

Bygone Buses

of
NORTHAMPTONSHIRE

NN-ST5
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STRATFORD. Mrs Mary Ann & Sons 115 Kettering Road NORTHAMPTON

Mrs Mary Ann Stratford & Sons were trading as greengrocers at 115 Kettering Road, Northampton in 1914 and probably had done so for some years beforehand. Whether it was Mary or one of her sons that ventured into charabanc operation after the First World War is not clear. However, in January 1921 Stratford's Motor "Maid of the Mountains" was being advertised as operating an excursion from the Market Square to Nottingham Races. The following month a similar trip was being promoted to Leicester Races and in March 1921 Birmingham Races was the proposed destination.

To operate excursions from Northampton Market Square would have required the appropriate Hackney Carriage Licences for both Stratford's vehicle and driver but there is nothing in the Watch Committee Minutes to suggest the necessary applications for such licences were ever made.

Beyond the three excursions mentioned above nothing further has been heard of the Stratford's venture into public transport which suggest the operation was of very brief duration.

The manufacturer of "The Maid of the Mountains", its seating capacity and registration number are also unknown.

LEICESTER RACES, FEBRUARY 7 and 8.
STRATFORD'S MOTOR,
"MAID OF THE MOUNTAINS," will Kes.
starting from Market-square 11 o'clock.
8s. 6d. RETURN.
Seats may be booked, 115, Kettering-road
and Lord Palmerston. 'Phone 615.

BIRMINGHAM RACES.
TUESDAY, MARCH 29th.
STRATFORD'S MOTOR
Will Run, Leaving MARKET-SQUARE
At 9 a.m.
Communications: 115, Kettering-road.
'Phone 615.

Facsimiles of two of Stratford's advertisements placed in the Northampton Daily Chronicle in February and March 1921.

Bygone Buses of Northamptonshire is compiled by R M Warwick, "Forestyn" 101 Broadway East, Northampton NN3 2PP, who would be pleased to be advised of any additional information relating to the above operator. The records of the PSV Circle and the Omnibus Society have been consulted extensively for this series and acknowledgement and thanks are due to these organisations.