

The Latest News - September 2005



24/09/05

James Ingram has noted that **Arriva Tees & District** Volvo B10M / East Lancs 2872/3/5 (H923/5/17XYT) are now parked up at Redcar awaiting their fate. Optare Metrorider 2727 (M441HPF) has now left **Arriva Durham County**.

David Tuner has sadly informed me that his bid for **Arriva Northumbria** Leyland Olympian / ECW 7302 (C264XEF) was not successful. It will be interesting to see where it ends up.



Peter Barclay kindly brings some news from **Redby, Sunderland**. Added to stock are Leyland Olympian / ECW A653/7OCX in school bus yellow and Leyland Lynx II J380BWU.

It would appear that **Tees Valley's** latest VR VVV952W has replaced MCW Metrobus B145WUL. This was listed (and presumably sold) on ebay last week.

20/09/05

Mark Gibbon advises that **Arriva Teesside** have gained Optare Metrorider 883 (N883RTN) from Blyth. He also confirms that the swap of MPD 1719 (V719DNL) for DAF SB120 / Wright 1922 (W83PRG) and of DAF SB220GSs 4059 (R701KCU) and 4030 (R430RPY) have now occurred.



Scott Cooper reports that **Tees Valley, Redcar** have a second Bristol VR / ECW. This is familiar as it is another one-time Continental example, being VVV952W most recently with Ellie Rose, Hull.

19/09/05

Stuart Gray reports the latest Mercedes Vario / Plaxton for **Arriva Northumbria** as 2671 (R795DUB). Metroriders 881/2 (N881/2RTN) are now at Stockton, and the movements continue! For sale on [ebay](#) is Leyland National 9999 ex 9990 ex 90 (GOL399N ex GSU347). Also on [ebay](#) is former Leyland Tiger 1346 (C41CWT) now sporting a DAF badge and NI registration.



As of yesterday parts of Darlington Town Centre were pedestrianised. Above are a couple of pictures from the last day of normality.

Northumbria Coaches also have a vehicle for sale on [ebay](#), this being Optare Metrorider L735MWW.



Another vehicle in stock with **Tees Valley, Redcar** is Volvo B10M / Jonkherre GLZ3137.

Olive Little and Terry Wightman confirm that Dennis Lance L210YAG is indeed with **A-Line, Pelaw**. Terry adds that Dennis Dart / Plaxton L269ULX went in part-exchange for it. Olive adds that they also have an Optare Solo for service 6 Newcastle - Jesmond Vale, this being W291EYG.



Some buses with North East Connections at Showbus, yesterday, were former **Stagecoach on Teesside / Busways** Leyland Olympian / Alexander C652LFT, now with Wiltax, former **Go North East** Leyland Olympian / ECW B748GCN now with Cedric of Wivenhoe, former **Kingsleys, Birtlry** MCW Metroliner TJI1690 and (as spotted by neil wise) former **North East Bus** MCW Metrobus SDA832S (the one-time guided bus trialled at Stockton).

17/09/05

The remaining Mercedes Varios due for **Arriva Northumbria** from Arriva Cymru have started to arrive. Dave has reported S354PGA as 2665 and I believe there may now be a couple more. Five Metroriders are to move to Stockton (this being the remainder at Blyth, except 920 which goes to Bishop) and from there DAF SB220 / Plaxton 4031-4/49 (R431-4RPY, S349KHN) go to Bishop to see off Darts 1631-5 (S631-5KHN). This is well underway, with my sightings and reports from Andrew Tyldsley showing 4031-3 already at Bishop. There are a number of other more minor movements too – my fleet list will be updated soon! Withdrawn Tigers 214-6/8 (XSV691, YSU870-1, F189HKK) and Delta 4094 (G255UVK) are now stored at Ashington.

Stagecoach on Teesside have received another pair of Volvo Olympian / Northern Counties from Newcastle. They are 16433/7 (WLT528, 685DYE).

Noted on the Felling By-pass yesterday was Dennis Lance / Plaxton L210YAG in a red and white livery. This was one of those repaired after being written off by the floods in Carlisle and was expected to go to the Birmingham Bus & Coach Company. It was showing Scholars 425 as a destination – could this in fact be operating for **A-Line, Pelaw?**

14/09/05

A number of **Stagecoach in Newcastle** Mercedes 709 / Alexander are now stored at Stockton, comprising 40461/3/4/7/500/792 (N461/3/4/7/501RVK, N342KKH).

Neil Wise reports that **Stagecoach in Darlington** now have Dennis Dart / Plaxton 32748 (L748VNL) from Stockton.

Former **Go North East** Dennis Dart / Wright J944MFT has joined J633KCU with Bennett, Warrington.

08/09/05

Gary Mitchelhill has spotted that **Arriva Northumbria** now have Leyland Olympian / NCME 7279/83 (G756/60UYT) from Arriva Tees & District. If sister 7280 (G757UYT) has made a similar move, this will mean that Tees & District is now wholly single deck. Additionally, Ian Kennedy has noted Jesmond using MPD 1703 (V703DNL) ex Durham.

The **Go North East** [website](#) has been updated with all of the latest movements. Having studied the fleet list and allocation (together with some educated guesswork on the registrations of the loaned Olympians!) I can provide the following full list of movements (including those already reported):

Volvo Olympian/NCME: 3811/2 (S811/2FVK) BA-WN, 3828/9 (S828/9OFT) BA-GD, 3910 (R553LGH) SD-WL, 3911-3 (R269-71LGH) BA-WL, 3914 (R554LGH) SY-WL, 3916/36-8 (R274, 395-7LGH) BA-CL, 3917/8 (R556, 276LGH) SY-CL.

Volvo Olympian/ELCB: 3944-6 (R469/70/7RRA) Acquired-BA.

Leyland Olympian/Alexander: 3676 (G676TCN) reinstated-PM, 3947/8 (H481/5PVW) Acquired-BA.

Leyland Olympian/Northern Counties: 3955 (G528VBB) Acquired-SY.

Leyland Olympian/Roe: 9006 (UWW6X) on loan-BA.

Leyland Olympian/ECW: 3672/3 (C672/3LJR) reinstated-BA, 9024/65/258 (C24/65CHM, D258FYM) on loan-BA, 9046/9/56/79/230/85 (C46/9/56/79CHM, D230/85FYM) on loan-CL, 9150/247 (C50CHM, D247FYM) on loan-SY.

Optare Spectra: 3851-5 (K124/60PGO, K321-3FYG) CL-GD.

Dennis Trident/Plaxton: 3889 (NK51UCS) BA-PM.

MCW Metrobus: 3765 (C765OCN) CL-SY.

Volvo B10BLE/Wright: 4849 (R849PRG) GD-SY.

Scania L94UB/Wright: 4970 (NK53UNW) CL-GD.

Optare Sigma: 4783/4 (L483/4CFT) PM-SD.

Optare Delta: 4746/50 (G746RTY, G755HCU) CL-withdrawn.

Volvo B10B/Alexander: 4812 (L212KEF) SD-BA.

Dennis Dart / Plaxton: 8111-3 (M811-3HCU) CL-SY, 8114/5 (M814/5HCU) WN-withdrawn.

Dennis Dart / Marshall: 8101 (M811GFT) SY-CL.

Super Pointer Dart: 8158-61 (S358-61ONL) PM-GD, 8233 (X233FBB) WL-PM.

VDL SB120 / Wright: 8270-3 (NK54NKX/Z/LC/D) GD-PM.

Volvo B6 / Plaxton: 8402/4/7/10 (L402/4FVN, L407GDC, L410GPY) GD-withdrawn, 8411/2 (L411/2GPY) SD-withdrawn.

Volvo B6 / Alexander: 8413/4/6 (L413/4/6KEF) SY-withdrawn, 8417 (L417KEF) BA-withdrawn, 8418/33/4/5 (M418PVN, M433RDC, N670/1VUP) GD-withdrawn, 8430 (M430RDC) WL-GD, 8431 (M431RDC) WL-withdrawn.

Optare Metrorider: 413 (N413NTN) reinstated-BA.

Optare Solo: 457 (T457BNL) BA-WL.

06/09/05

Dave tells me that **Arriva Northumbria's** Blyth depot now has Mini Pointer dart 1728 (V728DNL) from Jesmond, with newer 1758 (NK53HJA) going the opposite way. It is understood that former Stockton 1759 (NK53VKA) may also be at Jesmond - presumably these are for service 74/75 Newcastle - Great Whittington. Metrorider 884 (N884RTN) has moved from Blyth to Ashington.



Richard Kennedy and Andrew Tyldsley have provided some highlights of some of the significant fleet movements at **Go North East** as a result of the new school year and contract changes. In use at Bishop Auckland are Volvo Olympian / East Lancs 3944/5/6 (R469/70/7RRA), Leyland Olympian / Alexander 3947/8 (H481/5PVW) and on-hire Leyland Olympian / Roe 9006 (UXX6X) and ECW bodied 9024 (C24CHM). Stanley are noted as having Leyland Olympian / ECW 9056/150/247 (C56/50CHM, D247FYM) on loan and G528VBB was noted there receiving attention. Stanley also have MCW Metrobus 3765 (C765OCN) from Chester. Optare Metrorider 413 (N413NTN) is reinstated at Bishop Auckland, Volvo Olympian / Northern Counties 3828 (S828OFT) moved from Bishop Auckland back to Gateshead, while 3911/2 (R269/70LGH) go up to Winlaton and 3812 (S812FVK) goes to Washington. Optare Sigma 4783 (L483CFT) moves from Percy Main to Deptford, displacing Volvo B10B / Alexander 4812 (L212KEF) to Bishop Auckland. Super Pointer Dart 8159 (S359ONL) moves from Percy Main to Gateshead, while Volvo B6 / Alexander 8430 (M430RDC) joins Gateshead from Winlaton. Additionally David Turner reports the withdrawal of Volvo B6 / Plaxton 8401-9 (L401-4FVN, L405-8GDC, L409GPY) and Volvo B6 / Alexander 8415/6/8/23/5/9/31-5 (L415/6KEF, M418/23/5PVN, M429/31-3RDC, N670/1VUP).

Neil Wise reports some additional vehicles in the fleet of **Tees Valley Coaches** (I think the word luxury has been dropped). They are MCW Metrobus B145WUL and Leyland Leopard / Plaxton NHL259X.

Gavin Miller kindly gives the correction that Leyland Atlantean / Alexander AVK149V is in fact part of the **Abbey Coaches** fleet. He adds that it is a particularly good example.

04/09/05



Arriva Durham County MCW Metrobuses 604/22 (KYV646X, A973SYF) are now in school bus yellow. Neil Wise tells me that the following movements were due this weekend as Richmond became a minibus only depot. MPD 1717 (V717DNL) has gone to Blyth, with Metroriders 887/98 (N887RTN, P57XTN) coming the other way. DAF SB220 / Ikarus 4085 (J931CYL) has gone to Peterlee, while sister 4087 (J414NCP), Optare Delta 4022 (L422FHN) and Leyland Olympian / Alexander 7271 (L271FVN) have gone to Darlington, the latter replacing Leyland Olympian / ECW 7266 (CWR519Y). DAF SB220 / Ikarus 4089 (J930CYL) and Optare Delta 4096 (G257UVK) have gone to Redcar, where they are expected to see off the remaining deckers.



Richard Kennedy and John Hart have kindly supplied details and the above photos of the new **Stagecoach in Newcastle** AlexanderDennis Enviros that have now entered service. They are 27506-10 (NK05JXE-J). Noted on City Sightseeing work is MCW Metrobus 15901 (BYX241V).



A vehicle not previously noted with **JSB, Coundon** is Mercedes 709 / Plaxton L635VCV.



Former **Go North East** Dennis Dart / Wright J633KCU is now with Bennets, Warrington.



Leven Valley's two new Optare Solos T27/8BXG are now in service and feature Cummins engines.

An additional vehicle in stock with **Alrite, Middlesbrough** is Iveco 59-12 / Marshamm N661OFE.

01/09/05

Marty B tells me that **Tees Valley Coaches, Redcar** have Bristol VR / ECW VDV117S - which previously operated for Continental (owned by the same proprietor).

Richard Smiles kindly provides an update on the **Leven Valley** Optare Solos. They are expected to enter service between now and Saturday.