

## **BODEN. Abel** **2 Herriott's Lane &** **38 Market Square** **WELLINGBOROUGH**

Abel Boden must have been an interesting character and was evidently a jack-of-all-trades. He kept a china and hardware shop in the Market Square at Wellingborough and in a directory was described as a general dealer. It would seem that Boden must have gained a contract with the General Post Office to convey mails between the Wellingborough Midland Road General Post Office and the towns two railway stations. The vans he used for this purpose were painted red and were lettered "Royal Mail" on their sides. Some were also licensed as public conveyances and carried passengers from Midland Road to the Railway Stations and vice versa.

In July 1919 Abel Boden applied to Wellingborough Urban District Council for a Hackney Carriage licence, which was granted for a vehicle to seat six passengers inside and none outside. This would probably have been for his Ford car registered AY 2406 listed in the vehicle table on page two. This same car was used to provide three journeys per day between Wellingborough, Wollaston and Bozeat as shown by Boden's advertisement placed in the Evening Telegraph on Thursday 17th July 1919 and reproduced on the right.

The only other advertisement seen by the Author to have been placed in the local papers by Abel Boden was both unusual and enterprising. In November 1919 he targeted undertakers, wheelwrights, box makers and others to a timber sale taking place at Bozeat where large quantities of larch, elm and oak boards, planks etc. were to be sold. Boden provided a motor conveyance to the sale leaving Wellingborough at 10 o'clock. What is unclear is whether Abel Boden had any financial interest in the Dungee Plantation

### **A. Boden,**

GRANVILLE GARAGE,  
MARKET ST., WELLINGBOROUGH,

On and after MONDAY, 21st JULY, will run a small Motor for the Conveyance of Passengers to and from Wellingborough to Bozeat, via Wollaston, three times a day.

Time from Wellingborough:  
6.30 a.m., 11.25 a.m. 6.0 p.m.

Time from Bozeat  
7.0 a.m., 12.0 noon, 6.30 p.m.

FARES to WOLLASTON. 9d.  
FARES to BOZEAT, 1s.

No Luggage.  
Start from G.P.O., Wellingborough, Wollaston,  
and Bozeat. W18

# Bygone Buses

of  
NORTHAMPTONSHIRE

## NN-BO1

Page 2

### BODEN. Abel - WELLINGBOROUGH

at Bozeat or just saw the sale as an opportunity to operate an excursion. A facsimile of the advertisement is shown to the right.

Nothing is known of Boden's transport operations after this date but examination of his rolling stock shows that a fourteen seater bus was purchased new in January 1924 and he acquired a second-hand fourteen seater from Alf York of Irchester in 1928. Presumably, therefore, he continued to operate private hires and excursions until the advent of the Road Traffic Act, 1930.

**TIMBER SALE,**  
DUNGEE PLANTATION. BOZEAT.  
TUESDAY. NOVEMBER 11th.

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To Undertakers. Wheelwrights. Box Makers,  
and Others.

Large Quantities of LARCH BOARDS. ELM  
BOARDS. OAK BOARDS. PLANKS, etc.

MOTOR CONVEYANCE leaves

**BODEN'S GARAGE.**  
MARKET SQUARE, WELLINGBOROUGH,  
At 10 o'clock. W10

One of Boden's advertisements refers to the "Granville Garage". The Granville Hotel was situated at the junction of Midland Road and Market Street, Wellingborough and it is possible that it had a yard at the rear where Boden could have kept some of his vehicles. He is also known to have parked vans in the White Horse Yard, which was on the opposite side of Market Street to the Granville and at this site Boden was granted a licence to store 500 gallons of petrol

### Rolling Stock:

Regn. No.	Chassis	Type	Chassis No.	Body	Seats	Dates			Former Owner	Disposal	Notes
						New	S/H	W/D			
BD 3161	Ford	T	4103896	?	Van	10/15	—	3/26	—	?	
BD 3226	Ford	T	909956	?	Van	12/15	—	by 9/29	—	G. Tilley, Wallington	1
AY 2406	Ford	T	914608	?	Car	12/12	1/19	?	Phillips, Wollaston	?	1
BD 3119	Overland	?	28884	?	Car	11/15	11/20	9/29	?	No further owner	1
BD 507	Ford	T	283318	?	5 seats Van	8/21	—	by 10/22	—	E. Pitts, Wollaston	
BD 8642	Ford	T	7948520	Y.W&R?	B14	1/24	—	12/31	Supp York, Ward & Rowlatt, W'boro.	No further owner	
BD 8643	Ford	T	7948335	Y.W&R?	Van	1/24	—	12/34	Supp York, Ward & Rowlatt, W'boro.	No further owner	
RP 3557	Ford	T	1439014	?	Van?	12/26	—	12/35	Supp E. Ward, Wellingborough	No further owner	
BD 8720	Ford	T	7948008	Y.W&R?	B14F	1/24	c7/28	12/35	A. York, Irchester	No further owner	

Notes: 1 - BD 3226, AY 2406 and BD 3119 all licensed as public conveyances.