

# WESTBOUND Train



**TAKE A NIGHTRAIN, ADD WESTSIDE CUSTOM STYLE, THEN ENJOY ALL THE ATTENTION...**

**WORDS DOC PICS LEITH COWAN**

**O**n May 26, 1927, Henry Ford watched the fifteen millionth Model T Ford roll off his assembly line. It was of course black, just like the fourteen million, nine hundred and ninety-nine thousand before it. Because as everyone knows, Henry famously said, "Any

customer can have a car painted any colour that he wants so long as it is black." Which he did say, but he sort of lied, because in the first years of production from 1908 to 1914, the Model T was not available in black but rather only grey, green, blue, and red.

This of course, was a relief to the motoring journalists of the day. Imagine trying to write about one black car after another after another. Oops. What





## GUTS &amp; BOLTS

**ENGINE**

Capacity: 960  
 Bore: 3.75/95.25mm  
 Stroke: 4.38/111.26mm  
 Compression: 9.2:1  
 Fuel system: Electronic Sequential  
 Port fuel injection  
 Air cleaner: Eddy Cycles  
 Exhaust: Eddy Cycles

**TRANSMISSION**

Type: H-D 6-speed  
 Primary drive: H-D  
 Rear drive: H-D belt

**FRAME & SUSPENSION**

Type: FKS1B  
 Fork: Stock  
 Front: Mean Street 56mm inverted  
 Trikes: 3  
 Rear: Fournales  
 Seat: Westside Custom

**WHEELS & TYRES**

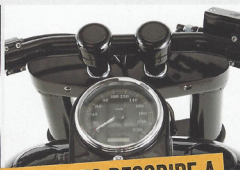
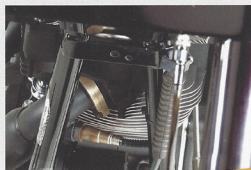
Rims: H-D  
 Tyre: Avon 120/70-21  
 Avon 220/60-15  
 P bike: H-D/DH  
 R brake: H-D Drive Side/H

**CONTROLS**

Bars: Eddy Cycles  
 Gas tank: Eddy Cycles  
 Grips: Eddy Cycles  
 Levers: Jay Brake & Sprock  
 Footpegs: H-D  
 Speeds: H-D  
 Headlight: SIP  
 Taillight: Heartland

**GUARDS & FINISH**

R guard: RWD  
 R guard: Heartland  
 Tires: H-D  
 Paint: Jet Black



## "SANO WAS A TERM ADOPTED ... TO DESCRIBE A PARTICULARLY CLEAN (SANITARY) CUSTOM JOB."

am I saying? Here I go again, writing yet another black Harley-Davidson. But that's okay, 'cos some bikes are just meant to be as black as the midnight sky. Let others go for candy-assed Easter egg bikes with sparkling stripes, colourful murals and scintillating graphics. Black will do me anytime.

As it will obviously do for Ivan, owner of this coalsaurus custom. And if you think I just made that word up, check out the Urban Dictionary for yourself. Like the baby bear's porridge, black is just right for this ride, which was masterfully put together by Shane from Perth's Westside Custom Cycles, a young man going places very rapidly in the customising world.

Apparently the brief from Ivan was simple, he wanted it low, dark and clean. Well hell, I reckon Shane nailed that one pretty well to perfection. Any darker and Ivan wouldn't be able to find it in a pub car park at night, any lower and it would scrape too much in the twisties and any cleaner and we'd be resorting to words like sano in

describing it. Not that the latter would be a bad thing.

You see "sano" was a term adopted by California Kar Culture in the 1960s to describe a particularly "clean" (sanitary) custom job. It is rarely used now, which, oddly enough, probably makes it cool again. Or so says the aforementioned Urban Dictionary. Whatever, enough about motoring history, slang terminology and other ramblings, let's get right down to it.

The motor. Not much to say about that as it is stock as a rock. Well apart from an Eddy Cycles air cleaner and Eddy Cycles exhaust. And there ain't a dang thing wrong with that neither as the Night Train's 1594cc Twin Cam 96B balanced engine gets up and goes pretty damn smartly once you let it breathe, putting out 84.80hp/lbs of torque at 3200rpm (114.99NM at 3200rpm).

And in case you think that in choosing not to hot up his engine at this stage, means that Ivan is some newbie pussy with a limp wrist, you'd better think again 'cos among the bikes he's owned we find a Ducati 999 and a Ducati Monster 1000. No flukes, here's a bloke who has experienced serious horse-

power and speed, nowadays choosing to sit back a bit and cruise around looking as cool as ice on this black steed. And maybe earn some points back on his licence. I'm guessing here.

Up front, a stylish set of Mean Street 56mm inverted forks, black of course, runs a three degree over stock race, while bum comfort is assured with Fournales shock absorbers doing their usual first class job at the rear. Rolling duties up front are courtesy of a spoked wheel measuring some 21in x 3.5in with gloss black rim, matte black spokes and hub. And a DNA rotor rotates, until the Havg Halters International (HHI) caliper clamps down on it at the rider's command.

Rolling at the rear is another spoked wheel, this one finished in similar livery but measuring in at 18in x 8.5in and pulled up by another HHI caliper squeezing its pads against an HHI rotor. These HHI drive side brake units are pretty cool units.

Up front again we find that the levers are Jay Brake items, as is the master cylinder and the footpegs, while the Englishman in exile, Russell Mitchell provided the Eddy Cycles handlebars, risers, grips and internal throttle.

The switchgear is from Grip Ace and this patented hidden motorcycle switch system provides the ability to remove the stock switch controls and replace them with a switch pad located under your fingers in the left handgrip. The neat black headlight is from

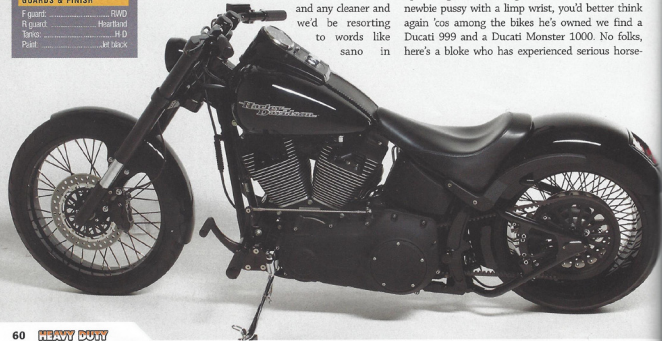
SJP and the taillight from Heartland. That list suggests a potpourri of parts if ever there was one, but parts that work damn well together.

Of course, many other modifications are required to transform a stocker into a looker, and they include removing the coil bracket and hiding the coil, as well as setting up the hidden horn for a super clean look to the left side, wrap around front indicators, laser rear indicators and flush mount caps.

Black is black goes the song, but in this case I'd like to trot out the old cliché that black is, indeed, beautiful. And I don't think many readers will disagree. Great job guys. **HD**



Lean and clean and mean...



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