



MUTT MONGREL 125

My Mutt Mongrel 125 from back in 2017. I loved it but am now on my third (much bigger) bike. **Courtney Buckingham**



BSA A65 LIGHTNING

My Lightning in 1968 – my first big bike after passing my test. Still riding on a Multistrada, can't see me ever stopping. **Merv James**



BSA C12

My first bike was this BSA in 1971 featuring my girlfriend (now my wife). I now ride a Ducati SuperSport S and a VFR800. **Colin Rowley**



YAMAHA RD350 LC

Not my first motorcycle as such but this was my first two-stroke in 1985. Not quite standard as you can see, but very quick. **Chris Jackson**



HONDA SS50

Here I am in 1981 on my brilliant Honda SS50 with Kipper, our Manx cat. I now ride a Kawasaki Z900. **Richard Bentham**



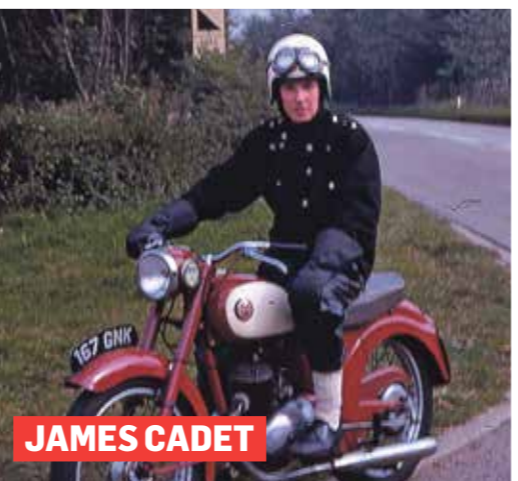
SUZUKI GT185

My 'first' new bike in 1976. My son on the pillion now rides a Street Triple 765 and I ride a Tiger 800. **Vic Hill**



YAMAHA YS125

Learning to ride has helped get me to work during lockdown. I wish I'd started 15 years ago! **Jeff Smith**



JAMES CADET

Me on my very first bike in 1963, a 150cc James Cadet. Look at the size of that front brake! **David Maclannan**

YOU NEVER FORGET YOUR **FIRST BIKE**  
A blast down memory lane  
Send your first bike pics to: [yourpics@motorcyclenews.com](mailto:yourpics@motorcyclenews.com)

**MCN LAW**  
Your tricky legal questions answered

**Q DVLA want to stop me riding**

I'm about to turn 70 and I have sent all my documents to the DVLA to renew my licence. I have a car as well as my BMW touring motorcycle. In 2016 I had a pacemaker fitted that, along with medication, has cured my arrhythmia, but the DVLA now say I am unfit to drive because of my pacemaker. Can I appeal against the decision? My licence has not yet been removed – we are still corresponding over it. **Chris, email**

**A** After having a pacemaker fitted you can start driving again after one week as long as you don't have any symptoms (such as dizziness or fainting) that would affect your driving, you have regular check-ups at the pacemaker clinic and you haven't recently had a heart attack or heart surgery. You must also tell your insurer that you have a pacemaker. If you drive a large or passenger-carrying vehicle, you'll have to wait six weeks after your

**'You can appeal the DVLA decision via a magistrate'**

pacemaker is fitted before driving. If you disagree with the DVLA's decision you must be able to provide relevant information that was not included in the original assessment. You must also include proof that you meet the required standards for driving. You can also appeal the final decision if you contact your local magistrate's court within six months. Therefore, I suggest you provide the DVLA with supportive letters from your GP and cardiologist and if needs be follow the appeal route.

**Andrew Campbell**  
Solicitor and author of the MCN Law column for the last ten years  
Visit [www.bikelawyer.co.uk](http://www.bikelawyer.co.uk) or email [andrew@bikelawyer.co.uk](mailto:andrew@bikelawyer.co.uk) or call 01446 794169



TT Legend John McGuinness MBE in MCN every week

**McPINT**



**'How do the guys survive Dakar?'**

Like dodging bullets for 5000km. You just can't imagine it...

**D**akar is insane. It's hard to explain but the way they ride, it's like they're being chased by the police for two weeks. The risks are massive and they're basically dodging bullets for 5000km. I'm gutted that our man Sam Sunderland didn't win, but he did an amazing job to get on the podium in what was a hell of a race. There is no question that these guys are the best in the world, which is why it's a shame that as a sport, rallies go under the radar apart from those two weeks.

**'It's a survival thing. It's just something that can't be bottled'**

I'd love to be a fly on the wall when they finish the last stage. I can imagine it's like when you cross the line of the Senior TT and everything just runs out of you. I try to compare the Dakar to hell. Dakar is just relentless, day after day after day... Whether you're a motorbike rider, an athlete or just a human being, there are times in your life when you just find something that enables you to carry on. I don't know where it comes from. A magic pill? Something your body releases? You just find it. It's like



Sam Sunderland does battle in the sand. See p52-55

when you do a World Endurance race. You get up at 7am for warm-up, start racing at 3pm and then carry on for another 24 hours. You should try it! Or just get up and do nothing for 30 hours. Even sitting on the sofa for 30 hours without nodding off is impossible. But when you're in a race and it's the middle of the night you get on it and you're gone – something comes from within. That's the only way I can understand what they're going through at Dakar. It's a survival thing. It's something that can't be bottled.



Guys like Sam have to dig deeper than deep to make it through

**ASK MCGUINNESS**

**Would you like to race Dakar one of these days?**

**David McKay**  
I won't lie, I've definitely thought about it, but I think the dream of doing it is very different from the reality!

**@** Send your questions to [AskMcPint@motorcyclenews.com](mailto:AskMcPint@motorcyclenews.com). Don't expect a serious answer.

**MCN**

**How to get in touch**

Motorcycle News, Media House, Lynchwood, Peterborough, PE2 6EA

**EDITORIAL**  
Editor Richard Newland, 01733 468025, [richard.newland@motorcyclenews.com](mailto:richard.newland@motorcyclenews.com)  
Senior Writer Chris Dabbs, [emma.franklin@motorcyclenews.com](mailto:emma.franklin@motorcyclenews.com)  
Deputy Editor Emma Franklin, 01733 468084  
Office Manager Alison Silcox, 01733 468025, [alison.silcox@motorcyclenews.com](mailto:alison.silcox@motorcyclenews.com)  
**SPORT & FEATURES**  
Editor Michael Guy, 01733 468883, [michael.guy@motorcyclenews.com](mailto:michael.guy@motorcyclenews.com)  
Sports Reporter Josh Close, [josh.close@motorcyclenews.com](mailto:josh.close@motorcyclenews.com)  
**CONSUMER**  
Reporter Apply Now – to Alison Silcox  
**BIKES**  
Director of Content Andy Calton, [andy.calton@motorcyclenews.com](mailto:andy.calton@motorcyclenews.com)  
Chief Road Tester Michael Neaves, 01733 468010  
Deputy Editor, Bauer Motorcycling Mike Armitage, 01733 468031

Deputy Editor, Bauer Motorcycling Martin Fitz-Gibbons, 01733 468031  
Senior Writer Chris Dabbs, [chris.dabbs@motorcyclenews.com](mailto:chris.dabbs@motorcyclenews.com)  
**NEWS**  
News Editor Jordan Gibbons, 01733 468011, [jordan.gibbons@motorcyclenews.com](mailto:jordan.gibbons@motorcyclenews.com)  
Senior Writer Dan Sutherland, [dansutherland@motorcyclenews.com](mailto:dansutherland@motorcyclenews.com)  
Staff Writer Ben Clarke, [ben.clarke@motorcyclenews.com](mailto:ben.clarke@motorcyclenews.com)  
**PRODUCTION**  
Senior Production Editor Simon Brown  
**ART**  
Senior Art Editor Nick Lemon  
Senior Designer Simon Relph  
Senior Designer Lee Laughton  
**MOTORCYCLENEWS.COM**  
Online Editor Gareth Evans

**ADVERTISING**  
Group Commercial Director Gareth Ashman, 01733 366444  
Head of Online Advertising Rob Fairburn, 01733 366455  
Key Accounts Shaun Collin, 01733 366453  
**DEALER TEAM**  
Phil Martin, 01733 366368  
Luke Want, 01733 366419  
Tommy Holt, 01733 486386  
Motorcycling Account Manager Samantha Creedon-Gray, 01733 366406  
MCN Classified Sarah Frisby, 01733 366323  
Marketing Manager Sarah Norman

**H BAUER PUBLISHING**  
President of Global Publishing Rob Munro-Hall  
CEO of Bauer Publishing UK Chris Duncan  
Chief Financial Officer Bauer Magazine Media Lisa Hayden  
H Bauer Publishing, company number 11903328, Academic House, 24-28 Oval Road, London NW1 7DT  
**BACK ISSUES**  
To order back issues please call our UK number on 01858 438894, for overseas +44 1858 438894.  
**SUBSCRIPTION QUERIES**  
UK number 01858 438884  
Overseas call +44 1858 438884  
To contact us about subscription orders, renewals, missing issues or any other subscription queries please email [bauer@subscription.co.uk](mailto:bauer@subscription.co.uk) or call our Tompage your account online visit [www.greatmagazines.co.uk/so](http://www.greatmagazines.co.uk/so)  
Syndication [syndication@bauermedia.co.uk](mailto:syndication@bauermedia.co.uk)

No part of the magazine may be reproduced in any form in whole or in part without prior permission of the publisher. All material published remains the copyright of Bauer Consumer Media Ltd. We reserve the right to edit letters, copy or images submitted to the magazine without further consent. The submission of material to Bauer Media, whether unsolicited or requested, is taken as permission to publish in the magazine, including any licensed editions throughout the world. Any fees paid in the UK include remuneration for other licensed editions.  
We cannot accept responsibility for unsolicited manuscripts, images or material lost or damaged in the post. While every reasonable care is taken to ensure accuracy, the publisher is not responsible for errors or omissions nor do we accept any liability for loss or damage, resulting from use of the paper.  
H Bauer Publishing is a member of the Independent Press Standards Organisation ([www.ipso.co.uk](http://www.ipso.co.uk)) and is subject to its reporting and redress procedures. Our Editorial Complaints Policy (including details of how to contact us) can be found at [www.bauermedia.com/complaints](http://www.bauermedia.com/complaints). Our email for editorial complaints is [complaints@bauermedia.co.uk](mailto:complaints@bauermedia.co.uk). H Bauer Publishing is authorised and regulated by the FCA (Ref No. 845988 and Ref No. 710097). H Bauer Publishing is a company registered in England/Wales with company number 11903328, registered address Academic House, 24-28 Oval Road, London, NW1 7DT. VAT no. 918 5617 01 MCN, ISSN 0027-8533. USPS 5070 is published weekly by Bauer Publishing Ltd, Media House, Lynch Wood, Peterborough, PE2 9EA, United Kingdom. The US annual subscription price is \$298. Air freight and mailing in the USA by agent named World Courier Inc, 150 15, 32nd Street, Jamaica, NY 11433, USA. Periodicals postage paid at Brooklyn, NY 11256, US Postmaster: Send address changes to MCN, World Containeer Inc, 150 15, 32nd Street, Jamaica, NY 11433, USA. Subscribers are asked to send all correspondence to: MCN, Media House, Lynch Wood, Peterborough, PE2 9EA, UK. Business to business enquiries to [enquiries@bauermedia.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@bauermedia.co.uk)