

Information about 64 - FTR 511

New to: Southampton Corportation Transport **Built in:** 1949

Registration No.: FTR 511 Fleet No.: 64

Chassis: Guy Arab MK III Bodywork: Park Royal O30/26R

Engine: Gardner 6LW 8.4 Litres **Body No.:** 32957 **Chassis No.:** FD36019

- This bus entered service with the Southampton Corporation Transport Department as No. 164 on 6th March 1949 as part of a fleet of tramway replacement vehicles. It was allocated to the Department's Shirley Depot.
- In April 1966, it was converted to open top configuration together with No. 167 of the same type which followed in May 1967. Both were used on Town and Docks Tours, replacing Mark II Guy Arabs No. 33 DTR 460 and 35 DTR 462 which had been operating these tours since 1955.
- On 1st April 1972, this bus was renumbered 64 so as not to be confused with the first batch of Leyland Atlantean AN68 buses which were due to be delivered later in that year with fleet numbers in the series nos. 162 EOW 395 to 171 EOW 404L.
- The Southampton City Transport Enthusiasts 7164 Group was formed in 1976, and got its name from the first two buses it secured for preservation; Guy No. 71 and this bus No. 64. In 1980, 64 was officially withdrawn from passenger service but was still used by the 7164 Group.
- The transport department continued to own them throughout that period and both buses became part of the new S&DTHT in 2001 and are still owned by Southampton City Council.
- The main claim to fame of this popular vehicle is that following the F.A Cup Final win by Southampton Football Club No. 64 was employed to take the winning team on a full circuit of the City in celebration on Sunday 2nd May 1976.
- 40 years later, on Sunday 1st May 2016, a group of surviving football players from 1976 were taken on a shortened tour of the City Centre to mark the occasion.