**Read the article and then answer the questions below.**

**Armed Raid at the Nationwide**

**. . . . . . .but masked men flee empty handed**

Masked robbers, one carrying a gun, terrified the staff at the local branch of Nationwide Building Society when they burst in and demanded money – but they were forced to run empty handed when the security alarm went off. Surprised shoppers watched as six policemen ran through the high street to the local branch of the Nationwide on Wednesday afternoon but the robbers had already succeeded in running to their getaway car which had been parked nearby.

The three masked thieves walked into the building society in the High Street at about 1.30 pm but the alarms were immediately activated and the police automatically called. Shoppers enjoying their lunch at Suntalls where the café overlooks the Nationwide said that the police had arrived straightaway but not before the robbers had fled to where their car was parked.

Police are now asking for anyone who may have been in the area at the time and who might be able to describe the thieves or their car to come forward to help them in their enquiries. They are particularly interested in hearing from anyone who might have seen all or part of the number plate of the car.

Sue Dibbleton who works in carpets department in the Suntalls store and who was on her lunch break in the cafe when the raid happened, said: “We heard the alarms go off and rushed to the window to see what was happening. We saw three masked men run out of the Nationwide and then six or so policemen came rushing down the Street. It all happened so fast that we weren’t sure it had really happened at all.”

Police immediately surrounded the area and talked to all the members of the Nationwide who confirmed that no money had been stolen. The police later stated that three men were helping them with their enquiries.

1. On which day of the week did the robbery take place?

2. Why did the robbers run away?

3. How did the robbers escape?

4. Who called the police?

5. Why did the shoppers at Suntalls have a good view of the robbery?

6. What are the police particularly interested in discovering?

7. How much money was stolen?

8. Why was Sue Dibbleton not able to describe the thieves?

9. In which road is the Nationwide situated?