

Australian Institute of Physics (SA branch)

(in conjunction with the Women in Physics group)

& National Science Week





Claire Corani Memorial Lecture

A Free Public Lecture in the

AIP 1999 International Women in Physics Lecture Series

The Claire Corani awards will be presented at this meeting.

"Cosmic explosions and the creation of the elements - you are made of star stuff!"

by

Professor Jocelyn Bell Burnell, The Open University, UK.

NOTE VENUE CHANGE at 7:30 pm, Tuesday 4th May 1999

in the Union Hall at the University of Adelaide

Map reference D9 at http://www.adelaide.edu.au/maps/nt_m.gif

(Note: the venue has changed from the Rennie due to the large number of people registering)

Abstract:

What kinds of atoms make up the molecules that make up the cells that make our bodies? Where did these atoms come from, and how did they get to be in our bodies? Life on Earth depends on the death of stars as well as on the Big Bang that created the Universe. Our sun was formed out of supernova debris. There is star dust in your veins, and in an ultimate and intimate way we are children of the stars.

Brief Biography:

Since 1991 Jocelyn Bell Burnell has been Professor of Physics and Chair of the Department of Physics in the UK's largest university, The Open University. In 1999 - 2000 she is at Princeton University, USA. Born in Northern Ireland, she completed a PhD in Cambridge (UK) in Radio Astronomy. During her time there she was involved in the discovery of pulsars, opening up a new branch of astrophysics - work which was recognised by the award of a Nobel Prize to her supervisor. She worked subsequently at the University of Southampton (in gamma ray astronomy), at University College London (in X-ray astronomy) and at the Royal Observatory, Edinburgh (infrared astronomy). She has used telescopes flown on high-altitude balloons, launched on rockets, carried on satellites and sited at 14000 feet in Hawaii, and built a radio telescope which was firmly grounded in Cambridgeshire.

The Oppenheimer prize, the Michelson medal and the Tinsley prize have been awarded to her by learned bodies in the US and the UK's Royal Astronomical Society has presented her with the Herschel Medal. UK universities have conferred honorary doctorates on her, and she holds an Honorary Fellowship in New Hall, her former Cambridge College. She was made a CBE in 1999.

Please register intention to attend with Ms. Tanya Weir on (08) 8303 5996.

AIP contacts:

Meetings:Dr John Patterson(08) 8303 5291jpatters@physics.adelaide.edu.auFax: (08) 8303 4380Secretary:Dr Laurence Campbell(08) 8201 2093laurence.campbell@flinders.edu.auFax: (08) 8201 3035

Contacts for speaker:

 Dr Margaret Law
 (08) 8300 4464
 Margaret.Law@vsl.com.au
 Fax: (08) 8349 7420

 Dr Judith Pollard
 (08) 8303 5316
 jpollard@physics.adelaide.edu.au
 Fax: (08) 8303 4380