

GENEALOGY DATABASE ENTRY

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Norrish, Ronald George Wreford

1897 - 1978

DEGREE: PhD

DATE: 1924

PLACE: Cambridge

TEACHER/RESEARCH ADVISOR: Rideal

Nobel Prize in 1967 (with Porter) for the development of the flash photolysis method for studying the optical spectra of unstable, short-lived, intermediate species generated upon absorption of light; one of the founders of modern photochemistry; investigated chain reactions, esp. combustion and addition polymerization processes; demonstrated that the decomposition of nitrogen dioxide did not begin until the wavelength of the incident light reached a value at which fluorescence ceased, which was also the point at which the absorption spectrum ceased to show fine structure; studied the photodecomposition of compounds containing the carbonyl group and the photocombination of hydrogen with chlorine; investigated detonation waves in gaseous mixtures.

1. *Biog. Mem. Fell. Roy. Soc.* **1981**, 27, 379-424.
2. *Dictionary of National Biography*; Smith, Elder & Co.: 1908-1986; (1971-1980), p635-637.
3. Campbell, W. A.; Greenwood, N. N. *Contemporary British Chemists*; Taylor & Francis: 1971; p171-172.
4. *Les Prix Nobel en 1967*; P. A. Norstedt & Soener: 1967; p107-108.
5. *Nobel Laureates in Chemistry 1901-1992*; James, L. K., Ed.; American Chemical Society: 1993; p479-486.