

## Pursuit of speed: The Bonneville racer records an impressive top speed of 159 mph at Bonneville Salt Flats

*Click on this links to access all the images of Royal Enfield's 'Bonneville Racer', built in collaboration with S&S Cycle and Harris Performance*

**September 20, 2018, Utah (USA):** Pursuit of speed, like pursuit for excellence holds a special place for motorcyclists and what could be better suited to a speed record on two wheels than a specially tuned motorcycle? Royal Enfield, the global leader in mid-size motorcycle segment raced the custom built Bonneville racer at the Salt Flats in Utah, USA at a top speed of 157.053 mph (pending FIM certification). This has further strengthened the fact that Royal Enfield offers a perfect canvas for customisation. Royal Enfield custom designed the motorcycle in collaboration with S&S Cycle and Harris Performance. This highlights the game changing capability of Royal Enfield's all new 650 Twin engine which outshined in an exciting challenge that demonstrated the capabilities of the twin cylinder.



This has been one of the most innovative custom motorcycle initiatives by Royal Enfield at putting together a Bonneville effort. The engine design for the Bonneville racer was done by S&S Cycle in the US, who engaged with Royal Enfield for Lock Stock drag motorcycle in Europe as well. S&S contributed with their extensive experience in both tuning motors and racing them at the Salt Flats. Harris Performance contributed with their expertise in chassis designing. Previously, they have built Gran Prix and superbike chassis for some of the best riders in the world.

The team, held together by a brief from Royal Enfield's design team, set to work and a few months later, the Bonneville Racer was ready to taste the salt.

The extraordinary feat was achieved by an 18 year old, young but extremely dynamic and confident rider - Cayla Rivas. The rider's confidence coupled with the engineering and design team's competence along with the single minded-focus on the project led to this achievement. The Bonneville Racer made it through 22 test runs before hitting a record speed of **132 mph** without nitrous. The capabilities of the engine led the team to try for even more speed. Progressive gear ratio changes, wheelbase



adjustment and other nips and tucks brought the final top speed to **159 mph** on the measured mile, with a record return run average at **157.053 mph (pending FIM certification)**.

The Bonneville racer has set yet another benchmark for Royal Enfield. This achievement truly demonstrates the capabilities of the engines. This is a great testament to an extremely flexible base engine and an extraordinary team whose passion, expertise and willingness to go for it made this possible.

#### **Modifications to the motor:**

- S&S High Compression Piston Kit
- S&S Cylinder Sleeves
- S&S Forged Connecting Rod kit
- S&S Slide Throttle body kit
- S&S Camshaft kit
- S&S ECM & Harness kit
- S&S Undercut Transmission
- S&S High Flow Injector kit
- S&S Heavy Duty Stud kit
- S&S CNC Ported Cylinder Head
- S&S Manual Cam Chain Tensioner
- Translogic Power Shifter
- Rekluse High Performance Clutch kit
- Nitrous Express Nitrous Oxide system

#### **More about the team:**

Royal Enfield UK Technical Center - Adrian Sellers - program manager; Pete Wycherly and Valentin Benzi - design and graphics realization. The Leicestershire, UK based Industrial Design team managed the project as part of our ongoing custom projects initiative, with a goal of finding new and exciting ways to surprise people with Royal Enfields. Project instigation, management and initial design of the Bonneville Racer, as well as production of the carbon fiber body and paint work were all handled here.

**S&S Cycle**, Viola, Wisconsin, USA - Jeff Bailey, Gene Dlask and Paul Langley, President - motor modification, tuning and nitrous system installation and management. Since 1958, S&S Cycle have been the go to for V-Twin performance - manufacturing and racing performance enhancing parts at the same facility in Viola that started it all. A penchant for reliability and results has cemented their reputation over the years.

<https://www.sscycle.com/about-us/history>

**Harris Performance**, Hertford, UK - Lester Harris, Tim Allan and the team at Harris Performance - frame fabrication, chassis spec, design and assembly. With over 40 years of chassis building experience, Harris Performance is one of the top go-to companies in the world for motorcycle racing chassis design. Having provided chassis for some of the best racers in the history of the sport, Harris is now a subsidiary of Eicher Motors and a critical part of RE's chassis development program.

<https://www.harris-performance.com/>

#### **Cayla Rivas, Fresno USA**

Cayla grew up around motorcycle drag racing and land speed events watching her Dad, Chris Rivas, and has developed a lifelong passion for motorcycle racing. She started a racing career in 2012 at the age of

12 on the world renowned Bonneville Salt Flats in Utah, and in her first attempt on the Flats Cayla rode a 250cc single prepped at Chris Rivas V-Twin in Fresno, CA and set the class record of 62 mph. Currently Cayla owns 12 Land Speed records from Bonneville and El Mirage Dry Lake in CA with a top speed of over 140 mph. Pending FIM certification, this will be her 13th record and her new top speed.

## **About Royal Enfield:**

The oldest motorcycle brand in continuous production, Royal Enfield made its first motorcycle in 1901. A division of Eicher Motors Limited, Royal Enfield has created the mid-sized motorcycle segment in India with its unique and distinctive modern classic bikes. With its new manufacturing base in Chennai, India, Royal Enfield is able to grow its production rapidly against a surge in demand for its motorcycles. With more than 50% growth every year for the last 5 years, Royal Enfield is fast becoming a very important player in the global mid-size motorcycle market and is working towards re-inventing this space with motorcycles that are evocative and engaging and great fun to ride.

Royal Enfield's product line-up in India includes the Bullet, Classic and Thunderbird models in 350 and 500cc displacement along with Continental GT 535cc café racer and the purpose-built Himalayan powered by the new LS410 engine. Royal Enfield operates through 17 company-operated stores and 705+ dealers in all major cities and towns in India, and exports to over 50 countries across the world including the USA, UK, several European and Latin American countries, as well as the Middle East and South-East Asia. Royal Enfield also organizes and supports many motorcycling events and rides globally, more prominently the Rider Mania – an annual gathering of Royal Enfield riders from all over the world to the lovely beaches of Goa, and the Himalayan Odyssey, the most arduous motorcycle ride over some of the toughest roads and highest mountain passes in the Himalayas. Royal Enfield also conducts the popular „One Ride“ where people around the world ride out on their motorcycles on the first Sunday of April.

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