

21 Stockton passenger ferries¹

Passenger ferries

The first reference found was a newspaper clipping of 1882 referring to Hugh Boyce who “8 or 9 years prior”² had started the service with “Bluebell” which sank in 1934. There is a reference to a ferry run by Kelly in 1914³.

There were also two passenger services until 1939 run by private operators. Fares in 1935 were 2d for adults, 1d for children with weekly tickets available. In 1939 a new ferry “Stockton” commenced (which when retired in 1978 became a floating restaurant). Later vessels included the “Thomas H Walker”, “Edith Walker”, “Newcastle-on-Hunter”, “John H Walker” and “Arthur G Walker”, the firm being owned by Sid Walter

In 1942 pensioners were carried at half rates and there were concessions for bulk purchases as well as a combined ferry/private bus rate of 1d less than aggregated fares (from 3d to 7d). The *Newcastle Herald* 8.5.47 reported free buses replacing the ferry for 10 months.

The service was later sold to Gordon Davey (of Hawkesbury River Ferry Service). The last passenger ferry, the “Edith Walter” run by private operator Gordon Davey ran on 7 July 1982. A bus service provided by Sid Fogg replaced it.

First Stockton vehicular ferry started by PWD “Mildred” 1916. 1930 taken over by DMR. “Kooroongaba”, “Lurgurena” 1945, “Koondooloo” 1950.

The first ferry operated by the UTA commenced on 24 November 1983⁴, operated by the Ferry Division of the UTA/STA in Sydney. The present ferries- Shortland & Hunter- were introduced as part of the Bicentennial Celebrations in 1988. Automatic Fare Collection (AFC) came in 1992 and the name was changed to Newcastle Buses & Ferries in 1994, an adult single trip now costing \$1.80 (concession 90c) and an all day pass (including buses costing \$7.60 (concession \$3.80). TravelPass for bus & ferry or bus, ferry & train are also available. From 1997 (and possibly 1992) AES dip tickets were used, and in 2008 the daily bus ticket is also valid and the Pet ticket is the light blue “date of issue” type. In 2008 tickets are purchased from one newsagency and from crew on board and there are 2 green machines on board the “Shortland”. Orange weekly TravelPasses are also valid on the ferry and yellow and pink also on the train. Quarterly and yearly versions are also available.

ET 7/1984 shows a pic of Newcastle passenger ferry machine dispensers for 30c and 65c tickets. The Stockton service ceased 7/7/82 and was recommenced by UTA 2/2/83.

For combined private bus/ferry tickets see Sid Fogg & Sons in Part 1.

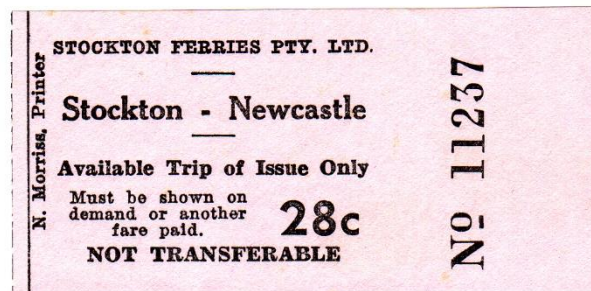
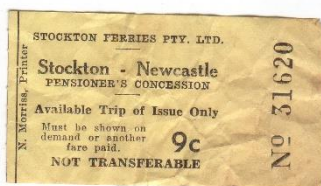
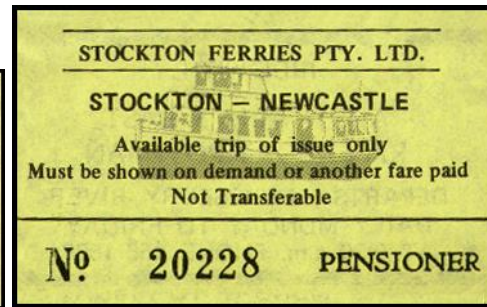
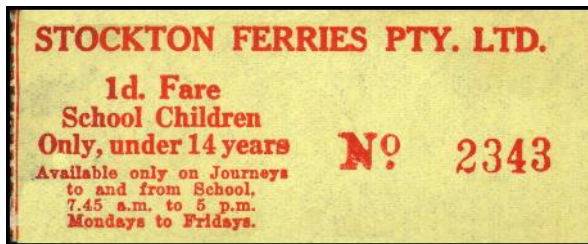
¹ Based on articles in *The Newcastle Morning Herald* and reports for the Newcastle City Council in 1935 and 1942 in the local history collection of Newcastle City Library. There was also a vehicular punt at Hexham (till replaced by a bridge) but this never levied a toll.

² Actually from 1853, with a steam ferry from 1869.

³ For Kelly’s ferry in 1914 do a www search.

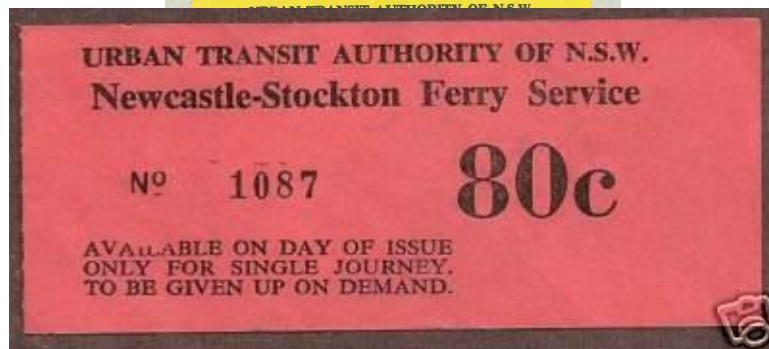
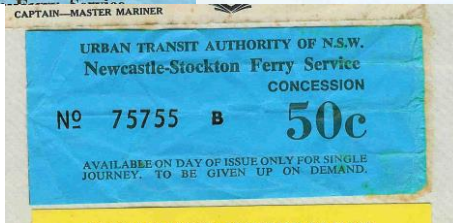
⁴ Dept. records (Ross Willson) say t/over 2.2.83.

*Passenger ferry
Stockton Ferries Ltd*



Dept. records (supplied by Ross Willson) indicate UTA took over 2.2.83.

UTA

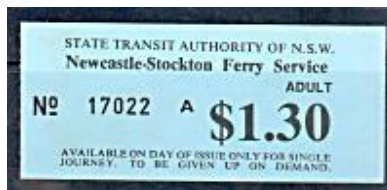


also 65c

UTA Machine issued



STA



Newcastle Ferry services




(2008)

Adult single “AF” (AH-AW), concess single “CF” (CG-CP), adult time “TA” (TA), conc time “TC” (TC)

A Fogg’s Motor Service & ferry combined ticket is also known (1950s?).

The operator formerly known as Newcastle Buses & Ferries has been rebranded. From 2015 the ferries are simply shown as “Stockton Ferries”. The buses are now branded “NSW Transport- Buses”. From January 2016 only single trip (adult & concession) tickets used plus Opal Card. From 1.7.17 Newcastle Buses became privatized as “Newcastle Transport”. Only Opal cards and Pakeon single trip paper tickets are issued.

Newcastle Ferry Services



CP49333


Ticket must be inserted into the green machine each time you board. Valid for date, time period and travel mode as printed on the reverse of this ticket.

Concession fares valid with N.S.W. Half Fare Concession Card, Railways of Australia Student Card, Pensioner, Seniors Card and for children under 16. Current Pass must be shown to obtain entitlement.

Ticket is rendered invalid if bent, folded or damaged.

Subject to the N.S.W. Transport Administration Act 1988.

CONCESSION SINGLE TRIP



G.S.T INCL.

FOR INFORMATION PHONE 131 300

ADULT STOCKTON
F02 00 30JUN16 13:23 5041
NO RIDES LEFT