

Ainsworth Village History Society 11/9/2018

We had a very good turnout for Tuesday's meeting which was a presentation entitled "The life of Brian". This was the story of Ainsworth football club under the stewardship of Mr Brian Lauder who founded the club way back in 1966.

For the next 35 years Brian was the mainstay of the club and has served as player, manager, groundsman and secretary and no doubt he performed many other unpaid rolls.

Throughout the talk we heard of the clubs trials and tribulations over the years, including how the pitch and its changing facilities were vastly improved and even how the water heater was left on too long and exploded!

We were shown numerous teams and heard how they improved over the years including Brian's most successful team of 1997-98 when they were BEN Open Cup winners, Bolton Combination Premier Cup winners and Premier Division runners-up.

The culmination of Brian's involvement at Ainsworth earned him the well-deserved Gold-line Award for Services to Amateur Football.

As this year marks 100 years since the end of the 1st World War and 100 year anniversary of the RAF we looked at what happened to a couple of young lads from the village when they signed up in 1916.

Daniel Brooks who lived on Delph Lane was attached to a railway company for moving munitions up to the front line and was posted to Palestine. However, as his ship approached the harbour at Alexandria at 10.30am on the 31st Dec 1917, it struck a mine and sank killing Daniel aged 25 and 207 other passengers.

Sgt. Harold Hamer joined the 22nd Squadron of the Royal Flying Corps, an aerial reconnaissance unit serving on the Western Front. It seems his plane crashed or was shot down resulting in his death on the 9th September 1917 at the age of just 22 years.