

HOT HOGS

KINGS OF CUSTOM

Take a Sportster XL 1200 Forty-Eight, set a budget of £15,000 and challenge the country's Harley dealers to come up with something truly special. They did

By Ped Baker
MANAGING EDITOR

Earlier this year Harley-Davidson UK ran a competition with its dealers to customise a Sportster XL 1200X Forty-Eight on a limited budget. When complete, the bike had to retail for no more than £15,000 including the original £9270 price of the stock bike plus all custom parts, paint and labour. Judging for the 'King of Custom' competition was half by public vote and half by a selected expert panel, including MCN. As the competition also stipulated that half of the £3000 parts budget had to be spent on official Harley accessories we were expecting the bikes to look very similar. How wrong we were...



3rd The Clubman Builder: Steven C Willis

Inspiration
It's a café racer, but to the next level with a twist of modern and urban aimed at all ages of rider. The theme of the machine follows the café racer culture and respects it but also moves the genre on a few steps. Shaw's signature paint style is always recognisable and suits this style of bike the most.

Build highlights
A Roland Sands fuel tank sets the stance of the machine with its profile visually lowering and stretching the silhouette of the Clubman. The custom Tig welded stainless exhaust draws the eye to the rear of the machine, again making the bike appear longer than it is. The chain drive conversion is another Shaw's trademark modifications. The diamond stitch seat, air cleaner and headlamp grille are all by Taiwanese company Rough Crafts.

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Headlight grille is by Taiwanese specialist Rough Crafts



Custom exhaust beneath the Roland Sands fuel tank

SPECIFICATION: DARK CUSTOM TIMING COVER | NOSTALGIC HANDLEBAR GRIPS (BLACK) | H-D REAR SHOCK BOLT COVERS (BLACK) | H-D FINNED HEAD BOLT BRIDGE COVER | H-D SMOKED INDICATOR LENSES | H-D TEXTURED BLACK DERBY COVER & INSPECTION COVER | SCREAMIN' EAGLE EFI SUPER TUNER | H-D FORK GAITERS | H-D UPPER FORK BRACKET | H-D TURN SIGNAL RECESS COVER | H-D CHECK VALVE | H-D FUEL FILTER KIT | HARLEY-DAVIDSON REGULATOR | SHAW SPEED & CUSTOM HANDMADE EXHAUST | SHAW SPEED & CUSTOM LICENCE PLATE HOLDER | CUSTOM PAINT BY IMAGE DESIGN CUSTOM UK | RSD SPEEDO MOUNT | COKER TYRES | HANDMADE SINGLE SEAT IN DIAMOND STITCH | AFTERMARKET GAS TANK | AFTERMARKET AIR BREATHER | AFTERMARKET CLIP-ON BARS

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1st Warr's Urban Racer Sprint

Builder/Designer: **Charlie Stockwell**
HEAD OF DESIGN AND CUSTOM WARR'S, LONDON

Inspiration
The Urban racer is a Homage to a 1000cc XLCH Fred Warr rode at the Ramsgate Sprint in 1960. With straight-through pipes, flipped bars and a bigger main jet, Fred won his class beating many a fully blown Vincent.

Build highlights
Warr's own single seat unit and exhaust give the bike the right shape and stance and they're Warr's off-the-shelf parts so replicating the look is both easy and

cost effective. The unpainted fibreglass seat unit costs just £150 (with carbon fibre and metal versions available). A complete 2-1 exhaust starts at £650. The modified fuel tank is from a 883N sportster with petrol pipe unions grafted on the side and connected by clear pipe acting as a fuel gauge. Öhlins Black line shock absorbers have been developed with Warr's and are launched this summer through Öhlins dealers.

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A Harley with Öhlins? We can't wait to ride Warr's machine



Cool sight-glass replaces the standard fuel gauge

SPECIFICATION: FUEL TANK FROM 883N | SCREAMIN' EAGLE AIR FILTER | H-D DARK CUSTOM AIR FILTER COVER/INSERT | H-D DARK CUSTOM DERBY COVER | H-D BURST COLLECTION HAND GRIPS & FOOTPEGS | COMPACT SPORT WIND DEFLECTOR | BLACK DAY MAKER HEADLAMP | SPLIT 7-SPOKE BLACK FRONT BRAKE DISC | 883N FORK BOOTS | WARR'S URBAN RACER 2-1 STAINLESS EXHAUST | WARR'S URBAN RACER SEAT UNIT | ÖHLINS BLACKLINE REAR SHOCKS | CAM COVER MACHINED TO WARR'S RACING TRIM | CUSTOM PAINT BY IMAGE DESIGN CUSTOM | RELOCATED REAR LIGHTS/TURN SIGNALS | SIDE-MOUNTED NUMBER-PLATE BRACKET

2nd King Slayer Builder/Designer: Joe Parkinson

AFTERSALES ADVISOR MAIDSTONE HARLEY-DAVIDSON

Inspiration
Bobber inspired but with a very modern twist. The shape and proportions are intended to compliment each other from any angle. The raised tank, re-fabricated fenders and higher-placed headlight give an already short and stocky machine a more aggressive look and the black and gold paint gels the whole bike together.

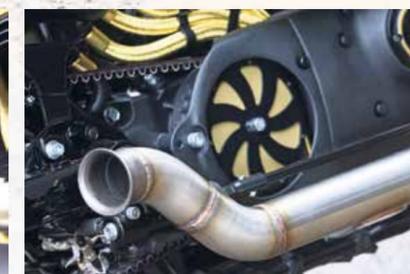
headlight mounting is made from an offcut from a pair of old Hollywood style handlebars and parts from a foot-peg. The front sprocket cover has been shaped and a plate fitted to the sprocket with a design that matches the Harley Machette Ice wheels. The bespoke exhaust was made by local firm T&S engineering. Maidstone HD supplied the headers and the design, T&S did the rest. Image Design Custom applied the paint including the EMD 'Ribster' primary casing.

Build highlights
Despite the bespoke appearance, many of the parts on the King Slayer are cleverly modified Harley items. The

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Black and gold theme runs throughout the King Slayer



This beauty is T&S engineering's first-ever exhaust

SPECIFICATION: 883 IRON FRONT FORK LOWERS | H-D RIGID BOBBER SINGLE SEAT | H-D BURST GRIPS (CUSTOM PAINTED) | STOCK FRONT AND REAR FENDERS RESHAPED | STOCK BELT GUARD RESHAPED | H-D DARK CUSTOM #1 TIMER COVER (CUSTOM PAINTED) | H-D MACHETE WHEELS | H-D MACHETE REAR SPROCKET | STOCK COIL AND SPEEDO REFRABRICATED AND RELOCATED | H-D BLACK AXLE COVERS | H-D PIVOT BOLT COVERS | STOCK HEADLIGHT MOUNTED ON CUSTOM MADE BRACKETS | H-D FLUSH-MOUNTED FUEL CAP | STOCK ENGINE COMPONENTS AND BRAKE DISCS REPAINTED | STOCK FRONT SPROCKET COVER CUSTOM SHAPED WITH ILLUSION PLATE FITTED | CYCLE KRAFT LED BRASS TAIL LIGHT | LOWBROW CUSTOMS FORK SHROUDS (ALTERED TO SUIT STYLING) | LOWBROW CUSTOMS BRASS FORK CAPS | HEADLIGHT GRILL | EMD PRIMARY CASING | ONE-OFF EXHAUST SYSTEM BY T&S ENGINEERING | PROGRESSIVE SUSPENSION REAR SHOCKS | PASSCHBURG UNID WUNDERLICH INDICATORS (X4) | RSD BRASS FOOTPEGS | DRAG SPECIALTIES RETRO AIR FILTER | ONE-OFF PAINT SCHEME DESIGNED BY MSHD AND APPLIED BY IMAGE DESIGN CUSTOM LTD | RETRO COKER REPRO FIRESTONE TYRES