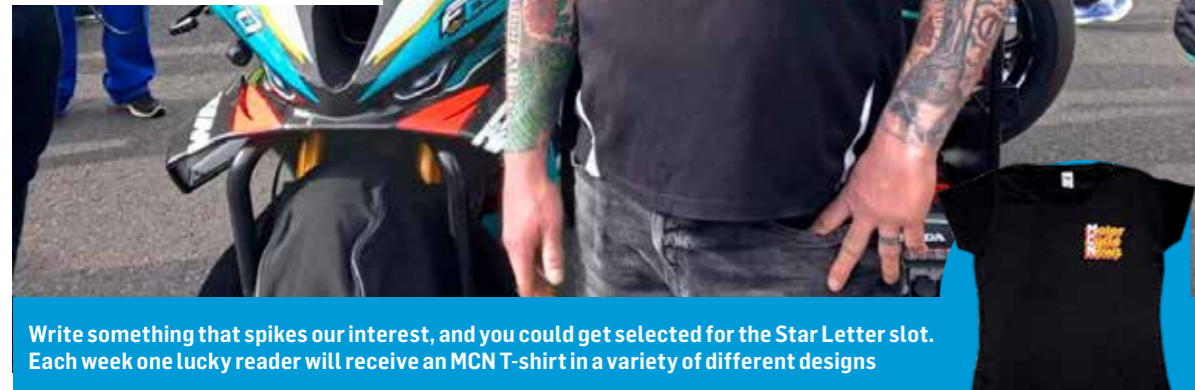


Talking point

mcn.letters@motorcyclenews.com motorcyclenews motorcyclenews MCNnews

'FHO treated us like VIPs'

I purchased VIP tickets for Oulton Park recently. My wife and I spent the Bank Holiday Monday with the FHO team and were looked after fabulously and even allowed on the grid. I would recommend it massively! I'm going through dark times at present medically, this was an escape for a day. Big thanks to everyone at FHO, keep up the good work.
Simon Redford, email



STAR LETTER

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

Police van scam

Unmarked camera vans are nothing more than a legal scam! They are sold to the public on the basis of road safety, without any evidence that a particular road is dangerous. They penalise generally law-abiding motorists, who may be a couple of mph over the limit – yes the limit may have been broken, but only those people who have registered their vehicle and paid road tax and insurance will be pursued. If the vehicle is not registered as legal and the owner is not an easy trace then the whole thing is binned because it costs money to pursue the offender. Lots of easier pickings out there.
W Sherrington, email



They sure ain't pretty but we reckon they probably work a treat

decade, how many were sold, which ones were game-changers and how they all fitted in.
Matt Swindon

History lessons...

At almost 49, I'm a bit late to the party but I've been riding for a year and loving it. I love reading MCN, sitting in the garage with the bike but I'd like to know more about motorbike history. It'd be great to read about what bikes were cool by

History lessons 2...

I've just finished reading the article on the Harley-Davidson museum (MCN, April 26). What a brilliant read it was too. A few years ago I was lucky enough to visit Sturgis and the Harley Store. I think you should start a new section in MCN

writing about a vintage British Bike every week. There are so many to choose from, bearing in mind a high percentage of readers and riders are of a certain age.
Michael Ward, email

Stick your hand in

Just thought I'd send you this amazing piece of motorcycling DIY. I was in Bruges last week and noticed these amazing homemade handwarmers (left). Maybe something to share with readers.
John Carlisle, email

That sinking feeling

A big shout out to the scrotes who decided that their preferred evening activity was to take an angle grinder to the padlock on my beloved 2008 FZ1, and sod off with it. We all read about these things in MCN every week, but this was the first time in 25 years that I've had that sinking feeling. It's all the worse knowing that they'll just junk it for parts for a fraction of its true worth.
Charles Crowley, email

Total recall

Recently via social media I've come across the FEMA website and been amazed by the number of recalls. I've purchased two new Triumph motorcycles 765 RS and the Tiger 1200 GT PRO, great bikes but the 1200 was recalled before I even collected it. I quickly looked over the FEMA website and the level of recalls appears to have increased and appears to impact most of the major brands.
Andy Dillon, email

Do you bit for biking

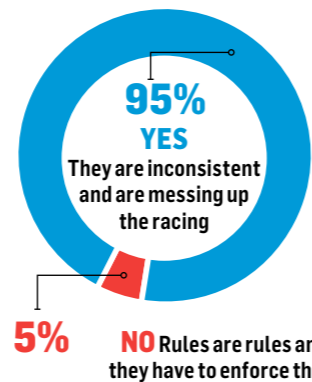
If we want to protect the future of biking then we need to tell the biking fraternity to put their hand in their pocket and join MAG (the Motorcycle Action Group). We need them, full stop.
Roy Andrews, email

Training tips

I loved the MCN New Rider pull-out. It is wonderful. I especially liked the advice to "Go floppy" when things are going wrong. It worked for me when I hit an unexpected icy patch. Your suggestion that a new rider should get more training once they have passed their test is spot on. But recommending on-road training that costs £885 is inappropriate for many new riders. For £175 you can get a 12-week IAM course, which does not require you to take any time off work and does not expect you to take it all in on one day. IAM training is much more likely to fit in with a new rider's budget and work.
Keith Berry, email

READER POLL

Should MotoGP stewards think again?



MCN LAW

Your tricky legal questions answered

Q 'Driver blamed a wasp sting'

I was riding my bike when a car swerved from the other side of the road onto mine and hit me, knocking me off and causing several injuries. The car driver has blamed his swerve on a wasp sting and his solicitors are arguing that I have no entitlement to compensation. They say that their client was not negligent as the sting caused the loss of control so it was not his fault.
James, email

A Your opponent's solicitors are relying on a legal defence known as "automatism". This is where someone cannot be held responsible for their actions if they had no knowledge or control over them. For example, committing a crime while sleep walking or having an epileptic fit out of the blue while driving. An automatism defence can succeed

'Ask for proof that the driver was stung'

where a person experiences a total loss of control through no fault of their own. The Defendant will have to satisfy a court that he was stung and that sting caused him to swerve. Ask for evidence such as photographs to show any evidence of a sting. Ultimately, it will be down to a court to decide whether the defence is valid or if it was simply a case of driver error. I would also argue that even if he can prove he was stung, his response was unreasonable.

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

Visit www.bikelawyer.co.uk or email andrew@bikelawyer.co.uk or call 01446 794169



KAWASAKI GPZ500

I passed test in 2001 just before the theory test came in and bought this Kawasaki GPZ500. Picture taken shortly after purchase. **Paul Taylor**



SUZUKI TM125

Patersonia in North West Tasmania, 1975. I was 14 years old and on my first motorbike, a Suzuki TM125. **Steve Miller**



SUZUKI GS750

Gutted I don't have a pic of my FS1-E DX but here's my GS750. Riding ever since, currently on a GSX1250FA. **Andy Robinson**

My first bike in 1975, engine in bits again... I used to ride it throttle to the stop 90% of the time. **Ali Finlay**



YAMAHA RD125

YOU NEVER FORGET YOUR FIRST BIKE
A blast down memory lane
Send your first bike pics to: yourpics@motorcyclenews.com



HONDA CJ250T

My girlfriend's (now my wife) first ride on a bike, she still rides pillion with me. The bike is my mate's CJ250T. **Ali Finlay**



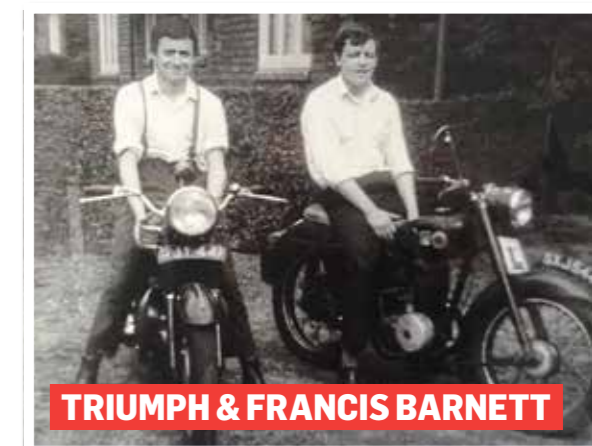
HONDA CB250

My first bike was this green CB250. Fell off on the first corner... no training back in those days. **Keith Anderson**



HONDA CB600F

The wheels that changed my life. I bought it with my brother who decided the bike was too old for him. **Tahir Malik**



TRIUMPH & FRANCIS BARNETT

Me (left) and my late brother John. I sold the Francis Barnett to my brother in order to buy my Triumph. **Derek Morgan**

MCN

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