

Bygone Buses

of
NORTHAMPTONSHIRE

NN-N10
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NICHOLSON. David 36 Higham Road RUSHDEN

The name of David Nicholson crops up a lot in the Rushden area in connection with motoring matters during the first quarter of the twentieth century. In this series of papers, NN-AS1, NN-RU1 and NN-PR3 concerning the Wellingborough & Rushden Motor Car and Charabanc Co Ltd and Progressive Motor Omnibus Services (Wellingborough) Ltd all make reference to this gentleman who was a motor engineer who established a business at 36 Higham Road, Rushden.

941

Telegrams : Nicholson, Motors, Rushden. Telephone : Number 107, Rushden.

TYRES AND ALL ACCESSORIES IN STOCK	Dr. to D. NICHOLSON, Motor and General Engineer, Higham Road, RUSHDEN.	CUSTOMERS' CARS ARE ONLY DRIVEN BY MY STAFF AT CUSTOMERS' OWN RISK AND RESPONSIBILITY.
LORRIES OF EVERY DESCRIPTION.		
CARS OF EVERY DESCRIPTION FOR HIRE		

Sole District Agent for the Famous Schneider Car.

Nov. 3rd. 1925

A facsimile of an invoice heading for David Nicholson's Rushden garage, dating from the 1920s.

Nicholson ventured into bus and charabanc operation in May 1913 as disclosed in paper NN-RU1, but this lasted for only a short time. In June 1920 it seems that David Nicholson acquired an ex-War Department B-type Daimler saloon bus seating forty passengers, which he offered for sale as shown in the advertisement appearing on the following page.

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.

NICHOLSON. David - RUSHDEN

WHY WAIT FOR MOTORS YOU
WILL NEVER GET ?

IMMEDIATE DELIVERY OF

B Type DAIMLER.

40 SEATS, SALOON BODY, ELECTRIC
LIGHT.

FINEST CAR ON THE ROAD.

NICHOLSON,

MOTORS, RUSHDEN.

A18

Nicholson's advertisement for the sale of a forty-seat Daimler saloon bus.

Evidently local bus operators failed to rush to buy the Daimler Nicholson had for sale, so he decided to use it himself by advertising an excursion to Woburn Sands on Sunday 11th July 1920, starting from Wellingborough and picking up at Wollaston and Bozeat. Nicholson set up a ticket agency at the Central Studio in Silver Street, Wellingborough.

MOTOR OUTING.

THE NEW LUXURIOUS SALOON MOTOR,
"INVINCIBLE,"

Seating 40 Passengers, will run to

WOBURN SANDS,

On SUNDAY NEXT, JULY 11th,

Leaving MARKET-SQUARE, Wellingborough,
at 2.30 p.m., calling at Wollaston and Bozeat.

FARE, 7s. 6d. return.

This being the maiden trip, 1s. 6d. will be
allowed off all seats booked before the date at

THE CENTRAL STUDIO,

SILVER STREET, WELLINGBOROUGH.

SUNDAY, JULY 18th, DAY TRIP TO

SKEGNESS.

BOOK EARLY.

David Nicholson's first excursion advertisement for a Woburn Sands trip on 11th July 1920.

The Woburn Sands excursion was repeated on the following Sunday with outings to Hunstanton picking up at Wellingborough, Rushden and Finedon on the first two Sundays in August. Other destinations followed with the final advertisement for an excursion noted for a trip to Yarmouth Races on 13th September 1920

NICHOLSON. David - RUSHDEN

Yarmouth Races,

SEPTEMBER 15th and 16th, 1920.

Still plenty of room in the
COMFORTABLE SALOON MOTOR
"INVINCIBLE," at 30s. Return Fare

Leaving MONDAY, SEPT. 13th:

RUSHDEN (Garage), 8.45 a.m.; WELLING-
BOROUGH (Market-square), 9.15; FINEDON
(Gladstone), 9.35, calling at Thrapston and
Huntingdon if required. Reasonable Luggage
allowed FREE. Returning Friday, 17th.

Please book seats before date at NICHOLSON'S
GARAGE, RUSHDEN, or THE CENTRAL
STUDIO, Silver-street, WELLINGBOROUGH.

N.B.—No Extra Charge for Booking.

W11

Nicholson's final advertisement for an excursion in September 1920.

Little is known about the Daimler operated by Nicholson, which was advertised as a "B-type", seated forty passengers and was named "Invincible". It was probably not originally registered in Northamptonshire although Nicholson did have a 35/40hp Daimler lorry with a War Department style dark green body, that was registered as BD 3931 on 9th December 1919. At his Works at Rushden Nicholson is reputed to have built several bus bodies, including one which was a double-decker. Accordingly it is possible, but by no means certain, that BD 3931 was fitted with a bus body by Nicholson prior to being offered for sale.

With the onset of winter, David Nicholson next advertised a daily bus service from Irthlingborough to Northampton via Wellingborough as shown in the advertisement below. It is not clear from the timetable whether just the first journey departed from Irthlingborough and the rest from Wellingborough

'BUS to NORTHAMPTON.

THE INVINCIBLE SALOON MOTOR is
NOW RUNNING

Daily to Northampton.

Times: 11, 1.30, 3.30, 6.30. Leaves Northampton
11.45, 2.15, 5, 8.30.

Saturdays: 9 from Irthlingborough, Welling-
borough 9.30, 11, 12.30, 2, 4, 6, and 8. Leaves
Northampton 10.15, 12.45, 1.15, 3, 5, 7, and 9.

SUNDAYS, First Journey 2.30. W6

David Nicholson's rather ambiguous advertisement for a daily Northampton service.

NICHOLSON. David - RUSHDEN

At this point in time David Nicholson seems to have turned his attention, with others, to the formation of Progressive Motor Omnibus Services (Wellingborough) Ltd (NN-PR3). No doubt this latter company continued the Irthlingborough to Northampton service started by Nicholson and maybe they acquired "Invincible"?

Rolling Stock:

Regn. No.	Chassis	Type	Chassis No.	Body	Seats	Dates			Former Owner	Disposal	Nts
						New	S/H	W/D			
Possibly BD 3931	Daimler	B?	?	?	B40	by 6/20	—	11/20	?	Progressive, Wellingborough?	1

Notes: 1 - If the Daimler owned by Nicholson was BD 3931 it was registered on 9/12/19 and then had a W/D dark green lorry body. Named "Invincible".