

Bygone Buses

of Northamptonshire

Compiled by Roger M Warwick

About the Author

I don't know why or how I became interested in buses as a schoolboy in the early 1950s but I did and this interest led to a career working for United Counties Omnibus Company of Northampton from 1957 to 1999. During that time I amassed so much information about the company for which I worked that it seemed a shame not to share it with others who might be interested. Accordingly I started writing a history of United Counties which I published in 17 parts from 1977 onwards.

About Bygone Buses of Northamptonshire

During the 1920s and 1930s United Counties took over the services and sometimes the vehicles of quite a number of Northamptonshire independent bus operators, which led to me investigating the histories of these concerns also. Thereafter it seemed a good idea to record how the independents developed as all had played their part in the provision of passenger transport in the County and beyond. By the 1990s many were long forgotten.

To progress matters I listed all the operator's names that I had come across in the course of my researches and these numbered around 500 and are the ones listed in the index. It is not a comprehensive list of all bus operators ever to have been located within Northamptonshire - there were undoubtedly others, particularly in the north-east and south-west districts of this elongated county. The operators reference numbers to be found in the index start with the first two letters of the name followed by a number to keep the list in alphabetical order as far as possible. As time passed additional operators were discovered which did not necessarily fit easily into the alphabetical list, hence the occasional use of the figure "0" and suffix letters "A" or "B" in the reference numbers.

In quite a number of cases all the information I had on an operator was the name and usually an address. Trying to discover more after the elapse of anything up to 100 years after the event has proved difficult and hence many of the potted histories are sparse in detail. Even when relatives can be traced the information provided is, unintentionally, not always correct. Readers are therefore asked to keep in mind that the stories contained in this series are as accurate as possible but certainly not definitive. As time progresses odd photographs or documents come to light that change what was previously thought to be correct and these papers are then updated accordingly.

So far (in 2016) more than 350 operators potted histories have been completed and there are many more that could be added to this series if enough detail can be found. As extra pages are added to this web site the latest additions will be highlighted.

It is hoped that visitors to this web site that have additional information regarding any of the operators will advise the Author via email at roger.warwick111@btinternet.com.

If you wish to print any of these papers it is recommended that you use double-sided glossy A4 paper such as HP C6918A and print at photo quality.

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WEB SITE LAST AMENDED - March 2023.

