

YES IT HAS A TELEVISION AND FAX MACHINE

BUT MAYBE READ ABOUT THE

2.5 YEARS HARD WORK I DID

CREATING A UNIQUE BIKE



I FIRST MADE MY 1985 KX500 MOTOCROSSER ROAD LEGAL AND CUSTOMISED IT IN 1993
IT WAS IN THESE MAGAZINES IN 1994



View the articles from these magazines on my website www.craighood.com/kxfeatures.html

1994 I WAS CAUGHT WHEELYING. BANNED FOR DANGEROUS DRIVING

Motor cyclist fined £200

DOING A wheelie the entire length of the Glen Bridge in Dunfermline cost a man a £200 fine yesterday and the loss of his licence for a year.

As he pleaded guilty to a charge of dangerous driving, Craig Hood (31), Dunfermline, was also ordered to resit his driving test at the end of his ban. He admitted driving a motorbike dangerously on July 7 by accelerating harshly while only one wheel was in contact with the road surface.

Depute Fiscal Frank Redman said police saw Hood's customised 500cc motorbike being accelerated hard to do a wheelie the length of the bridge.

This is how the bike looked when I customised it in 1993



1993 build covered in my KX info page <http://www.craighood.com/KXinfo.html>

AFTER MY BAN THE BIKE WAS LEFT IN STORAGE ROTTING AWAY FOR 23 YEARS.
IN 2019 I STARTED RESTORING AND RE-CUSTOMISING IT AND (LIKE IN 1993), APART FROM POWDER COATING (FRAME) AND CHROME (3 PARTS), I DID ALL THE WORK MYSELF.

BELOW IS THE QR CODE FOR THE YOUTUBE RESTORATION VIDEO SERIES

1. WILL IT RUN AFTER 23 YEARS?
2. BRAKE CALIPER POLISHING
3. SWINGARM POLISHING
4. FRONT BRAKE POLISHING
5. POLISHING VARIOUS PARTS
6. POLISHING WHEELS 1 OF 2
7. POLISHING WHEELS 2 OF 2
8. POLISHING MORE ALLOY
9. PAINTING WHITEWALLS
10. RADIATORS NUTS BOLTS
11. LAST OF THE POLISHING



12. CHASSIS REBUILD
13. ENGINE TEARDOWN
14. ENGINE REBUILD
15. 3D PRINTED FAIRING PT1
16. 3D PRINTED FAIRING PT2
17. VARIOUS JOBS
18. PAINT PT1
19. PAINT PT2
20. FINAL BUILD PT1
21. FINAL BUILD PT2
22. FINAL BUILD PT3

CRAIGHOOD.COM

PAINT (Videos 18 and 19) : All black paint is spray cans by myself. White graphics designed by myself and cut on my own vinyl cutter machine (bought just for this project). Vinyl applied by myself and covered with clear lacquer spray cans by myself. (In 1994 I did similar graphics using masking tape, pencil and a scalpel painted with spray cans. I also did a mural on the fairing of myself doing a wheelie. See the images).

POLISHING (Videos 1 to 8) : All alloy and stainless polished by myself using very cheap polishing equipment including a few self-made Heath Robinson type polishing contraptions eventually upgrading to a £20 2hp motor.

FAIRING (Videos 15 to 19) : After seeing Craig Vetter's mystery ship in 1980, I was inspired to design my own motorbike (not this one) called the KZX.

That design has been a lifelong project going from pencil and pen drawings in the 80s, to 3d cad renders and animations. (More details here <http://www.craighood.com/KZX.html>) The KX came with an acerbis fairing which I heavily modified (see pics) but I never liked the shape of it, so in 2019 I realised I could 3d print the fairing I had designed in 1980 for my KZX.

I had to split the fairing into 6 parts and print those separately in PLA. I glued them together and used a soldering iron with more PLA to "weld" the parts together. I reinforced it with fibreglass inside and out.

INSTRUMENT CONSOLE (Videos 17 to 19) : In 1994 I fitted a Casio TV-500 (The Superbike article is titled "TV quick"). That TV stopped working. In 2021 I got an identical TV on ebay but, because it's analogue, it doesn't receive TV channels so I got freeview. In 2022 I changed the TV for a 3.5 inch monitor as the TV is hard to see in sunlight. I made 3d cad models of my speedo, TV, freeview receiver and scart adapter and designed the console to fit into the fairing and allow room for all these devices. I also cut the clear acrylic for the display with a router. I 3d printed the console box in PLA and reinforced it inside with fibreglass.

STAINLESS STEEL SIDE PLATES, TAILPIECE, NUMBER PLATE MOUNT AND REAR MUDGUARD

(Done in the 1994 build) : I made cardboard templates and got a factory worker to cut stainless close to my template then I filed/adjusted the parts to fit, then polished them myself. I designed and cut out the KX shape myself using drills, hacksaws and files in my kitchen in 1994. It was very hard work. I also cut the shape out of the rear mudguard for the shock to fit through with hacksaws and files.

WHEELS AND BRAKES (Videos 2,4,6 and 7) : Kawasaki KR1 wheels. I removed the original red paint by lots of sanding and polished the wheels myself. (In 1994 I fitted KR1S wheels and got them powder coated white). The original KX rear wheel had a drum brake so in 1994 I fitted a KR1S disk brake caliper and master cylinder. In 2021 I fitted/polished a GSR600 caliper and ER6N master cylinder on the front.

FRONT MUDGUARD : In 1994 I found one hanging from the ceiling in a bike shop and didn't know what it was off. In 2022 (using google) I found out it's off a KH400. The old one was a bit tatty so I got a new one.

EXHAUST (Done in the 1994 build) : Original KX (inside). I was told road bike exhausts have a perforated metal layer, then fibreglass, then an outer metal layer and I wanted this quieter for road use. So, I drilled lots of holes in the widest part of the expansion chamber then wrapped that in fibreglass. Then me and a mate covered that in a layer of metal hammered into shape and welded together. It was a mess but worked. Then, while doing a welding course, I got my instructor to make a third layer. So, I drilled holes in the second layer, wrapped that in fibreglass and my instructor welded on three curved plates. That's why it's so huge (and heavy).

FRAME : Original KX500 with bracket welded on for the rear brake master cylinder. Powder coated 2021.

PETROL TANK : KLR 600 on the bike when I bought it.

SIDE PANELS (Done in the 1994 build) : Original green plastic KX500 panels cut to shape by myself.

TYRE WHITEWALLS (Videos 9,19 & 21) : I first painted them using masking tape and a small brush. I later removed that and used rubber stripes that glue on using a self designed guide.

SEAT : I designed/cut out the 500 shape on my vinyl cutter then an upholsterer stitched that on.

LIGHTS : Front. TZR 125, led indicators. Rear. 1977 Vauxhall Chevette filed to the shape of the tailpiece.

FAX MACHINE : In 2023 I thought "What would be more ridiculous than freeview television on a motocrosser?". Possio PM70 portable fax machine with the scanner removed as it's not needed. In 2023 fax service was stopped in the UK but it can receive and print sms messages.

