



# Ruby Payne-Scott

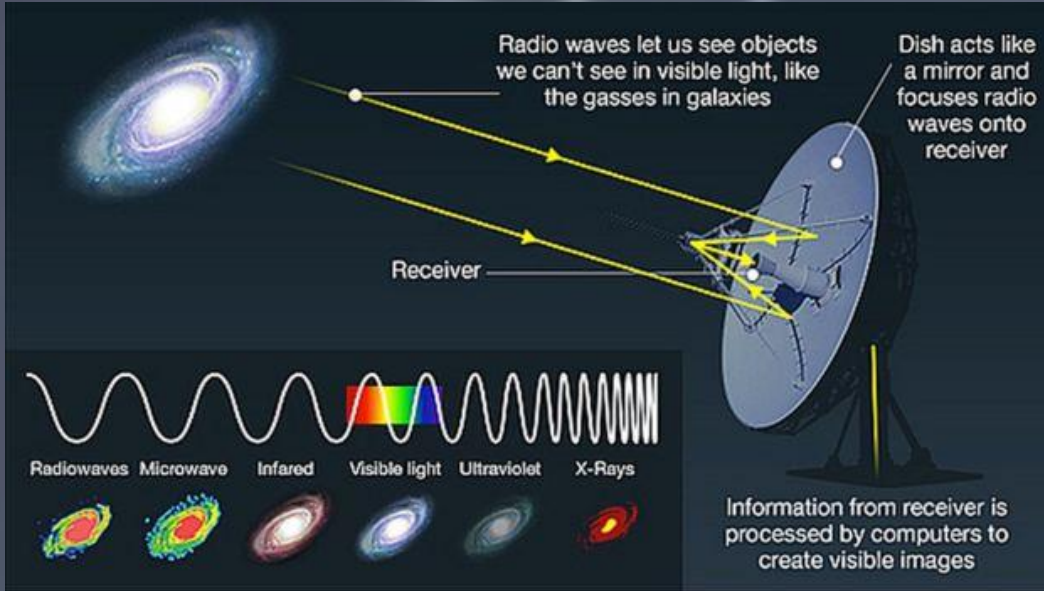
**"WELL, THIS IS ABSURD. WE'RE CLIMBING UP ON LADDERS, UP ON AERIALS EVERY DAY.**

**I'M NOT GOING UP ON A LADDER WITH A SKIRT ON. THE SHORTS ARE MUCH BETTER ATTIRE FOR US."**

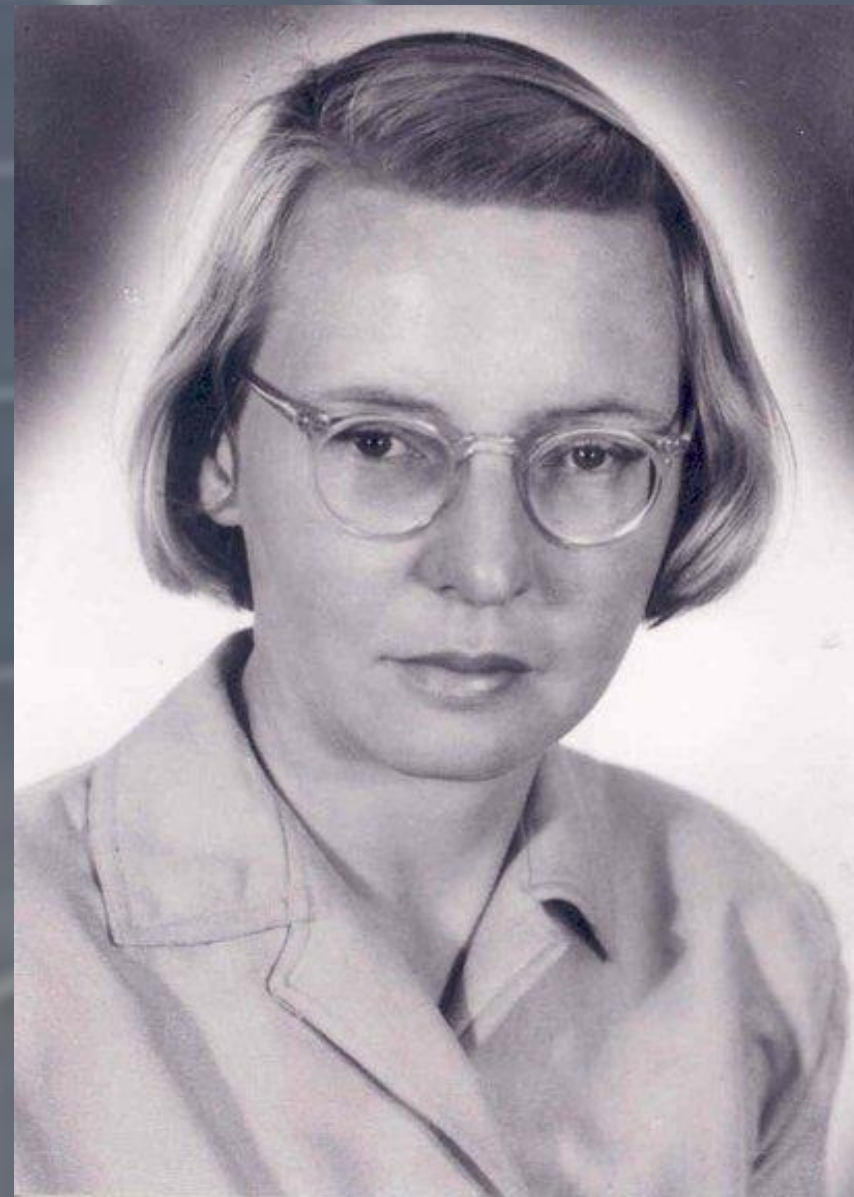
Ruby Payne-Scott was an Australian physicist and was a pioneer in radio astronomy. She was born on the 28<sup>th</sup> of May 1912 in Grafton NSW. After graduating with first class honours in mathematics and physics in 1933 she completed a masters project in 1936 at the Cancer Research Institute. In 1941 she started work at the CSIRO where she developed radar technology for the war and worked on radio astronomy.



In 2012 on the 28th of May, Google changed their image to celebrate what would have been Ruby's 100th birthday.



Until 1966 women in Australia could not be employed on a permanent basis once they married. Ruby secretly married Bill Hall in 1944. She managed to keep this secret for years. However in 1950 Ruby was stripped of her superannuation, her pension rights and was reduced to a temporary employee status.



Ruby Payne-Scott as a student in the 1930s.



Ruby was an unconscious champion of women in science. Women experienced discrimination and Ruby complained about the treatment. She paved the way for future generations of women.



In 2013, The Australian Institute of Physics has proposed the "Ruby Payne-Scott Award" to recognize the contributions made by physicists who are beginning their careers.

In 2008-2009, The CSIRO initiated the Payne-Scott Awards in Ruby's Honour. These awards are designed to support researchers who have taken extended leave to care for a new born child.

A message from the Vice-Chancellor

The ANU Team