

13th MISSION IMPOSSIBLE

rebuilding it with a big bore kit to take the engine capacity up to a smidgeon short of 1800cc, or 110 cubic inches if you prefer, while the stock cylinder heads were replaced by a set of Screamin' Eagle heads that come as part of the hop-up kit. Right at the very top of the engine, the distinctive Twin Cam rocker covers were canned in favour of Pan-style replacements from Covington Customs in the States. Where the power plant is concerned, the final flourish was to create a nifty, one-off 2-into-2 exhaust system fabricated, like so much of the bike, in-house at SS&C.

The unusual, mean-looking paintwork is the handiwork of Tom Fuller and the guys at Image Design Custom in Camberley, a highly regarded outfit that's the first port of call whenever an SS&C project requires a lick or two of lacquer. This particular job actually evolved from the ideas of the customer who'd commissioned the build. Apparently, he'd been inspired by a New York artist who'd gained some degree of fame – or notoriety – with his work, carving 'awesome' designs from and into leather. The guy made it into some of the most prestigious art galleries in the world, it seems (though I didn't read anything about it in the Daily Mirror...). Back at Image Design Custom, layers of satin black paint were generously applied to the surfaces of the petrol tank and the rear mudguard, which was then carefully carved away with a scalpel to create the stunning underlaid images of skulls that the customer had asked for. In the event, said customer was absolutely delighted with the results, and you can see why, even though Steve maintains that the designs can only truly be appreciated when seen in the flesh.

And if the anonymous customer wasn't already pleased as punch with his new acquisition, once he'd got it back home to the Isle of Man, the bike promptly went out and won 'Best In Show' awards at a couple of not insignificant custom bike shows. In the minds of Steve and the rest of the team at Shaw Speed & Custom, 'Mission Impossible' could justifiably now be called – amongst themselves, at least – 'Mission Accomplished.'

Now, I know I shall hate myself forever for this, but I can't resist it, I'm afraid;

"This message will self destruct in thirty seconds..."



words: **STU**
photos: **COURTESY of SHAW SPEED & CUSTOM**



SPECIFICATIONS:

MAKE/MODEL:
2010 Harley-Davidson Rocker C.

ENGINE:
110 cu in (1800cc) Harley-Davidson Twin Cam V-twin, H-D Screamin' Eagle big bore barrels, H-D Screamin' Eagle cylinder heads, Covington Customs Panhead-style rocker covers, Roland Sands Design finned aluminium timing cover, aftermarket aluminium H-D pushrod tubes and anodised hydraulic lifter block covers, RSD

carburettor air cleaner, one-off high level 2-into-2 exhaust system and anodised heat shields by Shaw Speed & Custom, 6-speed H-D gearbox, Performance Machine transmission cover, PM hydraulic clutch unit, belt primary drive.

FRAME:
Modified Harley-Davidson Rocker C softail.

FRONT END:
Harley-Davidson V-Rod VRSCF Muscle titanium nitrided

upside-down forks, red anodised fork uppers, Roland Sands Design 7/14-spoke Black Ops wheel, Avon AM20 tyre, single 6-pot anodised Performance Machine brake caliper, RSD Black Ops floating disc, braided stainless brake line, clip-on handlebars, RSD handlebar grips, Performance Machine brake and clutch master cylinders, PM switchgear, V-Rod Muscle headlight.

REAR END:
Ricks softail-style swinging arm, uprated shocks, 18" Roland Sands Design 7/14-spoke Black Ops wheel, 300/35 x 18" Metzeler ME880 Marathon tyre, single red anodised 4-pot Performance Machine brake caliper, RSD Black Ops left-side brake disc, braided

stainless brake line, offset RSD belt final drive pulley and cover, belt-driven final drive jackshaft, modified Ricks mudguard, one-off mudguard supports.

MISCELLANEOUS:

One-off stretched petrol tank with flush-fitting pop-up filler cap by Shaw Speed & Custom, one-off rigid-mount hand-stitched solo seat by SS&C, one-off dummy 'radiator grill' by SS&C housing re-located oil tank, battery tray and electrics, Goodridge braided stainless oil lines, anodised oil line fittings, anodised Performance Machine forward control assemblies.

PAINT AND FINISH:

Satin black paintwork and graphics by Image Design Custom, Camberley (01276 709319).

