

FROM THE ARCHIVES

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

Police reported an armed raid had taken place at the post office just before 9am on 25th March. A stolen Ford Mondeo used as the get-away vehicle was later found abandoned and ablaze on Ashing Lane in Dunholme.

The annual parish meeting did not attract even one member of the public, disappointing the chairman of the parish council.

Some local members of the National Women's Register attended its conference in Nottingham and reported that the Sheriff opened the proceedings undaunted by the sight of 400 women. Attendees debated whether the monarchy would survive the next two successions and the problems of obesity; it seems the latter made little difference to the length of the queue at the chocolate stall later.

Vic Jackson, retiring chairman of the Village Hall Trust, gave his final report at the AGM but there were no nominations for a replacement leaving the Trust leaderless. A subsequent extraordinary general meeting elected Mr Eddie Reall as chairman.

Due to a national outbreak of foot and mouth disease the annual fun run for St Mary's Primary School Friends Association had to be postponed until the autumn.

Welton was eliminated in the first round of the Best Kept Village competition and, to rub salt in the wound, Nettleham went on to win.

The vicar, Stuart Darlison, quoted an old French proverb, '*A deaf husband and a blind wife are always a happy couple*' to introduce his monthly letter which considered the question whether marriage was dying out. He argued that it wasn't and ended by quoting the Church Father, Tertullian, "*When will there be an end to marriage? I suppose, when there is an end of living.*"

And from the May 2011 issue...

It was a month of departures. The oldest resident, Gwen Taylor, who had lived in Welton all her life, died aged 101. The headteacher of William Farr, Paul Strong, was retiring and being replaced by Andrew Stones; Maureen Shucksmith, who had been involved in so many village activities over 26 years, wrote to say that she was leaving the village.

A reader wrote, "*I do not understand how my children know so much about computers but I am the only one who can change a toilet roll!*"

The annual parish meeting was well attended. A question and answer session, with a panel that included the Chief Constable, the Executive Director for Communications LCC, the Operations Services Manager WLDC, Group Manager Lincolnshire Fire & Rescue and the Chairman Welton PC, and chaired by Peter Harrod, involved lively debates on police efficiency, the state of local roads, especially potholes, the lack of support from the district council during a recent cold snap and what could be done for residents who required 'special needs'. It seems to have been an interesting and successful evening.

The grand opening of Monks Wood was announced. It was reported that 15 hectares of native woodland had been planted over the previous two years and this together with the already established Watts Wood and Pickering Meadow was now part of the Ashing Lane Nature Reserve owned by Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust.

A report on a recent production of '*The Farndale Avenue Housing Estate Townswomen's Guild Dramatic Society Presentation of Murder Mystery!*' by the Scothern Players caused our reporter, Dy Lavin, to write that he had not laughed so loud "since Prime Minister Gordon Brown promised that our economy was sound".

It was reported at the parish council meeting that RAF Scampton would close in 2014.