

TRIUMPH METISSE

Iordan 650cc MetisSe in 1965, Geoff Gale

I was always jumping on my dad's Francis-Barnett, but he sold it before I was old enough to get a licence! Geoff Bell

This is my missus Catherine Brown looking pleased as punch with her first bike: a Suzuki 125 VanVan, Peter Adrain



I was back then 17 in 1980 and the very proud owner of this GS250T, which I bought new for £77. Andy Green



l loved my first bike, a Velocette Venom, so much. I got it in 1968 and it came with clip-ons and a racing seat. **Stuart Nicholson** 



This is me on my grandad's Honda C90. I'm straining to reach the side panels, let alone the foot rests. Andy Jones



rebuilt my James before I took, and passed, my test on it. **John Harris** 



My very trick Yoshimura 460/4 started as a 400/4. Stan Hannant

#### **EDITORIAL**

# **BIKES**

NEWS

#### **ROAD TESTS AND FEATURES**

CONSUMER

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# Your tricky legal questions answered

#### <u>Can I claim</u> from cokedup kerfuffle?

I made a compensation claim after an accident last summer. I was on the back of my mate's bike as he was giving me a lift home. We had been at a friend's BBO and I didn't see my mate drink any alcohol, so I thought it was safe to go with him. What I didn't know is that he had been taking cocaine in the toilet. He lost control and we both came off. He was convicted for drug driving. His insurers are now saying they won't pay me compensation because they claim I knew he was taking drugs but decided to get on the bike anyway. This is not fair, as I had no idea he even used it. Can you offer me any advice? Reggie, Staffs

The metabolite in cocaine is something called benzoylecgonine. There is a legal limit of 50 micrograms of this substance per litre of blood. Anything over this and you are likely to be prosecuted in accordance with Section 5A of the Road Traffic

You need to get witness evidence to help prove you had no idea that he was using the drug at the BBQ, as well as

#### 'His insurers say I must have known he was on drugs'

giving your own evidence. If the insurer shows that it was obvious or that you knew or ought to have known that your mate was taking the substance. then you may well find you will receive reduced compensation to account for your contributory negligence.

Tell your solicitors to look at the case of Owens v Brimmell [1977]. This case deals with the 'ought to have known' test which is relevant here.

### **Andrew Campbell**

Solicitor and author of the MCN Law

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# TT LEGEND JOHN McGUINNESS IN MCN EVERY WEEK

# 'I would love to see Marquez on a s\*\*t bike'

He can't be considered a true great until he's won on another bike

guess it's tough when you're on a winning bike.

I think he'd get more respect if he did though. Valentino Rossi obviously moved from Honda to Yamaha and it worked but then when he moved to Ducati it went very wrong. He only got away with it because it's him. Look at what's happened to Jorge Lorenzo. He's having a properly horrible time at Ducati and will probably be in BSB next year!

I'd love to see Marguez on something s\*\*t, so that he has to push really hard. If the rumoured

# 'YOU CAN'T SLAG HIM OFF. NO-ONE **CAN DO THE** STUFF HE DOES

KTM move ever happened that would be brilliant. Has he already established

himself as a great? That's a question in itself. Everyone loves an underdog so Marc isn't very popular as he always wins. Does that mean he isn't a great? I don't know. Everybody wanted Andrea Dovizioso to win the MotoGP championship last year and I must admit that I was cheering for him as I wanted to see someone new take the title, but the best man was always going to win in the end.

If Marquez joined KTM I think



again as people would get behind him in that challenge. That being said, you can't slag him off. No-one else can do some of the stuff he does, like tucking the front and holding it on his elbow.

He's raised the bar and I think even he's super-complacent about it now. He's a cat with nine lives, that's for sure.

Six world championships already and he's got loads of time yet. But that move to another manufacturer will have to come eventually. Nobody likes the same person winning every year on the same bike.



If Lorenzo keeps struggling in MotoGP, we

# **ASK McGUINNESS**

#### Do you ride fast on the road?

John Tody, email Only at the TT! I used to ride like an

idiot in and around Morecambe back in the day. My dad heard about my antics and made me race as he thought there was less stuff to hit. And if I hurt anyone, he thought it best I just hurt myself! I am pretty steady on the road these days, although I do like a blast every now and then.

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

BIKE THIEVES SHOULD BE MADE TO PICK UP LITTER

