

# Energy evolution began with first licence in 1964



ne Seagull field began production in 2023.



ueen Elizabeth II switched on the Forties flow in 1975.



SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT

milestone for bp in Scotland and indeed for our company -60 years operating in the North Sea, a business that I proudly lead today alongside my skilled and talented colleagues both on and offshore.

From the award of our first exploration licence in 1964, bp has helped to pioneer the UK oil and gas industry by supporting the development of processes, technologies and skills that

Scotland to every part of the globe.

Following that first licence award, bp went on to discover gas at the West Sole field in 1965 and when production started two years later in 1967, it became the first British offshore natural gas transported onshore for commercial use.

From discovery of the giant Forties field in 1970, to pioneering oil and gas exploration and production

And the firsts kept

of Shetland, bp has been a driving force for the UK sector.

> Today, we remain one of the largest holders of undeveloped barrels in the North Sea, with a portfolio of offshore facilities safely operated by a dedicated workforce - who spend weeks at a time away from their loved ones, working round the clock in all seasons to help produce the energy that the world

still needs. These offshore operations are made possible by the

the talented onshore workforce.

PIONEERS: Developing new technology has always been part of bp's work, such as that used to maximise the oil production

From those beginnings in 1964, innovation has been the common thread that's run through bp and the industry.

Sixty years ago, we innovated to access oil and gas resources in increasingly deeper and inhospitable locations.

Today, we're innovating to identify opportunities to lower operational emissions associated with our oil and gas production in service of the UK's net-

Throughout our long history, we have always prided ourselves on making a positive contribution to the Scottish economy and

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In 2023, we supported an estimated total of 11,000 jobs in the country. equating to one in every 260 Scottish jobs. We also spent £720 million with Scottish suppliers, and contributed £2.2 billion in GVA to the Scottish

Already our presence in Scotland stretches beyond North Sea oil and gas.

offshore at Clair Ridge in 2018. We are increasing our investment in lower-carbon and renewable energy here, and expanding our electric vehicle

charging network through bp pulse. We are also progressing our plans to develop new offshore wind with the Morven wind project together with EnBW - and planning the Aberdeen Hydrogen Hub with Aberdeen City Council.

We are working with government and partners to make these plans a

our workforce, suppliers and communities across the country to transition in a way that helps to protect iobs and boosts skills, and helps grow the country's

regions such as the North Sea provides the foundations from which a successful energy transition can be delivered, and it is with great pride and a huge amount of gratitude that I lead bp's North Sea business at this crucial time in the energy

I believe bp's legacy in



Sixty years of engagement, clockwise from above: bp funds **Prosper's Young Engineers and** Science Clubs: Diana. Princess of Wales met the crew of the Forties Charlie platform: the dedicated offshore workforce keeps the company running: in 1981, an extension to the Dvce headquarters was built; a press conference in 1971 discussed the exciting new Forties oilfield: local students learned about by's work at Offshore Europe in 2023.





## Timeline - bp in the North Sea ▶ ▶ ▶ ▶ ▶

bp NORTH SEA

First offshore licence: In September, bp is granted its first UK North Sea licence and begins exploration immediately. The company becomes one of the first to use two-dimensional seismic imaging to map the North Sea's



Gas discovery: A first on the UK continental shelf, bp strikes natural gas at West Sole in the southern North Sea with its first North Sea offshore drill rig, Sea Gem. On 27 December, tragedy strikes when Sea Gem collapses and sinks during a moving operation. Of the 32 men on board, 13 tragically lost their lives that day, and one sadly passed away in the days that followed.



In March 1967, bp piped the first North Sea gas from the field to the Easington terminal on the Yorkshire coast.

## Forties field discovery and first oil >>>

First Aberdeen office opens: Aberdeen remains the headquarters for bp's North Sea business, covering offshore operations and onshore support. The current headquarters in Dyce was constructed in 1973 and has seen several extensions over the years.



First UK giant oilfield: In October, bp discovers the Forties oil field, 112 miles east of Aberdeen. bp's engineers set to work building a series of connecting pipelines, as well as terminal facilities to transport, process and store this





discoveries: The Magnus and Andrew fields are discovered in 1974, with Rhum and Clai following in 1977. With the exception of Magnus - which began producing in 1983 – it will be decades until technology develops to access these hard-to-reach

hvdrocarbons.

Four field

# Leading the way through innovation and discovery

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BY ROB MCLAREN

3 1975 has gone down as a momentous day in the history of the North Sea - the official start of production from the giant Forties oilfield.

The field, located around 110 miles east of Aberdeen, had first been discovered by bp in 1970. Four test wells revealed a large oil reservoir covering around 50 square miles

It marked the beginning of years of engineering challenges, which included installing the steel jacket structures to the seabed and building the Forties pipeline system to transport oil back to shore.

Queen Elizabeth II travelled to bp's North Sea headquarters in Dyce to press the button to officially start production.

It was such an important occasion that The Press and Journal included a 14page supplement telling 'The Forties Story" that

P&J industrial reporter Bob Cummings said Forties has "earned a prominent place in British industrial history' He wrote: "Laying of a

pipeline between field and shore in water depths starting around 350ft required the rapid development of suitable pipe, laying techniques and work barges to do a job that has never been tackled in such circumstances.

"Even as recently as this past summer, bp's contractors continued to experience problems on the pipeline while making the final connections, problems million pounds to the total development bill, which has almost doubled from the first estimate of

ospitable waters.

"Forties will eventually demands.'

The snapshot into the past highlights issues that have recently come to the fore again - high inflation and energy security.

Sea will impact "every on account of the impact it

included a message from Prime Minister Harold Sea oil will supply what has link' in Britain's energy

The development of Forties field stands as a pivotal moment in the history of the North Sea - and just one of many where bp has played a key role in driving the industry's growth and development.

The company would go on to build the Sullom Voe terminal at the end of the 1970s, one of the largest oil terminals in Europe to

He applauded the

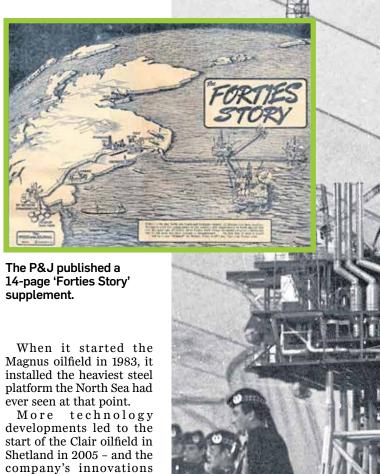
ambition of the project to create a pipeline to collect the oil from four fixed platforms, writing: "No one had attempted anything like it before. Offshore platforms and submarine pipelines existed - but in shallower, much more

provide one-fifth of Britain's present oil

An economic analysis by

banker R McNeill of Pearson Limited said the flow of oil from the North household in the country. makes on the UK economy".

The supplement also Wilson who said: "North been called the 'missing



Magnus oilfield in 1983, it installed the heaviest steel platform the North Sea had ever seen at that point.

developments led to the start of the Clair oilfield in Shetland in 2005 - and the company's innovations haven't stopped.

Now, bp is playing an active role in the energy transition, developing offshore wind projects and creating a hydrogen hub in Aberdeen in partnership with the city council.

The company's 60 years operating in the North Sea have been full of groundbreaking achievements, with thousands of families in the north and north-east benefitting from bp's innovation and investments.

It has earned its place as a North Sea pioneer, and bp continues to shape and



### **Building Sullom Voe terminal** ▶ ▶ ▶

First North Sea oil comes ashore: The first oil from the Forties field flows through bp's newly built Forties Pipeline System on November 3 1975. Queen Elizabeth II officially begins production by pushing a symbolic gold-plated button in bp's control centre in Aberdeen.



### First oil reaches the Sullom Voe terminal: To enable oil production off the coast of the Shetland Islands, bp constructs the 1,000-acre Sullom Voe terminal. To this day, it is one of the largest oil

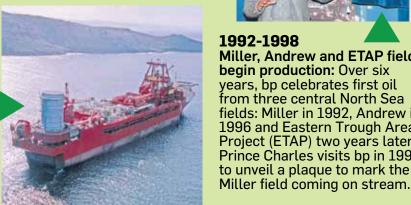




1983 Magnus starts up: The Magnus oilfield begins producing in August. Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher inaugurates the field at Britannic House, London, with live television links to bp's headquarters at Dyce.

## **BP** in the 1990s ▶ ▶

bp opens up the west of Shetland area: Exploration in the deep waters of the Shetland Trough begins in 1972. In 1992, bp makes the first commercially viable discovery at Foinaven. The Schiehallion field is discovered a year later.





### Miller, Andrew and ETAP fields begin production: Over six years, bp celebrates first oil from three central North Sea fields: Miller in 1992, Andrew in 1996 and Eastern Trough Area Project (ETAP) two years later. Prince Charles visits bp in 1992

Miller field coming on stream.



CATS starts up: Amoco starts up the Central Area Transmission System (CATS) pipeline and terminal, with capacity to transport the equivalent of 20% of the UK's gas demand. After acquiring Amoco in 1998, bp would go on to operate CATS. Also in the early 1990s, bp invested £1 billion to expand the Forties Pipeline System.

# Proud to be at the heart of the community



bp and its staff are involved in manv north-east





In 2018, Andrew Barlow, Matthew Oxley, Job Derksen and Martin Aasterud won TechFest's STEM in the Pipeline.

ver the past 60 years, bp has of jobs through its pioneering work in the North Sea, but it also gives back to the communities in which it operates.

It has inspired the next generation of workers through outreach in education, with a particular emphasis on science, technology, engineering and maths.

This includes supporting Aberdeen's annual science festival, hosted by TechFest since 1986, and being a lead funding partner of Prosper's Young Engineers and Science Clubs (YESC) since 2004.

In 1994, bp launched the first iteration of its student tutoring scheme - a partnership still going strong today with Aberdeenshire and Aberdeen City councils and three higher and further education institutions.

The company has also invested millions in Scottish woodlands. In 2000, it committed £10 million to the newly formed Scottish Forest Alliance, which has helped to create

14 new native woodlands. The partnership still thrives today. Last year, bp

£10m to a new urban forestry programme with Future Woodlands Scotland.

There has also been investment in the arts. In 2019, bp announced a £1m investment in Aberdeen Art Gallery to fund the bp Galleries to host three special exhibitions a year.

At the time, bp group chief executive Bob Dudley said: "Today's investment means a new generation of visitors will experience and engage with exhibitions of the highest quality."

And the charitable efforts of bp employees cannot be overlooked.

In 2009, the first Coast 2 Coast cycle set off. The annual challenge encourages individuals to partner with charities and pedal a c200-mile route across Scotland. Over the past 15 years, it has raised more than £2m for 35 north-east charities, with bp matching the donations.

Last year, Coast 2 Coast chairwoman Nandini Nagra said: "The cycle has created an amazing legacy for local charities.

'It has become a landmark event in the bp calendar, with many cyclists returning year on year, as well as new recruits



Mentor Manish Labroo shows Jeswin Vardhese the ropes.



It was dummies at the ready in 1985 as bp employees **Alan Costine** and Kay Ritchie joined the Dyce Fun Day pram

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bp's Richard Haydock helps Shireen Chambers dig in.



NEXT GENERATION:

The bp student tutoring scheme has helped inspire many local young people into further education.



In 2017, bp had a bumper crop of Coast 2 Coast-ers.



Sea oil first reached the Scottish shore in 1975. It was a seminal The transformation from being a provincial city in the north-east of Scotland to an internationally recognised centre for oil and gas is remarkable."



bp has been a constan in Scotland's energy journey and integral to the emergence of a highly skilled workforce and world-class supply chain These are the tools we need for the transition to green energies." Maggie McGinlay, Energy Transition Zone chief



"We proudly celebrate bp's 60 years of pioneering excellence in the North Sea, bp's leadership has sustained the UK offshore energy sector, contributing to the nation's economic growth, skills base and supply chain."

 Dave Whitehouse Offshore Energies UK chief executive



"It's amazing to think of the technological changes achievements and breakthroughs since 1964 It's also inspiring, because that innovation, boldness and transformation is going to deliver the next chapters of offshore energy." - Stuart Payne, North Sea Transition Authority chief



"bp's presence in driving innovation, the development of subsea technology, supply chain development and employment, and their commitment to energy transition supports a legacy for the region that they can be very proud of." Councillor Gillian

Owen, Aberdeenshire



executive

of Aberdeen and the wider north-east's economy for decades. bp is the strategic partner of Aberdeen City Council as we work to achieve the goals of our net-zero vision to become a climate-positive city." - Councillor Ian Yuill, Aberdeen City Council

## **bp** enters new century ▶

First oil from the region's first floating assets: To access deepwater resources west of Shetland, bp introduces the Petroiarl Foinaven floating production, storage and offloading (FPSO) vessel in the Foinaven area in 1997,





**Production** at Europe's largest oilfield begins: With an estimated seven billion barrels of oil in place, Clair, located west of Shetland, is considered the largest oilfield on the UK Continental

Expanding west of Shetland: A major redevelopment of the Schiehallion and Loyal fields in 2017 includes construction and installation of the Glen Lyon FPSO and upgrading of subsea facilities to prolong the life of the hub.





# Looking to the future▶▶▶▶▶

Success in ScotWind offshore leasing round: As part of its net-zero ambition, bp and its partner EnBW are awarded a lease option off the east coast of Scotland to develop the Morven offshore wind project, with a potential generating capacity of around 2.9 gigawatts.





### ETZ support: bp

pledges £1.25m towards the £6.5m energy incubator and scale-up hub ETZ to be located at Aberdeen's Altens Industrial Estate. The 32,000 sq ft facility will support supply chain expansion and deliver a "cutting-edge



2024

Aberdeen City Council and bp join forces on hydrogen: bp Aberdeen Hydrogen Energy Limited – the joint venture between bp and Aberdeen City Council – announces the final investment decision for its Aberdeen Hydrogen Hub project has been agreed



### And, not or.

### That's how we're backing Britain.

While today we're mostly in oil and gas, we increased the proportion of our global annual investment that went into our lower carbon & other transition businesses from around 3% in 2019 to around 23% in 2023.

bp.com/AndNotOr

