



HONDA FIREBLADE

How's that for a first bike? A 1997 CBR900RR FireBlade. It's still one of the greatest machines of all time. **Wesley Keane**



YAMAHA RD250F

1979 on my RD250F... afro hairstyle and nature treks? I've an XJR1300 now. **David Lindsay**



HONDA ELSINORE

I was reading MCN's articles on the Bonhams auction and the value of the Honda CR125M Elsinore. I had one as my first bike, aged 14. **Paul Wilson**



RALEIGH 350

My father with his dad on the back of his 1937 Raleigh 350 single. He has never seen another example since. **Chris Rich**



SKYTEAM ACE

My grandson learning clutch control. **David Manton**

YOU NEVER FORGET YOUR FIRST BIKE

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



YAMAHA RD50

My brother's first bike. How come he got the RD50 and I didn't get the pony I asked for? **Stephanie Valentine**



GIULIETTA

My first new bike – a Giulietta 49cc bought in 1965 when I was 17. Note the trendy Dunlop wellies. I now ride a Honda CB500F. **Grahame Gage**



YAMAHA RD350LC

My first wheelie machine, a 1981 Yamaha RD350LC. I checked the reg recently, YMB 561W is still on the road! **Derek Lynn**

MCN LAW

Your tricky legal questions answered

Insurance valuation problem

I recently bought a secondhand Honda Fireblade from a dealer for £5000. I thought it was a good price and I insured it for that amount. The broker did not query the value. Unfortunately, one week later I had an accident and the bike was written off. I have just received an offer of £3000. I have found many equivalent Fireblades online all well above this. How can I ensure I get paid fairly? **Darek Nowak, email**

Assuming you have an invoice to prove the purchase amount, this is excellent evidence of the bike's market value before the accident.

You have also identified comparable bikes all valued way in excess of the offer from your insurer. I suggest you contact your insurer with the evidence you have as to value (actual price paid and comparable bike prices) and ask them to reconsider and pay you the £5000 you paid, less the excess.

If the insurer does not respond favourably then you can raise an official complaint with the insurer which they

'An invoice would provide excellent evidence'

must investigate. If they still don't come up with an acceptable market value figure then you may refer the matter to the Financial Ombudsman Service (FOS) asking them to investigate.

Should the FOS not agree to deal with the matter then you could consider a claim against the insurer for breach of contract. Hopefully, however, stage one of the above will get this sorted out for you.

Andrew Campbell

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

Visit www.bikelawyer.co.uk or email andrew@bikelawyer.co.uk or call 01446 794169



TT LEGEND JOHN MCGUINNESS IN MCN EVERY WEEK

McPINT



'Some famous people are c**ks'

But McPint says others surprise you by being real salt of the earth

I've met quite a few famous people over the years. It's always interesting. I guess the biggest guy I've met is Prince William.

I got a secret phone call saying "The Duke of Cambridge is coming to the TT and would like to meet with you," and I just said "Oh right. I'll have to check my diary". I turned to Becky and said "They want me to see the Duke of Cambridge. Is he part of the prawn sandwich brigade?" I had no idea it was Prince William!

I first met him in 2003 when I rode the Triumphs with Jim

'THE PRINCE HAS A BIKE BUT GETS AGGRO OF HIS MISSUS FOR IT'

Moody and Bruce Anstey. He was only 21 back then and I wondered whether he'd remember me all these years later, and he did. He watches the racing and has a bike himself but gets a bit of aggro off his missus for it.

There's usually a lot of protocol with people like that but there wasn't that day he was just one of the lads. He came in, sat on the Norton, revved it up and was loving it.

I met Keanu Reeves too; he's a big hitter! He was on TV talking to Nico Rosberg about Goodwood and he was saying how he rubbed shoulders with me! It was strange to hear him say



No prawn sarnies here... Prince William waves off the 2018 TT Zero race

that when you think about all the movies he's done.

They aren't always nice though. I remember Jensen Button saying to me in 2006: "oh, you're still alive then". He had a massive entourage of people around him and I thought "what a f**king cock". He's actually changed a bit since then, I've got to know him a bit over the last few years and he's alright. I met that Jamiroqui once too, he was a bloody arrogant prick.

I don't go looking for them though, it's usually they come to speak to me. It's incredible to be in that sort of company though.



It's not every day the heir to the throne asks for a sit on your motorcycle

ASK MCGUINNESS

How did you enjoy the fun at Ally Pally?

Pete Waughy

Loved it. Had a great weekend on the strip with James Whitham and the rest. You can't beat messing about with mates on bikes. I was like a pig in sh*t to be honest and it's always good to meet the showgoers too.

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

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