



TRIUMPH 650

My first big bike, a Triumph 650 which I built from various parts. I think the engine was from a 6T Thunderbird. **Peter Woods**



NORTON 500T

My dad riding in the East Sussex Trials, South of England Open, on August 19, 1956. He came 2nd by two points. He's 90 at the end of this month. **Steve Harrison**



TRIUMPH TIGER CUB T20

Here's my dad with his Triumph. Best of all he's still got it. **David Cotton**



TRIUMPH TIGER 100

This photo was taken at Alexandra Palace our base till they moved to TV Centre, the bikes were Triumph Tiger 100s owned by the Beeb. Left to right Les Perrett, Dave Godfrey and me. **John Wilson**



LAMBRETTA SX200

16 years old in 1968 with my lovely Lambretta SX200. It was bored out to 225cc and really flew. These days I ride an FJR. **Paul Peggum**



AJS 500

Not my first bike but my late father tinkering. I think it is safe to say bikes are in our family DNA. **Paul Hunt**



TRIUMPH TRW

Here is from left to right Noddy Howchin, Michael Eastland, me and Alan Coombes at the back of Whitehall on our new RAF Triumph TRW despatch bikes. I still have a TRW and ride regularly, not bad for 78. **Tom Relf**



HONDA VF400F

This is me aged 17 on my Honda VF400F in 1989 just after passing my test. It felt like a missile after my learner Honda NS125F. **Wayne Hart**

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 cops knock people off their bikes?'

I just read that a police driver was taken to a tribunal for knocking a criminal off his moped. The officer was cleared eventually but was under investigation for years. It must have been hell having that held over him for all that time! I thought that they were allowed to knock these thieves off their mopeds now and so why did this happen?

Aled via Facebook

'Officers are trained but can't act with impunity'

A What you're referring to is a move employed by the Met called 'tactical contact' which, along with the use of a special marking spray, was introduced to combat motorcycle and scooter related crimes in London. Prior to this there was a perception that the police were reluctant to pursue these riders as they were sometimes as young as 14 and rode recklessly, at high speed, and often without helmets.

Obviously the officers who are trained to employ the tactic are authorised to use manoeuvres which would be considered dangerous if carried out under normal circumstances, but they cannot act with impunity. Carrying out tactical contact is a use of force and so must be lawful, proportionate and reasonable in the circumstances.

This is complicated, but what it means is that there has to be a good reason for the officers to use the tactic, and before acting they have to consider a range of factors including the road conditions; the seriousness of the crime; the risk to the rider of taking action and risk to the public.

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



'Time was a bit of speeding was OK'

Race hero McGuinness gets educated on a speed awareness course

Speed cameras? They've ruined the chase haven't they? There was a certain amount of flexibility if you got caught by a policeman years and years ago. It was a case of fair play, you'd put your hands up and if you weren't a smart arse there was a reasonable chance you'd get away with it. Now it's black and white, you get a letter through the post, a fine and points. It's not up for discussion.

I was on a speed awareness course the other week; 68mph down the A1 with a trailer on

'PEOPLE WHO HOG THE MIDDLE LANE SHOULD BE DEPORTED'

the back of my van. Fair enough, I can take that on the chin. I learnt some things on the course though and the most fascinating thing was that most of the people on the session with me were pensioners. I thought it was going to be full of young d**kheads, but everyone was old. They were people that were set in their ways and were being driven down the same road all their life at the same speed until someone decides to put up a camera.

I actually like the new smart motorways. A motorway is a motorway and if I could do 70mph from the moment I got on it to the moment I got off it



McPint reckons smart motorways aren't a bad idea

I'd be happy, instead of doing 80mph one minute and 50mph the next. But people sitting in the middle lane doing 50mph on a motorway, that winds me up. People who do that need to be rounded up and deported!

But I think you should be able to have a bit of a play on rural roads and if you can see all the way through the corners I'll have a bit of a go, but I'm a 30mph man in a 30, 40mph man in a 40 and 50mph man in a 50, it's as simple as that. When it comes to speeding where there are schools, kids, prams - I'm definitely out of the game.



Good job that McGuinness wasn't going this fast down the A1 with his trailer

ASK McGUINNESS

Is it fair that speed cameras pop up all over?

DAVE MURPHY
I don't really think it's fair or unfair to be honest, it just is what it is and is a fact of modern life. The irony is that you can go to Halfords and for £50 you can buy a satnav that tells you where they all are!

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

NEXT WEEK WHY EXPERIENCE REALLY COUNTS IN ROAD RACING

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