

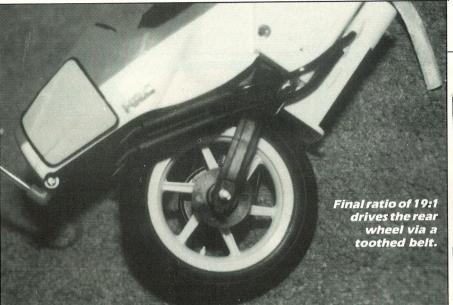
The Kyosho Honda NSR 500 is the second such model to be released onto the market by Ripmax. You may wonder why? Simply because the first was sold as a kit, no problem if you or your father, uncle, mother or next door neighbour is into kit making or is slightly mechanically minded. However, there is without doubt a large section of the public who either do not want to spend time,

Overall view of the Kyosho NSR 500, complete with stand.

can't afford to spend time, or simply just can't be bothered to assemble anything, but would still like to be the proud owner of a very attractive radio controlled model. As a dyed in the wool old fashioned modeller a first reaction to this type of model would be that the owner/purchaser is missing half the fun of modelling, and modelling as we know or knew it is fast disappearing. Sadly there is nothing that anyone can do about it as trends are dictated by the manufacturer.

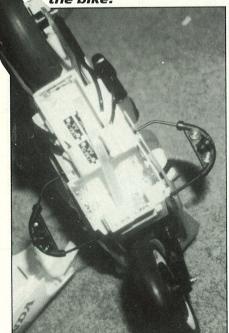
So having said all the above let





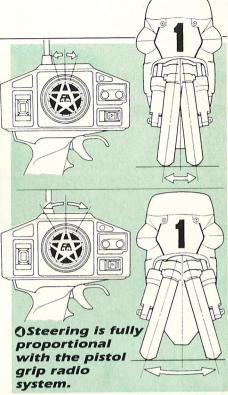
us take a look at the plus points. Firstly you do get a working model, beautifully finished with all of the parts in the right places. You do get a finished model that other people will look at and think "Yes, I would like one of those", instead of thinking "my God, what a mess". Finally there must be some purchasers of ready to run models, whether they be cars, bikes, boats or aircraft that develop a greater interest and then involve themselves at a deeper level with our hobby. Whichever, we the radio control user at least now has a choice, building skill limitations no longer apply and the hobby, or at least what is now the hobby, should grow.

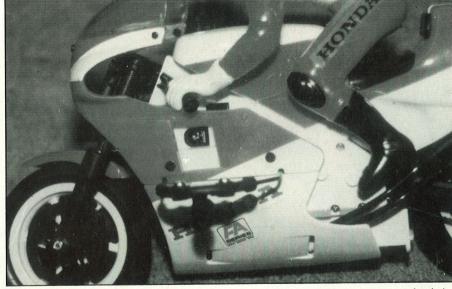
O View from underneath showing battery compartment. Notice stabilisers on each side of the bike.



From the Box

A two function steering wheel radio is provided with the kit. This follows existing designs and has a sturdy wheel grip, trigger and brake, throttle and steering trim and last but not least easy access





to on/off and crystal socket. Kyosho's Honda itself is a lesson in mass produced miniaturisation, slide away the racing fairing and a battery compartment large enough for eight AA pen cells is revealed. Rechargeables can be used and even a charging jack is built into the Honda's frame. Front forks are working items smoothing out the bumps, while at the rear a single working monoshock takes care of all the loads that the bumpiest surface can subject the Honda to. A 280 Mabuchi drives through a final ratio of 19:1 to the rear wheel, via a toothed belt.

Balancing Act?

Actually the Honda is not at all difficult to drive, mainly due to the fact that it uses the same principle as a gyroscope to remain upright. Inside the front tyre is a ring of heavy, lead like material, this ensures that the Honda, once moving, remains upright until you give a left or right command and it is just as easy as that making turns. Driving is a pleasure from the word go!

Finally

On reflection then, the Honda is one of the new breed of ready to run models for the new breed of model owner who wants to own a quality item but possibly does not have the time or inclination to build one. Great value at around £80.00.

Available from your local Ripmax stockist.