

RMC 1477

This "Routemaster Coach" (RMC) 57 seat vehicle was delivered to **London Transport's Country area**, painted green (as per photograph right), and fitted with an AEC engine.

These coaches were built with electric rear doors rather than an open platform. They also sported more luxurious features such as rear air suspension, a faster top speed, fluorescent lighting, hand luggage racks, twin headlamps, and a more spacious interior with deeper seat cushions.

During the 1960s it was used to run Green Line routes, based at Guildford (for route 715 to and from Hertford), then Windsor, and finally Harlow garages. There was an overhaul (involved fitting the vehicle with different body B1456) at Aldenham Works, Hertfordshire in 1967. The livery was adjusted at this time.

In January 1970 the bus passed to **London Country**, still at Harlow, as part of the then newly formed National Bus Company. It later worked for them at Dartford, Grays and Reigate garages. A second overhaul was undertaken in 1973, retaining the same body.



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The photograph, left, shows the bus in the lighter NBC green at Epsom in September 1978.

Withdrawn from service the next month, it was sold back to **London Transport** and used as a driver trainer for ten years, still green. This included being based at Victoria, Hammersmith, Battersea, Westbourne Park, Wandsworth, Hounslow, Stockwell, Putney and Merton garages. Additional indicator lights and controls were installed inside for the instructor.

Used by **Greenpeace** for a couple of years from 1991, painted red, it is reputed a large plastic dolphin protruded through the roof to attract publicity. After it grounded being driven off a ferry, **Shaftesbury and District** repaired the bus, re-installed seats and painted it back to green. It then passed to **Blue Triangle** for a couple more years.

Mr Hobson preserved the bus in 1996 and restored it to original condition, with new upholstery and rexine, luggage racks re-instated, and a larger 11.3 litre AEC engine.

Timebus purchased the bus in July 2005, for private hires and excursions. It was painted in our red (with grey outlining) livery, fitted with a public address system and marketed as a Routemaster Express (being equivalent to our front entrance RMA type). In December 2018 it was put up for sale.

Please contact Timebus if you would like to hire a similar 1960s era London bus.



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ABOUT THIS BUS

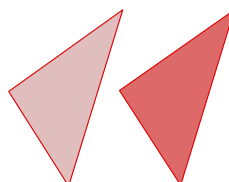
New: September 1962

Number plate: 477 CLT

Seats: 57

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