

# Bygone Buses

of  
NORTHAMPTONSHIRE

NN-KN6

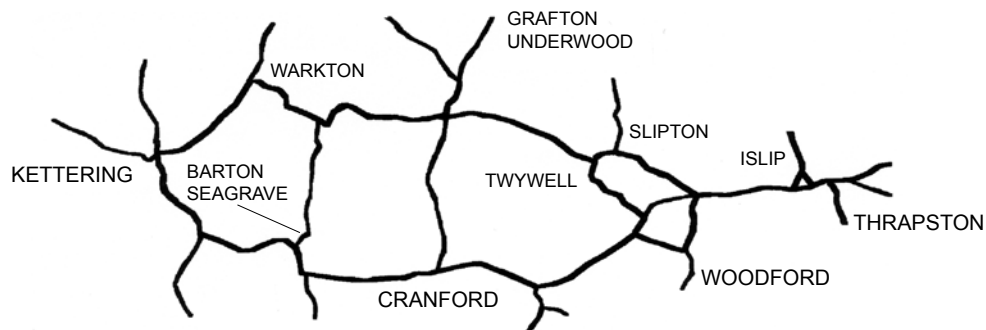
Page 1

## KNIGHTON. Harry & MASON. Alfred t/a "MAYTON MOTORWAYS" South Farm, WOODFORD

There is a lot of confusion over this operator as the village of Woodford was blessed with a motor engineering business trading under the name of F Knighton and whether Harry Knighton was related to, in business with, or was the same person as F Knighton has not yet been discovered. In the Autumn of 1921 two Ford T Hackney Carriages are recorded as having been registered to F or R F Knighton as BD 781 and BD 2242 but neither may have been buses and BD 781 probably dated from 1919. In all probability F or R F Knighton was unconnected with Harry Knighton in so far as this paper is concerned.

Another story relates that Harry Knighton, who was said to have had money, was approached by Alfred Mason - apparently known to his friends as "Plushy" Mason - to set up a business running buses. It is also said that Mason had earlier worked for Bagshaw & Sons of Kettering as their manager and it is believed that Mason was living in Kettering at this time. It was probably in the late 1920s, around about 1927/8, that Knighton and Mason became associated and thereafter traded as "Mayton Motorways".

It seems that by 1929 at the latest Knighton & Mason plied for hire on the Thrapston - Woodford - Cranford - Kettering route along with Messrs Bagshaw & Sons of Kettering and Meadows of Barton Seagrave. In addition they ran between Kettering and Geddington, also specialised in providing private hire and excursions and were certainly advertising a trip to Skegness from Kettering, in the local paper, in August 1930.



At their meeting of 1st October 1930, the Kettering Urban District Council's Streets, Buildings & Sanitary Committee considered a request by Harry Knighton that the times allocated to him on the Kettering to Geddington service be transferred to Messrs Meadows

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.

### KNIGHTON & MASON - WOODFORD

& Frost and this was acceded to. Thereafter Mayton Motorways continued with their Kettering to Thrapston service and soon applied to Kettering UDC to run additional timings on this route, presumably to utilise spare vehicle capacity following the loss of the Geddington operation.

Knighton & Mason are known to have run a Gilford and a REO, respectively registered UE 9016 and UE 9425. The REO, at least, was bought new and the Warwickshire registration records show UE 9425 being licensed to A Knighton, which neatly provides a third alternative initial for the proprietor! It is assumed that UE 9016 was bought new from the same supplier.

No doubt the coming into force of the 1930 Road Traffic Act influenced the decision of Messrs Knighton & Mason to dispose of the remaining parts of their bus and coach operating business to Messrs Bagshaw & Sons of Kettering in 1931. Harry Knighton is also known to have undertaken clerical work for Bagshaw's so in all probability both he and Mason joined Bagshaw's in 1931 and Mason became manager after this date rather than in the mid 1920's as rumoured in the story related on the previous page.

### Rolling Stock:

REGN. NO.	CHASSIS			BODY			DATES			PREVIOUS OWNER	INITIAL DISPOSAL	NOTES
	MAKE	TYPE	NO.	MAKE	TYPE/ SEATS	NO.	NEW	S/H	W/D			
BD 781	Ford	T	54838		?		12/21?	-				1
BD 2242	Ford	T	251147		?		10/21	-	10/24			2
UE 9016	Gilford	168OT	10862		C30F*		7/29	-	-/31		Bagshaw & Sons, Kettering	3
UE 9425	REO	FB	1168		B20F		10/29	-	-/31		Bagshaw & Sons, Kettering	4

- Notes: 1 - BD 781 new 31/12/21 to F Knighton, Homelands, Woodford. Last owned by W Waterman, Woodford and last licensed 4/29.  
 2 - BD 2242 new 3/10/21 to R F Knighton, Homelands, Woodford and last licensed to him 3/10/24.  
 3 - UE 9016 also recorded as Daimler CF6 with Leamington & Warwick.  
 4 - UE 9425 new to A Knighton, South Farm, Woodford.  
 \* - Also quoted as C32F.

**MAYTON MOTORWAYS.**  
 Proprietor: A. Mason.  
 THE NEW COACH will run to  
**LOWESTOFT & YARMOUTH**  
 AUGUST 3rd to the 10th, from Market  
 Harborough, Desborough and Kettering.  
 SKEGNESS, Day Trip, AUGUST 7th.  
 Seats may be booked, Martin, Outfitters,  
 Rockingham-road Stand.

*Mayton Motorways*  
 GILFORD SALOON COACH will run to  
**SANDY SHOW,**  
 AUGUST 29th. Start 1.45 p.m.  
 Seats may be booked at Martin's Booking  
 Office, Rockingham-road Stand, Kettering.

*Two of Mayton Motorways advertisements placed in the Kettering Evening Telegraph on 20th July and 28th August 1929 respectively.*