



TRIUMPH

Here is my mum sat on my dad's bike in about 1948. Anyone know where the bike is now? **Peter Foreman**



DEMON X 110

Jake Carter, aged 10, following in grandad Col's footsteps on his first bike – a Demon X 110 Pit Bike. **Tracy Morrison**



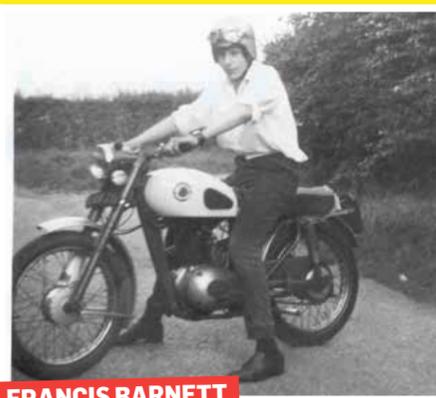
HONDA MT5

This is me posing in the garage with my first bike and the rest of the family – 34 years ago! **Gary Davison**



SUZUKI SV650

Aged 79 and on my first sizeable bike – a 2000 Suzuki SV650 – after a 19-year interruption to my 62-year riding career. **John Edwards**



FRANCIS BARNETT

Here's me on my 175 Franny Barnett in 1970. In those days I had my full licence at 16! I now have a very nice Tiger 800. **Sean Dunkley**

YOU NEVER FORGET YOUR FIRST BIKE

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



YAMAHA THUNDERCAT

After passing my test this was a great all-round bike to gain experience before I upgraded. **Andy Bengé**



REVI KIDS BIKE

Here's my three-year-old grandson Teddy on his first twist-and-go off-road bike. A star of the future! **Vimax67**



INDIAN SCOUT

My husband Brian gave up smoking, switching to vaping, then gave that up and with all the money he saved in two years he got his first bike: an Indian Scout. **Maxine Day**

MCN LAW

Your tricky legal questions answered

Q 'Do I need mirrors?'

My Vespa recently had a wing mirror broken and I was wondering if it is legal to ride with just one wing mirror? No-one I speak to seems to know the answer!
Ben, London

The answer lies within The Road Vehicles (Construction and Use) Regulations 1986. There is no legal requirement to have mirrors on a motorcycle. However, as a motorcyclist you need to be fully aware of traffic around you at all times so it is highly advisable to have two mirrors.

A safety issue with having no mirrors is that to undertake effective rear observations you need to turn your upper body and head. This bodily movement can shift weight and in inexperienced hands can lead to the motorcycle veering and sometimes loss of control.

'You need to be fully aware of traffic around you, so it is advisable to have two mirrors'

If you have mirrors then to pass a MoT they must be in serviceable condition and work correctly, so always replace cracked or broken glass and keep them clean.

If you are involved in an accident and don't have wing mirrors – and a court decided that their absence played a material part in the accident – then even though it is not a legal requirement I can see your opponent arguing that the accident was partly your fault. I am not aware that this has ever been tested in court but can imagine it being argued if rear observation was a cause.

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

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TT LEGEND JOHN McGUINNESS IN MCN EVERY WEEK

McPINT



'Racing bikes is real hard work'

McGuinness on why motorsport isn't like life in a Hollywood movie

Racing can be a tough and lonely place, you know. Just look at Lorenzo at Silverstone, he's one of the best in the world, but he spent the weekend trying as hard as he could just not to be last.

As a racer you try and do everything right, but it doesn't always work out. For example, I went to World Supersport in 2002 and I absolutely hated every minute because the bike was shit. I was going to tracks

'I WANTED TO CURL UP IN A BALL AND DISAPPEAR'

like Monza and I went there wanting to be world champion and I knew from the off that I didn't have a chance.

I came from nearly winning the British Championship on a 600 – Karl Harris beat me – and into WSS. I went from Dunlops to Pirellis, a different engine tuner and among other things I got pneumonia in South Africa. It was supposed to be a dream, but it turned into a nightmare. There was no one to talk to, no having a beer at the end of the meeting. I should have been living the dream. We had no house at the time so it was myself and Becky



This wasn't in the script for poor old Jorge

and my son Ewan who had just been born travelling around in the camper. People thought I was having a great time, but I wanted to curl up in a ball and disappear. As a result in 2002 I had nothing and then in 2003 I had a one race deal with Triumph and Paul Bird to do the TT – and the rest is history!

Racing is a lonely place when you're riding around at the back and people think that you can't ride a bike anymore. There is no fun in that I can assure you.

Bike sport isn't Hollywood – it's hard work.



Racing can be a tough business and nobody knows that better than Jorge Lorenzo

ASK McGUINESS

Would you ever race a sidecar?



John Woods
Yes, but I'd have to be the driver. I've had a few cheeky goes in one and they are certainly different!

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

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EDITORIAL
Editor Richard Newland, 01733-468447, richard.newland@motorcyclenews.com
Deputy Editor Apply now to: richard.newland@motorcyclenews.com
Office Manager Alison Slixon, 01733-468025, alison.slixon@motorcyclenews.com

SPORT & FEATURES
Editor Michael Guy, 01733-468883, michael.guy@motorcyclenews.com
Sports Reporter Apply now to: michael.guy@motorcyclenews.com

CONSUMER
Consumer Editor Emma Franklin, emma.franklin@motorcyclenews.com

BIKES
Director of Content Andy Colton
Chief Road Tester Michael Neves, 01733-468010
Deputy Editor, Bauer Motorcycling Mike Armitage, 01733-468031
Deputy Editor, Bauer Motorcycling Martin Fitz-Gibbons, 01733-468091
Senior Writer Chris Dibbs, chris.dibbs@motorcyclenews.com

NEWS
Editor Michael Jordan Gibbons, 01733-468011, jordan.gibbons@motorcyclenews.com
Senior Writer Dan Sutherland, dan.sutherland@motorcyclenews.com
Head of Online Advertising Rob Farman, 01733-386455
Staff Writer Ben Clarke, ben.clarke@motorcyclenews.com

PRODUCTION
Senior Production Editor Simon Brown
ART
Senior Art Editor Nick Lemon
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MOTORCYCLENEWS.COM
Online Editor Maria Martin
Acting Online Editor Gareth Evans
ADVERTISING
Group Commercial Director Gareth Ashman, 01733-386444
Head of Online Advertising Rob Farman, 01733-386455
Staff Writer Ben Clarke, ben.clarke@motorcyclenews.com
Key Accounts Shaun Collin, 01733-386453

Dealer team
Phil Martin, 01733-386398
Classified Events Exec
Samantha O'Connell-Gray, 01733-386406
Classified Products Exec
Tommy Holt, 01733-386213
MCN Services
Max Garwood, 01733-386405
Production Chloe Martin, 01733-468875
Marketing Manager Sarah Norman

PUBLISHING
MD, Motorcycling Rob Ahern
Editorial Director June Smith-Sheppard
H BAUER PUBLISHING UK
Rob Munro-Hall
HBauer Publishing, company number

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