

It's a proper chopper (I think it's all over)

It's April Fools Day, Maff has been in hospital having his cartilage done but he's getting over it very quickly and the re assembly is going well



Every day parts come back for him to bolt on. I collected the seat today and visited Tim the Artist. A green base coat with a fine gold flake has been sprayed over the bodywork. It's now been covered with a layer of masking tape and most of the pictures have been drawn onto it. I'll go back in a couple of weeks when it should be finished.

Well I couldn't wait that long but I did manage ten days and this is what I got



Tim's work is superb, He's done a lot of Flames in overlapping layers and ghosted skulls just lately but he said that this was the most intricate painting the he's ever done on a bike before. When you look at it you notice all the shadows that he has painted underneath the chips to lift them off the surface. The roulette wheel is awesome. I wanted to take the tape off the tank to see what he'd done to that but I'll have to wait, DAMN.

There's just a little finishing off and then it's polishing and lacquering.

There's seven days to the show, I've got everything back from Tim and I'm at Maff's. Realistically I need the bike back a couple of days before that, so, there's only FIVE days left!!



Maff said “I need to make a small bracket for this and one for that” Bearing in mind that to him everything starts off as a lump of billet or stainless that has to be machined for hours and then sent to “Griffs” for even more hours of polishing, We have five days, Maff’s parting words were “ I can do a lot in the final hour”.

Two days to go and I’ve gone to Maff’s to pick it up but it’s not quite finished. It’s just a couple of hours away and Maff says “I can’t get the engine as clean as I want it so I ‘ve got a pal coming over tonight to airbrush it silver”. He has an answer for everything and I don’t mind if it takes two days, I can collect it on the way to the show.

However, next day it’s done



There’s only enough time to ride it up and down the road before I put it in the van and load up everything for the show but I don’t care, It’s done on time.

Next day we’re at the show and its mounted centrepiece on our stand, which has 35 bikes on it this year. On the Sunday morning we went into the main hall to find a black and gold rosette pinned to it.



I didn't set out to build a "show bike" and it isn't, it's a "road bike" and I'll be riding it to VSOC events throughout the season and to many more for years to come. Maff, Nick and Tim have taken me way beyond what I wanted to achieve and for that I'm very grateful. I may end up with less money to spend when I retire but a lot more memories to live on!!

LIVE THE LIFE YOU'VE GOT LEFT

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