

# Talking point

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**MCN**  
**LAW**  
Your tricky legal  
questions answered

## 'The police just weren't interested'

I had to put pen to paper in total disbelief at our police and councils. I found a moped that had been stolen and dumped so I removed the bike and chained it to mine for safe-keeping while a quick check revealed that the tax and MoT were both recent. Two hours on the phone and web chat to Devon police and they said they couldn't trace the owner, classed it as an abandoned vehicle and put the onus on the council to deal with it. The police said they would send a report to the council. I rang three times and reported to them and nothing. What do have we to do to get some poor person's bike returned?

Iain Duthie, Paington



**STAR LETTER**

Write something that spikes our interest, and you could be selected for the Star Letter slot. Each week one lucky reader will win an MCN T-shirt in a variety of different designs

## PC just stayed in his car

Efforts to fight bike crime don't seem to include Lincolnshire where I had to pester the local police just to get them to attend the scene when my neighbour disturbed some git trying to steal my bike at 4am - and even then the PC didn't even leave his car. Then there's the young oiks I see riding an unregistered CRF in a field, wearing black balaclavas, harassing people trying to walk their dogs. I've contacted Crimestoppers twice and even have a video and yet no-one has been in touch. So forgive me for being somewhat sceptical.

J Dixon, email

## It's a tech step too far

Just read Honda's plans for Lane Keeping Assist Systems (LKAS) for their motorcycles (MCN, July 20). How in the world will that be viable on a bike? I have this on my Honda Civic and whilst it's more useful for cars due to their width, I have still turned it off as it can be annoying. Sometimes it detects lines in the



Paul de Luisgnan says Suzuki are still committed to motorcycling

middle of the lane and is only useful if you're not concentrating, while on a bike you are focused all the time. Imagine when filtering, it'll be pulling one way then the next.

Alan Ford, West Sussex

## We need Suzuki to stay

I was relieved to read that Suzuki are promising to stay in the bike market - despite pulling the plug on MotoGP and endurance racing. Let's

hope that boss Paul de Luisgnan is correct and that Suzuki are going to divert funds back into road bikes.

Jason Taylor, email

## Pass the soap, Jonathan

Interesting news on MSV's new solar-powered race circuit in France (MCN, July 20) but perhaps boss Jonathan Palmer could spare a few quid and put some soap in the temporary toilets at Donington.

Chris Randell, email

## Let's have more history

Your Triumph supplement was a brilliant read (MCN, July 20). So much info from the very start to present day. How about the same on the history of other manufacturers? Honda, Suzuki, Kawasaki, Yamaha, Ducati, Harley-Davidson, MV Agusta, Moto Guzzi, Aprilia, etc. Been buying MCN since 1973.

Robert Neilson, Perthshire

## Keep the fizz on ice

I was watching the recent World Superbikes round at Donington

park and loved the close racing. It was an impressive show by Toprak Razgatlioglu, winning three races and standing on top of the podium with such competition as Rea and Bautista is no mean feat. Why then does he have to leave the podium when the Champagne is opened? I know its for religious reasons but he has just won, it seems very unfair for the winner to have to leave what is in effect his podium. It may be motorsport tradition to spray the fizz but surely the other riders could respect him and open it later or even give it to their hardworking teams as appropriate. Let's give Toprak the respect he deserves.

Corey Higham, email

## My Ducati's not diesel...

Thought I would share with fellow readers what nearly happened to me at a Shell station. I pulled up to the pump and unhooked the nozzle underneath the V Power sticker and was about to dispense the fuel when my son noticed I had picked up the diesel nozzle (which was directly below the V Power sign). Both nozzles were next to each other. The handles are different colours but I believe the signage is confusing and could have resulted in a tank of diesel in my Ducati 1098!

Nick Nicholls, email

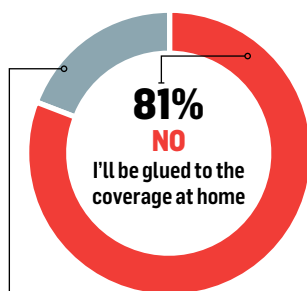
## High price of progress

Really good piece by Jon Urry on the Zero vs Trident, however the question remains - how an earth does a motor, battery and two wheels generate a £22,000 price?

Dan Fantham, Hastings

## READER POLL

### Are you going to the British GP



19% YES You can't beat the buzz of actually being there

## 'My bike fell off the recovery truck'

**Q** My bike was recently recovered from the roadside after a breakdown. They can't have secured it properly because, at some point in the journey, it came off the lorry and was dragged along behind. Communication since then has been extremely shoddy, with me having to do all the chasing, and I can't help but get the feeling that they're trying to fob me off. Where do I stand?

Leon, email

**A** There shouldn't be an issue with the roadside assistance provider accepting that they were responsible for the damage to your bike. Once they have done that, they should arrange for the bike to be examined by an engineer to see whether it can be repaired for less than the value of the bike. If it can't then they should offer you the market value.

If there are any issues along

## 'I feel like the recovery firm are fobbing me off'

the way that a formal complaint doesn't resolve, then what action you take depends on how you arranged the breakdown cover.

If your cover was provided by your insurance company, then you should be able to contact the Financial Ombudsman to settle your complaint.

If the dispute was with someone like the RAC or AA, you would potentially need to consider bringing a small claim through the courts to settle the matter.

### Andrew Campbell

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

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