Ruby Payne-Scott
100 Years On

Kate Gunn
CAASTRO Chief Operating Officer
www.caastro.org
Ruby Payne-Scott is an excellent role model for all.

We often forget the changes we have had in society.

How women’s roles have changed.

Economic Security 4 Women Video

http://youtu.be/-3LxPWURD2I
46 Years Ago

Married women allowed to work in the Commonwealth Public Service

› The bar on employment of married women in the Commonwealth Public Service was abolished in 1966.

› This restriction meant that married women could only be employed as temporary staff, restricting their promotion opportunities (only permanent staff could be in a supervisory position).

› Being a temporary employee also restricted the ability of married women to accumulate superannuation and meant that they were the first to be targeted for redundancies when significant downsizing of the Australian Public Service (APS) occurred in the early 1950s.

› The removal of the bar was first recommended by the Boyer Committee in 1958, although it took another eight years before these ideas came to fruition. The lifting of the bar marked not only the trigger for greater numbers of women working in the APS but also the evolution of the integration of women’s issues into public policy.
Ruby Payne-Scott

Astrophysics Role Model

› 100 Year Anniversary
› Born Grafton, 28 May 1912
› University of Sydney B.Sc in 1933, M.Sc 1936
› Only woman in her class
› One of the more outstanding Physicists, worked at CSIRO
› Discovered Type I and Type III bursts and participated in the recognition of Type II and IV bursts
› Played a major role in the first-ever radio astronomical interferometer observation from 26 January 1946
› During WWII engaged in top secret work investigating radar
› Early advocate for women’s rights
› Secretly married to Bill Hall in 1944
› Continued to work at CSIRO and hiding her marriage
› Became an issue in 1949
› 1950 lost her permanent position, but had a temporary position at same salary as her male colleagues
› Resigned in 1951 just before the birth of her son, Peter
› No maternity leave
› Mathematics Teacher 1963-1974
› Died in Sydney – 25 May 1981
Let’s make change TODAY for the women that follow