

# Bygone Buses

of  
NORTHAMPTONSHIRE

NN-CO4  
Page 1

## COLEMAN Bros. BOZEAT

The Coleman Brothers of Bozeat, one of whom was named Mark, were principally carriers who bought their first motor vehicle on 10th October 1914. It was an Alldays 25/30hp machine registered OA 4881 and described as a "motor cart". From all accounts it seems that the Coleman Brothers used OA 4881 to carry passengers from Bozeat to Wellingborough from the time they first acquired their motor and, indeed, it was also licensed as a public conveyance. Whereas most operators fitted longitudinal or bench seating when carrying passengers on lorry-based vehicles, the Coleman Brothers apparently placed chairs in the back of their machine, but how they were secured to the floor is unknown.

Apart from carrying passengers to Wellingborough on a casual basis when the vehicle was going that way, it operated every Wednesday and Saturday market days. Also popular was a Saturday evening cinema bus to and from Wellingborough.

Mark Coleman was reported by the Police for a minor motoring offence in May 1917 when he was described as a carrier but the conveyance he was driving had a Hackney Carriage licence and was, no doubt, the Alldays OA 4881.

On 21st March 1918 the Alldays was sold to Arthur Asbery of Wellingborough (NN-AS1) when this vehicle was recorded as a lorry and was not afterwards used as a public conveyance. Whether or not the Coleman Brothers purchased a replacement vehicle at this time or ceased to trade is unknown. Certainly in early 1916 they applied to Wellingborough Urban District Council for permission to stand their vehicle on the highway but no subsequent applications were considered by the Council. At this time, in March 1916, the lorry/bus had a capacity of twenty-five inside and two outside, so possibly a purpose built body had been acquired that could be either directly bolted onto the Alldays's chassis or fitted to its platform base.

### Rolling Stock:

Regn. No.	Chassis	Type	Chassis No.	Body	Seats	Body No.	Dates			Former Owner	Disposal	Nts
							New	S/H	W/D			
OA 4881	Alldays	25/30hp	?	?	Lorry/B27	—	10/14	—	3/18	—	A Asbery, Wellingborough	

Bygone Buses of Northamptonshire is compiled by R M Warwick, "Torestyn" 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.