

# [Recording of the week: surviving an oil rig disaster](#)

*This week's selection comes from Dr Rob Perks, Lead Curator Oral History.*

In this moving testimony recorded for 'Lives in the Oil Industry' project, oral historian Hugo Manson talks to Bob Ballantyne (1942-2004), a survivor of the Piper Alpha North Sea oil rig disaster in 1988 which killed 167 people.

[Bob Ballantyne – surviving the Piper Alpha oil rig disaster](#)



**Piper Alpha Disaster Memorial (Elliott Simpson)**

The [full interview](#) can be consulted at the British Library and is part of [Lives in the Oil Industry](#), a joint National Life Story Collection/Aberdeen University project, begun in 2000, to record the major changes which have occurred in the UK oil and gas industry in the twentieth century, focussing particularly on North Sea exploration and the impact of the industry on this country.

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