

DRIVING AWAY WITH
The Bride



• STORY 8 •

The first “motorised” wedding in Singapore in 1906 was not without incident. The bride and groom were a Mr and Mrs W J Mayson and the driver was none other than Charlie Wearne, who had just set up his company with his brother Theo, according to a report in the *Free Press and Malay Mail Shell Motor Rally Supplement*.

Charlie had taken on the task of “conveying the couple from the reception at a house in Orchard Road to Changi where they were to spend their honeymoon.” As the car “was inclined to be temperamental, Mr Wearne had to devote his entire attention, first to starting it, and then, to keep it running.”

When it was time for the couple to set off down the road, the report continued, “As soon as he heard the door bang at the back of the car, he started the engine and the car took off for the long journey to Changi.” But having gone a few yards, Charlie heard loud protests. “Looking back, he saw the bridegroom running after the vehicle.”