



# BOLLINGTON

Number Fifty Winter 2010

# Live!



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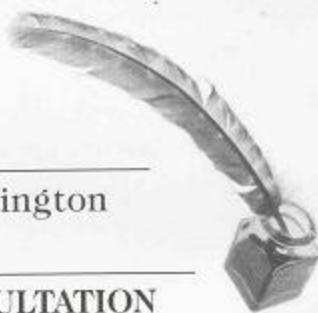
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Cover: *Clarence Mill Chimney at night* Photograph: John Appleyard

Editor ..... Anthony Holland (01625 268047)  
liveeditor@happy-valley.org.uk

Design & Layout... Anthony Holland, Simon Nottage

Editorial Team..... Tim Neale, Tim Boddington, Sandy Milsom, Annette Hurst, Janet Beech, Betty Bonson, Simon Nottage, Mark Stedman, Ken Edwards, Steven Hurst.

Advertising ..... Mark Stedman (01625 575227)  
Michele Leigh (01625 572953)  
liveadverts@happy-valley.org.uk

Distribution..... Janet Beech (01625 574618)  
livedistribution@happy-valley.org.uk

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## SMOKE STACKS

**Mills mean chimneys – except that they seem to be getting fewer in number and shorter in stature!**

When they were built, Bollington's water-powered mills, such as Ingersley, Rainow, Higher, Lower, Oak Bank, Waterhouse and Lowerhouse mills, had waterwheels and no chimneys. When they needed more power they added boilers and steam engines plus a fine tall chimney. Clarence and Adelphi were built with these from the outset.

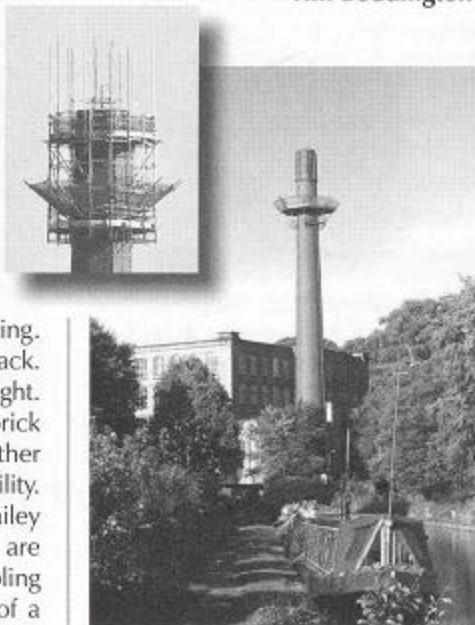
Alas, over the years the chimneys have been disappearing. Adelphi lost its very beautiful stack. Lower Mills has lost some height. Lowerhouse is losing its brick chimney metre by metre as weather and age diminish its stability. Bollington steeplejacks Bailey International Steeplejacks, are removing three metres of crumbling brickwork to leave something of a large stump held together by metal straps.

Clarence lost its two original chimneys decades ago. Its present stack was built in 1914 by H. Cumberbirch & Sons and it is sound and upright. However, plant life took hold in the higher elevations and has damaged some of the brickwork. Three metres, the most beautiful bit on the top, were taken off in 1977. Options are being discussed as to what should be done now – repair the damaged section (favoured by Bollington Civic Society), remove five metres off the top, or even demolish the whole stack. It is a 'listed' building so the first option should really be adopted.

Of course, don't forget the two little chimneys that stand on Beeston

Hill and above Ingersley Vale. These were connected to their boilers by tunnels built up the hillsides. As things are going they could become the last reminders of our happy valley full of smoky chimney stacks!

**Tim Boddington**



Photographs: Clarence Mill by Anthony Holland; inset: Lowerhouse Mill by Simon Nottage

### 50TH ISSUE COMPETITION

Win a hamper worth £50 for our 50th issue kindly donated by the new Livesey's Delicatessen on High Street.

Simply tell us the issue numbers of the back issues of *Bollington Live!* scattered throughout this issue.

Answers to the Editor by e-mail or by post to Bollington Printshop.

Closing date 30th November 2010

[happy-valley.org.uk/history/mill-clarence\\_chimney.htm](http://happy-valley.org.uk/history/mill-clarence_chimney.htm)

## EDITORIAL

Reaching our fiftieth issue is something of a milestone. This is a time for both looking back - as well as looking ahead into the future.

John Liley, the magazine's first editor, remembers in his article - and thanks many of those involved at the beginning. I would like to extend those thanks to everyone who has contributed in whatever way over fifty issues, from writing articles, providing photographs, to illustrating with cartoons, not to mention delivering to every household and business in our town. Our committee members and I are all proud to be associated with Bollington's magazine. Regular feedback also tells us that Bollington looks forward to receiving their copy through the door.

Our advertisers are a crucial part of this success. Again, thanks are due to them. Many have been with us for almost every issue - a special thanks to M. Chadwick, Michael Hart, J.J.Heathcote, Marie Anne Holmes Naden, Stylers, J.A.McNulty and Bollington Printshop amongst others. The Printshop deserves extra thanks for continually helping us improve our magazine and for being our printer of choice since the beginning.

Sponsors were also introduced after a couple of years, several of which have been a continual source of support, again, helping enormously. Tullis Russell, Bollington Town Council and Bollington Civic Society have sponsored every issue. Slater Harrison, Bailey Business Park and The Adelphi Group are not far behind.

I hope our readers, advertisers and sponsors, old and new continue to support *Bollington Live!* for many more years. Thank you, once again.

Here's to the future!



