

AG TOFT GARAGE

AG Toft Garage was until recently situated at the bottom of School Lane on land that at one time was part of no. 73 School Lane. This property was earlier in the ownership of Arthur Hart, who sold it in 1948 to Leonard George Manderson. He divided off a portion of land at the side of the cottage to provide a workshop for his son John David Manderson. On this site a shed was built for his signwriting business alongside a body-repair and respray workshop.

The workshop was sold in 1974 to Frederick Alfred Billingham, and his son Barry used the building for the development of electrically-powered mobile library vehicles. These were modelled on a mobile shop vehicle that had been used successfully in Holland. The company traded as Hydrotechniek and supplied mobile library vehicles to Cambridgeshire County Council. Eventually, technical difficulties brought the business to a close and the establishment was sold in 1985 to the present owner, Anthony Gardner, who continued in business as AG Toft Garage, providing a small scale vehicle service and repair facility for local motorists. AG Toft Garage has now moved to a new site in the nearby village of Bourn (website: <http://www.agtoftgarage.co.uk/>).

Compiled by John Betson and Peter Johnson



John Manderson 1952



County Council Chairman John Harrison receiving the keys from Barry Billingham of Hydrotechnik August 1979



Exterior view of the Garage 2009



Interior of the Garage with the owner Tony Gardner at the rear 2009



Tony Gardner and son 2012

Location plan in Toft (garage now re-located to Bourn)

