

Bygone Buses

of
NORTHAMPTONSHIRE

NN-LA9
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LAWRENCE. Walter Reuben Pittams Cottage WAPPENHAM

It is understood that Walter Reuben Lawrence was born at Wappenham in 1897 and, as recorded in paper NN-WH5, was driving buses for Frederick Whitlock of Towcester prior to the time of this latter gentleman's disappearance from the district in about June 1928.

The first trace of Walter Lawrence operating in his own right comes in July 1927 when he applied to Northampton Borough Council for a Hackney Carriage Licence in respect of a fourteen-seater bus operating from Cattle Market Road. As this event predates the demise of Whitlock's enterprise by about a year it seems fair to assume that Walter Lawrence bought Whitlock's model T Ford registered RP 363 circa May 1927 and used it to provide a Wappenham - Abthorpe - Towcester - Blisworth - Milton - Northampton service. A year later, in about June 1928 when Frederick Whitlock abandoned his operations, it seems plausible that Lawrence with his knowledge of the routes, picked up Whitlock's timings on the Towcester to Northampton and Towcester to Banbury services. However, it is unlikely that we shall ever be entirely certain that events unfolded in this way. Certainly within the next two or three years Walter Lawrence, apparently often known as "Buckle" Lawrence, developed his services by projecting his Northampton route in a westerly direction to commence from Weston-by-Weedon calling at Lois Weedon before reaching Wappenham and diverted some timings to operate via Slapton, Bradden and Greens Norton. He also provided a second route to Banbury.

With regard to rolling stock, mention has already been made of RP 363, the Ford T Walter Lawrence acquired from Fred Whitlock circa May 1927. At about the same time Lawrence also bought a new REO bus with a fourteen-seat Eaton body supplied by Messrs Allchin & Son of Northampton and registered RP 4387 on 14th May 1927. A little over a year later Walter Lawrence purchased a used Z-type Lancia from Messrs Kingston Bros of Blakesley who took RP 363 in part exchange. This fourteen-seater was registered RP 3765 and carried a body by the Northampton builder Ben Hasker.

Possibly as a result of anticipated legislation designed to regulate the road passenger transport industry, Walter Lawrence bought a pair of Morris Viceroy chassis in the summer of 1930. These were supplied through the Derngate Motor Co Ltd of

LAWRENCE, Walter R - WAPPENHAM

LAWRENCE'S Bus Service between WAPPENHAM and NORTHAMPTON.
Starts from Plough Hotel.

	WEDS.		SATS.					SUNS.	
LEAVE	A.M.	P.M.	A.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.
Wappenham	8 45	...	9 0	...	...	...	...	1 30	8 0
Slapton, Bridge	8 50	...	9 5	...	...	...	...	1 35	8 5
Abthorpe	8 52	...	...	...	...	...	...	1 40	8 10
Bradden	9 15	...	9 15	...	4 15	...	...	...	...
Green Norton	9 30	1 15	9 30	1 30	4 30	6 0	8 5	...	...
Towcester	9 40	1 25	9 40	1 40	4 40	6 10	8 15	1 50	8 20
Northampton a	10 15	2 0	10 15	2 15	5 15	6 45	...	2 25	9 0
LEAVE	NOON	P.M.	NOON	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.
Northampton	12 0	5 30	12 0	3 0	5 30	7 0	...	2 30	9 5
Towcester	12 30	6 5	12 30	3 30	6 5	7 30	8 20	3 0	9 35
Greens Norton	12 45	6 15	12 45	3 40	6 15	7 45	...	...	...
Bradden .....	...	6 30	...	3 55	...	...	...	...	...
Abthorpe .....	...	6 40	...	...	...	...	8 35	3 15	9 45
Slapton, Bridge	...	6 45	...	...	...	...	8 40	3 20	9 50
Wappenham a	...	6 50	...	...	...	...	8 50	3 30	10 0

Grammar School Bus. Leave Weston daily at 8-30 a.m., arrive Towcester 9-20 a.m., Leave Towcester 4 p.m., arrive Weston 4-50 p.m.

This timetable shows Lawrence's Wappenham to Northampton route on Wednesdays, Saturdays and Sundays as operating in December 1930. It also shows he was running a Towcester Grammar School bus at this time which is believed to have originated with Whitlock.

Northampton, who were Morris Agents, and arrangements were made for Ben Hasker to construct their bodies. The first one, which was registered RP 9245 on 26th July 1930, carried a twenty-seater saloon body whilst the second Viceroy, registered RP 9449 on 30th September 1930, was fitted with a twenty-seat all-weather body. One appears to have replaced Lancia RP 3765 whilst the other was additional to the fleet.

Following the 1930 Road Traffic Act becoming law, Walter Lawrence applied to the Traffic Commissioners for Road Service Licences for the services he claimed to have been providing during the previous twelve months. Accordingly in October and November 1931 the following were applied for and subsequently granted:-

LAWRENCE, Walter R - WAPPENHAM



This photograph shows Morris Viceroy RP 9449 with its all-weather Hasker body. Walt Lawrence is the driver with Lottie Smith acting as conductress. Note that both are wearing pre-1930 Traffic Act driver/conductor badges. Those issued by Northampton Council were much smaller than those in this picture so possibly they were issued by Banbury Council. Incidentally, Walter Lawrence's wife Ellen also conducted the buses.

Traffic Commissioners' Reference.	Service Type.	Terminal and route.
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E12690-706 (later TER303/1)	Excursions & Tours	Wappenham, The Green (Two coaches)
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E16606 (later TER303/2)	Stage	Weston-by-Weedon (Post Office) and Northampton (Plough Hotel) via Lois Weedon - Wappenham - Abthorpe, Towcester, Blisworth and Milton. Wednesdays, Saturdays & Sundays. (Local passengers could not be carried on the Towcester to Northampton section).
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Continued.....

LAWRENCE. Walter R - WAPPENHAM

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|----------------------------|-------|--|
| E16607
(later TER303/3) | Stage | Wappenham and Northampton (Plough Hotel) via Slapton, Bradden, Greens Norton, Duncote, Towcester, Blisworth and Milton. Wednesdays & Saturdays. (Local passengers could not be carried on the Towcester to Northampton section). |
| E16608
(later TER303/4) | Stage | Slapton and Banbury (Town Hall) via Wappenham, Lois Weedon, Weston-by-Weedon, Culworth X Roads and Thorpe Mandeville. Thursdays. |
| E16609
(later TER303/5) | Stage | Towcester (Market Square) and Banbury (Town Hall) via Abthorpe, Wappenham, Helmdon, Sulgrave, The Magpie and Thorpe Mandeville. Thursdays. |
| E16610
(later TER303/6) | Stage | Weston-by-Weedon (Post Office) and Towcester via Lois Weedon, Wappenham, Slapton, Bradden and Greens Norton. Weekdays? |

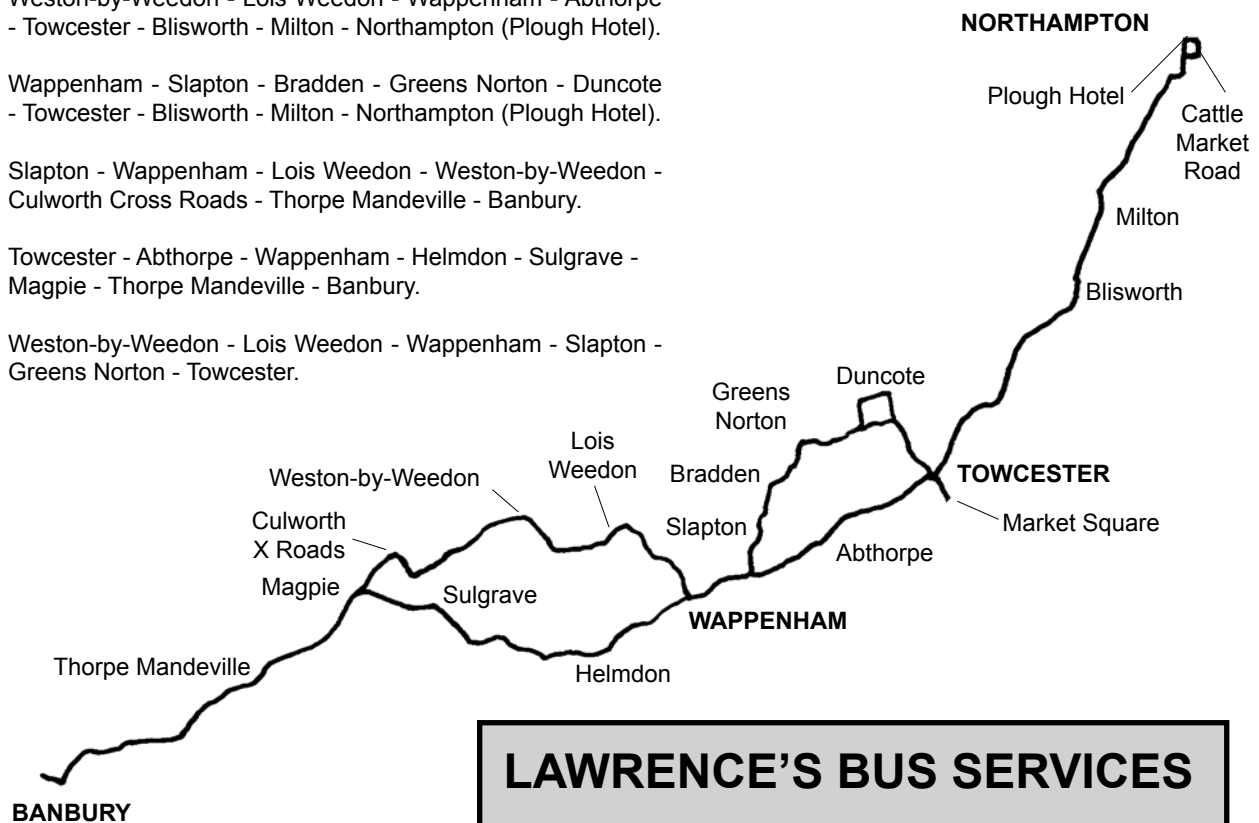
Weston-by-Weedon - Lois Weedon - Wappenham - Abthorpe
- Towcester - Blisworth - Milton - Northampton (Plough Hotel).

Wappenham - Slapton - Bradden - Greens Norton - Duncote
- Towcester - Blisworth - Milton - Northampton (Plough Hotel).

Slapton - Wappenham - Lois Weedon - Weston-by-Weedon -
Culworth Cross Roads - Thorpe Mandeville - Banbury.

Towcester - Abthorpe - Wappenham - Helmdon - Sulgrave -
Magpie - Thorpe Mandeville - Banbury.

Weston-by-Weedon - Lois Weedon - Wappenham - Slapton -
Greens Norton - Towcester.



LAWRENCE'S BUS SERVICES

LAWRENCE. Walter R - WAPPENHAM

In November 1932 Walter Lawrence applied to the Traffic Commissioners to introduce a Thursday evening theatre/cinema facility from Wappenham to Northampton Market Square, returning at 11.05pm picking up and setting down local passengers on the A43 between Northampton and Towcester, something he was not permitted to do on other journeys. This licence became effective from 1st December 1932.

Most of Walter Lawrence's services remained essentially unchanged throughout the 1930s

LAWRENCE'S BUS SERVICES.

Weston, Lois Weedon, Wappenham, Abthorpe, Towcester & Northampton.

	WEDNESDAY				SATURDAY					SUNDAY		
	a.m.	a.m.	p.m.	p.m.	a.m.	a.m.	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.	
Weston dep.	9.15	11.50	5.15	8.15	9.15	11.50	4.15	7.59	9.5	...	1.15	8.55
Lois Weedon	9.20	11.55	5.20	8.20	9.20	11.55	4.20	7.10	9.10	...	1.20	9.0
Wappenham	9.30	1.05	5.30	8.30	9.40	1.04	5.30	7.20	9.20	...	1.30	9.10
Slapton Bridge	9.32	1.55	5.35	8.35	9.45	1.54	5.35	7.25	9.25	...	1.35	9.12
Abthorpe	9.35	1.10	5.40	8.40	9.50	1.10	4.40	7.30	9.30	...	1.40	9.15
Handley Gate	9.40	1.15	5.45	8.45	9.55	1.15	4.45	7.35	9.35	...	1.45	9.20
Towcester	9.45	1.20	5.50	8.50	10.0	1.20	4.50	7.40	9.40	...	1.50	9.25
Northampton arr.	10.20	1.40	6.15	9.15	10.25	1.40	5.15	8.0	10.5	...	2.15	9.45

Return Buses leave Plough Hotel on Wednesdays at 11.55 a.m., 3.0, 6.30 & 9.30 p.m.
Saturdays at 11.55 a.m., 3.0, 6.0, 8.0 & 11.0 p.m.
Sundays at 2.40 p.m. & 10.15 p.m.

Wappenham, Greens Norton, Towcester & Northampton.

THURSDAY NIGHT ONLY

Leave Wappenham 7.0 p.m., Slapton 7.5, Abthorpe 7.10, Bradden 7.15, Greens Norton 7.25 and Towcester 7.30 p.m. for Northampton.

Leave Northampton (Market Sq.) 11.5 p.m. for Milton, Blisworth, Towcester, Greens Norton, Bradden, Slapton and Wappenham.

NOTE—This Service does not pick up on the A43 between Towcester & Northampton on the inward journey, but picks up and sets down on the homeward journey all the way.

Wappenham, Slapton, Bradden, Greens Norton, Towcester & Northampton.

WEDNESDAY SERVICE. SATURDAY SERVICE.

	WEDNESDAY SERVICE.			SATURDAY SERVICE.				
	a.m.	p.m.	p.m.	a.m.	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.
Wappenham dep.	9.10	...	...	9.10	...	...	...	...
Slapton	9.15	1.5	4.15	9.15	1.5	4.15	...	...
Bradden	9.20	1.10	4.20	9.20	1.10	4.20	6.10	...
Greens Norton	9.30	1.20	4.30	9.30	1.20	4.30	6.20	8.0
Towcester	9.35	1.25	4.35	9.35	1.25	4.35	6.25	8.15
Northampton arr.	10.0	1.50	5.0	10.0	1.50	5.0	6.50	...

Return Buses leave Plough Hotel on Wednesdays at 12.0 noon, 3.0 & 5.30 p.m.
Saturdays at 12.0 noon, 3.0, 5.30 & 7.30 p.m.
On Saturdays only also dep. Towcester at 8.30 & 10.30 p.m. for Greens Norton, Bradden & Slapton.

Towcester, Abthorpe, Wappenham, Helmdon, Sulgrave, Thorpe Manderville & Banbury.

THURSDAY SERVICE

Towcester dep.				Slapton dep.				a.m.	
a.m.	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.	a.m.	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.	a.m.	a.m.
9.10	...	...	...	9.15	...	...	...	9.15	...
9.20	...	...	...	9.30	...	...	...	9.30	...
9.30	12.30	...	...	9.40	...	...	...	9.40	...
9.40	12.45	3.55	5.0	9.45	...	...	...	9.45	...
9.50	12.55	4.5	5.10	...	...	...	...	...	11.40
9.55	1.0	4.10	5.15	...	...	...	...	9.55	11.42
10.5	1.10	4.20	5.25	...	...	...	...	10.0	11.45
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10.10	12.0

Leave Banbury 11.50 a.m., 3.10, 4.30 p.m.
(6.0 p.m. to Northampton.)

Leave Banbury 11.10 a.m. (to Sulgrave only), & 3.30 p.m.

W. R. LAWRENCE, Proprietor, WAPPENHAM.

Victory Press, Oakwood Road, Northampton

apart from minor time changes and the odd additional journey. The one exception was the Weston-by-Weedon to Towcester service licensed under reference TER303/6 and it is far from clear on precisely which weekdays this service ran as no timetable has been seen by the Author. Whatever the case it had ceased operating by August 1939 when the renewal of the licence was not taken up. Incidentally, Lawrence used the Bell Punch ticketing system, with many tickets using that Company's block A5375.

This timetable showing Walter Lawrence's local routes could date from any time between December 1934 and 1950. The only clue in narrowing its validity dates is the absence of any reference to the Weston-by-Weedon to Towcester route which was withdrawn by August 1939 and may, therefore, indicate an issue date after 8/39. See also timetable on page 10.

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: **LAWRENCE. Walter R - WAPPENHAM** :
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As mentioned earlier, Lawrence held an Excursions & Tours licence from Wappenham Green and this continued with very little alteration until due for renewal in 1938. At this time the licence permitted tours to eight destinations, mostly to local race meetings and shows, plus a day trip to Southsea on Easter Mondays only. Clearly the scope for Walter Lawrence to run profitable excursions was extremely limited and, in fact, he failed to take up his licence when renewed in July 1938. Evidently Lawrence regretted this step and in the following April he applied for a replacement licence under reference TER303/7, which was objected to by Arthur Basford of Greens Norton, KW Services of Daventry, United Counties and Sam Walters of Helmdon, being refused by the Traffic Commissioners in June 1939.

Returning to the subject of rolling stock, as far as it is known Walt Lawrence purchased no more buses before the War. Indeed, one of his Morris Viceroy was disposed of during 1935. However, during the War a second-hand Gilford was bought from Hayfield Bros of Newport Pagnell in 1941 and a T.S.M. from Arthur Basford of nearby Greens Norton in 1944. Presumably Walter Lawrence had some special needs for these vehicles to perform War-related work. The liveries of Lawrence's vehicles varied over the years; his two Morris Viceroy being maroon and red whilst the Wartime acquired Gilford and T.S.M. were respectively blue/cream and green/cream. After the War Lawrence tended to standardise on a two-tone blue livery.

When conditions returned to "normal" after the War Walter Lawrence bought new Bedford OBs in both 1948 and 1949. The 1948 model entered service on 9th September as ENV 309 carrying standard twenty-nine seater Duple Vista coachwork. The 1949 Bedford OB was fitted with a twenty-eight seat bus body by Mulliner and this was registered FBD 788 on 8th September that year.

Soon after the War it appears that journeys operated by Lawrence on his Wappenham - Slapton - Greens Norton - Towcester - Northampton licence TER303/3 were transferred to the licence TER303/2 Weston-by-Weedon to Northampton. Similarly all journeys on the Towcester to Banbury service TER303/5 were transferred to TER303/4 Slapton to Banbury licence.

In February 1949 Walter Lawrence applied to the Traffic Commissioners to operate an additional journey from Weston-by-Weedon to Northampton at 9.15am on Tuesdays, returning at 3.00pm, but the Author has been unable to trace this application's approval. Perhaps the application was withdrawn prior to being granted or was refused as Tuesday operations on this route did not materialise until a similar repeat application was made in February 1950, this time being granted.

In December 1950 Walter Lawrence made another attempt at regaining an Excursions & Tours licence and his application, using the original reference TER303/1, included tours from Wappenham with pick-ups at local villages served on his stage-carriage services, to Northampton, Towcester, Banbury, Brackley, Silverstone, Roade and Grafton Hunt. Nothing too adventurous there and this time just Sam Walters and Midland Red lodged

LAWRENCE. Walter R - WAPPENHAM



With Wappenham Church in the background, Walt Lawrence's Duple Vista bodied Bedford OB can be seen at rest in February 1957. The registration number of this coach was ENV 309 and at some stage was apparently named "Taffy". (Photo courtesy R Marshall).

objections but, presumably after negotiations with the objectors, the required licence was granted.

March 1952 witnessed Walter Lawrence applying to the Traffic Commissioners for a new stage-carriage service from Weston-by-Weedon Post Office to Towcester Market Square routed via Lois Weedon, Wappenham and Abthorpe on Mondays to Fridays. This service took the Commissioner's reference TER303/8 and apparently largely reinstated Lawrence's previous service TER303/6 abandoned just prior to the War. The route offered a facility at 7.20am from Weston to Towcester, returning at 6.20pm. It is not known exactly when this service started but it would have been circa June 1952. In January 1963 the service was curtailed to operate between Wappenham and Towcester and at an unknown date was abandoned altogether, the licence not being renewed in June 1955.

For the rest of the 1950s most of Walter Lawrence's licences were renewed without modification although the Thursday theatre/cinema facility on the Northampton route was withdrawn in the Autumn of 1958.

LAWRENCE. Walter R - WAPPENHAM

Three more coaches are known to have been acquired by Walter Lawrence during the 1950s, with a second-hand Leyland Tiger TS7 being purchased in January 1951, registered BTF 519 and seating thirty-five passengers. Next came a Bedford OWB dating from 1943 but rebodied with Duple Mark V coachwork in 1949. This was CBD 212 which had been new to York Bros of Northampton but acquired by Lawrence from dealers Yeates of Loughborough at the end of 1953.



*Looking immaculate on a damp February 1957 day in Banbury can be seen Walter Lawrence's CBD 212, a 1943 Bedford OWB with 1949 Duple bodywork.
(Photo courtesy R Marshall).*

Lawrence is reputed to have bought a Whitson bodied Leyland Tiger PS1/1 but if he did no details of it have come to hand. His final vehicle purchase, however, was yet again a Bedford OB with Duple V twenty-nine seat body. This machine, dating from January 1949, was registered HWU 593, being purchased from Yeates of Loughborough having earlier been with J Broadbent Motors of Stamford Bridge.

During 1960 Walter Lawrence became unwell and was unable to drive. In Lawrence's early days he had come to know Ted Johnson who was at that time the leading driver for Kingston Bros at Blakesley. When Kingston's, as KW Services, became established at Daventry Ted Johnson moved to this location and remained KW's leading and much respected driver until the firm was taken over by the Taylor's in 1957. Ted Johnson became unhappy with his new employers and in 1959 purchased the business of F H Belham of Hanslope, trading as the Hanslope Direct Bus Service.

LAWRENCE. Walter R - WAPPENHAM



Parked in Victoria Gardens, Northampton Bedford OB/Duple HWU 593 lays over prior to working Lawrence's service back to Wappenham in April 1959.

(Photo courtesy R Marshall).

The friendship of Walter Lawrence and Ted Johnson led to Ted driving for Lawrence whilst he was ill and subsequently to Ted Johnson purchasing Lawrence's business in 1961 when Walter Lawrence decided to dispose of his operation. In June 1961 Ted Johnson applied to the Traffic Commissioners to acquire three of Lawrence's licences - TER303/1 Excursions & Tours from Wappenham Green; TER303/2 Weston-by-Weedon Post Office to Northampton Plough Hotel (Wednesdays, Saturdays & Sundays); and TER303/4 Towcester Market Square to Banbury Town Hall (Thursdays). The licences for all three services were granted to Messrs E & E Johnson trading as the Hanslope Direct Bus Service in September 1961, at which time Lawrence was running two coaches. The Author has not been able to establish the precise date on which Lawrence's business was purchased by Johnson's but clearly in was between June and September 1961.

With Johnson's being based at Hanslope it was far from convenient for them to operate the Wappenham based services and in due course arrangements were made for the three former Lawrence services to be purchased by Jack Jeffs of Helmdon. Jack Jeffs applied to the Traffic Commissioners in November 1962 and the three licences had been granted to him by 1st March 1963.

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LAWRENCE. Walter R - WAPPENHAM



Walter Lawrence used this attractive converted barn as a garage and workshop and it is seen here in 2004 being used by an alternative current business. There is still evidence of a former pit running down the centre of the building. The left hand annexe is a modern addition to the property.

J. COY,
BUILDER, CARPENTER, DECORATOR,
WHEELWRIGHT & UNDERTAKER,
SYRESHAM, BRACKLEY.

Enquiries Invited. :: :: Estimates Free.

OFTEN BUTTERED—
BUT NEVER BETTERED!

CORY'S BREAD,
SYRESHAM.

Daily Deliveries in this District. Give us a Trial.

A Warm Welcome always, at
THE BELL INN - SYRESHAM
(Fully Licensed).

Hopcraft & Norris's Celebrated Ales and Stout.
Any meal can be obtained at short notice.
Accommodation. Parties Catered for.
Registered C.T.C., N.C.U.

A. H. Wilks, Proprietor.

LAWRENCE'S BUS SERVICES

WESTON, LOIS WEEDON, WAPPENHAM, ABTHORPE, TOWCESTER
AND NORTHAMPTON.

	Wednesday.				Saturday.				Sunday.		
	a.m.	a.m.	p.m.	p.m.	a.m.	a.m.	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.	
Weston dep	9.15	11.50	5.15	8.15	9.15	11.50	4.15	7.5	9.5	1.15	8.55
Lois Weedon	9.20	11.55	5.20	8.20	9.20	11.55	4.20	7.10	9.10	1.20	9.0
Wappenham	9.30	1.0	5.30	8.30	9.40	1.0	4.30	7.20	9.20	1.30	9.10
Slapton Bridge	9.32	1.5	5.35	8.35	9.45	1.5	4.35	7.25	9.25	1.35	9.12
Abthorpe	9.35	1.10	5.40	8.40	9.50	1.10	4.40	7.30	9.30	1.40	9.15
Handley Gate	9.40	1.15	5.45	8.45	9.55	1.15	4.45	7.35	9.35	1.45	9.20
Towcester	9.45	1.20	5.50	8.50	10.0	1.20	4.50	7.40	9.40	1.50	9.25
Northampton arr	10.20	1.40	6.15	9.15	10.25	1.40	5.15	8.0	10.5	2.15	9.45

Return Buses leave Plough Hotel on: Wednesdays at 11.55 a.m. 3.0. 6.30 and 9.30 p.m. Saturdays at 11.55 a.m., 3.0, 6.0, 8.0 and 11 p.m. Sundays at 2.40 pm and 10.15 p.m.

WAPPENHAM, GREENS NORTON, TOWCESTER and NORTHAMPTON.

Thursday Night Only.—Leave Wappenham 7.0 p.m., Slapton 7.5, Abthorpe 7.10, Bradden 7.15, Greens Norton 7.25 and Towcester 7.30 p.m. for Northampton. Leave Northampton (Market Sq.) 11.5 p.m. for Milton, Blisworth, Towcester, Greens Norton, Bradden, Slapton and Wappenham. This Service does not pick up on the A43 between Towcester and Northampton on the inward journey, but picks up and sets down on the homeward journey all the way.

W. R. LAWRENCE, Proprietor, Wappenham.

You will like the
VILLAGE FARM GUEST HOUSE
(in the heart of the Cotswolds)
BLADINGTON, GLOS.
First-class Accommodation.

Luncheon, Teas. Bed and Breakfast.
Own Farm Produce.

Large or Small Parties Catered for by
appointment.

Mrs. M. M. Holdom, Proprietress.

WAPPENHAM, SLAPTON, BRADDEEN, GREENS NORTON,
TOWCESTER AND NORTHAMPTON.

	Wednesday Service.			Saturday Service.		
	a.m.	p.m.	p.m.	a.m.	p.m.	p.m.
Wappenham dep.	9.10			9.10		
Slapton	9.15	1.5	4.15	9.15	1.5	4.15
Bradden	9.20	1.10	4.20	9.20	1.10	4.20
Greens Norton	9.30	1.20	4.30	9.30	1.20	4.30
Towcester	9.35	1.25	4.35	9.35	1.25	4.35
Northampton arr.	10.0	1.50	5.0	10.0	1.50	5.0

Return Buses leave Plough Hotel on Wednesdays at 12 noon, 3 and 5.30 p.m. Saturdays at 12 noon, 3, 5.30 and 7.30 p.m. On Saturdays only also departs Towcester at 8.30 and 10.30 p.m. for Greens Norton, Bradden and Slapton.

TOWCESTER, ABTHORPE, WAPPENHAM, HELMDON, SULGRAVE, THORPE MANDERVILLE AND BANBURY.

Thursday Service.			
	a.m.	p.m.	p.m.
Towcester dep.	9.10		
Abthorpe	9.20		
Wappenham	9.30	12.30	
Helmdon	9.40	12.45	3.55
Sulgrave	9.50	12.55	4.5
Thorpe Manderville	9.55	1.0	4.10
Banbury arr.	10.5	1.10	4.20

Slapton dep. 9.15
Wappenham 9.30
Lois Weedon 9.40
Weston 9.45
Sulgrave 11.40
Magpie 9.45
Thorpe Manderville 10.0
Banbury arr. 10.10

Leave Banbury 11.50 a.m., 3.10, 4.30 p.m. (6.0 p.m. to Northampton).
Leave Banbury 11.10 a.m. (to Sulgrave only), and 3.30 p.m.

There are many good reasons for drinking.
And one has just entered my head;
If a man can't drink when he's living,
How the hell can he drink when he's dead?
Visit the
"ROBIN HOOD," Buffers Holt, Buckingham
(Fully Licensed).
A.B.C. Noted Ales. Teas. Refreshments.
Accommodation, Fishing and Shooting.
R. Paxton, Proprietor.

MRS. NEWMAN,
Extends a warm welcome to Old Friends and New, to
THE BUTCHERS ARMS,
(Fully Licensed)
GREENS NORTON.
HOPCRAFT & NORRIS'S FAMOUS ALES.

HOT, CLEAN AND LASTING COALS supplied by
G. T. CHESTER, Wappenham.
Estimates Free. Enquiries Invited.
Visit the "BULL INN" for HOPCRAFT & NORRIS'S Famous Ales
Car and Lorry for Hire.
The Ancients of old drank water so cold,
And very soon withered away,
But the people round here drink Chester's Beer,
And flourish like flowers in May.

This is a facsimile of a blotter issued for Walter Lawrence showing exactly the same timetable as that displayed on page 5. It is included for its fascinating advertisements which may in due course provide clues regarding the blotter's date of publication. The Author has in his possession a remarkably similar blotter issued for Frank Coales' bus services of Aldwinckle, using some of the same doggerel in the advertisements. Doodling on this latter blotter include the registration number ERP 786 suggesting a timetable currency around 1949.

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Since this paper was first written the Author has been fortunate enough to obtain a scan of Walter Lawrence's Gilford 168OT registered KX 6432 which is reproduced below. Information hitherto available for this vehicle suggested that Lawrence did not acquire it until 1941 but if the inscription at the foot of the picture reading "Syresham. 32." indicates the picture was taken in 1932, then clearly Lawrence purchased KX 6432 a lot earlier than previously thought. The oval PSV licence plate affixed to the rear of the bus suggests the photo could well have been taken in 1932. The true date of acquisition of KX 6432 has still to be resolved.



LAWRENCE. Walter R - WAPPENHAM

Rolling Stock:

Regn. No.	Chassis	Type	Chassis No.	Body	Seats	Body No.	Dates			Former Owner	Disposal	Nts
							New	S/H	W/D			
RP 363	Ford	T	10630997	?	B14	—	1/25	c5/27	9/28	F Whitlock, Towcester	Kingston Bros, Blakesley	1
RP 4387	REO		142824	Eaton	B14F	—	5/27	—	c-/40	Supp Allchin & Son, Northampton		
RP 3765	Lancia	Z	3453	Hasker	B14F	—	2/27	9/28	9/30	Kingston Bros, Blakesley	F C Moore, Saffron Walden	2
RP 9245	Morris	Viceroy	014Y	Hasker	B20	—	7/30	—	-/35	Supp Dergate Mtr Co Ltd, Northampton		
RP 9449	Morris	Viceroy	062Y	Hasker	AW20D	—	9/30	—	6/40	Supp Dergate Mtr Co Ltd, Northampton	No further owner	
KX 6432	Gilford	168OT	11666	?	C32F	?	2/31	by 1/41	3/46	Hayfield Bros, Newport Pagnell	Showman	
KP 3032	T.S.M.	B10A2	6255	Beadle	B31R	?	11/28	c10/44	?	A Basford, Greens Norton		
ENV 309	Bedford	OB	85041	Duple Vista	C29F	46520	9/48	—	c8/58		W S Yeates, Loughborough	3
FBD 788	Bedford	OB	116291	Mulliner	B28F	T488	9/49	—	12/55	Supp Grose Ltd, Northampton	No further owner	
BTF 519	Leyland	Tiger TS7	13487	Vincent?	C35F		3/37	1/51	5/54	N H Neale, Berkeley	R Ward & Son, Carmyle	
CBD 212	Bedford	OWB	14492	Duple V	C29F	51882	7/43	c12/53	9/60	Yeates, L'boro/ York Bros, N'pton.		4
?	Leyland	Tiger PS1/1	?	Witson	C33F		?	?	c9/61			
HWU 593	Bedford	OB	96473	Duple V	C29F	50625	1/49	c9/58	c9/61	Yeates, L'boro/Broadbent, Stamford Bridge		

Notes: 1 - RP 4387 last owned by Mrs L Bond, Wilby Lido, Wellingborough and last licensed 9/45.

2 - RP 9245 last licensed 9/41.

3 - ENV 309 last owned by J Tuckley, Walsall and last licensed 4/64.

4 - CBD212 was rebodied by Duple 1/49. Last owner Swales Forrest & Son, Glasgow and last licensed 2/65.