

Information about 222 - GTR 484

New to: Southampton Corporation Transport **Built in:** 1951

Registration No.: GTR 484 Fleet No.: 222

Chassis: Guy Arab MK III Bodywork: Park Royal H30/26R

Engine: Gardner 6LW 8.4 Litres **Body No.:** 33139 **Chassis No.:** FD70174

- This bus, No. 222 entered service on 1st July 1951 and remained in service for exactly 20 years until withdrawn in early 1971.
- The Guy Arab Mk III was the standard Southampton Corporation Transport double decker of the 1950s. 150 were purchased between 1948 and 1954, and were numbered 104 243 and 64 73.
- They were fitted with Gardner 6LW engines developing 112 bhp. All had Park Royal H30 / 26R bodies.
- On delivery they were painted Cherry Red with County Cream relief. The roofs were painted grey, and the rain shields over the windows were red. At the first repaint the roofs were finished in aluminium, and the rain shields in cream.
- It was sold to a disc jockey from London, for preservation after being offered for sale in summer 1971. For many years it lived at Sheffield Park Station, the southern terminus of the Bluebell Railway in West Sussex.
- The bus remained at Sheffield Park Station for many years until it was severely damaged by fire in December 1991. It was then removed to another location where it was stored undercover. After many years it was decided to sell the bus, it was purchased by a local dealer in the Southampton area. It was stored at Barton Park, Eastleigh for a short time before being bought by members of S&DTHT in early 2013.
- It was towed to South Eastern Coachworks, Faversham in July 2013, where restoration work was carried out to return the bus to near the as delivered condition. In November 2016, 222 returned to Hampshire via Sheffield Park Station.
- After many years of work on Saturday 9th June 2018, 222 obtained an M.O.T certificate. On the same day, it returned to the streets of Southampton for the first time in over 30 years for a demonstration run.