1. Record Nr. UNINA9910254777803321 Autore Murphy Kate Titolo Behind the Wireless: A History of Early Women at the BBC / / by Kate Murphy Pubbl/distr/stampa London:,: Palgrave Macmillan UK:,: Imprint: Palgrave Macmillan,, 2016 **ISBN** 9781137491732 1137491736 Edizione [1st ed. 2016.] Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (XIII, 295 p.) 941 Disciplina Soggetti Engineering Life sciences Social sciences Humanities Science Mathematics Civilization - History Technology and Engineering Life Sciences **Humanities and Social Sciences Physical Sciences** Mathematics and Computing **Cultural History** Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references and index. Nota di contenuto Introduction -- 1. Growing Like a Young Giant: The BBC as a Place to Work -- 2. Women Who Oil the Wheels: Waged Women at the BBC -- 3. Only an Exceptional Woman: Married Women at the BBC -- 4. New And Important Careers: Salaried Women at the BBC -- 5. Women Who Rule at the BBC: Four Elite Women -- 6. When They Have Their Cup of Tea:

with 90 Further Years.-.

Making Programmes for Women -- 7. You Feel Their Personal Touch: Women Broadcasters -- 8. Conclusion -- Epilogue: A Brief Encounter

## Sommario/riassunto

Behind the Wireless tells the story of women at the BBC in the 1920s and 30s. Broadcasting was brand new in Britain and the BBC developed without many of the overt discriminatory practices commonplace at the time. Women were employed at all levels, except the very top, for instance as secretaries, documentary makers, advertising representatives, and librarians. Three women held Director level posts, Hilda Matheson (Director of Talks), Mary Somerville (Director of School Broadcasting), and Isa Benzie (Foreign Director). Women also produced the programmes aimed at female listeners and brought women broadcasters to the microphone. There was an ethos of equality and the chance to rise through the ranks from accounts clerk to accompanist. But lurking behind the façade of modernity were hidden inequalities in recruitment, pay, and promotion and in 1932 a marriage bar was introduced. Kate Murphy examines how and why the interwar BBC created new opportunities for women.