1. Record Nr. UNINA9910254123203321 Autore Davies John K Titolo The Life Story of an Infrared Telescope / / by John K. Davies Cham:,: Springer International Publishing:,: Imprint: Springer,, Pubbl/distr/stampa 2016 3-319-23579-6 **ISBN** Edizione [1st ed. 2016.] Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (267 p.) Collana Springer Praxis Books Disciplina 530 Soggetti Observations, Astronomical Astronomy—Observations **Physics** Astronomy Astronomy, Observations and Techniques History and Philosophical Foundations of Physics Popular Science in Astronomy Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Note generali Description based upon print version of record. Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references and index. Nota di contenuto Conception -- Design and Planning -- The Project Advances -- To Hawaii -- Making It Work.- Early Operations 1980-1981 --Consolidation 1982-1985 -- IRCAM: The beginning of the Array Revolution -- Cooled grating Spectrographs -- Changes at the Top --Upgrading the telescope for the 21st century -- Restructuring (1995) -- ORAC It pipes, therefore it is. 1996-2000 -- Michelle (95-2004) --Departures 2000-2002 -- Flexible Scheduling and the OMP 2001-2003 -- UIST 2000-2009 -- The new era of Wide-field Astronomy at UKIRT -- Into A Third decade.- UKIRT under threat -- Battle for Survival --The Axe Falls -- Epilogue. Sommario/riassunto Written by one of the astronomers who 'lived the dream' of working there this book is a restrospectively expanded diary featuring the 'birth and long life' of what was a truely innovative telescope. Based on input received from people involved in its planning, building, operation, and many scientists who observed with it, the author tells this success story of The United Kingdom Infrared Telescope (UKIRT). Conceived in the

mid 1970's as a cheap and cheerful light-bucket for the newly

emerging field of infrared astronomy it has re-invented itself once a decade to remain at the forefront of infrared astronomy for more than 30 years. Even in 2012 / 2013, when ironically it faced almost certain closure, it remained one of the most scientifically productive telescopes in the world. Everybody, including amateur and professional astronomers, interested in real astronomy projects will enjoy reading that story and meet (again) the persons who lived it.