



TRIUMPH

Me in 1964/5 ready for the Busy Bee. Not quite my first bike however and not my last – I am still riding! **Melvyn Stimson**



SUZUKI GSX-R600

My wife, Louise Bowcock, bought me a bike before I'd passed my test! Three years later I am now on a BMW S1000RR. **Paul Beck**



HONDA CT125

Here I am aged four with my dad in Australia. This started my love of bikes. I always remember wanting a KTM... now I do. **Amy McCabe**



YAMAHA DT175E

I passed my test on this 'beast' back in October 1981. I'm now riding an R1250GSA, so things have moved on a bit since then. **Robin Knowles**



TRIUMPH TWENTY ONE

My dad with me sitting on the tank of his Triumph. Bikes must be in the blood as I am now 59, with six. **Paul Cook**



YAMAHA TZR250

Me and my Yamaha TZR250 3XV at aged 18 in 2001. I sold it a year later and have regretted it ever since. **Grahame Dyer**



KAWASAKI Z400J

My first inline four in 1982. I took my future wife as a pillion for a camping trip to France that year. **Steve Caldwell**

YOU NEVER FORGET YOUR
FIRST BIKE
A blast down memory lane
Send your first bike pics to:
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HONDA CB125F

This is my wife learning to ride on her CB125F, having once insisted that she'd never go pillion let alone ride herself. **Rob Bastable**

MCN LAW
Your tricky legal questions answered

Q Can I use an old 125 on my CBT?

Many years ago I rode a two-stroke 125cc which was factory-restricted to 12bhp. I'm coming back to motorcycling after a long lay-off, so I need to redo my CBT. I still have the stroker in the back of the garage and hoped to use it again as it's still a runner. But I've been told I cannot ride my 125cc from the 1980s. The reason given is that although it is kicking out a legal 12bhp, it could theoretically be taken to 22bhp, meaning it is no longer CBT-legal. Are CBT riders confined to the four-stroke 125 tractors in this day and age, or can I brush the dust off my stroker and legally go for a spin on a CBT?
Pete Thompson, Northampton

A The Government guidance states the following: "After you've completed CBT, you can ride a:
● Moped if you're 16 or over
● Motorcycle up to 125cc and with a power output of up to 11kW if you're 17 or over
● You must use L plates (L or D

'It would become illegal if you decided to tinker with it'

plates in Wales)
● You must pass your full moped or motorcycle test within 2 years, or you have to either take CBT again or stop riding

If the bike has a potential power output of 22bhp (16.4 kW) then it exceeds the 11kW threshold.

There is nothing in the regulations to say that you could not use it in its current condition with the lower power output but it would become illegal if you chose to tinker with the bike and increase its power.

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

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TT Legend John McGuinness MBE in MCN every week

McPINT



'Rea is strong and intelligent, too...'

McGuinness reckons it will take a real class act to stop Johnny

Last week's WSB test didn't happen because of the rain, but right now looking at it from the outside I don't think anyone can beat Johnny Rea. He doesn't stop working to improve and the relationship he has with his team is awesome, and even away from the track he's in the perfect place. The kids are happy, his wife is happy, he's back in Northern Ireland, he's got no stress, no worries. You never get bored with winning. People ask 'what has he

'What Bautista did would have destroyed most other racers'

got to prove?' but it's not about that. Now it's up to the other riders to bring it to him, which is exactly what he'll want. He wants someone to come and have a go. But Jonathan is an intelligent guy out on track. Where Marquez refuses to be beaten, he'll take third if things aren't right.

He's also got a new bike for this season, which might be better in a few areas, but it may be worse to start with and take some dialling in. But I'm sure whatever gets thrown at him, he'll work it out.

Scott Redding is his most obvious challenger and the Brit in me would like to see Alex Lowes



Great team, great rider. No wonder the titles keep coming

run with him. There's Toprak Razgatlioglu who is obviously oozing with talent, but for me he lacks a bit of finesse. You see Toprak doing skids and incredible stoppies down pit lane, but you don't see Johnny doing any of that – he's got his eyes on the prize! And we know Johnny will fight. Two years ago Bautista came into WSB from MotoGP and won the opening 11 races. That would have destroyed most riders, but not Rea. It was Bautista's championship to lose and he lost it because of Johnny.



Let's hope there is some spare space in there for more wins...

ASK MCGUINNESS

Is there any way Rea can be beaten?

Peter Ford
I think about the only thing that could derail him would be if someone knocked him off or he had a crash and broke a wrist because as an overall package he's the best on the grid.

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

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