

“Fire in the Belly”

**The first fifty years of the pioneer School
at the ANU.**

RESEARCH SCHOOL
OF
PHYSICAL SCIENCES



“Fire in the Belly”

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School at the ANU.**

Trevor Ophel
and
John Jenkin

Research School of Physical Sciences & Engineering
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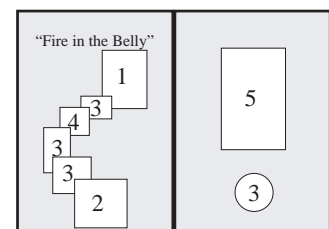
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This work is dedicated to the founder of the School, Sir Mark Oliphant. The title, "Fire in the Belly", embodies the essential drive and optimistic enthusiasm that he needed to pioneer the establishment of an extensive research laboratory in the bush capital.

The Authors

Trevor Ophel has been associated with the School since 1955, when he came to Canberra as a graduate student in the Department of Nuclear Physics. After a short post-doctoral appointment at Harvard during 1958/9, he returned as a staff member in Nuclear Physics and has remained there. His activities have embraced the spectroscopy of light nuclei, accelerator physics, studies of heavy ion reactions and instrumentation.

John Jenkin is also a graduate of the Department of Nuclear Physics, having carried out his thesis research during the early days of the EN tandem accelerator between 1961 and 1964. Thereafter, he held post-doctoral appointments at AERE, Harwell and the University of Minnesota before being appointed to the Department of Physics at La Trobe University in 1968. Some four years ago, as a result of a growing interest and activity in the history of science, he transferred to the Faculty of Humanities where he lectures on both the history and philosophy of science.

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