

CHINN. Charles Henry

6 Addison Terrace,

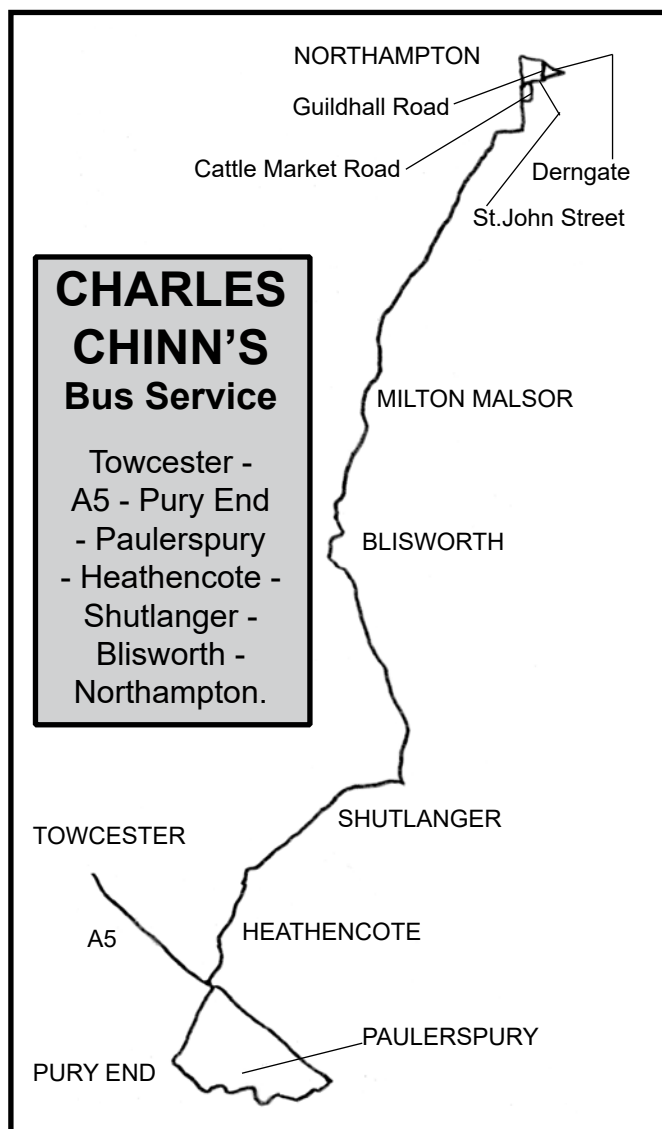
Brackley Road

TOWCESTER

Charles Henry Chinn first comes to notice in February 1921 when he was granted a Hackney Carriage Driver's Licence whilst living in London Road, Towcester. At that stage he must have been employed as a driver by an existing Hackney Carriage operator, possibly W A Nightingale (NN-NI1), as Chinn did not become a bus operator himself until 1925.

Early in 1925 Charlie Chinn applied to Northampton County Borough Council for a Hackney Carriage Licence for a fourteen-seater saloon bus to ply for hire from Derngate or Cattle Market Road but on 15th February 1925 the Council adjourned the matter. Consideration was resumed on 19th May when, subject to the conditions applicable to fares and other matters imposed in regard to local services, a Hackney Carriage Licence for a fourteen-seater saloon bus was granted to Chinn to stand in Derngate or Cattle Market Road for the period ending 25th March 1926.

It was at around this time that Charlie Chinn commenced his bus service from Towcester via A5 to Pury End, Paulerspury, Heathencote, Shutlanger



CHINN. Charles H. - TOWCESTER

and Blisworth to Northampton, Cattle Market Road but no indication has been found to show the frequency of operation, or indeed, the days of operation. There is no reference in the Northampton Watch Committee Minutes regarding the renewal of Chinn's licence in March 1926 but he does reappear in February 1927 when he is granted a licence for a fourteen-seater saloon bus, this time to ply for hire from Guildhall Road until 25th March 1927. By June 1927 another licence is granted for the period up to 25th March 1928, but this time using termini at St John Street or Cattle Market Road.

Charlie Chinn's final application for a Hackney Carriage Licence was made in May 1928 when he wished to replace his fourteen-seater bus with one seating twenty passengers, again using Cattle Market Road as the terminus.

With regard to rolling stock, Charlie Chinn is known to have taken over a fourteen-seat Ford T from J Holton of Bradden (NN-HO5) which originated with C E Billington of Northampton (NN-BI2) but its registration number is not known. However, Chinn was using Ford T registered NH 4551 in April 1926, so this may have been the vehicle.

Other than that Charlie Chinn is reputed to have owned a Chevrolet and a G.M.C. but again no details are known. He did however purchase a new Brockway coach registered RP 4160 on 11th May 1927 and this is recorded in Motor Tax records as a fourteen seater. The twenty seated vehicle noted in the Northampton Council Watch Committee Minutes in May 1928 would probably have been the G.M.C.

It would appear that as time progressed, Charlie Chinn's service deteriorated and became more and more erratic, so much so that in the end Charlie's clientele asked Arthur Basford (NN-BA9) to provide alternative facilities. It is not clear whether Charlie Chinn sold his operations to Arthur Basford or just ceased operating when Basford introduced his service over Charlie's route. However, Chinn's G.M.C. definitely passed to Arthur Basford.

Rolling Stock:

REGN. NO.	CHASSIS			BODY			DATES			PREVIOUS OWNER	INITIAL DISPOSAL	NOTES
	MAKE	TYPE	NO.	MAKE	TYPE/ SEATS	NO.	NEW	S/H	W/D			
?	Ford	T	?	?	B14F	?	?	c-/25	?	J Holton, Bradden	?	
NH 4551	Ford	T	?	?	B14F	?	?	by 4/26	?	?	F W Giddings, Northampton	
?	Chevrolet	?	?	?	14	?	?	?	?	?	?	
?	G.M.C.	?	?	?	20	?	?	?	c-/29	?	A Basford, Greens Norton	
RP 4160	Brockway	?	18152	?	14	?	5/27	—	?	—	W W Newberry, Heathcote	1

Notes: 1 - RP 4160 supplied by British Motor Trust Co., Westminster, SW1.