

The Latest News - June 2006



26/06/06

"KV Tipple" and Craig Bell report that **Arriva Northumbria** now have DAF DB250 / Northern Counties R205CKO in service as 7448. This would appear to confirm that Bishop Auckland's R204CKO should be numbered 7447 rather than 7448.

21/06/06



Neil Wise has forwarded details from tonight's Northern Echo of further economies to be made by **Durham County Council**. I have summarised this [here](#). This is in sharp contrast to the success of Durham's Park and Ride service - see the relevant council [minutes](#)

Arriva Northumbria DAF DB250 / Northern Counties 7449 (R206CKO) is now in use at Ashington. Ian Wilso tells me that it has displaced Scania N113 / Northern Counties 7254 (M179LYP) to Durham and, in turn, Volvo Olympian / East Lancs 7426 (M690HPF) to Bishop Auckland.

Mark Gibbon has confirmed that **Arriva Tees & District** now have MPD 1744 (V744ECU) at Redcar permanently, in exchange for Metrorider 2635 (P635FHN).

Pulling together reports from Steven Hodgson, Paul Francis and Gary Mitchelhill, the known repaints into route specific colours at **Go North East**, it can be summarised that MPDs 555-60/2 now wear light blue, 519 wears white, 547 wears silver and 548-54 wear yellow. Details of the routes are now finding their way into the public domain, though which colours will be used for which routes is not known for certain.



Steven Hodgson has kindly provided the above photo of **Weardale's** tri-axle ex Hong Kong Olympian, now re-registered L666WMS and nearly ready for use.

17/06/06

Arriva Northumbria have now received DAF DB250 / Northern Counties 7449/52 (R206/9CKO) at Ashington. Both are now single door and wear Arriva turquoise - looking particularly smart with it!

An interesting acquisition by **Pygalls, Peterlee** is Setra NUI6664, which wears an unusual brown livery and "Europa Bus" vinyls.

In stock at **Scarlet Band, West Cornforth** is Mercedes 811D / Wright M274URC, following on from a Marshall bodied example.

11/06/06

A correction, courtesy of Craig Bell, is that **Arriva Durham County** Volvo B6 / Plazton 4540 is registered L231TKA and not as shown previously.

Bryn Mcgloin notes that **Arriva Tees & District** have had MPD 1744 (V744ECU) on loan from Stockton for some time now - could this be an early transfer of the vehicle that will be freed up by the withdrawal of the 567 Billingham - Sedgefield? Time will tell.

Tony Walshaw reports that **Compass Royston, Stockton** have withdrawn Leyland Fleetline / Alexander HSD85V and Leyland Atlantean / Roe AUP350W. There are currently no plans to withdraw the four remaining VRs MOU746R, PAG513/4/7W

04/06/06



It is now possible to illustrate **Arriva Northumbria** Leyland Olympian / ECW 7227 (C59CHM). Note the Southern Counties blinds!



Craig Bell kindly confirms the identity of **Stagecoach in Newcastle 22410** as NK06LUW. 22412 is not named, but the full list for the others is: - 22408 "Bubbles", 22409 "Bess the Express", 22410 "Sparkle", 22411 "Buster the Bus" and 22413 "Tootie Fruity".



Above are a few photos from today's Tyne Tees Run, including Leyland National FTN700W on it's way iinto Shaws livery and Go North East's recently converted driver training Optare Delta 4753.

03/06/06

Today saw the AGM of the [United Enthusiasts' Club](#) (I would encourage anyone with an interest in United, Northumbria, Arriva NE or Arriva Northumbria to join), hosted by the Engineering Director of **Arriva North East & Scotland**. It was revealed that the new buses for kickstart funded routes 518 (2x), 81 (1x) and X6 (4x) have yet to be ordered, but those for the X6 and 81 are likely to be Scania Omnicities and those for the 518, MPDs. This could, however, all change. Additionally, 12-22 Dennis Dart SLFs are expected from London in the Autumn, though some of these could, presumably, end up in Scotland. Other interesting sightings today, were of Scantias 274/6 (P274/6VRG) still parked up out of use at Ashington, with DAF DB250 / Northern Counties 7450 (R207CKO) over the pits there. Scania 7256 (N181OYN) is stored, untouched, at Blyth, alongside Lowlander 7440 (Y685EBR) which is also out of use. Optare Vecta 1510 (K510BHN) is now working at Loftus.

Dave P adds that **Go North East** MPDs 549/54 also now wear yellow. The reason is unknown, though it has now been confirmed that they are **NOT** leaving the North East.



Garry Luck has kindly provided the above photo of **Weardale's** ex Hong Kong Olympian. It was converted to single door and seated to 102 by Ensign. It is currently at Gardiners receiving some pannel work and is expected to return in 7-10 days. It will be based at the new (secure, undercover) Crook outstation for a Woosingham School contract.

02/06/06

Bryn McGloin and Lee-James Worsfold confirm that **Arriva Tees & District** have received MPD 1725 (V725DNL) at Redcar and that it was in use on the 64 today.



Richard Kennedy has kindly provided the above photos to illustrate some interesting **Go North East** snippets. A number of Deptford's MPDs have been reainted yellow (IIRC, Richard and Gary Mitchelhill have, between them, reported 548/50/2 in this scheme. Also MAN / Marcopolo Viale demonstrator PL05TCO is on loan.

01/06/06

Bryn McGloin reports that **Arriva Tees & District** have received MPD 1727 (V727DNL) at Redcar as planned (1725 not yet noted) and it has been working hard on service 81. Optare Vecta 1510 (K510BHN) remains in use at Redcar, while 1537 (L537FHN) has been operating at Loftus, where Alex Kennedy reports that sister 1534 (L534FHN) and DAF SB220GS / Ikarus 4075 (T75AUA) are both out of service.

Alex has also identified **Arriva Durham County** Volvo B6s 4539/40 as L225/3TKA.

Ebs Brown reports **Stagecoach in Newcastle** MANs 22408/9/11-3 as NK06LUR/T/Y/Z/P. The identity of 22410 will be reported when known. 22408-11 carry X47 vinyl livery modifications.

The **Go North East** [website](#) shows that Dennis Dart / Marshall 8118-20 (N118-20WBR) as having moved from Stanley to Deptford, jopined by Dennis Dart SLF / Caetano 8280 (T427LGP) fresh into service. Dennis Dart / Plaxton 8090-2/11/2 (M890-2GGB, M811/2HCU) are stood down, while Optare Metroriders 415/29 (P415/29VRG), Optare Delta 4743/6/7 (G743/6/7RTY) and Volvo B6 / Alexander 8419-21/4/30/4/5 (M419-21/4PVN, M430RDC, N670/1VUP) are all sold. Sold for preservation is Leyland National 2 4681 (UPT681V), of which there has been much recent discussion on [goaheadbusfans](#)



Neil Wise reports that **JSB, Coundon** have new Optare Solos MX06BSV/Y.