



RD350 YPVS

It wasn't quite my first back in around 1984, but was always the prettiest. (The bike that is, not the hat). **Phil Mainwaring**



COTTON

My father Brian Elson, riding a Cotton which my mother Maureen bought him. He is 81 now and still riding. **Dale Elson**



HONDA CRF50

This is my daughter Izzi when she was four. She loves bikes! **Vincent Wright**



MINI-SCOOTER

This is my friend Ciaran McCrory. He loved his first mini scooter so much! It started his two-wheel obsession. **Tom Wright**



YAMAHA RD250 F

Me and my new Yamaha RD250 F in 1979. Took me a year saving up £17.50 a week as an engineering apprentice. **Graham Roper**

YOU NEVER FORGET YOUR FIRST BIKE

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



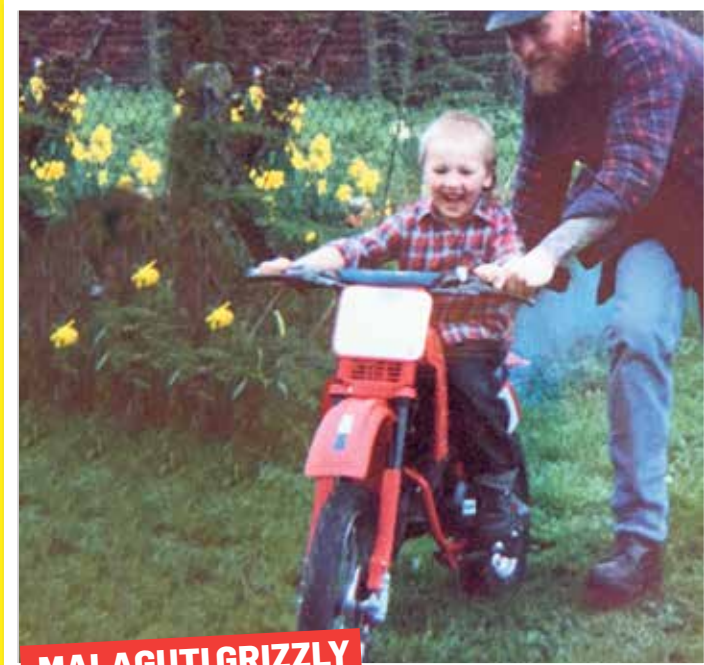
AFRICA TWIN/TRANSALP

My first bike and my dad's first after ten years. We were off to John O'Groats and Land's End. **Michael King**



KAWASAKI Z250

On my Kawasaki at Oliver's Mount back in 1980. **Stephen Farley**



MALAGUTI GRIZZLY

This is my son Max on his Malaguti in about 1992. He now lives in Australia and rides a KTM Super Duke R and a Yamaha WR450. **Paul James**

MCN LAW

Your tricky legal questions answered

Q 'Drink-drive charge is hard to swallow'

I was riding home in London with my girlfriend on the back after a night out when I had an incident. This guy was road raging me so I decided to speed away from the lights to get away from him. Suddenly a pedestrian ran out in front of me and we collided. I and my girlfriend were injured. The police turned up and breathalysed me and I was under the limit (I had a couple of beers over a few hours but knew I would be fine). At hospital they took a blood sample and I was over the limit. They calculated I was doing 46 in a 30. I am now being charged with dangerous driving while intoxicated. I was under the limit and did not cause the crash so I need help as the hearing is coming up.

Anon, email

A You may be entitled to Legal Aid considering this is a serious offence. Alternatively many motor insurance policies have legal protection which could pay the legal costs of defending the charges against you. Although they often exclude drink driving cases, you are innocent until

'You must seek advice from a criminal solicitor'

proven guilty so I would check your policy. There are a few unusual aspects to your case which require investigation. Why did they take a blood sample if you had already passed the roadside test? Why are they not investigating the other driver's and pedestrian's conduct, without which, arguably, the accident would not have happened? I strongly suggest you seek advice from a criminal solicitor.

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



'If you're fast you won't get sacked'

Why McGuinness reckons it's better for riders just to move on

I've seen some teams getting stick recently for splitting with riders before the end of the season. But the way I look at it, these people own the teams, they are putting the money in, it's their choice. Ultimately, if the team boss isn't happy, the rider can't be happy. And if you are honest with yourself, then sometimes you are actually better off to split and go a different way.

Contracts aren't worth the paper they are written on; a handshake is as good as a

'A HANDSHAKE IS AS GOOD AS A CONTRACT IN RACING'

contract. You have to be in agreement, especially with racing; if you aren't happy and aren't getting the results then why would you continue? I was like that in 2005. I walked away from the AIM team. I wasn't happy, Alastair Flanagan wasn't very happy, so I was honest and I walked away. I didn't get paid, but I wasn't happy and I ended up riding the Vitrans bike at the end of the year and loved it. It was so much better for me. You have to be singing from the same hymn sheet or it'll never work.

Riders aren't perfect, some can be right prima donnas! I saw a British Supersport racer smash



KTM have given Bradley the push but will the new guy do any better?

his screen after his bike broke down at Brands Hatch, I'd have sacked him for that.

You have to have respect. You need to be constructive, smashing things up isn't the way forward.

On the other side, if you sack someone off to bring someone else in, it doesn't necessarily mean your team is going to go forward in the results. This is a difficult game and nobody jumps on a new bike and goes straight to the front.

At the end of the day if a rider is getting results and fighting for a title, he won't get sacked. End of.



Here's hoping the move to BSB will put Scott Redding back on the podium

ASK McGUINNESS

What do you get out of doing trackdays?

STEVE RAWKINS

I do quite a few. Either just to blow the cobwebs off or to test a certain bike. I still love them. Just riding bikes and seeing everyone enjoying themselves gives me a kick. I've been doing quite a few recently as I've been building up my fitness.

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

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