**NEWS**

**Ainsworth Community**

**Coffee & Conversation**

on the second Tuesday of every month at Ainsworth Church and Community Hall from 10.30am to 12 noon, with coffee, tea and biscuits - £1. Also, a Book Stall (50p donation with proceeds to Bury Hospice). ***‘A cup of coffee shared with others is happiness tasted and time well spent’’***

**History of Ainsworth:**

The History Society is aiming to continue Ken Bullock’s amazing history of the village by recording significant events in village life which have occurred since Ken finished his record in 1983.If you have anything which you can contribute, please email us at (ainswortharchive@outlook.com); or contact us through the page on the website; or write it down and give/send it to Polly at Christ Church Vicarage, Ainsworth Hall Road. Details and exact dates would be great, but month and year (or even just the year) will do and we can try to find out more

** **

**and ….**

We have had this information/request

        My name is Eric Allen and I am writing to you from the small town (less than 1,000 person population) of Alton, Missouri, USA. Please indulge me for ten more minutes to read the body of this letter. I am very interested in making contacts on the ground in the Ainsworth area and thought your group was a logical beginning point.

        The reason for this letter is a family history project I have been working on with my almost 80 year old father, Albert, over the last 15 or so years. We have uncovered many interesting facts and stories concerning our Allen family research on the American side of the Atlantic, and after years of brick walls and dead ends we have finally made headway into where our Allen clan came from in England------specifically Ainsworth and Cockey Moor.

        My immigrant ancestor to America was John Allen, and this John Allen was born March 29, 1667 and baptized at St Mary’s in Radcliffe, the son of John Allen, Sr.
Baptism: 29 Mar 1667 St Mary, Radcliffe, Lancs.
John Allens - son of John Allens, Senior Source: LDS Family Search

John Allen, Jr then went to Ireland as part of the Ulster Plantation settlements where the 31 year lease he lived under expired in 1729 which leads directly to his travels on to America and he arrived in the State of Delaware in 1729 and purchased a tract of land called “Northampton”.

97. Deed. 22 Aug 1729. Andrew Miller of White Clay Creek Hun. in Co. of New
Castle, carpenter, for the sum of 123 pounds, sold unto John Allin, late of Ireland
now of same place, fuller, a tract of land commonly called Northampton, situate
in sd Co. containing 200 acres. It is bounded on the West by Delaware River and
the north side of most southern branch of Christiana Creek toward the head.
Signed: Andrew Miller. Wit: Philip James, John Deniox. Ack: 23 Nov 1729. David
French pro. (I1-136)

       At this point, you might inquire as to how I know the John Allen born in 1667 and baptized in Radcliffe was the same John Allen that arrives in Delaware in 1729? The amazing science of yDNA is the answer!

        My father yDNA tested with FTDNA several years ago. He matched multiple Allens from the USA (currently residing in many different states) that all descended from various sons of John Allen who arrived in Delaware in 1729 when the lines were traced back in time. These Allen men did not know each other in the present day and are 6-8 generations back in time for a common male ancestor with John Allen who arrived in 1729 or his various sons. yDNA is passed only genetic father to genetic son over the generations, with no maternal line influence----thus making it the perfect tool for male surname research!

      Now, in April 2019 my father’s FTDNA kit had a new match. This new match is to a present day UK Allen gentleman and he matches my father literally just as closely as those other USA Allens from 6-8 generations ago. This match became my USA Allen family’s Rosetta Stone to finding our place in historic Englandϑ

     This present day UK Allen traces back to a Thomas Allen born June 4, 1665 and baptized at St. Mary’s in Radcliffe, the son of John Allen (and brother to John Jr born 1667).
Baptism: 4 Jun 1665 St Mary, Radcliffe, Lancs.
Thomas Allen - son of John Allen  Source: LDS Family Search

     I have searched the 1660s Hearth Tax Rolls for Lancashire and only two Allens in Radcliffe and Ainsworth paid the Hearth Tax. Neither was a John Allen, indicating this John was too poor to have a home with an eligible hearth. Thus, his sons having nothing (or very little) to inherit had to venture out on their own as young adults. We already know John Jr set out and was part of the Ulster Settlements in Northern Ireland before coming to America.

     What about Thomas? Thomas ends up in the village of Aughton as a servant/indentured servant. From another researcher: The first of this Allen family to be connected with Aughton was one ‘Thomas Allins’ who married Jane Tyrer after banns at Aughton on 8 February 1688. Nothing is known of the origins of Jane, who seems not to have been baptised at Aughton. This was certainly the Thomas Allan who had been a servant in Aughton and had lately married when in 1688 the churchwardens of Aughton won an order for the removal from Aughton to Radcliffe of Thomas and his wife. The removal order was unsuccessful and was repeated later that year. In 1690 there was an order for Thomas Allen to comply or go to the House of Correction. Finally in 1695 the churchwardens of Radcliffe provided Aughton with a settlement certificate in respect of Thomas: the effect of such a certificate was to permit residence in Aughton, but to accept liablility for his return to Radcliffe should he become dependent on poor relief. (This involvement with the Parish of Radcliffe proves the connection of this Thomas Allen back to Radcliffe as his home and a date of birth of 1665 is very logical for a marriage in 1688). Margaret, daughter of ‘Thomas Alleins, labourer’ was baptised at Aughton on 6 January 1688.

Then we have this and the Cockey Moor specific link:
Burial: 24 Feb 1709 St Mary, Radcliffe, Lancs.
Jane Allen - wife of Thomas Allen
 Abode: Cockey Moor  Source: LDS Family Search

     No Thomas Allen marries any lady named Jane in all of the Radcliffe marriage records before 1709---I looked exhaustively. Thus, this is highly likely to be the Thomas Allen and Jane Tyrer who married in Aughton having eventually returned to Radcliffe/Ainsworth.

        Eventually, John Allen Sr dies as well:
Burial: 15 Apr 1722 St Mary, Radcliffe, Lancs.
John Allen, Senr. -  Source: LDS Family Search

And this tantalizing hint: An Edward Allen, about the right age to be the father of John Sr, dies in 1687 and is listed as “of Cockey Moor”.
Burial: 14 Dec 1687 St Mary, Radcliffe, Lancs.
Edward Allen -
Abode: Cockey Moor Source: LDS Family Search

        To recap: I descend from John Allen baptized 1667 in Radcliffe. My father’s yDNA test kit matches a present day UK Allen male that descends from Thomas Allen baptized 1665 in Radcliffe and both men are the son of John Allen, Sr, that dies 1722 in Radcliffe. The Cockey Moor references seem very particular and very exclusive and when I searched the St Mary’s of Radcliffe registers, only four surnames showed up as being “of Cockey Moor” over an almost two century time span: Allen, Openshaw, Hardman, and Barlow/Barloe. A location of “Hardman Fold” also intrigues me as I am learning more of the very local and specific geography for the Ainsworth and Radcliffe areas.

        I would be very interested in further correspondence with you on this topic

Boys Brigade – a request

From someone compiling a history of the Boys Brigade - there was a BB group at Ainsworth Methodist Church from 1966 to 1972, which was run by Gordon Cox. Members of the group lived mainly in Ainsworth and the surrounding area.

They are looking for any photos or memories of the Ainsworth group. If you can help please contact us

Another Request for information

I am wrestling fan from Delaware, Ohio of USA. My inquiry is about champion wrestlers at Lancashire style who came from Ainsworth/Bury/Radcliffe/Elton/Starling areas. May be the most famous champion was Adam Ridings aka "Dockum" (1820-1894) who was champion in the 1840s-50's, he was resident of Moorside, Bury. There also was John Meadowcroft of Radcliffe (1837-1886)  he was 9st champion in the 1860's. Also David Bentley of Starling, unfortunately I dont have that much of his personal info, he held 9st Higginshaw Grounds Championship in the late 1860's, that title was among the most prestigious one in Lancashire. I would highly appreciate any info related to local wrestling stars. Thanks in advance. Kind regards, Ruslan

**Request for information**

Just a bit of curiosity from me; as kid I grew up in Breightmet, I’m 61 now. We used to play all over the Breightmet, Ainsworth and Red Bridge areas, including “The Dams”. I remember there being a particularly tough farmer who lived in Ainsworth Hall Farm, he had a reputation that was probably just hearsay and urban myth but needless to say when we saw him approaching we were off! 😀What happened to him, can you shed any light please? Also, travelling through Red Bridge towards Breightmet I recall a well type shaft in the field beyond the cottages on the left, now covered by the new housing. Was it a well or an old mine shaft? I can’t see it on an old map I have. My final question refers to the Pim Hole lodge on Breightmet golf course, was it constructed for Red Bridge Bookcloth Mill and where does the name originate? There’s a bit to go at there, I would much appreciate your help.

**Christ Church Christmas Fair**

Saturday 18th November 2017



Geoffrey Haworth

We are sad to announce the death of Geoff (on 6th October 2017), who was a member of the society. His funeral is at Christ Church Ainsworth at 11am on Thursday 19th October

**Annual Charity Strawberry Tea**

(run by ladies of the paris**h)**

**Tuesday** 25th July from 2pm to 4pm in the Church Hall.

Come and enjoy strawberries, cream and more and support this fundraising event which this year is in aid of the Royal National Lifeboat Institution (RNLI).  Tickets, priced at £4 will be available from members of Mothers' Union or pay at the door.

*(Donations of cakes would be very gratefully received.  They may be brought to the Church Hall from 11.30am on the day. )*

**Request**

Request from Simon Brooks (born in Bolton in 1967)

“My father Ronald Brooks was born in Colne in 1933 and my mother Patricia Ann Brooks was born in 1938 in Manchester.

I know that my great Grandfather Edwin Brooks was born in Ainsworth. I am researching my family tree and my links to Bolton, Bury, Colne and Ainsworth.

My great grandfather Edwin was one of many brothers and sisters and they were all born in Ainsworth. The reason for this message is that I would love to trace any descendants of these as well as any information about them and their life in Ainsworth. Their names were;

Wilfred Brooks (born 1881); Robina Brooks (born 1899); Maggie Brooks (born 1896); Willie Brooks (born 1895); Clara Brooks (born 1894); John Henry Brooks (born 1890); Ellen Brooks (born 1888); Alice Brooks (born 1888); Bessie Brooks (born 1886); Barbara Brooks (born 1883); Amelia Brooks (born 1879); Marshall Brooks (born 1875); Mary Ann Brooks (born 1870); William Brooks (born 1875); Edwin Brooks (born 1876).

**Ainsworth Parish Church Spring Fair:** Saturday 13th May at 11am

**Our Annual General Meeting**: The AGM of Ainsworth Village Archive Group will be held at 7:45pm on Tuesday 9th May at the White Horse (before the History Meeting). Please attend if you can. The meeting will cover: A review of the previous year, the accounts, the election of committee members and AOB. Nominations for Chair, Secretary, Treasurer and Committee members must be received by 25th April.

**Defibrillator Appeal:** There is an appeal to raise £1600 to install a Public Access Defibrillator in the village. Two members of Ainsworth FC are doing a sponsored ride and there are collection boxes/sponsor forms in the post office, Casalingo, White Horse, Duke William and the Dental Practice, or you can donate via www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/david-steele

**Request:** We have had a request from someone trying to trace the family of BRYAN EVANS who lived at 46 Lowercroft Road (Parents were Gordon and Pauline and he had a sister, Christine) – if you can help, please contact us

BOXING DAY WALK

Meeting at 2pm outside the library (with an option of going to the Duke William at the end for mulled wine and mince pie)

CHRISTMAS FAIR

Saturday 19th November from 11am to 2pm at Ainsworth Church and Community Hall, with café, craft, homemade cakes, stalls and lots to do, plus a special Christmas visitor

MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING

The coffee morning on Friday 30th September raised £624. Thanks to everyone who supported it in anyway

REQUEST:

we have had this request - if anyone can help. please contact us

"I wonder if you can help me? A friend of mine (who has had a stroke and unable to read) has asked me if I can find out a little about her great, great grandfather - Jehu Horrocks (dob 1808 Bolton, dod 1875) who lived in Ainsworth Lodge with his wife, Maria and their children. He was a Manager of a reservoir for Ainsworth Mill that became part of a legal case (Rylands and Horrocks) which to this day has set a precedent.

I am struggling to find any information further back than the 1851 census. He had a number of children (James, Mary, John, Elizabeth, Alice, Martha) but my friend is sure that there were two or more children prior to James that died in a mill fire at a quite young age. James was born in 1832 and died in 1895. We think the older three sons were called Hugh, Squire and Adam.

Any information at all would be fascinating and most appreciated. They were possibly buried in the local churchyard ?

Kind regards and many thanks.

Jane"

HILDA LORD

Update: Hilda's funeral will be on Thursday 9th June at 12:30pm at Christ Church Ainsworth, followed by committal at Radcliffe Crematorium.

It is with great sadness that we have learned of the death of Hilda Lord (nee Mudd). Hilda was a valued member of the History Society, who enlightened us with tales and information about the village. She contributed to the meetimgs, giving talks as well as anecdotes and provided articles and photos which have been shared on this website. She will be sorely missed

we have had these responses to the sad news of Hilda's death

From Steve

For a group such as ours to lose a treasure like Hilda is truly tragic.

She was a living encyclopaedia on everything Ainsworth and as we all know, her mind was as sharp as a razor. Her enthusiasm knew no bounds, she loved to share her knowledge with anyone that would listen.

History group members will come and go, but Hilda’s generation cannot be replaced and we are extremely fortunate that she chose to share with us all her fascinating memories and historical knowledge of the village she loved.

It’s a very sad day.

From Barry:

Very sorry to hear this. I didn’t know here well, but she was indeed a lovely lady and I remember her reminiscences about her childhood in Ainsworth very well.

From Nigel

Very sad she was a lovely lady with an incredible memory. She will be missed.

From Gail Mcardle

Sorry to hear this, she was a lovely interesting person and seemed so well for her age....

From Laura:

So sorry to hear that

From Angie:

Such sad news. A lovely lady and a valued member of the History Society. She really will be sorely missed.

A.G.M.

The A.G.M. was held on 24th May 2016. The following committee members were appointed:

Dave Clegg (Chair); Angie Stephens (Secretary); Polly Ryder (Treasurer); Steve Horrocks; Nigel Willcock; Barry Willcock

REQUEST

from Paul Rollins, Decatur, GA USA

I am searching for information about JAMES ALLEN (1743-1Feb. 1809), said to be born in Stand, and BETTY ISHERWOOD ALLEN (1745?- 23 Oct. 1815). The couple resided in Tottingham at least from 1775 until 1787 when their children were born. Their children bptized at Cockney Moor Presbyterian Church in Ainsworth. I have the baptism dates. I am requesting any general (i.e., occupational, death notice) information about this couple. James Allen was purportedly a textile mill owner.

Kindly let me know if you might be able to assist.

NEW REQUEST

My great x4 grandparents lived in Ainsworth between 1870 and 1920. Peter and Mary Tong were buried at Ainsworth Parish Church in 1891 - their gravestone is one of the flat ones around the left side of the church. They lived at Cherry Tree Farm from 1871 - 1891, and some of their children lived in the cottages next to it at Bottom oth' Moor. I'm particularly interested in finding any old photographs of the congregation which may include members of the family. I wonder if you can put me in touch with anyone who might know if any such photos exist? Any help you could give me would be much appreciated. Regards, Stephen Tonge

REQUEST:

I live in Australia I am doing reseach of my grandfathers family according to the 1891 census I am not sure if this was the right Inn that Ann Horrocks ran in 1891 with her son inlaw George Southworth address "51 White Horse Inn" also Ann Horrocks ran The old Red Lion Oaks Nook Ainsworth. Would you be able to help me to find if that was the Inn that my relatives ran. I would appricate if you could help me in my research. Thankyou Diane Young

so far we have had these responses:

from Steve H: I have the deeds for the Old Red Lion and have just checked them to see who owned the premises in 1891 and found that the premises were owned by various members of the Sudren family from 1864 to at least 1895. The pub may have been run by someone else rather than the owners - There is no mention in the section of deeds I read that suggests the premises were rented out or managed by someone else,

from David E: Ann Horrocks and her family: Her father was Abraham Brooks a stone quarry man in Ainsworth ( possibly a distant relation of mine). Her husband was Thomas and in 1881 the lived in Ainsworth and Thomas is listed as an Inn Keeper but I have not been able to find which inn he kept. They had a daughter Mary who married George Southworth 29 March 1877 at Bolton Parish Church and Mary died in 1890 they had five children. In 1891 Alice her son in law and her five grand children lived at Goodwin Fold Harwood and Alice 62 year old a widow was listed as a Licensed Victualler. In 1901 they lived on Bury Road Breightmet the eldest grandchild had then left home.

Thanks to Steve for enhancing one of the archive photos in the farming section - of Booths farm

PETER BARLOW

We have just heard the sad news of the death of Peter Barlow, a member of the history society (and Jack's brother) who has been ill for a few months. Peter provided one of the "memories"

The funeral is on Wednesday 17th Feb at 12:30 at Ainsworth Parish Church (followed by committal at Radcliffe Crem)

RAYMOND ROLLISSON

Ray's funeral will be at 10:45 on Monday 8th February at Christ Church Ainsworth, followed by committal at Radcliffe Crematorium.at 11:30

UPDATE ON REQUEST

John sends his thanks to all who responded so quickly - the house was Haslem Hey

I wonder if anyone can help me please. In the mid 1960's I used to go exploring around Whiteheads Lodges. Between the middle lodge and the bottom lodge, around where Gisburn Drive is now, there used to be the ruins of a large house with tennis courts. Does anyone know the name of it or what it was. Thanks in advance.
 John Anderson

UPDATE: Raymond Rollisson and Kenneth Bullock

It is with great sadness that we announce the deaths of Ray, one of our History Society members, and of Rev Ken Bullock, whose detailed research on the history of the village has enabled us to enhance many of our meetings.

Rev Bullcok's funeral will take place on Tuesday 5th January at Ainsworth Parish Church at 11.30 am

CHRIST CHURCH CHRISTMAS MARKET

Christ Church Christmas Market – Saturday 21st November, 11am in Ainsworth Church and Community Hall

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

I would be grateful if you would let me know whether Openshaw Fold Farm and also Moss Shaw Farm Radcliffe form part of an estate. According to Rev Kenneth Poyser Bullock author of The Story of Cockey Moor otherwise Ainsworth these farms are the earliest known homes of the Openshaw family.

Best wishes, Michael Openshaw

VISIT:

We had a visit from David and Lorna Robinson from Canada (David provided the article on the Lansdale in Ainsworth)

MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING

The Macmillan Coffee Morning on Friday 25th September 2015 raised £350. Thanks to all who supported it in anyway

EXHIBITION

Friday 25th to Sunday 27th September 2015

To celebrate 500 years on Cockey Moor, Christ Church is holding an exhibition of photos, artefacts, other information and displays from a variety of groups connected with the church and the village. The church registers will also be on display. There will be no entrance fee and all are welcome. Refreshments will be available

If you have any photos which concern the church and which you would be willing to include in the exhibition please let the vicar know (01204 398567)

dates and times:

 Friday 25th September: 12 noon to 8pm

 Saturday 26th September: 12 noon to 5pm

 Sunday 27th September: Celebration Service at 10:30 with exhibition open from 12 noon to 4pm

HISTORY WALKS

will start at 7:00pm outside the White Horse pub on Church Street Ainsworth and will be held on the fourth Tuesday of the month during British Summer time. Please wear sensible clothing as we do go across fields and through mud at times

CUB SCOUTER HONOURED

Gwen White (nee Arrowsmith) has been awarded the British Empire Medal in recognition of her service to scouting and to the community of Ainsworth

REQUEST: AINSWORTH HALL RESIDENTS

Does anyone know who were the occupants of Ainsworth Hall in the 1920´s

REQUEST: IKE AND BETTY

I have been wondering if anybody remembers my late uncle Ike and Aunty Betty? I remember visiting them as a child but don't recall the address. I do remember they lived in a cottage next to a field with horses. They had a daughter , Shirley; my cousin. We sadly all lost touch many years ago after Betty died and my father, Richard,died.

Deborah Smith

REQUEST: LANSDALE FAMILY

A relative is looking for information on the Lansdale family from Ainsworth - if you have any information to pass on please let us know