

## **Peter Smith - Transcript**

*Audio Quality: Background noise throughout.*

*Description of visiting father at Listers Mill via a tunnel underneath the mill*

**4**

**0:00:00**

**LMI:** May I ask your name please?

**PS:** Peter Smith.

**LMI:** And Peter, what's your connection with Bradford Mills please?

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**0:00:06**

**PS:** Both my parents worked in Bradford Mills. My mother was a warp dresser. And my father ended up in charge of the maintenance of the mill.

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**0:00:14**

**LMI:** Right. Did you ever go into the mill?

**1**

**0:00:18**

**PS:** Yeah, as a small child I used to go looking for him in the mill. Going in the entrance doorways, through the...there was a clocking-in desk...and just wander in. Nobody said anything. I think they all must have known me, because they knew I was Doug Smith's son. And I used to disappear in the mill and try and get lost and go find him. So I knew my way round. But nobody said a dicky bird to you in them days. You just carried on and did what you did. You kept out of the way.

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**0:00:44**

**LMI:** As far as the environment, how did you find it as you walked around and visited?

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**0:00:48**

**PS:** Very noisy. And very dusty. There was a *lot* of noise all the time. You couldn't hear anybody talking to you. They had to take you to one side to talk to you. And a lot of people in those days used to lip-read. So they'd talk to each other, they'd lip-read each other.

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**LMI:** Across the machines. They learnt that art.

**PS:** That's right.

**LMI:** Earlier on you were telling me about a tunnel at Lister Mills.

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**PS:** Yes. Underneath Patent Street ...the mill's in two halves... and there was a gantry over the top, but also there was a tunnel underneath that I don't know if it's still there. So I used to make my way for that, and go from one side to the other and go find him. The mechanic's shop was over near where the chimney was. Or *is*. And I used to go up the other side, down Scotchman Road...because we lived up there... So, I'd go down Scotchman Road, going through the booking rooms, and go and find him.

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0:01:35

**LMI:** Thank you very much.

**PS:** Ok. Thank you.