

Bygone Buses

of
NORTHAMPTONSHIRE

NN-TI1A

Page 1

TILTMAN. William John

191 Neale Avenue

KETTERING

William Tiltman commenced business from his home address in Kettering as a taxi proprietor in 1946 and later provided hire cars for holiday services, weddings and so forth. A proportion of his business revolved around the conveyance of military personnel from air bases in the Kettering locality.

In April 1954 Tiltman purchased a twenty-seat Commer coach that had hitherto been operated by R L Orsborn & Son of Kettering. It was a 1937 model which is believed to have carried a body built by Messrs Spite of Thrapston and this machine was used for private hire purposes.

Interestingly, in December 1954 Tiltman applied to the Traffic Commissioners for a Road Service Licence for an express carriage to operate between Kettering Rail Station and the USAF base at Molesworth. It was proposed that the service should run on Sunday evenings at 11.00 pm from the Station to Molesworth connecting with trains arriving at 10.39 pm and 10.56 pm; and again at 2.10 am connecting with trains arriving at Kettering at 1.45 am and 2.07 am. Only USAF personnel were to be carried on the service at 3/-d single or 5/-d return.



An advertisement placed in the Kettering Evening Telegraph by William Tiltman depicted his hire fleet at June 1954. On the left in NV 9353, a Commer PN3 seating twenty passengers in what is thought to be a Spite body.

Bygone Buses of Northamptonshire is compiled by R M Warwick, "Torestyn" 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.

TILTMAN, William John - KETTERING

Tiltman's application immediately drew objections from United Counties; Seemarks (Motors) Ltd of Rushden; H G Graveling of Corby who already transported personnel between Molesworth and Kettering; and a Mr C Bostwick who was also a Kettering taxi proprietor. United Counties withdrew its objection when it was learnt that only the above mentioned outward journeys were being applied for, in which case the return fare was presumably superfluous. The end result was that the Traffic Commissioners refused William Tiltman a licence for his proposed service in April 1955 and that was the end of the matter.

Tiltman continued to operate his coach on private hire work, but only until the end of October 1955 when NV 9353 was taken out of service and not replaced.

Rolling Stock:

Regn. No.	Chassis	Type	Chassis No.	Body	Seats	Body No.	Dates			Former Owner	Disposal	Notes
							New	S/H	W/D			
NV 9353	Commer	PN3	46581	Spite?	C20F	—	6/37	4/54	10/55	R L Orsborn & Son, Kettering	No further owner	1

Notes: 1 - Registration records show NV 9353 to have been last licenced in 10/55 but a John Oram of Broughton was reported by the Police for having used this vehicle in Kettering on 18/1/56. Presumably it was being moved at this time unlicensed. There is no indication that passengers were being carried at the time or whether Oram was the owner or user.