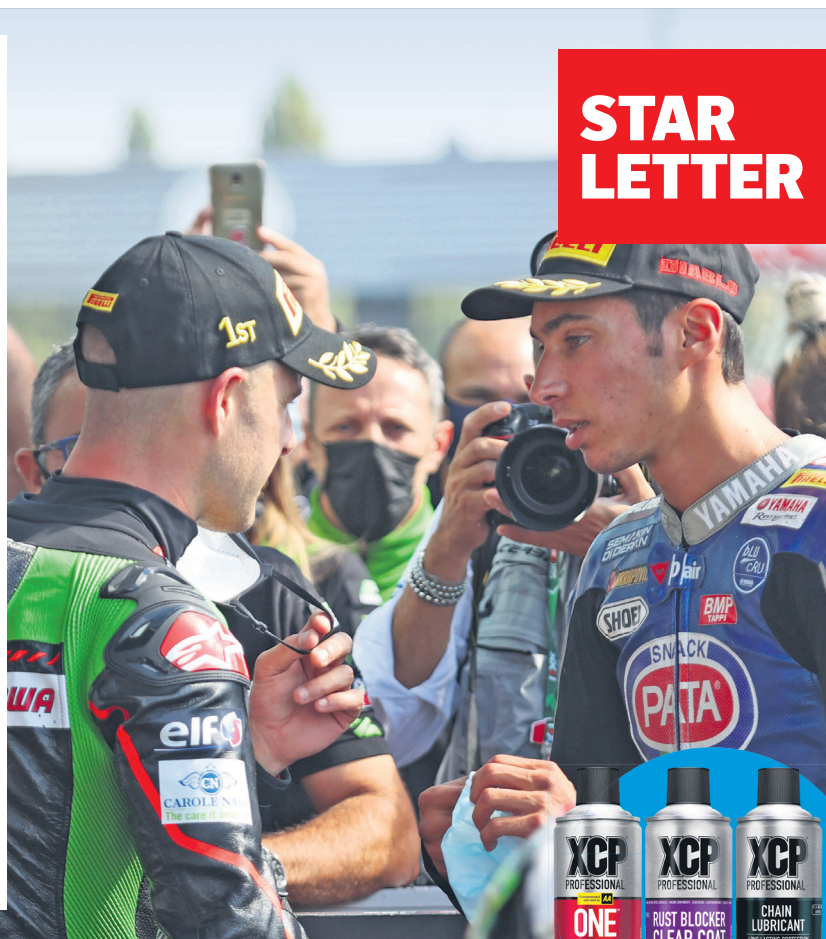


Talking point

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Rea went too far with WSB protest

I'm sure most fans are as brassed off as me by the Sprint race at Magny-Cours. If this is how results are to be decided, I'll just sit in the garden with a can of beer and not bother to watch. I have nothing against Johnny Rea, it goes without saying that his record in WSB for the last six years has been amazing. If, however, his chat with Pere Riba after the race is what lead to Kawasaki putting in the protest which ended in Toprak losing the win over a brief track limits misdemeanour, then I hope Rea's bike breaks down every race for the rest of the year. Why should riders put their lives on the line if organisers are going to make decisions like this? **Roger Marsh, Dorset**



STAR LETTER

Write something that spikes our interest, and you could get selected for the Star Letter slot, and receive this brilliant Maintenance Pack from our friends at XCP worth £30



after a fantastic day watching MotoGP at Silverstone I had to switch from daytime running lights to dipped beam. "Not as bright as they used to be," was my main thought, to be confirmed by my better half when I got home with the remark that one of my lights wasn't working. With the bike still having four months warranty I contacted Plymouth Triumph on Tuesday (Monday was a Bank Holiday) who looked at the bike later that day and then fired off an email to the warranty department at Triumph. No quibbles, a new headlight unit was dispatched and was fitted on Friday. From start to finish it only took 48 hours from receiving the claim to having a new headlight fitted to my bike. It did get me thinking, though. The headlight was a full LED sealed unit. If the beam had failed at the start of next year the bike would have been out of warranty and I'd have been out of pocket to the tune of £600! **Michael Watts, Plymouth**

Has my lid been clocked?

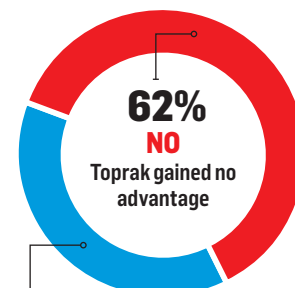
When purchasing a new lid, rummage through the inner lining and locate the sticker that says when it was made. You may be surprised by what it says. I bought my 'brand new' lid in July 2019, but have only just found the sticker that says April 2015. So it was in fact four years old. I always thought that the average life of most lids is about five years, so really I should be looking at replacing it now.

Shaun Page, email

Ed: The clock starts ticking from the moment the helmet is in use, exposed to UV, sweat, etc, so you should be fine.

READER POLL

Was Rea right to protest Toprak?



38% YES Rules are rules and must be enforced for all

Big questions for WSB

The Magny-Cours WSB fiasco leads me to ask some questions. These are as follows. Why didn't Paul Denning protest at the repeated dangerous riding by Rea every time Toprak overtook? Why did the stewards take four hours to penalise Toprak for a minor infringement that they had already studied but decided not to act upon? Who are these people anyway? I had some respect for Rea and all that he had achieved but that respect has been destroyed by this protest and his much-too-aggressive riding.

Bill Woolnough, Norfolk

Rea's feeling the heat

I wonder if Jonathan Rea is content with himself. I think he must be a worried man to seize on that ruling in that situation. I hope he doesn't win the title with first/second placings points difference.

Brian Forrester, email

Rea wrong to protest

What thrilling races last weekend in World Superbikes, only marred by Jonathan Rea's protest. I have lost a



Derrick, 82, with his new purchase

lot of respect and I suspect many others feel the same.

Tim, email

Riding keeps you young

My dad Derrick Chant was riding a 350cc Norton Inter back in 1957 when he was 18 and he's not stopped since. Here he is (above) aged 82 on his new toy – a Royal Enfield Himalayan.

Pete Chant, email

Great feeling of security

For a while now I have been dithering about how to keep my

bikes safe. I'm fed up with using four ground anchors/chains. I had read about the Guardsman barrier and decided that was the way to go. Today, the lads from Image4security, came all the way into deepest Cumbria, and fitted their Guardsman barrier into my garage. It is the best investment I have made to keep my bikes safe. The fitting took about 25 minutes, the chat about bikes a bit longer. I don't usually do recommendations, but if you want to keep your bikes safe, then I can't honestly think of a better way of doing it.

Nick Brown, email

Not so meteoric rise

My first bike was a Honda CB250RS: SOHC, 250cc, 26bhp, 85mph and happy on motorways. Forty years later Enfield announce the Meteor: 350cc, 20bhp, struggles to crack 70mph, struggles on motorways. Is tech going backwards?

Martin Welbank, Cambridge

Could have been costly

During the 230-mile ride home to the West Country on my Tiger 1200

MCN
LAW

Your tricky legal questions answered

Q 'Dog ran out, so who pays?'

I have recently been involved in an accident whilst riding to work. I had just pulled out of my street when a dog ran across my path causing me to fall off. Luckily I was travelling at slow speed so suffered no injuries, however my brand new motorcycle was badly damaged. I have asked the owner to pay for the repairs, but he has refused and told me that I should have been able to stop in time.

Ben, Nottingham

A The owner has a duty to keep control of his dog. The Highways Code states that owners must not let a dog out on a road on its own and must keep it on a short lead when walking on the pavement. If the dog was off its lead and shot across the road into your path then you likely have a good case against the owner. It would be sensible to ask the owner if he has any public liability insurance as this often covers this type of incident. If not, or if the owner is

'The owner has a duty to keep the dog under control'

not willing to engage with you then you will need to consider whether it is worthwhile bringing a claim against him.

In this situation and if you have your own comprehensive motorcycle insurance then you may be best utilising your policy. Your insurer can repair your bike and then use their recourses to seek to recover costs from the dog owner. You may be left to pay the excess, but this may be the least bad option when compared to bringing against the owner personally.

Andrew Campbell

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

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