

Groundbreakers: Re-Living Some Great Moments in Petroleum Geoscience*

Henry Edmundson¹

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Abstract

A comprehensive history of oilfield technology was researched and written by the presenter and co-author Dr. Mark Mau during a four-year period between 2012 and 2015. This story of technical innovation and the inventive minds that made it happen starts in Azerzaijan in the 19th century and proceeds through the following decades to the present day, covering all the major oilfield engineering and science disciplines. The presenter will briefly describe how the book was researched and structured, and then present a narrative of some of the most outstanding geoscience innovations.

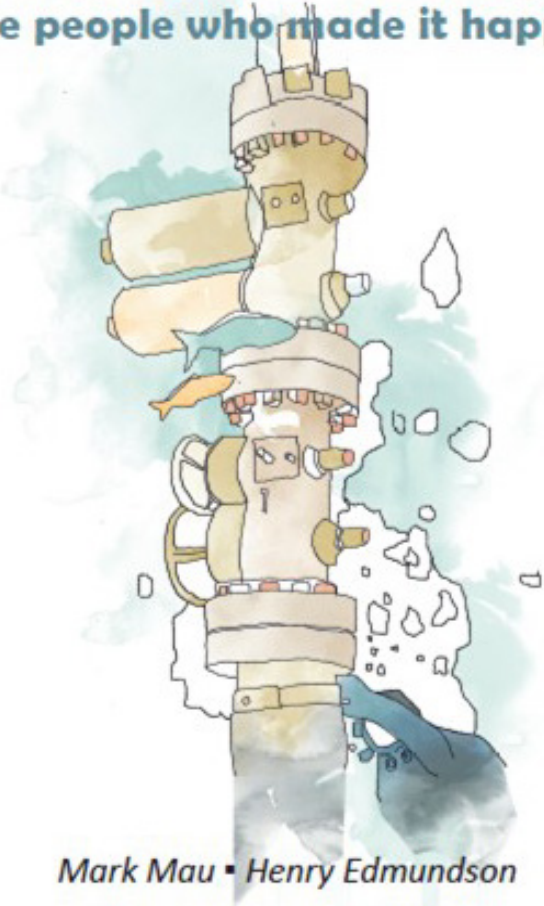
Groundbreakers

Re-Living Some Great Moments in Petroleum Geoscience

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Groundbreakers

The story of oilfield technology and
the people who made it happen



Mark Mau • Henry Edmundson

Illustrations by Abigail Whitehead

- Global coverage
- Covers all phases of E&P: exploration, drilling, reservoir, production
- **136 interviewees**
- 700 references
- 460 pages
- 135 illustrations
- Took four years to research and write
- Sells for £24.99

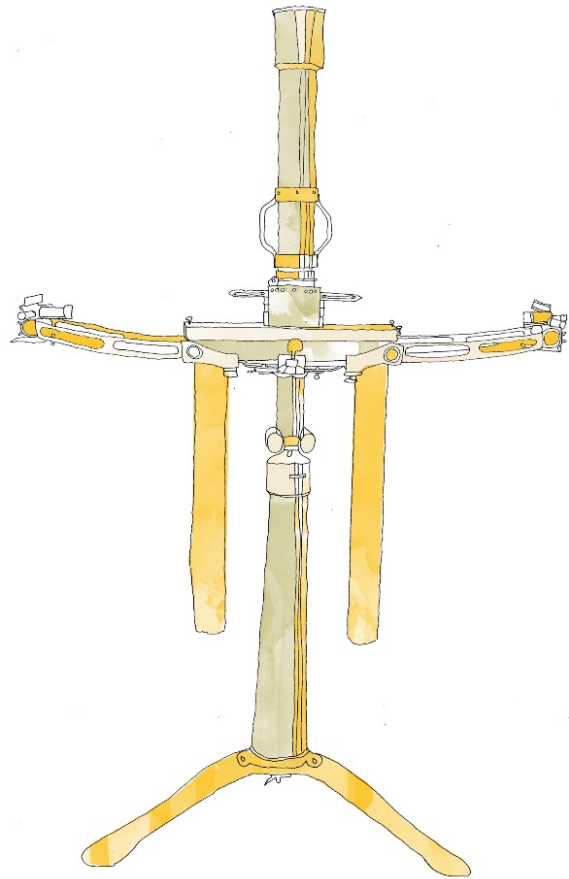
- **Nigel Anstey** (Seismograph Service Limited/Seiscom Delta)
- **Milo Backus** (GSI/University of Texas at Austin)
- **Bert Bally** (Shell/Rice University)
- **Guus Berkhout** (Shell/TU Delft)
- **Alistair Brown** (GSI/Consultant)
- **Chris Chapman** (University of Toronto/University of Cambridge/Schlumberger)
- **Phil Christie** (Schlumberger)
- **Jon Claerbout** (Stanford University)
- **Marlan Downey** (Shell/Arco/Roxanna Oil)
- **Mike Forrest** (Shell)
- **Ken Glennie** (Shell)
- **Sam Gray** (Amoco/Veritas/CGG)
- **Jim Hornabrook** (BP)
- **David Jenkins** (BP)
- **Dave Kingston** (Standard Oil of New Jersey/Humble Oil/Exxon)
- **Andy Leonard** (BP)
- **Roy Lindseth** (United Geophysical/Richmond Exploration/Computer Data Processors)
- **Bryan Lovell** (BP/University of Cambridge)
- **Dan McKenzie** (University of Cambridge)
- **Jim Munns** (GSI/Texaco/Amoco/UK Department of Trade and Industry/Endeavour Energy/GDF Suez)
- **Akif Narimanov** (State Oil Company of Azerbaijan Republic)
- **Bob Peebler** (Schlumberger/Landmark/Halliburton/ION)
- **Enders Robinson** (MIT/Digicon/Columbia University)
- **Leon Thomsen** (State University of New York/Amoco/BP/University of Houston)
- **Scott Tinker** (Marathon Oil/University of Texas at Austin)
- **Sven Treitel** (MIT/Amoco)
- **Bernie Vining** (Exxon/Baker Hughes)
- **Robin Walker** (Geco-Prakla/WesternGeco/Schlumberger)
- **Dietrich Welte** (TU Aachen/Nuclear Research Centre Jülich/Integrated Exploration Systems/Schlumberger)
- **Andy Woods** (University of Cambridge)
- **Yu Zhang** (Chinese Academy of Sciences/California Institute of Technology/VeritasDGC/CGG/ ConocoPhillips)
- **Martin Ziegler** (Shell/Exxon)
- **Walter Ziegler** (Exxon/Petrofina)



Anthony Lucas (1855-1921), a Croatian-born engineer and former Navy Captain introduced the salt dome concept and also pioneered rotary drilling.



Lucas' Spindletop well
flowing out of control,
January 1901.



A double-beam torsion balance from 1901.



Baron Roland von Eötvös (1848-1919), professor of experimental physics at the University of Budapest.



Everette Lee DeGolyer (1886-1956), legendary oil-finder from Oklahoma.



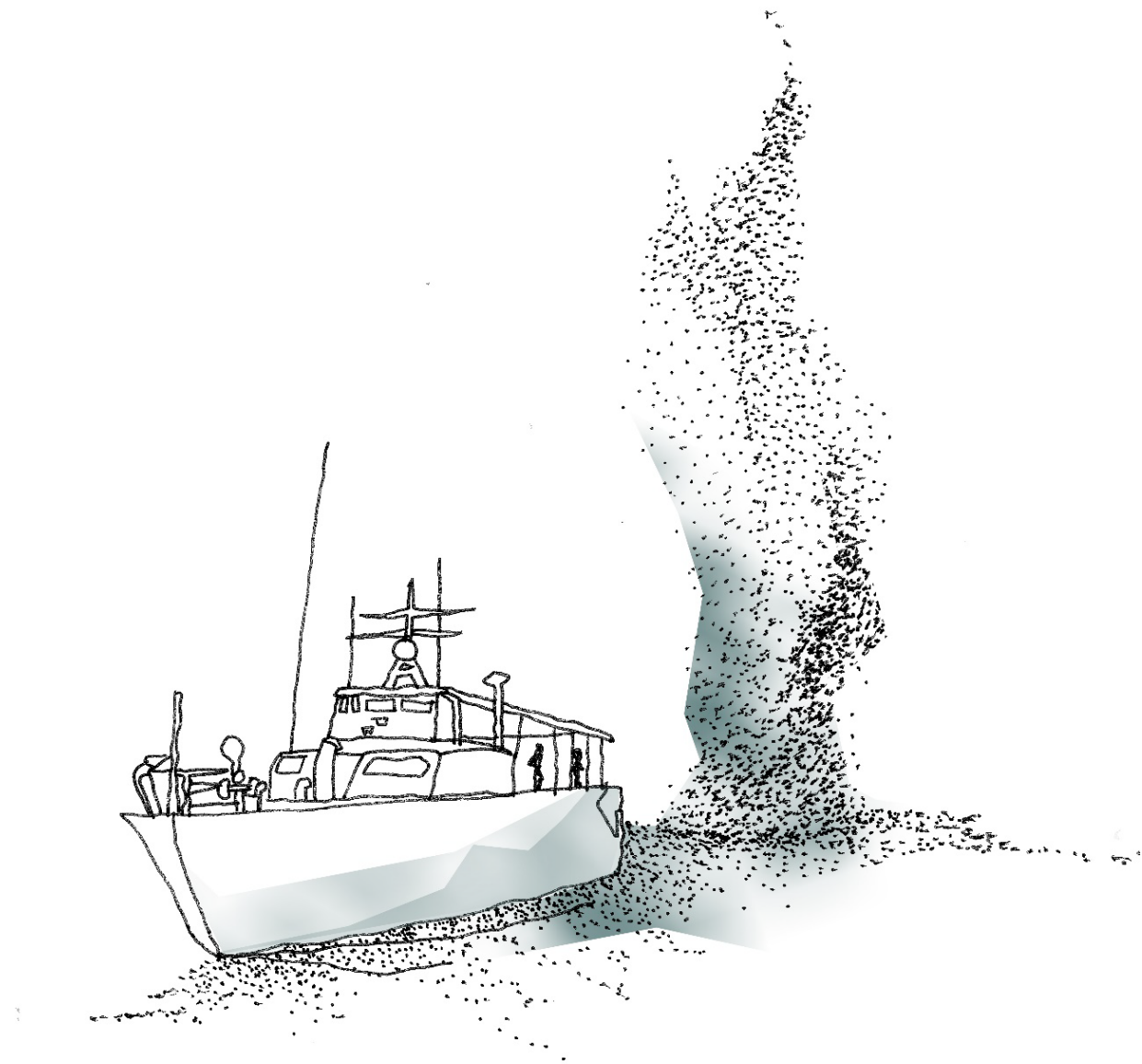
Conrad Schlumberger (1878-1936), performing surface electrical experiments at his parents' residence in Normandy.



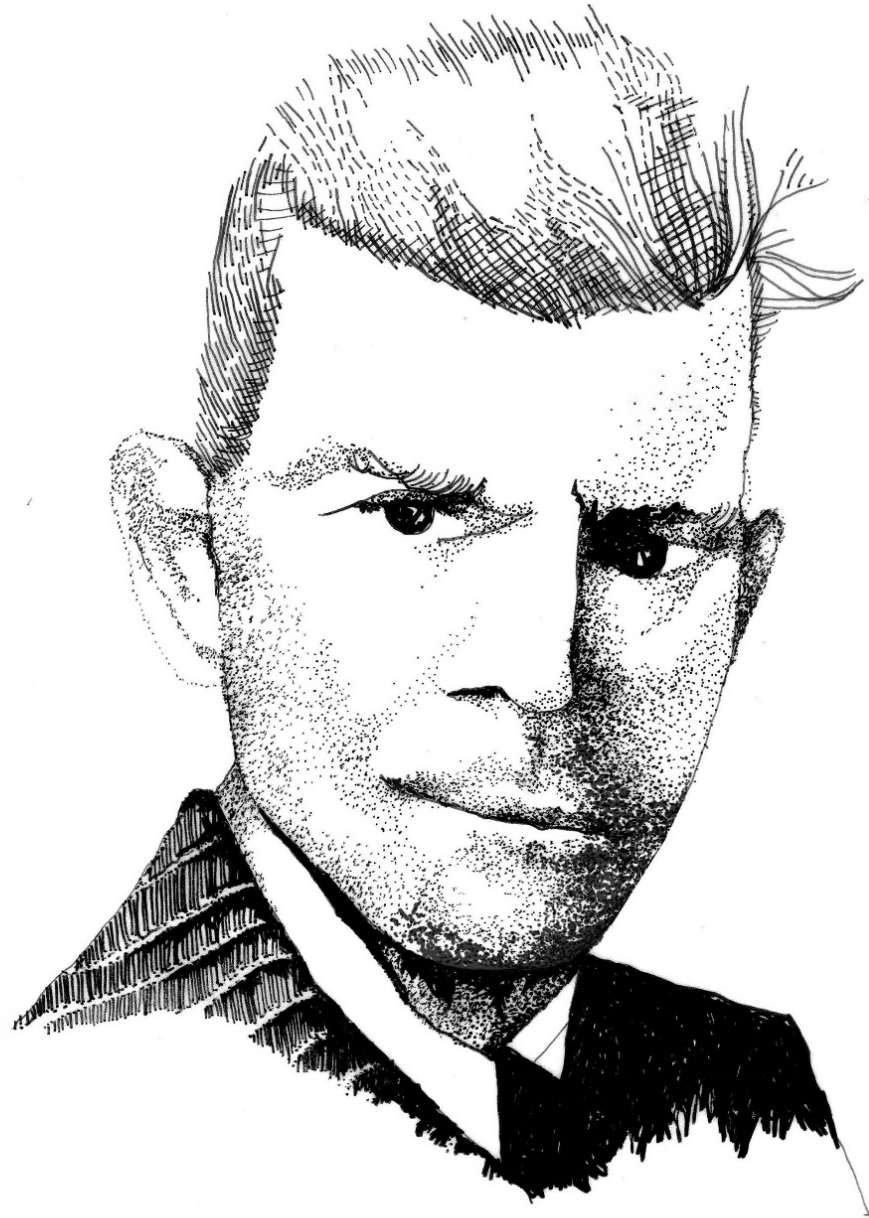
Max Steineke (1898-1952), son of German immigrants, petroleum geologist who participated in the first oil discoveries in Saudi Arabia.



Standard Oil of New Jersey's Rover Boys posing,
Timbuktu, Mali, 1959.



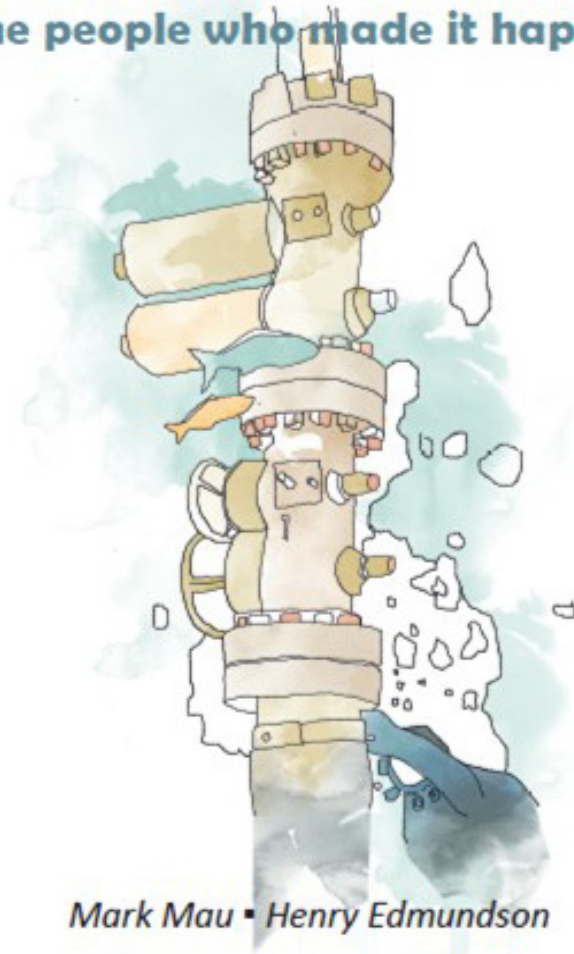
A seismic vessel setting off a dynamite charge in the Gulf of Mexico in the 1950s.



Marion King Hubbert (1903-89), a pioneer in both exploration geology and petroleum engineering.

Groundbreakers

**The story of oilfield technology and
the people who made it happen**



Mark Mau ▪ Henry Edmundson

Illustrations by Abigail Whitehead

Ludger Mintrop (1880-1956), a German mining surveyor who founded Seismos.



Thank you

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