



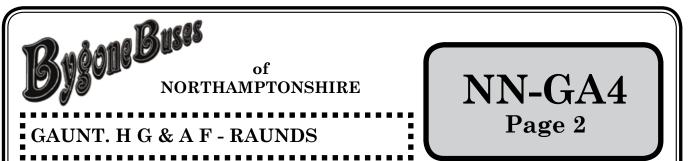
GAUNT. John Horace & Albert Freeman 21 High Street RAUNDS

It was John Horace Gaunt who established a cycle shop at 21 High Street, Raunds in the first decade of the twentieth century. As the business grew, cycles were manufactured under the "Winsome" name, motor-cycles were supplied and repaired and a general garaging operation was developed. The adjoining property at 23 High Street was acquired and taxis and private hire cars were provided.



An advertisement taken from the Raunds Almanac & Business Directory of 1915.

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.



John Horace Gaunt had a son named Albert Freeman Gaunt who was known as either Frank or Son and it was Frank who applied to Kettering Urban District Council in September 1927 for a Hackney Carriage Licence to permit him to operate an omnibus services between Thrapston, Cranford and Kettering on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays. It is assumed that it was planned to start the service from Raunds but Kettering UDC insisted the timetable should only be approved subject to alterations suggested by their Inspector. Whether or not this happened is not recorded.

To operate the proposed service John Horace Gaunt purchased a Ford T bus supplied by J A Payne Ltd of Hinckley and registered RP 4253 on 28th April 1927. The Gaunts licensed the Ford for both goods and hackney use and retained it until the end of 1930. It is therefore presumed that the weekend service to Kettering was provided, at least for a short period, as there was strong competition on the route mainly from Bagshaw & Sons of Kettering. J H Gaunt also acquired a Ford T at some time prior to March 1927 from Wargate Motors Ltd of Rushden (NN-WA9) but in all probability this was a hire car rather than a bus.

Rolling Stock:

REGN. NO.	CHASSIS		BODY	DATES		6			
	MAKE	NO.	TYPE/ SEATS	NEW	S/H	W/D	PREVIOUS OWNER	INITIAL DISPOSAL	NOTES
BD 7143	Ford T	654208	?	12/22	?	3/27	Wargate Motors Ltd, Rushden	No further owner	1
RP 4253	Ford T	?	B14?	4/27	_	12/30	Supplied J S Payne Ltd, Hinckley	No further owner	

Notes: 1 - BD 7143 was probably a hire car and not a bus.