

BRIT 800 BUILT IN 90 DAYS!

Kenny Roberts' all-new KR212V is finally revealed

TWELVE weeks was all it took for Kenny Roberts' team to create the all-new KR212V

WORLD EXCLUSIVE

THIS is the world's first look at the gorgeous new Kenny Roberts-built 800cc MotoGP bike that was designed and built in less than 90 days in readiness for the 2007 world championship.

The bike is the last of the new generation premier class machines to be unveiled and MCN was given an exclusive look at the new V4 – powered by Honda's new RC212V

800cc motor – at the Team Roberts factory in Banbury, Oxfordshire last week.

The KR212V was only finished at midnight last Tuesday. Just 18 hours later it was flown to HRC headquarters in Japan for final checks before making its track debut with Kenny Roberts Junior on board at Sepang, Malaysia next Monday.

Since HRC bosses sent over computer designs of the engine to Team Roberts staff on October 15, designers and engineers have been working flat-out to meet the January 10 deadline for getting the bike to Japan.

Roberts, who for the second year in succession has secured an engine lease deal with HRC, said: "Last year there were so many uncertainties until we fired the bike up. But I have a feeling that, now we have a year's experience, Kenny Jnr is going to be able to ride it harder and longer on the pace of the other new 800s. I think we will be competitive right off the mark."



KR only got the engine plans on October 15!

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WSB champ on GP pace!

WORLD Superbike champion Troy Bayliss broke into MotoGP territory at Monday's Phillip Island test in Australia with a lap time that would have seen him running with Rossi and Co – despite riding a sub-200bhp Ducati 999 on Pirelli control tyres.

Bayliss's stunning lap of 1:30.7 was less than half a second slower than Marco Melandri's outright circuit lap record set on a Honda RCV MotoGP bike. It was also 0.1s faster than the best lap Bayliss had ever set at Phillip Island on a GP bike, when he rode a works Ducati on Michelins.

His lap was set on new-generation Pirelli race tyres and he

dominated each day of the Phillip Island test.

Bayliss has promised that there is a lot more to come after exclusively revealing to MCN that he hasn't even trained for the last month having enjoyed Christmas at home in Australia with his family.

He said: "I'm happy and feeling good especially as I haven't trained for a month. I've done a couple of cycle rides but you wouldn't believe how much I've let my hair down. Now I'm going to head back to Europe and get back into my regime and I'll come back a lot stronger for the first race of the season."

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BAYLISS was less than half a second off the MotoGP lap record – on a 999

