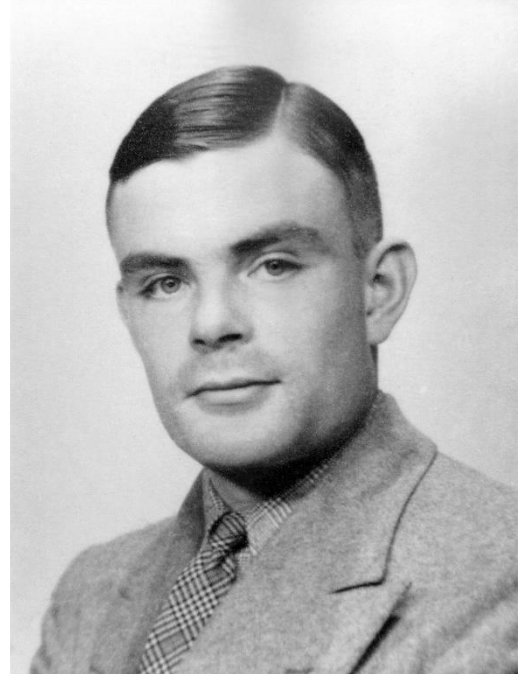


Alan Turing
1912 - 1954

Alan Turing was a British mathematician and computer scientist.

What is he known for?

He is most famous for solving the German naval Enigma code during World War II. The Enigma was a coded messaging machine used to send German military communications. Turing broke the code by building a computing machine called the Bombe. This machine led the way for the development of modern electronic computers.



After the war, Turing continued to work on computers. He worked at the National Physical Laboratory in London, where he designed the Automatic Computing Engine (ACE) in 1945. This was one of the first stored-program computers, an important step in developing computers.

He was awarded an OBE for his efforts during WW2 and was a pioneer for the technology we heavily rely on today. Alan Turing was a gay man, which was illegal in 1950s Britain. He was treated terribly in the last years of his life due to the ignorant and prejudiced laws in place at the time.

Alan Turing was one of the greatest minds ever known, and he deserves to be celebrated not just as a scientist, but also as an inspiring member of the gay community.

Interesting Fact

Turing enjoyed running, and reached world-class marathon standards. In 1948, he beat Tom Richards, who had won the silver medal at the Olympics that year.