

# Bygone Buses

of  
NORTHAMPTONSHIRE

NN-WE3

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## WEBSTER. Walter William GUILSBOROUGH

Walter William Webster was a builder based in Guilsborough and, as far as the Author is aware, the business is extant and operated by Walter's descendants.

It was probably only by chance that Walter Webster operated a bus as, during the first World War, he was contracted to lay a sewer through the village of Guilsborough. Labour for undertaking this project was provided by German Prisoners of War and it is believed that it was for the transport of these men that Walter converted a lorry to accommodate passengers.

In addition to the above, Walter Webster is understood to have provided a passenger service from Guilsborough to Northampton for a short period, as he was granted a Hackney Carriage Licence by Northampton Borough Council on 10th September 1917, for a motor bus to ply for hire from Regent Square. It is likely that a William Johnson of Guilsborough drove the bus as he was issued with a Hackney Carriage Driver's Licence at the same time.

The vehicle used for the conveyance of the public and the P.o.Ws was NH 1885, which is recorded as being a 30cwt Trafford lorry first registered on 15th January 1917. Trafford is likely to be a transcription error in the registration records for a Ford T which was built at Trafford Park in Manchester. There is no indication of how long Webster retained this vehicle. Subsequent vehicle purchases by Walter Webster are not recorded as being licenced for the carriage of passengers.

### Rolling Stock:

Regn. No.	Chassis	Type	Chassis No.	Body	Seats	Body No.	Dates			Former Owner	Disposal	Notes
							New	S/H	W/D			
NH 1885	Ford	T-30cwt	?	?	Lorry/Bus	—	1/17	—	?	—	No further owner	