

From the Archives

From the pages of the Welton NEWS in January 2001...

Police Inspector Dave Robinson wrote an article entitled 'Eddie Reall hangs up his truncheon!', about Officer Eddie Reall's retirement from the force after 26 years of service. Mr Robinson said that Eddie would be a hard act to follow.

A drugs awareness meeting had recently taken place in the village but the attendance was disappointing. The reporter said that attendees would "now know what it [cannabis] smells like when smoked". It sounds as if those few who did turn up enjoyed the evening.

A couple who turned up at a PDA lunch thinking it was an Age Concern luncheon found themselves locked in and ended up assisting in making the lunch a great success.

Fred Baldwin wrote about a Welton Tours trip to the Lake District where they enjoyed the scenery despite the weather. On an excursion to Kendal the coach stopped near to a shoe factory where some of the visitors walked into the town. Other residents at the hotel complained that they were excluded from the Welton group's bingo session so arrangements were made for them to take part on the remaining nights; one lady was so anxious to join that she was happy to forgo her evening meal to take part.

And from the January 2011 issue...

In early December 2010 there was a 'big freeze' across the country with snow and icy conditions in Welton which led to several letters in the January 2011 issue of the Welton **NEWS**. One letter-writer complained that the public services had let residents down during the 'big freeze' with the schools shut, mail not delivered, post boxes blocked up, refuse lorries not collecting and residents, of whatever age, having to trundle their bins through the ice and snow to the village hall car park for collection. All the while private enterprises stayed open, with supermarkets continuing to make home deliveries. Other letters expressed their gratitude for the help and kindness that people provided to older residents during the icy spell but some contrasted the aggressive behaviour of vehicle drivers to the kindness of pedestrians and wondered why people change their behaviour once they get behind a steering wheel.

Tony Davis recalled meeting Warrant Officer Keith Payne VC at a reception in the Sergeants' Mess, RAF Butterworth, Malaysia, when WO Payne was en-route from duty in Vietnam (where he had earned his VC) to his native Australia. Tony Davis was able to remind Mr Payne of the meeting during his recent visit to the William Farr School but Mr Payne admitted that although he could recall drinking a lot of beer at the reception he didn't remember much else. RAF sergeants' messes had a deserved reputation for generosity towards their honoured guests.