

'Everywhere's
flat out, a
million revs
and a million
gear changes.
And a big grin.'

Photo: Kerry P



▲ After much wailing and gnashing of teeth the correct wheelie technique arrived: engage first gear, stand on rear pegs, dial up 10,000rpm, look on handbars. Pathetic isn't it? Yes.

SPECIFICATION

Honda Hornet

Price: £4200 new (£3695 for this one)
Warranty: 12 months
Importer: Bat Motorcycles, 30 High Street,
South Norwood, London
SE25 6HA (0181 653 2357)

Engine

type watercooled, DOHC, 16 valve
in-line four
Bore x stroke 48.5 x 33.8mm, 249cc
Gearbox 6 speed

Chassis

Frame box section steel, single spar
Front tyre 130/70 - 16 Bridgestone BT50
Rear tyre 180/55 - 17 Bridgestone BT50
Front boings 40mm unadj, r/w
Rear boings monoshock, adj. preload
Front brake 296mm disc, 4-pot caliper
Rear brake 220mm disc, 2-pot caliper

Dimensions

Wheelbase 1415mm
Seat height 760mm
Dry weight 43kg
Fuel capacity 16L

Tester's verdict

Good points silly, fun, makes you work
Bad points makes you work
Performance 'mazing it stays together
Comfort not for large humans
Braking spot on
Handling can get squirrely
Value not cheap, but it's trick

'Fourteen thousand and one,
Fourteen thousand and two...'
Wide open and counting. The
back roads are Hornet country.
Take one on a motorway and
you'll surely die.