

Bradley Fold Road/Church
Street Area



Bradley Fold Road used to be called Schoolside



In 1765 there was a free school on the right hand side of the road, opposite the end of Anthony Fields. Henry Hardman was school master for almost 20 years.

Then in 1785 Abraham Hardman becomes school master. He was master for 40 years and lived in a cottage at the end of the school

In 1835 there was a condition that the master taught six or eight poor children free of charge

Old White Horse James & Sarah Hampson (nee Brooks)

2 was Frank Pilling & family and then the Buckthorpe family

4 ? Robert Yates and sisters Susan and Clara

6 was a shop – Dunnans – sold sweets and tobacco

8 Arthur Barlow (Hilda Lord's uncle). Mrs Barlow lived here and Dr Leiper held a surgery (Dr Leiper was based in Tottington and later went to the health centre there)

4 or 10 was nurse Holeman, who rode a "sit up and beg" bike and covered the whole of Harwood and Ainsworth as the District Nurse

12 Billy Brooks – road sweeper known as Billy Gun

14 Fred Greenhalgh

16 Thomas and Alice Mudd – Hilda's parents

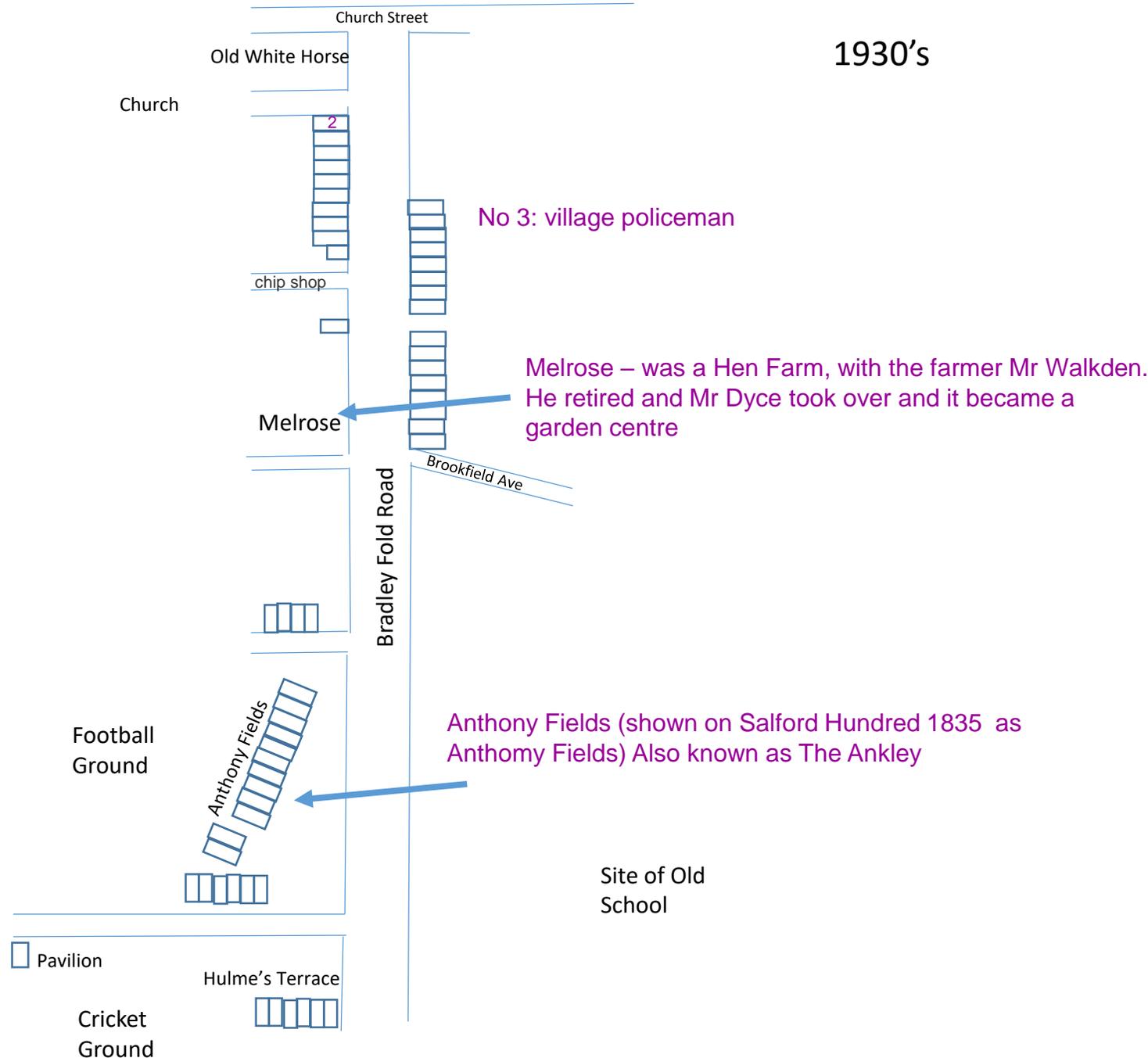
18 Various families

The Chip shop was in a wooden hut - Ethel and Lillian Brooks

Higher Green was the Unitarian Manse.

Originally this ancient plot was gifted to the parish church in the early 1600's by Ralph Asherton but with the 1642 split, the dissenters took the deeds with them. The church tried to get the land back, but failed

Higher Green



From Hilda Lord:

Hilda was born on Schoolside (Bradley Fold Road)

In Hilda's early memories of Bradley Fold Road, there was a sweet shop at number 6 and across from her home, at number 3, was the Police station, where was a resident policeman.

A little further along, just beyond the present back entrance to the churchyard, was the chip shop, a wooden building. This was opened by one of Clarice Wood's sisters (either Ethel or Lillian Brooks). This later closed and the chip shop moved to 45 Church Street, where the present Chinese chip shop is.

Where Broomfield Close is now, there was a poultry farm and later a small nursery where we bought our plants etc. Beyond this there were no more houses for a considerable time.

Then in 1924 the band room was built to accommodate the village band - where the house number 54A has been extended. It was a long wooden building on brick pillars about two feet above the ground.

(David remembers that it was great because as kids they could play cricket in the field behind without being seen by the farmer Mr Fred Shepherd who would chase them. The key to his front door number 50A would open the Band Hut door and they would go in and try to play the instruments)

The band was a flourishing concern. Two of Hilda's uncles were members.

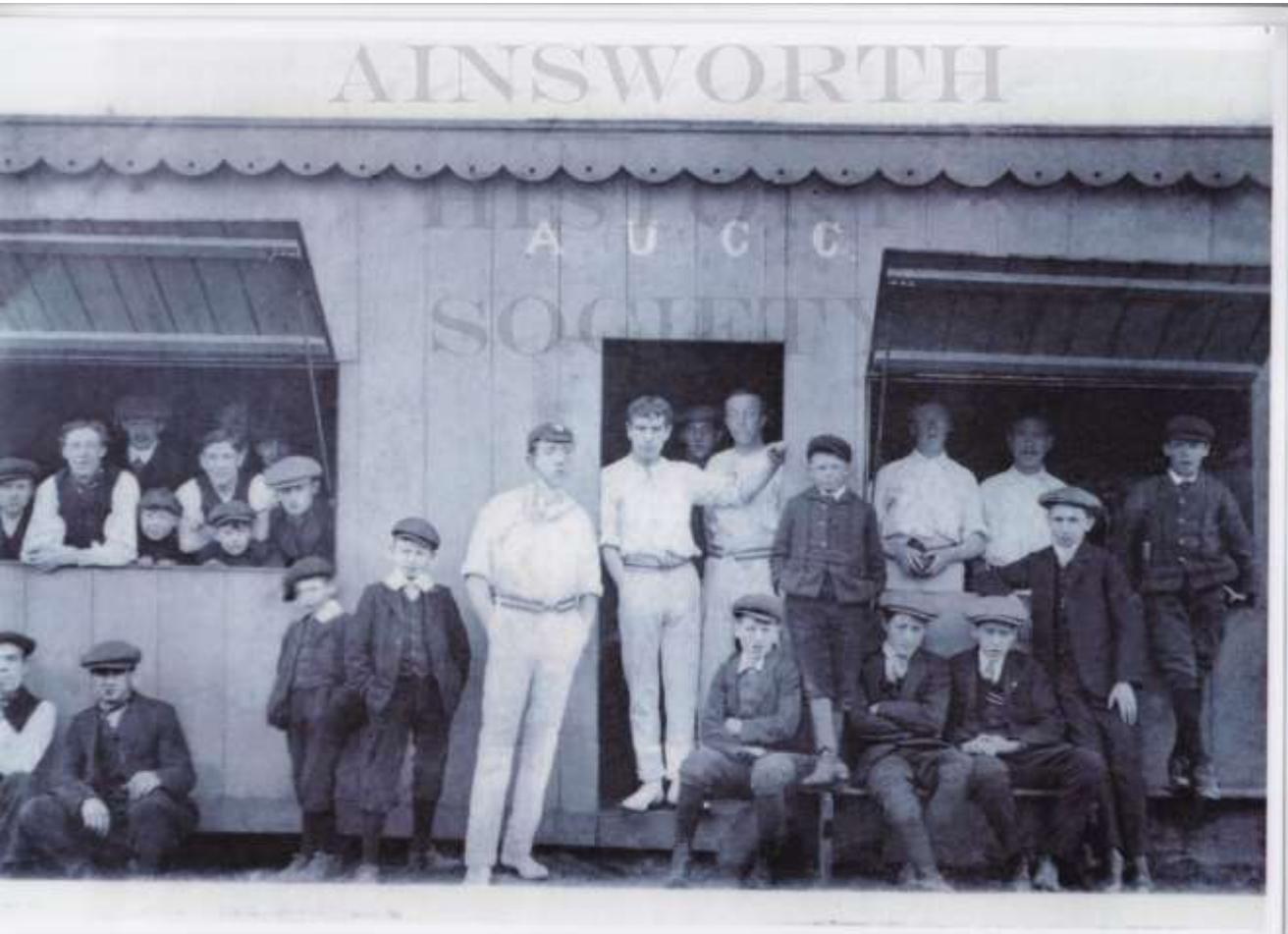
Once a year they played for the hymns in church, sitting in the gallery, this was known as Band Sunday.

Another annual event was when the band played on Christmas Eve, walking and playing around the village in the early hours of Christmas Day. The band ceased during the war, and the instruments were given to another Bury band.

At the time when Hilda was about 8 or 9 years old, there was a village cricket and a football team.

The football field was just beyond the band room, in front of three cottages. This was at the back of what is now Broomfield Close.





Just across from this, separated by an unpaved path, was the cricket field.

Hilda loved going to watch the cricket. There were wooden benches along the side of the field for spectators, but she especially liked the tea break, when the players' wives served tea and cakes from a wooden pavilion.

There was a footpath across the field from the cricket ground, which came out on Ainsworth Hall Road, and on each side of the footpath there were hen pens. Quite a lot of people kept hens around the village and she always bought eggs from them rather than the shops.

From David Earnshaw:

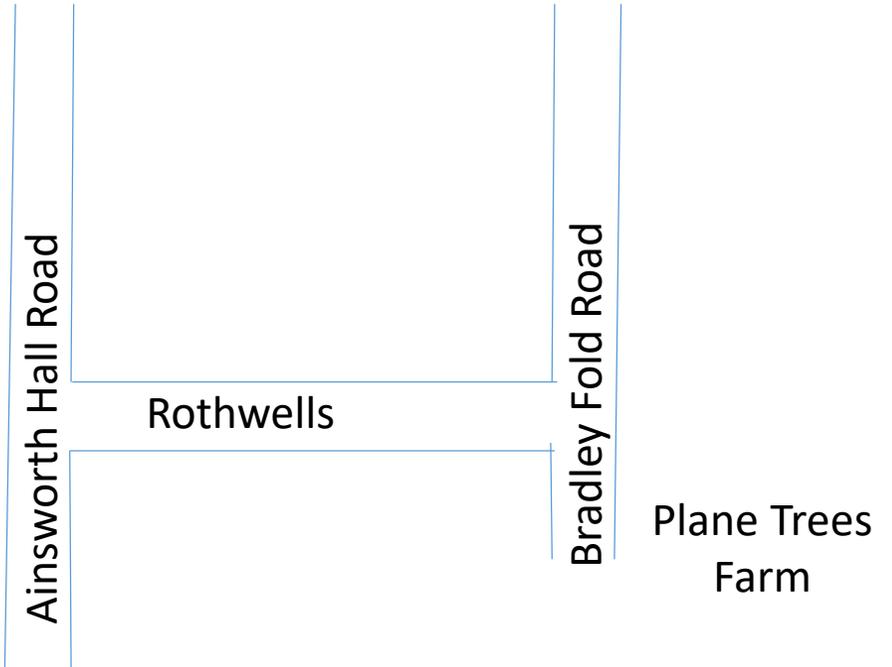
An uncle of my mother's, Mr Harold Mort, was born in 1895 at Rothwells, Ainsworth.

In 1920 he married Annie Williams in Carnarvon (I have no idea how they met and have wondered if she was in service at Ainsworth Hall ?) - I have not been able to trace any occupants at Ainsworth Hall for that period of time.

Annie his wife gave birth to a son Harold J Mort in September 1921 in Carnarvon. And she remarried in Carnarvon to Mr Joseph Owen Axon in 1925.

Ainsworth Hall

Taylor's Lane



David asks: Can anyone help me with residents at Ainsworth Hall 1919 to 1921????

Harold died in an accident at Ainsworth Hall in January 1921

When and where died	Name and surname	Sex	Age	Occupation	Cause of death	Signature, description and residence of informant	When registered
28 th January 1921 Bury Infirmary Bury U.D.	Harold Mort	Male	26 years	working electrician with an electric power company and of Ainsworth Hall, Ainsworth	Fall from an electric lighting pole (on which he was fixing wires) due to an electric shock. Injuries to head and brain. Accident	Certificate received from Saml. F. Butcher Coroner for Lancashire Inquest held 31 st January 1921	Thirty first January 1921

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was fixing wires) due to an
electric shock. Injuries
to head and brain.
Accident

Bradley Fold Road:

As a young boy living on Bradley Fold Road, I remember we had a village policeman PC Jack Airey who lived at number No3 Bradley Fold Road. If we had been misbehaving he would line us up down the lobby in his house give us a ticking off then send us on our way!!!!

At No2 was the Buckthorpe family. Mr Buckthorpe was the signal man and level crossing controller at Bradley Fold Station.

My mother would walk with me in the pram so I could wave to him.

At No 4 was nurse Holeman

I remember my mother dashing to her as I had pushed a dried pea up my nose and with the moisture it had swollen by the time she realized what I had done.

Nurse managed to extract it with tweezers. The dried peas were then kept out of reach.

I am not sure what number (8,10 or 12) a Mrs Barlow lived where a Dr Leiper held a surgery in her front room.

Doctors:

At that time we had three doctors surgeries in peoples homes – the one on Bradley Fold Road and the other two on Church Street,

One was next to John Kirkman's Newsagents shop at Mrs Haslam's - a Dr Monks



and one at 24a Mrs Marshall's- a Dr Mottershead.



Dr Mottershead was my doctor and I remember well sitting in the waiting area which was the back kitchen when the Doctor arrived.

He would say good morning then go into the front room and the first thing Mrs Marshall did was to make him a cup of coffee with milk and take it through to him in a china cup and saucer.

I remember when sitting on her sofa being in short pants how the horsehair made my legs itch.

On the ceiling was a cloths airer and on the end of each rail hung a mop cap Mrs Marshall always wore a mop cap in the house - she suffered from alopecia - and only wore her wig when she left the house.

When the doctor called you into the front room to see him, after asking what the problem was, he would open the cupboard door at the side of the fireplace and mix ingredients together and pour into a bottle, put a cork in and write a label and stick it on or maybe put some pills in a round cardboard box with a label .

No prescriptions and if he could not supply you there and then he would tell you to call next day and it would be behind the vestibule door waiting for your collection. Heath and Safety !!!!!!!!!!!

The Winter during WW2 that people have talked about being snowed up in the village and the shortage of supplies

My father told me that Mr Harry Harley went with a horse and wagon to Bury for supplies.

I remember there being a coal yard on Bury Road where Beals Bricks was next to the limo garage. Does anyone remember it ? Or what it was called ? Maybe there was a pit ?

I remember walking there with my mother. She would take our old pram and buy coal bricks which I think they made from the coal dust

We had just got an all night burner to replace the old grate and my job was to break the coal bricks up with a hammer and the broken up pieces went on the fire last thing at night and you closed the air off and it would stay in all night. In the morning when you opened the fret to let the air in it would come alive again. The all night burner was one of those marvelous innovations.

In one of the old Church Magazines was an advert for Halliwells

I remember their van coming round with paraffin etc.

Mr Halliwell invented a firelighter which was wood-shaving, soaked in paraffin, made into an oblong block with a stick along the corner lengthwise and fastened with two pieces of twisted wire.

In 2015 No 50A has only had two occupants since it was built in 1938/9 – David's mother and father and then his cousin Brenda

As has

No 52A – Mr and Mrs Allan Lawder and now Brian and Wynne. The houses on that side of the road, from after the terraced row, were all built by Mr Allan Lawder



Walter and Elsie Earnshaw

Home overlooks church where they married

GOLDEN wedding couple Walter and Elsie Earnshaw have good cause to remember their wedding day.

For every time they look out of their living room window they see the church where they married.

The couple live in Bury Old Road, Ainsworth, directly opposite Ainsworth Methodist Church where they wed on Sept 16, 1939. Mr Earnshaw was baptised there and the couple have been involved with the church ever since their marriage.

They first met as ten-year-olds at Ainsworth CE School but didn't "step out" together until they were 18.

Mr Earnshaw worked in banks in Bury and Middleton until he retired as manager of the Midland Bank in Middleton.

The couple started their married life in Radcliffe in Bradley Fold Road and spent 18 years in Middleton.