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CHASSIS EVOLUTION





Damaged Indian front fender 'head' lamp is only half the man he used to be

CORROSION OF CHARACTER

To most restorers rusted metal, broken glass and blistered paint are ugly imperfections. But to Andrew C

Bauer they're objects of such extraordinary beauty he's filled a book with photos of them





Mirror, mirror on the floor, who is the most corroded of them all? This one, clearly...



Once a Yamaha fuel tank. Now a map of Amazonian river tributaries



Reaching the end of the (red)line



Life is sparse in this mechanical rock pool

Rust is a beautiful thing. So are dented tanks, bubbled paint, ripped seats, and fields knee-deep in once working parts... after Andrew C Bauer has pointed his camera at them, that is. His book *Art of the Basket Case* is a fascinating, and very different, insight into the world of old bike spares.

It looks beyond the obvious patina of oxidised metal, chipped paint and scored surfaces to reveal textures, colours and shapes of breath-taking beauty. A rusting sohc Honda downpipe or shrunken vintage leather saddle that you'd probably walk straight past at an autojumble becomes, in Bauer's book, something to marvel at.

Having trawled America's jumbles and scrapyards Bauer's selection of subjects is as diverse as the corrosion and wear they display. Over 154 pages – in chapters with titles ranging from *Abstract* to *Ugly* – there are pictures that'll amaze, repulse, engage, or raise a smile. We can't put it down. Copies are \$29.95. Order from www.cyclearts.com, ISBN 978-0-9718600-8-7.

THIS MONTH



■ Keith Willmer from Northamptonshire is appealing for help in tracing the history of a **1934 250 Red Panther** sold by Pride & Clark. Registered AYW 475, the Panther came from a deceased estate in Leicester. If you can help, contact Panther fan Keith on 01933 412317 panther_in_theuk@yahoo.com



■ In his June Trans-Atlantic column, Mark Gardiner confused **Sammy Tanner** with road racer **Jody Nicholas** (above), who was also at the Trailblazers banquet. Tanner rarely raced on asphalt but made his name at the legendary Ascot Park half-mile flat track in Gardena, California.

■ **American TV's Speed Channel** will be visiting the **Ace Cafe** on 13 September to film a rockers ride-out from the Ace to the London Motorcycle Museum in Greenford. They're looking for old rockers with interesting stories to take part in the programme, to be called *Cafe Society*.

■ **Harley-Davidson** has agreed to buy the **MV Agusta Group**, which includes Cagiva, for \$109 million to "increase the company's European footprint". Current MV group chairman Claudio Castiglioni will stay in the role. The deal means H-D own Aermacchi again – sold to Cagiva in 1978.