ANTIQUE MOTORCYCLES - ACCESSORIES AND RELATED ITEMS

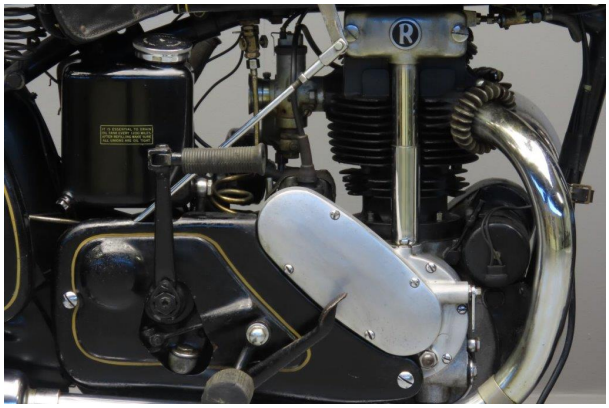
RUDGE 1936 495CC 1 CYL FOUR VALVE 3005

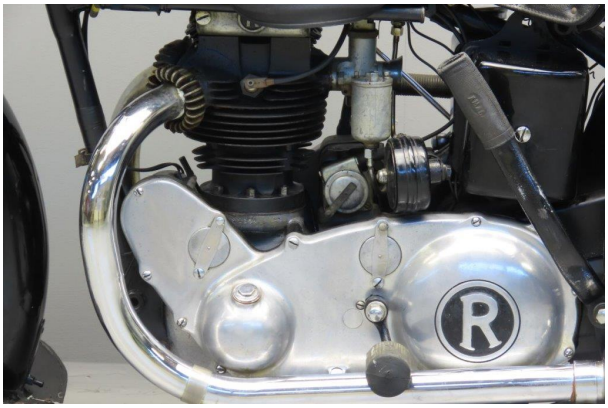
SOLD

PRODUCT DESCRIPTION

Rudge 1936 “Special” 495cc four-valve single frame # 55676 engine# S 2154

The Rudge_Whitworth company was an established bicycle factory that entered motorcycle production in 1911.
Their first machines were 499 cc IOE singles.
They developed the famous Multi Gear, with a possibility of up to 21 gear positions.
In 1924 the factory introduced a new range of four valve singles. In 1928 Graham Walker managed to win the Ulster Grand Prix on a Rudge, after a heroic handlebar-to handlebar battle with Charlie Dodson on a Model 90 Sunbeam.
Since then the sporty Rudge models were designated “Ulster”.
In 1931 the engine was scaled down to 250 cc and that proved to be a real winner too, judging from 1st, 2nd and 4th places plus the lap record in the Junior TT.
Rudge used several layouts for its 4 valve models and from the 1931 model range on they settled for the semi-radial arrangement of parallel inlets (in a flat head surface) for deep breathing and radial exhausts (in a part spherical surface) for cool running.
At the same time plug size was reduced from 18 to 14 mm to allow more metal between the hole and the exhaust seats.
This layout proved very successful and was retained till the end of Rudge production in 1940.
The 1936 range consisted out of four models, the 245cc two-valve “Rapid”, the 249cc four-valve “Sports” and the 495cc four-valve “Special” and “Ulster”.
1936 was the last year of the open-valve models and in the International Six Days Trial the Rudge-mounted B-team won a Silver Vase without any loss of marks.
The “Special” has bore x stroke dimensions of 84.5 x 88 mm, large 8-inch proportionally coupled brakes, 3.25x19 tyres and a four-speed gearbox.
The machine comes with central spring-up stand with Rudge-Whitworth patent easy-to-operate hand lever and dashboard with Smiths speedometer and clock.
This “Special”, the touring version of the “Ulster “, was first registered on July 8th 1936.
She’s an older restoration in fine mechanical condition.





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