

Talking point

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MCN
LAW
Your tricky legal questions answered

They are an inspiration to all of us

I've just finished reading the WoMCN Rider pull-out which came with last week's issue of MCN and just had to reply... What a great piece put together by Deputy Editor Emma Franklin, and well overdue I'm sure. So many great words spring to mind – educational, inspirational and really insightful. Like superfan Jeanne, I've been following Ana Carrasco's career progression through her racing career for a while now, she is amazing. And I have to admit to being a tiny bit jealous of the women on the Belize jungle tour, what an adventure. Keep up the great work Emma.
Mike Powell, email



Supplement's a keeper

Thank you so much for the women rider supplement, the whole thing reversed the stereotypical idea women don't do or get the thrill motorcycles. My grand daughter is only three and I hope she gets into motorcycles in the future. I will be keeping the supplement to show her when she is a bit older and look forward to more like it to come.
Dominic Tee, Folkestone

Dreaded brake judder

I recently rode to Scotland and the Lake District from North Wales and after descending the Hardknott Pass in dry conditions noticed a "shudder/judder" whilst front braking. The result? Warped front discs on a 12-month old KTM 1290 SA/R with less than 6000 miles. The good news is they were replaced under warranty. However, issues like this should not happen on motorbikes designed to cross continents in all weathers, but whether it is a supply chain issue and/or substandard metal



Can anyone help find ODP 184R?

components remains to be seen.
Jim Williams, N Wales

Truly distinguished cause

I'd like to say a big thank you to all that gave money to the Distinguished Gentleman's Ride. After losing my father to prostate cancer, I was diagnosed with it too. Three years later and I am clear at last. Big thanks to Bridge Motorcycles for our local DGR.
Iain Duthie, Paignton

STAR LETTER

fast they are pretty unusable on the roads. While there I was provided with a new V4 Multistrada to ride, I have to say it's a brilliant bike and was great fun to ride on the twisty Austrian roads. I tried an S1000RR on track a few years ago and despite having done quite a few trackdays on GSs, I concluded the S1000RR was faster than my brain. The Multi manages to combine searing performance with great handling and comfort. This got me thinking, I would like to challenge Michael to compare the Multi and the Panigale on track and just see how much faster the Panigale is around a lap of Oulton Park. I reckon the Multi would be better round the MCN 250 test route as well.

Cliff Batley, email

New Zed missed a trick

Very interesting article on the Zed (MCN, June 15) but, boy, did Kawasaki miss a trick with the Z900RS. No four-into-four! Even four-into-two would have been just acceptable. I don't want a bike that only looks good from one side.

Gordon Thomson, email

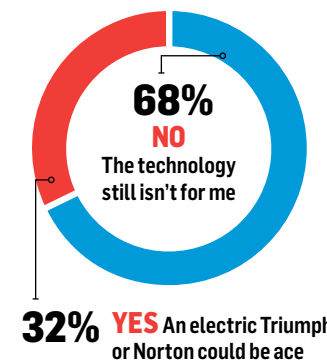
So many TT heroes

The TT is about more than the top 10, it's about man and machine beating the course as much it is about who wins the race. What about the likes of Stefano Bonetti, Michael Evans, Raul Torras Martinez, Mark Goodings, Michael Russell, Jonathan Perry etc? They deserve to be immortalised in print.

Andy, email

READER POLL

Would you be tempted by a British electric bike



Ought I to have known that my brother was taking cocaine?

I have an ongoing claim from an accident last summer. I was on the back of my brother's bike as he was giving me a lift home. We had been at a friend's house and I didn't see my brother drink any alcohol so I thought it was safe to go with him. I was not aware that he had been taking cocaine when there. He lost control of his bike and we both came off. He was convicted for drug driving. His insurers are now saying they won't pay me compensation as I knew he was taking drugs but I decided to get on the bike anyway. This is not fair as I really had no idea. Are they correct?

Phil, Stockport

There is a metabolite in cocaine called benzoylecgonine and that is what they test for. There is a 'legal' limit of 50 microgrammes of this substance per litre of blood. Anything over this and a driver is likely to be prosecuted in accordance with Section 5A of the Road Traffic Act 1988.

You need to get witness evidence to help prove you had no idea that your brother was using the drug as well as giving your own evidence. If the insurer shows that it was obvious or that you knew or ought to have known that your brother was taking cocaine then you may well find you will receive reduced compensation to account for your contributory negligence.

Ask your solicitors to have a look at the case of Owens v Brimmell [1977] dealing with the "ought to have known" test.

Andrew Campbell

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

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