



ARIEL LEADER

This was me with my Ariel when I was about 17. Fifty five years later and after about 35 bikes, I'm still riding 8000 miles a year on a Triumph Thunderbird Storm. **David 'Owl' Pratley**



NSU QUICKLY

My grandfather and my father with his NSU Quickly. Just like him, I have the biking bug and own a BMW K1200R Sport. **Craig Carmichael**



TRIUMPH TIGER 110

My dad's 1958 Triumph Tiger 110 fitted just right in 1969. **Ann Cherry**



YAMAHA RD250

This is from July 1980. I was 17 and had great days on my RD250. I'm still riding bikes 38 years on. **Tim Claridge**



BSA C15

Oh look at the hair, the boots, the bike. I loved 1968. **Pam Parsons**



YAMAHA DT125

Never mind the lack of helmet on my old DT, check out the massive boots and protective stripy jumper. **Mark Webster**



SUZUKI GSX400F

This was my first big bike. I got it soon after passing my test. It made 1981 a very good year. **Gavin Hunter**



YAMAHA RD50

This pic was taken back in 1983. I loved this bike, however briefly it remained intact (I took my O-levels in hospital). **John Rogers**

YOU NEVER FORGET YOUR FIRST BIKE

A blast down memory lane
Send your first bike pics to:
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MCN LAW

Your tricky legal questions answered

Q Can I claim after a crash with French car?

I was on a riding holiday with friends in France over the Easter holiday when I was involved in an accident. I was riding at the rear of the group and a car was waiting to come out onto the road to my right. My friends all went past but he obviously didn't see me and pulled out. I had no time to avoid the crash and went flying over his bonnet, landing on the road. I spent two weeks in hospital in France before being allowed home. Can I claim against him for my injuries, lost income and my kit and bike? **James Smith, Orpington**

A The short answer is yes. You will be able to claim compensation. You will need advice on the correct jurisdiction for claiming compensation (be it France or in the UK) which will be fact-specific and too detailed to be dealt with here. Different countries on the continent have different rules and different time periods in which to bring a claim. For example, in England and Wales it is three years from the date of the accident, but in France it is ten years from the

'Compensation money in France is fairly generous'

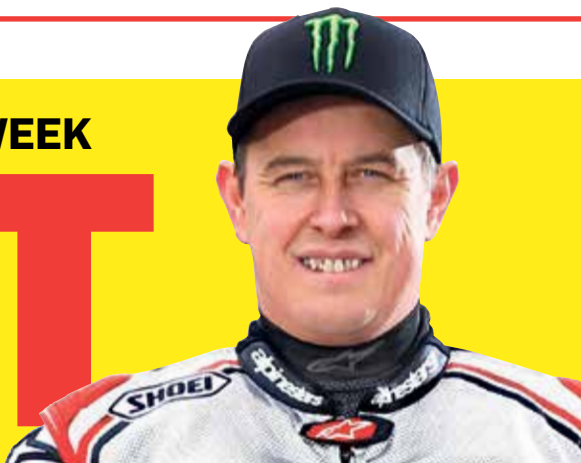
date of consolidation, which means when recovery from the injuries have plateaued. Compensation in France is fairly generous compared to, for example, Switzerland where you need a devastating injury to receive compensation. It is likely your solicitor will instruct an agent law firm in France to assist with valuing the claim. These are complicated cases so make sure you instruct an expert.

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



'The booing must stop right now'

MCN's columnist attacks bike race fans who have gone too far

I'm disgusted by some fans in MotoGP these days. Booing on the podium and cheering when someone crashes is unacceptable. When you're bouncing down the road end-over-end it bloody hurts! Trust me, I'm speaking from experience here. I saw pictures from Mugello of gravesones with Marc Marquez logos on and stuff; what the hell is the world coming to? I don't think they'd attack him physically (they don't have the guts), and I don't think they mean it, but it has gone too far and

'WHEN YOU'RE BOUNCING DOWN THE ROAD IT HURTS'

people need to wake up. The hatred for Marquez is interesting. I mean, nobody likes to instruct an agent law firm every week because it gets a bit boring. Nobody liked it when Mick Doohan was winning all the time back in the 1990s, or when it was Lawson or Rainey or whatever. It's all because Rossi has such a big and loyal following isn't it? I don't know what they're going to do when he hangs up his boots. There's an army of yellow everywhere you go. I often wonder what the other Italian riders think of it. Rossi is like the Messiah. He could have a cult of people following him



There's nothing wrong with backing your man but do it with some respect

and tell people to do whatever he wanted. He's like a god and they'll do anything for him. I do sometimes think the booing might drive Marquez. He might be thinking 'y eah, you boe me you b*****ds and then watch me annihilate him on track'. The lad's on another level, he crashes and just gets away with it. He pushes the envelope each and every time. I'll tell you what, he scares me when I see him on a motocross bike. The crowd hostility won't bother him, but it does need to stop. All the riders in MotoGP and beyond deserve our full respect.



Both Marquez and Lorenzo have suffered abuse, often from Valentino fans

ASK MCGUINNESS

What do you think of the World Cup?

Barry Whetherton
The what? I think the players are overpaid, underworked and pathetic. If a fly lands on their head, they'd go down like they've been shot. I prefer darts! But at least the roads are clear when England are out on the pitch.

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

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