

## The Latest News *February 2006*



**28/02/06**

Neil Wise informs me that **Arriva Durham County's** Darlington has received Mini Pointer Darts 1717 (V717DNL) [ex Blyth] and 1794 (W631RNP) [ex First Stop]. Both feature LED destinations front and rear (like 1797). Native 1735 (V735DNL) has also been so fitted, with others at Darlington to follow.

The **Go North East [website](#)** shows further fleet movements. Dennis Dart / Marshall 8095 (M805GFT) is at Deptford, as are Dennis Dart / Caetano 8283/7 (T430LGP, V437KGF), displacing Optare Delta 4801 (J201VHN) to Chester-le-Street and DAF SB120 / Wright 8244/5 (NA52BUW/VB) to Winlaton. Optare Solo 457 (T457BNL) moves to Percy Main and Optare Delta 4734 (G734RTY) and Volvo B6 / Alexander 8422 (M422PVN) are removed from service. Volvo B6s 8401/13/4/6/8/33 (L401FVN, L413/4/6KEF, M418PVN, M433RDC) are sold.

**21/02/06**

Mark Gibbon confirms that the arrival of 1686 at **Arriva Tees & District's** Redcar depot has allowed Dennis Dart SLF / Plaxton 1624 (S624KHN) to finally go to Arriva Scotland West.

**20/02/06**

Bryn Mcgloin reports that ex Arriva Yorkshire Dennis Dart / Plaxton J220HGY is now in service with **Arriva Tees & District** at Redcar as 1686. Neil Wise reports that J468OKP is 1688, so this would presumably mean that J221HGY and L141YVK are 1687 and 1689 respectively.

**19/02/06**

The latest **Stagecoach North East** movements supplied by Chris Redpath (not counting movements already noted here and vehicles off for refurbishment or other repair) see Dodge Driver Trainer 48047 (D918KPT) delicensed and Leyland Olympian / Alexander 14189 (G189JHG) go to Devon.

**18/02/06**



Neil Wise reports that **Arriva Durham County** have now received MPD 1797 (Y215BGB) for service at Darlington. Metrorider 891 (N891RTN) is currently working for Bishop Auckland.



**Go North East** currently have Mercedes Citaro demonstrator BX05UVZ on loan at Deptford. David Turner has been informed that it is likely that further withdrawn B6s will be sold to UK North imminently.

Tony Walshaw kindly clarifies the situation with MCW Metrobus JHE189W. It is owned by some sort of charity/community group and was used as such on Teesside for a fortnight, parking overnight at **Compass Royston's** depot.

**Northumbria Coaches** currently have some interesting auctions in progress on ebay. Perhaps the most surprising vehicle for sale (for ebay, anyway!) is MPD [10 \(W632RNP\)](#). Also for sale are unused Bova Futura [TIB2874](#) and (possibly ex Bell Bros, Spennymoor) Leyland Tiger / Plaxton [C807FMC](#)

**14/02/06**

Craig Bell reports that **Arriva North East** Leyland Olympian / ECW D198FYM has now turned up at Jesmond, still in red but converted to Single door - ready for repaint.

Peter Barclay kindly reports that **Redby, Sunderland** have two new Alexander Dennis Darts. They are MPD NK55RUV and longer NK55KBU. This may render ex Cleveland Transit Lynxes F604/5UVN redundant.

Tony Walshaw has provided an update on **Compass Royston, Stockton**. New is Setra S-416-GT-HD BX55FYK. Volvo B10M / Plaxton R512WDC, YIL1232 are being prepared for sale. Of the double deck stock, only Bristol VR / ECW BUH235V is currently stored. I have also received a report from James Stoker that an MCW Metrobus JHE189W has been noted on the premises and on the road locally.

**10/02/06**



Photo courtesy and © Robert Hall

It would appear that **Arriva North East** are gearing up for the take-over of Bishop Auckland with a variety of mid-life midibuses! Ray Barber reports that Volvo B6 / Plaxton L219/20/32/5TKA have come across from Arriva North West, while Robert Hall has kindly provided the above photos, noting the arrival of Dennis Dart / Plaxton J220/1HGY, J468OKP and Dennis Dart / Northern Counties L141YVK from Arriva Yorkshire.

Neil Wise has noted that **Proctors (Dales & Distict), Leeming Bar** now have Optare Solo W87DDW and Y256KNB ex Tyne Blue Line.



Photo courtesy and © Peter Nardone

Peter Nardone reports that **Atkinsons, Ingleby Arncliffe** now have ex Proctors Leyland Atlantean / East Lancs GFV153W, but are looking for a low height replacement.

**08/02/06**

Dave tells me that **Arriva Northumbria** Transbus Mini Pointer Dart 1799 (SF04RHA) today entered service at Blyth on the 441.



820-Tobersall - Bishop Auckland 28/12/98

**Go North East** have put updated information on the service transfers to Arriva at Bishop Auckland on their [website](#).

**06/02/06**



**Arriva North East** have now repainted MCW Metrobus 614 (GYE515W) into School Bus livery, meaning all three Metrobuses at Durham now wear this scheme. Alnwick's DAF SB220 / Ikarus 4083 (J926CYL) is currently working for Redcar. It is believed to be on loan - quite a long distance loan, it must be said!



As previously mentioned, **Stagecoach in Hartlepool** now have Leyland Olympian / Northern Counties 14668/76 (H668/76BNL). However, it should be noted that Alexander bodied 14639/48 (C639/48LFT) appear to remain available for use, parked up with the main fleet.

**05/02/06**

**Arriva Durham County** now have Metrorider 872 (M872LBB) back in use at Richmond and as a result sister 921 (R921JNL) has returned to Newcastle.



John Atkin kindly provides illustration of **Stagecoach on Teesside** Volvo Olympian / Alexander 16701 (N701LTN) recently acquired from Newcastle. Elliott Stuffsins has passed on a report that Leyland Olympian / Alexander 14184/6/614/7/48/61 (G184/6JHG, C614/7/48/61LFT) are off to Hull.



As illustrated in John Atkin's photos above **Alrite Travel, Middlesbrough** have now repainted their Volvo B6s into livery. These now perform the majority of Alrite's service mileage.

**03/02/06**

Jonathan Tweddle has noted what appears to be one of **Go North East's** new Volvo B7TL / Wright for the 724 on test around Washington, wearing a livery he describes as a mixture of the old and new schemes. Changes gleaned from the fleetlists on the Go North East [website](#) are as follows:

- Dennis Dart SLF / Caetano 8278/85/6 and DAF SB120 / Wright 8274 in service at Deptford
- Optare Deltas 4734/8 to Chester-le-Street ex Percy Main and Gateshead respectively
- DAF SB120 / Wright 8247 Deptford - Winlaton
- Mini Pointer Dart 520 Deptford - Chester-le-Street
- DAF SB220 / Plaxton 4867/8 Chester-le-Street - Stanley
- Volvo B10M / Plaxton 7075 Chester-le-Street - Driver Training
- Scania L94UB / Wright in service at Chester-le-Street
- Optare Delta 4739 removed from service
- Dennis Dart / Marshall 8095 Stanley - out of use

Additionally, I have been informed that Leyland Olympian / Alexander 3950 is now at Bishop Auckland, while the website lists the addition of 3951/2 (?? / H550PVW) to stock from Dublin Bus. David Oliver reports that Leyland Olympian / ECW is now with Countryliner, Guildford, as are ex **Northumbria Coaches** MAN 11.220 / Marshall R412/4XFL.

Alan Britton confirms that **Stagecoach in Darlington** now have Leyland Olympian / Northern Counties 14670 (H670BNL).

**02/02/06**



Robert Hall informs me that **Tyne Blue Line / Kimberley Coaches** have taken a number of vehicles previously with Palmers, Newcastle who appear to have ceased trading. Among these is Leyland Leopard / Plaxton TWH689T (looking rather fine as seen in Robert's photo above). Also in use on the X63 recently have been Volvo B7R / Plaxton S571KJF and Alexander Dennis Enviro 300 demonstrator SN54HXG.

**01/02/06**

It would appear that **Arriva North East** Dennis Dart SLF / Plaxton 1624 (S624KHN) has not gone to Arriva Scotland West, as both "H2O 55" and Lee-James Worsfold have reported it as now working for Redcar. It will be interesting to see if a DAF SB120 has gone north instead.

"Andrew7" reports that **Go North East** have transferred Dennis Dart / Marshall 8123 (N123WBR) to Bishop Auckland. Further Volvo B6s now with UK North in Manchester are Plaxton bodied 8404/11 (L404FVN, L411GPY) and Alexander bodied 8427/31 (M427/31RDC).

It would seem that **Stagecoach North East** Volvo Olympian / Alexander 16701-3 (N701-3LTN) are to replace Leyland Olympian / Northern Counties 14670/1/5 (H670/1/5BNL) to Darlington. Alan Britton Confirms that one such ex Stockton Leyland is now at Darlington.