### My school days

### By John Higson

In April 1927, at the age of five years, I commenced my schooling. I was enrolled to Ainsworth C. of E. School. To arrive at school on a daily routine, we scholars had the task of walking from Bury New Road, along very rugged pathways to Ainsworth in all types of weather conditions, rain, hail, snow or blow. The teaching staff were top class: Mr Thompson, the Head; Miss Sumner, Deputy; Miss Dawson, Mrs Boone, Mrs Greenhalgh, Miss Haslam, Mrs Blackmore and Mrs Spedding, stand-by teacher, Rev “Daddy” Woods Vicar followed by Rev W. Metcalfe. The quality of teaching was proven by the scholars as follows: Neville Lancaster (Army Officer) Later Chief Medical Officer in the mid-west; James Henderson, Vicar St. Georges Bolton; Freddie Lord, Architect; Jennie Ball I.C.I. representative in India, Dorothy Greenhalgh, Stella Metcalfe both did very well; Philip Harley, John Parker, Farming. Information received shows Donald Brooks as Air Crew W.W.II. There were others also who climbed the heights – Freddy Firth, Billy Schofield, the Sewell Sisters, Jim Horrobin (church warden). Due to my family moving to Tonge Fold in 1933, I had to attend Tonge Fold School, where I became a prefect and Head Captain of Bradford House. I also played for the school football team, notably against Nat Lofthouse. Oh Happy Days