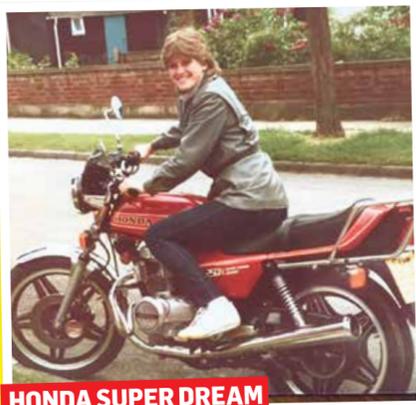


LIFE ON BIKES



HONDA SUPER DREAM

My beloved Honda in 1983. I hung up my helmet two years later and then after 33 years, I bought a Harley 883. **Debbie Jamieson**



APRILIA RS125

I was madly in love with this bike, Aprilia RS125. **Oily Hands**



BAMBINO SUPERMOTO

My son on his first motorcycle. He races in the British mini bikes championship, and is the youngest rider by far but doesn't let that stop him. **Kieron Hanna**



HONDA CBR600F

The Honda is hard to beat whether you are a new rider or not. Always brilliant fun to ride. **Glynn Reynolds**

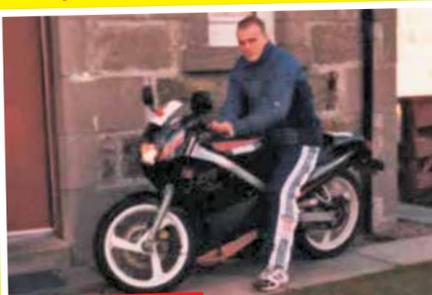


BMW R1200RT

44 years ago, work, marriage, kids and the inevitable 4-wheel tin box conspired. Then 'click', life made sense again! **Kevin Viney**

YOU NEVER FORGET YOUR FIRST BIKE

A blast down memory lane
Send your first bike pics to:
yourpics@motorcyclenews.com



YAMAHA TZR125

My first-ever bike. It was horrendous to be honest but I had great fun... my Adidas 'poppers', they were horrendous, end of. **Scott Mitchell**



HONDA CBR600F

My first sportsbike: a 1998 Honda CBR600F. **Stephen Callaghan**



YAMAHA MT-07

The Yamaha is hard to beat, I love it. **Miguel Hull**

MCN LAW

Your tricky legal questions answered

Q 'Are they trying to rip me off here?'

I had an accident six weeks ago and the other driver's insurers have contacted me and said that I don't need a lawyer. They've repaired my bike and told me that I probably won't need to see a medical expert to get a pay-out. They seem pretty reasonable but my dad is telling me that I need legal representation to stop me from being conned by the insurer. What do you suggest?

Lewis Taylor, Evesham

A In an effort to reduce the amount they have to pay after an accident, insurers are trying to use a process called "third party capture". They offer to deal with the both sides' repairs, provide a few sessions of physio and then make a compensation offer for the injuries that you have suffered. Unfortunately their interest is directly opposed to yours because they want to pay as little money as they can possibly get away with while you want as much as you can get. Because the injured rider

'Insurers are trying to limit the amount they pay'

typically has no experience of the process then they are able to get away with paying far less than they should.

They usually make settlement offers very soon after the accident when the full extent of your injuries isn't known or, as in your case, without any medical evidence. If you then find out you have a more serious injury then there is no second chance.

The benefit of having a solicitor is that you are likely to end up with more compensation.

Andrew Campbell
Solicitor and author of the MCN Law column for the last ten years

Visit www.bikelawyer.co.uk or email andrew@bikelawyer.co.uk or call 01446 794169



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TT LEGEND JOHN McGUINNESS IN MCN EVERY WEEK

McPINT



'It's my last roll of the dice at the TT'

McGuinness knows the clock is ticking but he's up for the fight

I feel like I've been in a bit of a washing machine with the situation I was in at Norton. But hand on heart, I wanted the Norton deal to work and I think everyone else in the country also wanted to see it work – we all did, riders, sponsors, media. It was a complete Hollywood deal, but it just never materialised. I felt I had big shoes to fill and quite a lot of pressure riding for Norton. The bike looked the bollocks, sounded the bollocks – it was chrome and I was in a chrome suit! But the reality is that it never happened, and I was left

'MY NEW BOSS IS ON THE PHONE LIKE A DOG WITH TWO DICKS...'

wondering what to do.

I'm a true believer that things happen for a reason in racing and life in general. Hillier has gone to OMG BMW with the blessing of his old team and that has opened a door and I've been able to jump straight in. That means that I've got some direction. But I just don't want to fail or let people down. I'm at a crossroads and I've said it before, but I just need to get my teeth back into it.

Getting the motivation at this time of the year is hard though, it's pitch black at half four, the rain is coming down at 45 degrees and it's hard for anyone



It looked the business but the Norton didn't work for McGuinness

to keep their enthusiasm up. But once it starts to get a bit lighter and things start coming through the door – like my new helmet that's gone off to be painted – you start to get the buzz back. I was talking to Alpinestars about a new suit design, that's the stuff that gets me excited. It's like the kindling is there on the fire.

Pete Extance, my new boss, is on the phone like a dog with two dicks. I feel all the ingredients are coming together, but let's cut to the chase – it's all down to me. Everything is in my hands now, I guess you could say it's my last roll of the dice...



Team owner Pete Extance is going all out to help McGuinness go for TT glory

ASK McGUINNESS

How much longer do you intend to race?



John McKay
I could be racing classic bikes for years and years, but if we're talking about Superbikes at the TT we'll have to wait and see because it's not easy. If it was easy, everyone would be doing it.

@ Send your questions to AskMcPint@motorcyclenews.com. Don't expect a serious answer.

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