

[Recording of the Week: a princess cannot eat stew](#)

This week's selection comes from Niamh Dillon, National Life Stories Project Interviewer.

Prue Leith is well known to television viewers of the *Great British Menu*. She started her career as a chef and restaurateur in London. In this extract from a longer recording with Niamh Dillon for [Food: From Source to Salespoint](#), recorded in 2008, she recalls a surprise visit from Princess Margaret. Her request for pheasant stew caused considerable consternation in the kitchen resulting in a fire, a singed jacket and a spilt pot of coffee. If only VIP's knew what happens behind the scenes!

[Prue Leith and Princess Margaret C821/202](#)

 **Prue Leith (courtesy Paul Tozier)**

The full interview with Prue Leith can be found in [Food](#), an online collection of oral history recordings that chart the extraordinary changes which transformed the production, manufacture and consumption of food in 20th-century Britain.

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