

We returned to a topic which was the very first one we did after our move to the White Horse – Drinking places in Ainsworth – and there were certainly quite a few!! Not all the positions of the beerhouses and inns are known, especially where exactly the Bull's Head (mentioned by Ken Bullock) was situated – so this is still a work-in-progress for us.

Starting at the bottom road, with the Coach and Horses and working around to the Three Arrows, up Starling Road to the Black Bull and Rose and Crown and then down Church Street, the places to imbibe were quite spread out. However, when reaching the village there was almost a pub on every corner, with the Crown Inn in the club houses on Church Street, then the White Horse (whose previous position was at the corner of Ainsworth Hall Road and Greenside) and along Greenside – at the opposite end to the White Horse, was a beerhouse at Bull Fold, There were also beerhouses along Bradley Fold Road and, back on Church Street, opposite the corner with Bradley Fold Road, was the Jolly Carters (now a restaurant). At the other end of the next block, at the corner of Church Street and Knowsley Road, was The Church Tavern. Walking down Knowsley Road, you reached the Red Lion, almost touching the Duke William, and further along, on what was once the continuation of Well Street, was the Anchor inn, now a field with trees but once a principal house of call, where stage coaches would stop. Down the hill from there, and until recently still a pub, was the Red Bridge. So the village was well served for anyone who wanted a drink.



The meeting then continued with some photos of school groups, which we had been sent and Steve showed us copies of some very interesting invoices from 1900 that he had found at the Unitarian Chapel – including ones from the co-op for bread, butter etc (obviously for refreshments for a function) some of which had been returned as not being needed – we pondered on the state of these after being in the hall from Friday to Monday and wondered if those that bought them on Monday were aware of just how fresh (or not) they were.