

Bygone Buses

of
NORTHAMPTONSHIRE

NN-OK1

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Okins, Albert

24 High Street South,

RUSHDEN

Very little has been discovered about this early operator and his vehicles could have all been taxis rather than buses. However, Albert Okins bought a 16 horse-power Delaunay-Belleville (French) on 14th April 1912, registered BM 2006, which was used as a public conveyance. Two years later he bought LN 8359, a second-hand Beeston-Humber, which was dark green and first registered on 17th January 1908. Albert Okins acquired it on 25th June 1914 and it, too, was used as a public conveyance.

Evidently Albert Okins had a son - Arthur Okins - who at one time worked with his father. Arthur bought a 12hp Overland (USA) cage van, black in colour, which was registered KT 9352 on 1st November 1920 and transferred to Okins on this date. KT 9352 was possibly a re-issued number originally current in 1917. At this time Arthur Okins' address was quoted as 16 High Street South, Rushden and KT 9352 was used as a public conveyance. Subsequently an eight-seater Daimler landaulette registered BD 6424 was bought on 12th April 1922 and as late as January 1926 Arthur Okins was being described as a Motor Garage Proprietor and was operating a Hackney Carriage registered LN 3031 at this time.

It is known that Arthur Okins was a motor mechanic and he later went to work for the Lightstrung Company of Rushden where he remained for many years. He sold his High Street South premises to George Robinson of Rushden - see paper NN-RO3.

Vehicles:

BM 2006 - Delaunay-Belleville - 16hp - Acquired new 14/4/12.

LN 8359 - Beeston-Humber - New 17/1/08 - Acquired 25/6/14.

KT 9352 - Overland - 12hp - Van - Acquired new 1/11/20.

BD 6424 - Daimler - TB22 - 8-seater landaulette - Acquired new 12/4/22 and last licensed to E Eastaff, Bedford 10/27.

LN 3031 - Hackney Carriage being operated at 1/26.