

For nearly 8 years we possessed a Laika 7r which I always described as the most practical van for our purposes and which we had personalised to such an extent that we couldn't think what else to improve on – maybe that was the problem, because I hit 70, got my driving medical as the Laika was over 3.5 tons and then decided to change the van. Maybe there were some bugs at the back of the brain saying “...it's getting older, you're getting older, you're health may deteriorate, it's over 3.5 tons which does give you some access and speed restrictions, etc...”, or maybe it was just a 'senior moment'! Anyway we changed it for a Burstner, which we like very much and are now in the process of adjusting us to it and it to us. To all 7r owners I can still say you've got a fantastic practical van. Meantime, for them also, I've got for sale a couple of Fiamma boxes which fit on a purpose made rack on the wind out rack which accommodated our fold up bikes. Kept them out of site and free from traffic and road dirt. Anyone interested can contact me at [doug.harries@ntlworld.com](mailto:doug.harries@ntlworld.com). The items are located in Swansea. I could of course sell the rack separately but I thought it would be more useful for a 7r owner or any other van with the same wind out rack to be offered the job lot first – and it's better from my point of view! I've also got a couple of Powabyke folding electric bikes for sale, don't know whether they fit in the boxes because we used different bikes since I fixed the Fiamma boxes. Finally, I've also got the original omnistor awning off the van which I'd changed for a Fiamma with the proper Laika/Fiamma brackets as there was not enough clearance above the door. That'll be cheap as it has a few marks and scratches.



Why am I still in the Laika Club may you ask having changed to a Burstner? Well, I've only been to one rally many moons ago in Knutsford, but we did find the Laika crowd a very friendly lot and I enjoy reading the newsletter – unfortunately our travels don't seem to fit in with the location of the rallies and we tend to travel with established friends. Maybe the Burstner Club are a friendly lot too, but they want £20 a year to keep their acquaintance!! By the way, you may see the nose of a 1969 Citroen Dyane in the photo – that's coming up for sale. It's French registered and located in France! Any Citroen fans interested? If so let me know by email.