The Fun show

By Isla and Valentina

Host: Hello and welcome back to another episode of the fun show. We have a very special guest that is willing to answer some fascinating questions for us this evening. He comes all the way from Derbyshire and is the best canal designer of the century - give a round of applause for… James Brindley!

James Brindley: Thank you very much for having me tonight!

Host: It's my pleasure. Now, I've heard that you're an engineer.

JB: Yes I am.

Host: Then let's hear your answer to my first question I received from one of our guests in our ordinance. So, how did you get into engineering?

JB: As a child , I loved to make toy mills and test them to see if they worked outside whilst my father fixed ornaments in the farm. I was very interested in the jobs my father was doing so my mother, at the age of 17, encouraged me to be apprenticed to a millwright. At the mills I was fixing all of the machines and improving them.

Host: Very interesting to hear about how you got into engineering. Well let's get to the second question, that even i am desperate to know. How much money did it cost to build the Bridgewater canal?

JB: The Duke of Bridgewater had heard about me fixing machines in mills around the area. So he invested a large sum of money to build the canal and asked me to design it. It was worth around £168,000 ( in today's money is £33,000,000).

Host: WOW! That is a large amount of money. I am very interested, if we were to sail down the Bridgewater canal, where would it take us?

JB: In the 1970s, we stopped transporting goods and people started using the canal as a way to travel and cruise. The places the Bridgewater canal would take you to if you sailed down it is: Castlefield in Manchester, to The North West of England and Runcorn in Cheshire.

Host: My goodness that is quite a lot of places to sail to. I should try that one day. Well that's it for tonight and i hope you enjoyed this episode of the fun show. GOODNIGHT EVERYONE!