

# Bygone Buses

of  
NORTHAMPTONSHIRE

NN-T02

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## TOMKINS. Mrs Elizabeth Ann Cotton End, NORTHAMPTON

Mrs Elizabeth Tomkins was advertising a saloon bus, cars and lorries for hire by October 1921 and in the same month was running her saloon to the Cesarewitch Race Day at Newmarket. Exactly what the saloon bus was is unknown to the Author. This excursion commenced from Cotton End, Northampton but in March 1922 Northampton Borough Council Watch Committee granted Mrs Tomkins a Hackney Carriage Licence to permit her to ply for hire from the Market Square on special occasions during the period 13th March 1922 to 25th March 1923. The vehicle authorised was a Dennis charabanc so by this time she had a saloon bus and a charabanc.

By 11th December 1922, Elizabeth Tomkins had made application to Northampton's Chief Constable to pick up and set down passengers in St. John's Street in connection with her proposal to run a daily bus service between Northampton and Cosgrove. This application was granted. However, it is apparent that the route had been running daily during the August 1922 holiday period, presumably without the authorisation of the

### E. A. TOMKINS' MOTOR SERVICE

Between NORTHAMPTON and COSGROVE.

Passengers picked up and set down at St. John-street, Northampton, and Barley Mow, Cosgrove

\*Phone 555 Northampton.

Leaves	WEDNESDAY.								SATURDAY.								SUNDAY.				
NORTHAMPTON	8.0	8.30	11.0	11.30	1.30	3.30	6.45	9.30	8.0	8.30	11.0	11.30	1.30	3.30	6.45	8.15	*10.30	10.0	2.15	6.30	7.15
WOOTTON	8.10	8.40	11.10	11.40	1.40	3.40	6.55	9.40	8.10	8.40	11.10	11.40	1.40	3.40	6.55	8.25	10.40	10.10	2.25	6.40	7.45
COLLINGTON TURN	8.15	8.45	11.15	11.45	1.45	3.45	7.0	9.45	8.15	8.45	11.15	11.45	1.45	3.45	7.0	8.30	10.45	10.15	2.30	6.45	7.45
COURTEENHALL	8.20	8.50	11.20	11.40	1.50	3.50	7.5	9.50	8.20	8.50	11.20	11.40	1.50	3.50	7.5	8.35	10.50	10.20	2.35	6.50	7.50
ROADE	8.25	8.55	11.25	11.45	1.55	4.0	7.10	9.55	8.25	8.55	11.25	11.45	1.55	4.0	7.10	8.40	10.55	10.25	2.40	6.55	7.55
ASHTON	8.30			11.55	2.0		7.15	9.0	8.30			11.55	2.0		7.15	11.0		10.30	2.45	7.0	7.55
HARTWELL	8.40	8.5	11.55		2.10	4.10	7.25	9.10	8.40	8.5	11.55		2.10	4.10	7.25	8.50	11.5	10.40	2.50	7.05	7.55
HANSLOPE	8.50	8.50	11.50		2.25	4.25	7.40	9.25	8.50	8.50	11.50		2.25	4.25	7.40	9.0	11.25	10.50	3.10	7.25	7.55
CASTLETHORPE	9.0		12.0		2.35	4.35	7.50		9.0		12.0		2.35	4.35	7.50			11.5	3.20	7.35	7.55
COSGROVE	9.10		12.10		2.45	4.45	8.0		9.10		12.10		2.45	4.45	8.0			11.15	3.30	7.45	7.55
Leaves																					
COSGROVE	9.30		12.30		2.5	5.0	8.10		9.30		12.30		3.0	5.0	8.10			11.20	3.45	7.50	8.0
CASTLETHORPE	9.40		12.40		3.10	5.10	8.20		9.40		12.40		3.10	5.10	8.20			11.35	3.55	8.0	8.0
HANSLOPE	9.55	9.30	12.50		3.20	5.20	8.30		9.55	9.30	12.50		3.20	5.20	8.30	9.35		11.45	4.5	8.10	8.10
HARTWELL	10.5	9.45	1.5		3.35	5.35	8.45		10.5	9.45	1.5		3.35	5.35	8.45	9.35		12.0	4.20	8.15	8.15
ASHTON	10.10			12.5	3.40		8.50		10.10			12.5	3.40		8.50	9.35		12.5	4.25	8.20	8.20
ROADE	10.20	10.0	1.15	12.15	3.45	5.45	9.0		10.20	10.0	1.15	12.15	3.45	5.45	9.0			12.15	4.35	8.25	8.25
COURTEENHALL	10.25	10.5	1.20	12.20	3.50	5.50	9.5		10.25	10.5	1.20	12.20	3.50	5.50	9.5	9.40		12.20	4.40	8.30	8.30
COLLINGTON TURN	10.30	10.10	1.25	12.25	3.55	5.55	9.10		10.30	10.10	1.25	12.25	3.55	5.55	9.10	9.40		12.25	4.45	8.35	8.35
WOOTTON	10.35	10.15	1.30	12.30	4.0	6.0	9.15		10.35	10.15	1.30	12.30	4.0	6.0	9.15	9.55		12.30	4.50	8.35	8.35
NORTHAMPTON	10.45	10.25	1.40	12.40	4.15	6.15	9.30		10.45	10.25	1.40	12.40	4.15	6.15	9.30	10.10		12.45	5.0	8.40	8.40

\* From Northampton only.  
The Proprietor will make every effort to maintain this Service, but reserves the right to alter, suspend, or withdraw Service without notice, and will accept no liability for unpunctuality or failure to maintain service.

Elizabeth Tomkins' Timetable commencing 16th December 1922.

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.

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### TOMKINS. Mrs E.A. - NORTHAMPTON

Northampton Borough Council, and from 16th December 1922 Mrs Tomkins was advertising a Wednesday, Saturday and Sunday timetable between Northampton, St.John's Street and Cosgrove, Barley Mow.

During the course of the next eighteen months, a Hackney Carriage Licence was granted on 12th February 1923 for a thirty-seater charabanc and, on 13th July 1923, for a new bus to run between Northampton and Cosgrove, starting from St.John's Street and to occasionally stand on the Market Square. By June 1924 Tomkins had complained to the Watch Committee that the Northampton Motor Omnibus Company Limited had revised its timetable to run buses from Northampton to Roade to clash with Tomkins'. The Committee asked the Northampton Motor Omnibus Co Ltd to explain why its timetables had been altered without prior reference to the Watch Committee. What the outcome was of this little skirmish is not known.

A twenty seat all-weather coach had arrived in Elizabeth Tomkins' fleet by April 1925 and the Watch Committee licensed it for the period 27th April 1925 to 25th March 1926 to ply for hire from both St.John's Street and the Market Square. Between 1922 and 1925 the Tomkins fleet grew to five vehicles and towards the end of the latter year the business was acquired by Messrs. Nightingale of Northampton (NN-N11) who maintained the local service which, by that time, had been truncated at Hanslope.

ALL PREVIOUS TABLES CANCELLED

New Daily Time Table, Commencing May 12th, 19

## E. A. Tomkins' Motor Service

BETWEEN NORTHAMPTON & HANSLOPE

VIA SALCEY FOREST

Passengers picked up @ set down at St JOHN STREET, NORTHAMPTON @ GREEN MAN, HANSLOPE

Phone 535 Northampton

	Mon	Tues	Thur	Fri	Wednesday & Saturday								Sats Only	Sunday				
Northampton...	9 0	2 45	7 0	8 0	8 30	10 15	11 15	12 30	2 30	4 0	6 0	8 0	9 30	*10 45	10 45	3 0	6 30	*9 30
Wootton ...	9 10	2 55	7 10	8 10	8 40	10 25	11 25	12 40	2 40	4 10	6 10	8 10	9 40	10 55	10 55	3 10	6 40	9 40
Quinton ...	...	...	...	8 20	8 50	10 35	11 35	12 50	2 50	4 20	6 20	8 20	9 50	11 0	11 5	3 20	6 45	9 50
Salcey Forest...	9 45	3 25	7 40	8 30	9 0	10 45	11 45	1 0	3 0	4 30	6 30	8 30	10 0	11 10	11 15	3 30	6 55	10 0
Hartwell ...	9 40	3 20	7 35	8 35	9 5	10 50	11 50	1 5	3 5	4 35	6 35	8 35	10 5	11 15	11 20	3 35	7 0	10 5
Hanslope ...	9 50	3 30	7 50	8 45	9 20	11 0	12 0	1 15	3 15	4 45	6 45	8 45	10 15	11 25	11 30	3 45	7 15	10 15
Hanslope ...	10 30	6 10	8 0	9 10	9 35	11 5	12 15	1 20	3 25	4 50	6 50	8 50	10 20	...	12 0	5 15	7 50	...
Hartwell ...	10 45	6 15	8 15	9 20	9 45	11 15	12 25	1 30	3 35	5 0	7 0	9 0	10 30	...	12 10	5 25	8 0	...
Salcey Forest...	10 35	6 5	8 5	9 25	9 50	11 20	12 30	1 35	3 40	5 5	7 5	9 5	10 35	...	12 15	5 30	8 5	...
Quinton ...	...	...	...	9 35	10 0	11 30	12 40	1 45	3 50	5 15	7 15	9 15	10 45	...	12 25	5 35	8 15	...
Wootton ...	11 20	6 40	8 40	9 45	10 10	11 40	12 50	1 55	4 0	5 25	7 25	9 25	10 50	...	12 30	5 45	8 25	...
Northampton ..	11 30	6 50	8 50	10 0	10 25	11 55	1 5	2 10	4 10	5 35	7 35	9 35	11 0	...	12 45	6 0	8 35	...

Private Hire Dept. Saloon Buses and Pneumatic Tyred Charabancs and Cars

\* From Northampton only

For Low Terms apply: E A TOMKINS, Cotton End, Northampton

The Proprietor will make every effort to maintain this service, but reserves the right to alter, suspend or withdraw service without notice and will accept no liability for unpunctuality or failure to maintain service.

Elizabeth Tomkins' Timetable probably dating from 12th May 1924.

TOMKINS. Mrs E.A. - NORTHAMPTON

Unfortunately very little specific detail has come to light regarding the buses and charabancs operated by Elizabeth Tomkins. However, each vehicle was named and the following are known to have been in the fleet:-

- Saloon - by 10/21 - possibly a Ford T - 16 seater - named "Humming Bird"
- Dennis charabanc - 32 seater - named "Bluebird" - by 3/22
- Dennis charabanc - 30 seater - named "Blackbird" by 2/23
- Coach - possibly all-weather - named "Blue Queen" by 7/24
- Lancia all-weather coach - 20 seater - by 4/25