Summary
Brian Hibbard has worked on Thorne Moors all his life. His mother and father worked on the moor (see Annie & Ernest Hibbard recordings). He worked on the loading gangs from hand loading for Fisons through to operating the machinery used in surface milling. Still an employee of Scotts UK, Brian has been very closely involved in the restoration of the Moors.

Peat for Harrogate health spa & whisky peat
Walling gangs – contract workers. Affects of introduction of machinery - Ruttling machine
Wet summer in 1970s – picking fish up on the peat flats
Story about igniting gas from the peat
Adapting a car to run on the moor railway (see Jim Dickinson interview)
Dad was one of last 3 people to grave turf by hand on Swinefleet Moor.
Filling the last wagon – 21 October 2005
His experience of direct action by conservation protesters – blocking drains – removing blockages with explosives
Finds on the moor – an old penny at Whaley Balk, bottles, someone found gold sovereign, old lad’s story of finding a ‘longboat’
Story of supernatural experience on Swinefleet Moor
Experience of being out on moor – stag at daybreak. Increase in deer sightings
Fire watching. Garden at the ‘paraffin mill’ (Moorends Mill)
Using rainwater to wash
Description of the Paraffin Mill in the 1970s. Demolition of houses and aqueduct.
Demolition of Medge Hall mill 1978
Fire risk & fire watching. Using fire as a management tool.
Big fire in peat stacks at Bank Top c1973 – fighting the fire
Difficulties of fighting fires on the moor – lack of water, nature of peat
Big fire in 1970.
Working after a fire.
Gating the moor in 1984. Attitude of people of Moorends to access. Vandalism
Access versus security