparatus. Two Scottish doctors invented the chainsaw in the 1780s.

John Aitken trained as a surgeon at the Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh and also taught and demonstrated medicine to college students.

He is credited with a few useful advancements in surgery, including the invention of the chainsaw.

Dr. Jeffray, who studied at both Glasgow University and Edinburgh University and was renowned for dissecting the bodies of murder victims, collaborated with Dr. Aitken on the innovation.

Jeffray held the dual chairs of anatomy and botany at Glasgow University beginning in 1790, and in 1800 he was appointed vice rector. On the Glasgow Necropolis' northern slope, he is interred.

What did symphysiotomy mean?

During symphysiotomies, the doctors used a chainsaw. Pregnant ladies had this treatment done during childbirth rather than the more common caesarian section at the time. A symphysiotomy involves slicing through the ligaments and cartilage of the pelvic joint to expand it and enable unhindered delivery of the baby.

High risks of infection, discomfort, bladder injury, and even long-term walking difficulties existed for women. Since 1597, the surgery has been widely used to treat labour obstruction, but as procedures and hygienic standards advanced, the danger of maternal death from a caesarian section dropped, causing a reduction in the usage of the therapy in the latter half of the 20th century.

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