



JAMES/VESPA/VELOCETTE

Gordon Chisholm on his James Comet, Frank Mawson on his Vespa 150 Sportique, and me on my Velocette. **Mike Coldron**



OSET

Here's a good one of Charlie age three. He's been riding the OSET since he was two and now rides my PW50. **Lee Dodson**



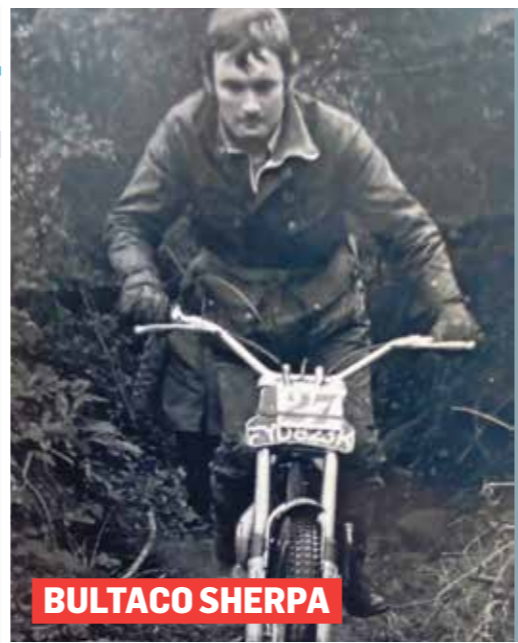
BMW R1100RT

This is back when I lived in Boston US in 1999. I wanted a Ducati but my wife said I was too old for one – and I was only 48! **Pete Townsend**

This was my first BMW. I really loved this machine, especially after I had fitted an R100RS engine for a bit more performance. **Graham Nisbet**



BMW R80GS



BULTACO SHERPA

Pops on his 1971 Bultaco Sherpa, it was the first bike I rode and I still have it. We're both still riding. **Mike Davies**



SUZUKI GSX-R750 SRAD

Not my first bike but one of my favourites. Taken on a frosty Christmas morning in 2000. **Darryl Griffiths**



KAWASAKI KX100

13-year-old me in 1978, never been without a bike since. My first road bike was a 1976 KTM Comet. **Graham Carey**

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FIRST BIKE
A blast down memory lane
Send your first bike pics to:
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MCN LAW
Your tricky legal questions answered

Q 'Can I get cover on a test ride?'

There was a news story about 18 months ago of someone selling their motorcycle where the buyer took it for a test ride. Unbeknown to the seller, that person had no valid insurance and crashed the bike, seriously injuring two pedestrians. Apparently, because the rider had no insurance they were able to claim against the seller/owner's insurance which paid out. The seller/owner's insurance then proceeded to set about getting their money back through their policy holder, which resulted in him having to sell his house. If this is the situation, how on Earth can someone sell their bike privately? Even if the seller is holding full payment whilst the rider takes it for a test ride, the financial risk is huge.
Ed, email

A You have to use your common sense in this situation. If someone selling a bike is allowing test rides, then they should insist on seeing valid insurance of the potential buyer, including cover for riding other people's bikes with their permission. Alternatively, the seller could speak to his own insurer to discuss cover for allowing third parties to have test rides. If you have any doubts at

'Sellers should insist on seeing valid insurance'

all, don't let the bike out of your sight. Even if a bike or car is left as a deposit, it might turn out to be stolen. The full asking price in cash is the best deposit. Without insurance in place for test rides you could struggle to make a claim on your own insurance.

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

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McPINT



'225mph? You've got to respect it'

McPint likes the sound of the astronomic top speeds in MotoGP

Having seen the MotoGP boys hit 225mph at Qatar I've had a few people ask me if I'd like to have a bike that fast at the TT. And I'll tell you I'd give my left bollock for the chance to be sat on a bike that did 225mph! If you could choose between a bike that could do 190 or 225mph, you'd take the faster one and you'd figure out how to ride it. The good thing is that the MotoGP riders respect the speed they are going. They understand the circumstances. In Moto3

'As spectators, speed is what we talk about and want to see'

there are riders that need a smack because they take so many liberties with each other.

None of the MotoGP riders look out of control and the bikes look super stable. Years ago there were a lot more stability issues. Nowadays, they seem to be on rails and they have incredible stopping power, too.

It's the best of the best riders, riding the best of the best bikes. Huge budgets and incredible tech in terms of tyres, electronics and aeros. Every rider wears the best kit. Every single element of the bike, rider and team lines up for them to do this type of speed.



Zarco fired his Ducati to a record 225mph in Qatar

The other thing people don't appreciate is that 225mph on an airfield when you have another ½ mile to slow down is one thing, doing that speed in a race and then having to smash the front brake as hard as you can and scrub off 165mph before you get to the apex of turn one is another.

As spectators, speed is what we talk about and it's what we want to see. And while at some tracks they won't be going that fast, let's see what they do at Mugello where they'll be going even quicker.



It's probably best that the Moto3 boys can't go quite as fast eh?

ASK MCGUINNESS

Now restrictions have eased have you done any riding?

Chris Webb
I went to a friend's motocross track for the first time. I know it's a bit cliché but I can't begin to explain how good it felt. Honestly it was liberating.

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

MCN

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