

Bygone Buses

of
NORTHAMPTONSHIRE

NN-NO4
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NORWOOD. Thomas THURNING

Very little has been discovered in relation to Thomas Norwood of Thurning, a hamlet a few miles north-east of Thrapston, save to say he was the village blacksmith. He was apparently also known as Jack Norwood but whether both Thomas and Jack (John) were his Christian names is not known to the author. Thomas Norwood did however own a black Ford T six-seater bus. This was originally a car registered as BD 1860 in May 1913 and was bought second-hand by Thomas Norwood in November 1918 when it was fitted with what was described as a bus body. Thomas Norwood used it to operate his bus service between Thurning and Thrapston but no details of times or days of operation are known.

Norwood's Ford T - BD 1860 - reached the end of its life in January 1927 and was replaced by another Ford T but this time a 14-seater bus. This latter vehicle had been registered as RP 112 to J C Abram of Earls Barton in October 1924 and it is almost certain it had been traded in by Abram to Messrs York, Ward & Rowlatt of Wellingborough in December 1926 in part exchange for a new Thornycroft. No doubt it was from Messrs York, Ward & Rowlatt that Thomas Norwood bought RP 112 in January 1927.

Thomas Norwood continued running his Thurning to Thrapston service and also private hire operations for the next four years. The Road Traffic Act of 1930, particularly with its introduction of maintenance standards, sounded the death knell of Norwood's bus activities and he did not obtain a licence from the Traffic Commissioners to continue his operations. RP 112 was last licensed in December 1931 and no doubt this was when Norwood ceased running.

Rolling Stock:

REGN. NO.	CHASSIS			BODY			DATES			PREVIOUS OWNER	INITIAL DISPOSAL
	MAKE	TYPE	NO.	MAKE	TYPE/ SEATS	NO.	NEW	S/H	W/D		
BD 1860	Ford	T			B6		5/13	11/18	1/27	?	No subsequent operator
RP 112	Ford	T	10627303		B14F		10/21	1/27	12/31	York, Ward & Rowlatt, W'boro?/ J C Abram, E Barton	No subsequent operator

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.