

**You're The
One That I
Want**





Once the Vespa was ready for reassembly, Michael's mechanical background became an invaluable tool in building the scooter back up. Every detail is there to see and he said that the only issues he'd come up against during the build was fitting the glovebox, the stainless legshield trims, and finding the clearance to fit the front shocker. The best tip that comes out of this according to Michael is to "be patient – and don't rush it" (something I can relate to as I was building a mate's Li 225 and found the forks – built by someone else – had disc links instead of the hub links required for the outboard disc brake. Whoops!).

Michael's Rally 200 was finished off with a delicate pinstripe across the panels, a set of whitewall tyres and SIP rims – a real looker. Michael then told me that he was preparing to set off on tour around Spain in a few days – I was impressed for two minutes, until he said it would be on his KTM, not the Vespa (lol).

Projects like this can be expensive and around £6500 was spent on this scooter to bring it up to an amazing spec; originality was Michael's target and he's not far off the mark. Some purists out there will scoff at the pinstriping, but the clean lines and stunning

Rally orange paintwork makes this classic Vespa a real looker. If you're starting a similar project, Michael's advice is: "Always remember it will cost you far more than you anticipate." Without the help of dealers like Allstyles and Beedspeed whose advice was greatly accepted, and technical features in magazines (which Michael explains is a favourite part of magazines he's enjoyed while finishing his project).

There are several people Michael would like to thank:

Mick Maidment (for his never-ending help and enthusiasm for anything Vespa related).

His wife Sue (for the endless cups of tea while in the workshop).

Craig at The Scooter Paint Shop (for the patience).

Finally John (for the finishing touches with the coachlining).

I'm sure this bright little machine will get some rides on a nice day, but when you have a ride choice of two wheeled classic and modern motorcycles, Michael is definitely a lucky boy indeed.

Words: Rich Addison

Images: www.addo-pix.com

Scooter Paint Shop in Loughborough. In Michael's opinion, Craig has the patience of a saint where the colour is concerned and you couldn't wish to meet a nicer guy to deal with. Before any paintwork could be completed, this little classic was modified by Mick Maidment with a now usual upgrade from the Rally front suspension to that of the PX; the only other change was replacing the rear light unit with one from a Sprint model.

