

## NEWMAN. Herbert James

### 73 Spencer Road, RUSHDEN

Herbert James Newman was an operator about whom it has proved to be extremely difficult to gather any information. Only his address in Rushden has been ascertained whilst details of the vehicles he ran remain a complete mystery.

What is known, however, is that in the late 1920s he developed a Thursday only afternoon service from Rushden via Higham Ferrers, Chelveston, Shelton, Lower Dean, Tilbrook and Kimbolton to St Neots Market. With the advent of the 1930 Road Traffic Act it is fairly certain that Mr Newman stood little chance of gaining a Road Service Licence for his route unless he invested considerable capital in upgrading his operation.

It is equally as certain that the revenue earned by the service, in isolation, could not support the required investment as in September 1931 United Counties Omnibus & Road Transport Co Ltd applied to the Traffic Commissioners to operate the Rushden – St Neots service previously run by Newman. For the Goodwill of the service and any other contacts or engagements he may have had at the time, United Counties paid the princely sum of £5 to Herbert Newman. United Counties took over the route from 24th September 1931 and the matter was legally concluded on 1st December that year.

