

GREATER WIGSTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Travellers Rest – Bull Head Street

"One of Leicestershire's best known hosiery manufacturers", states an obituary in the Leicester Mercury. Alonzo Harry Broughton was born in Wigston on 28/1/1875, the second child in a family of six. His father was George Broughton, a framework knitter, and his mother was Rose Ann nee Phipps. Life was hard in the hosiery trade and by the age of eight he was at work as a boy winder. He married Harriet Herbert, known as Hattie, daughter of William Robert Herbert at the Congregational Church, Long Street in 1898, and the couple had three sons and a daughter.

In 1911 he founded his own company in a little shed, probably at the rear of his home in Junction Road. Greatly assisted by his wife he often worked a sixteen hour day to build up the business. By 1915 he had acquired the site of an old public house, the Travellers' Rest, in Bull Head Street, and building work commenced the following year.

Name and Contact Detail of Person Supplying The Information

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PHOTOGRAPHS