

**Ian Stothers - Transcription**

*Audio Quality: Background noise*

*Very brief interview focussing on temporary work and conditions at a mill in Wibsey.*

	4 0:00:00
<b>LMI:</b> Hi, please can I ask you your name?	16 0:00:02
<b>IS:</b> Ian Stothers	2 0:00:04
<b>LMI:</b> And Ian, what's your relationship with the Bradford Mills, please?	1 0:00:07
<b>IS:</b> Well, I started in 1963, just as a temporary job from leaving school, before I started working [City Hall?]	4 0:00:16
<b>LMI:</b> And how old were you?	5 0:00:17
<b>IS:</b> 16	2 0:00:19
<b>LMI:</b> And which mill did you work?	1 0:00:20
<b>IS:</b> Bulmer and Lumb in Wibsey. It's not there anymore, it's gone. Except for the gates.	5 0:00:25

**LMI:** Except for the gates.

**12**  
**0:00:26**

**IS:** Yes

**2**  
**0:00:27**

**LMI:** What was your role?

**1**  
**0:00:29**

**IS:** It was called a bobbin ligger. Basically, pushing carts of bobbins around.

**7**  
**0:00:34**

**LMI:** Right.

**1**  
**0:00:34**

**IS:** Hard work.

**15**  
**0:00:35**

**LMI:** How long did you last?

**1**  
**0:00:37**

**IS:** Well, I didn't. It was only a temporary job.

**14**  
**0:00:39**

**LMI:** Ah, ok.

**1**  
**0:00:40**

**IS:** Two, three weeks.

**LMI:** Right.

	1 0:00:41
<b>IS:</b> Then, on the 9th of September, I started here.	
	13 0:00:44
<b>LMI:</b> So that's...	
	10 0:00:45
<b>IS:</b> '63	
	12 0:00:45
<b>LMI:</b> Sixty...	
	11 0:00:46
<b>IS:</b> Three.	
	2 0:00:47
<b>LMI:</b> And that you said is how many years ago today?	
	1 0:00:50
<b>IS:</b> It's 60 years today.	
	2 0:00:51
<b>LMI:</b> 60 years. And that's why you're here, to visit the City Hall?	
	1 0:00:53
<b>IS:</b> That's why I'm here, just for ... yes. I worked here over 40 years, you see.	
	10 0:00:57

**LMI:** Thank you.

**1**  
**0:00:58**

**IS:** Not in the mills.

**LMI:** Not in the mills. In the mills there then, are you able to remember what your salary was?

**1**  
**0:01:02**

**IS:** Oh, probably around £3, £2, something like that.

**9**  
**0:01:06**

**LMI:** £3. Did it feel like a lot at that time?

**1**  
**0:01:10**

**IS:** Well, it felt a lot because obviously it was my first job, so it was basically spending money which was...

**4**  
**0:01:17**

**LMI:** Yeah.

**IS:** In that sense it was new.

**2**  
**0:01:19**

**LMI:** As far as the environment, what was it like? The two, three weeks you were there?

**1**  
**0:01:22**

**IS:** Noisy.

**2**  
**0:01:23**

**LMI:** Noisy?

1  
0:01:24

**IS:** Yeah, very noisy.

8  
0:01:25

**LMI:** Right.

1  
0:01:26

**IS:** I mean the mill literally shook with the machine[ry], and you could feel the building and the floors vibrating all the time.

7  
0:01:33

**LMI:** Wow.

1  
0:01:34

**IS:** You used to start about half past six, break off at half past seven for some breakfast and then carry on. But I worked in the spinning department, which was where my father used to work, you see. And they had what were called gill boxes, which was part of the process of combing the strands of the wool into, you know, before it became ready for spinning. And they were extremely noisy.

4  
0:02:01

**LMI:** As far as your dad then, where did he work?

6  
0:02:03

**IS:** Bulmer and Lumb's.

1  
0:02:04

**LMI:** Right, in the same factory.

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0:02:05

**IS:** At that time. Well, he was the mill manager for spinning.

**LMI:** Right. How long did he work there? How did he find it? Did he ever tell you any stories?

**5**

**0:02:14**

**IS:** Er, he worked there a long while. I can't remember when he started.

**1**

**0:02:18**

**LMI:** Yep.

**IS:** And then I think...when would it be, Betty? When he was made redundant. And then he got a job somewhere else. That was quite a while ago. That's back in the 1970s that we're talking about.

**2**

**0:02:35**

**LMI:** Yeah. Are you able to think of any funny stories or something that he told you about working in the mills, or anything sad, or...?

**1**

**0:02:40**

**IS:** Not really, no. No, as I say... he didn't talk about it in that sense too much. But that was my experience, which was very brief.

**4**

**0:02:48**

**LMI:** Yeah, I appreciate that. Thank you very much. Thank you very much.

**3**

**0:02:50**

**IS:** Ok, pleasure.