



KAWASAKI KX80
Thought you might like this one of me when I was about 11 or 12 years-old on my first bike, a Kawasaki KX80. **Chris Boyle**



YAMAHA YZF-R125
A picture of me and my first bike taken when I was celebrating my 17th birthday earlier this year. **Shannon Bowering**



YAMAHA TZR250
My first bike (well, first bike post-test) in 1989 on a trip to the Lake District. It was a bit of a busman's holiday as I was a despatch rider in London. **Ayala Marshall**



DUCATI MONSTER
This was five years ago. It's a black and gold Ducati Monster 696+. Loved it but since then I've upgraded to a Fireblade. **Ben Hallam**



YAMAHA FZR400
I served in the USAF and was in Japan when I got my first bike. Here I am doing my worst impression of Tom Cruise in Top Gun. **Kevin D**

YOU NEVER FORGET YOUR FIRST BIKE

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



HONDA NS125F
Me and my first motorbike: a 1986 Honda NS125F. What a machine! Also starring a Mini Metro, the photo was taken in 1991. **Craig Glover**



YAMAHA THUNDERCAT
Parked up at Matlock on my Yamaha YZF600R Thundercat a few years ago. They were great bikes and fun to ride too. **Derek Norwell**



YAMAHA TY80
Dad and uncle uncover my eyes to reveal two motorbikes! As you can see I was more than a little excited about the whole thing. **Nick Craske**

MCN LAW Your tricky legal questions answered

Q 'Breakdown truck broke my Bonneville'

I needed to call out recovery for my 1978 Triumph T140. My insurer uses a call handler which then used a third party firm. After leaving me waiting over three hours until 2am, they turned up with a flat-bed truck and insisted it went on its sidestand and ratcheted it down with heavy-duty straps so tight it broke the stand and nearly fell off the back. Now they are denying it happened, even though I have a witness. The handler now won't even reply to emails and when I phone it's 'with another department'. I have tried to make a claim through my insurance (I am fully comp) but they say because it's not a road accident I can't. How can this be when a third party have damaged my bike? Surely insurance should cover this?
Matthew Roberts, email

A Your contract of insurance is with the insurer which underwrites your policy rather than the broker you

'They broke the stand and the bike nearly fell off'

mentioned in your email. Look on your insurance policy documentation and it will tell you who the insurer is.

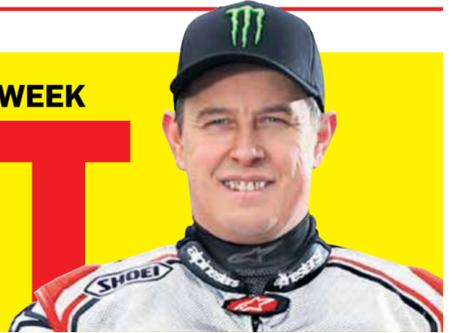
It does not matter to you which companies your insurer uses as its agents to fulfil their contract with you, such as for recovery purposes as in your case. Point out to the insurer that the claim against them includes a claim against their servants, their employees and their agents. They can always bring the recovery company into the court proceedings if they wish.

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



'Dakar is the true world title fight'

You can forget heavyweight boxing, those rich boys have it easy

I had a rant on Twitter the other day about Boxing after the Anthony Joshua fight. I watched the fight but I don't see what the fuss is all about, I don't think I was looking at what other people were looking at. I have respect for anyone that does 12 rounds with a great big athlete trying to smash your head in. Yeah you're going to get a fat lip and a black eye, but it's over in half an hour. In comparison, the trauma of racing the Dakar is going to be with you forever.

Dakar is barbaric, it's pain, it's mind over matter over for two

'YOU DON'T JUST TURN UP WITH YOUR KTM AND RUCKSACK'

weeks and thousands of miles. What people don't appreciate is the preparation – you don't just rock up at the start line with your KTM, a bag of pork scratchings in your rucksack and get going, do you? There's a lot of work that goes in to it and there are a lot of people who re-mortgage their house and are £20, £30, £40K in before they even turn a wheel. And it's a race where it could be over on day one, you lose concentration and you're upside down – it's a race where people die.

You watch the top guys on TV blasting through the dunes with



REDBULL CONTENT POOL

a helicopter behind them and it looks so cool, but in reality most of the riders in it are in hell.

I've been offered a ride to race Dakar and my heart says yes, but reality says no. Just to do it you'd have to be selfish in other areas of your life, it's like trying to win a TT, you can't have any distractions.

At the end of the day my passion is road racing, next up it's enduro and speedway, but my priority has to lie with road racing, but I can't road race forever – maybe I could race Dakar and be a navigator in a truck with Guy Martin driving.



Britain's Sam Sunderland has factory backing but it's still no walk in the park

ASK McGUINNESS

What do you think of the UK's top Dakar rider Sam Sunderland?



Patrick Chantril
I've met him a few times. I've got a lot of respect for him because he's served his time, been through hell with injuries etc and he's come back and won it.

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

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