

# Bygone Buses

of  
NORTHAMPTONSHIRE

NN-HA5

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**HANNINGTON. John**

**51 Oak Road**

**KETTERING**

It is known that John Hannington, who was a mechanic, evacuated from London during the Second World War and set up business from his home address of 51 Oak Road, Kettering. During the War he acquired two second-hand coaches which were used to transport Prisoners of War around the Kettering hinterland. Unfortunately the identities of his two vehicles are not known although it is remembered that one of them had a large cockerel painted on the side, which may give some indication of its ancestry.

After the War, in May 1946, John Hannington was advertising his vehicles for private hire as shown below.

**J. HANNINGTON**  
**MOTOR COACHES**  
20 AND 32 SEATERS FOR PRIVATE HIRE.  
51. OAK ROAD, KETTERING.  
Phone 3967.

In the post-War years Hannington replaced his two original machines with three others comprising a twenty seater Dennis Ace registered JU 4374; a twenty-six seat Thornycroft Cygnet ADH 876 and a twenty-eight seat Dennis Lancet registered DL 8494.

The above three coaches appear to have themselves been replaced by a 1932 A.E.C. Regent with a replacement coach body, a Dennis Lancet thirty-four seater and an A.E.C. Regal which had also been rebodied by a former owner. The three vehicles in question were registered HMX 533, DMX 110 and GF 542 respectively.

John Hannington operated only private hires and continued in a low-key way until the end of the 1950 summer season when he ceased trading.

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.

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Fortunately an illustration of Hannington's A.E.C. Regal coach registered GF 542 with Strachan bodywork has survived. (Photo courtesy the Omnibus Society).

### ROLLING STOCK:

Regn. No.	Chassis	Type	Chassis No.	Body	Type/Seats	Body No.	Dates			Former Owner	Disposal	Notes
							New	S/H	W/D			
?	?	?	?	?	C20	?	?	c-/43	-/46	?	?	1
?	?	?	?	?	C32	?	?	c-/43	-/46	?	?	1
JU 4374	Dennis	Ace	200159	Willowbrook	C20F	2655	6/34	8/46	-/47	Newbury & District	Dilks, Desborough	
ADH 876	Thornycroft	Cygnets	24157	Burlingham	C26R		5/34	-/46	-/48	Dunstable Coaches	?	
DL 8494	Dennis	Lancet	170296	Duple	C28F	3370	7/33	12/46	12/48	Middlesex Owner/ Moss, Sandown	No further owner	
HMX 533	AEC	Regent	6611808		C--F		4/32	-/48	8/50	Dunstable Coaches	Showman	2
DMX 110	Dennis	Lancet II	175071	Dennis	C34C		5/36	-/48	c8/50	Pullham, Bourton	?	
GF 542	AEC	Regal	662355	Strachan	C--F		5/30	-/48	c8/50	Dunstable Coaches	?	3

Notes: 1 - Two coaches acquired during the War for P.O.W/ contracts.

2 - HMX533 originally registered OD 2260. Rebodyed c1939 for Valliant Coaches.

3 - GF 542 rebodyed c 1939 for Valliant Coaches.