



HONDA MINIBIKE

It had a 25cc Honda engine and I was riding it around before I could even ride a normal bicycle properly. **Steve Coppola**



YAMAHA XS750

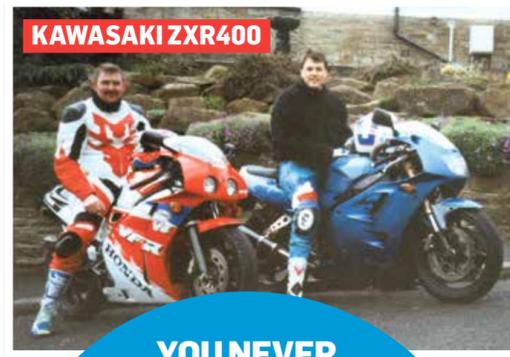
My biking mate Chris Bolton apparently getting beach ready during our camping trip down to the West Country. **Nick**



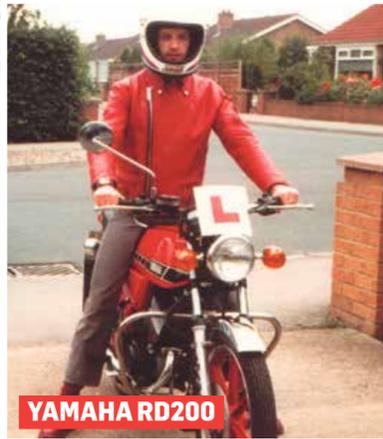
YAMAHA FAZER 600

My wife Deborah on her first bike. She passed her test at 52 and loves getting out on the Yamaha. **James Dean**

My first bike in the 90s, a ZXR400L1. It was great learning to ride properly around North Yorks with David Airey (here on his VFR400). Traded up to 748s shortly after. I'm now growing an eight-bike collection! **Mark Robinson**



KAWASAKI ZXR400



YAMAHA RD200

My new RD200DX (1981) with matching jacket and JBW helmet. I have a Yamaha 600 Fazer and a Ducati Scrambler now. Motorcycling...it's addictive. **Mark Goscinski**



NORTON DOMINATOR

Here's me aged 18 on my Norton. I was waiting to pick up my date, who is now my wife of 52 years, Dorothy. **Ernie Bowen**



YAMAHA XS650

My mate Martin Parker with his Yamaha on the camping trip we took to Cornwall in 1981 (see middle, left). **Nick**

YOU NEVER FORGET YOUR **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 Is it an offence to ride along one-handed?

A couple of mates got pulled over by the police on a recent ride. Apparently, the officer saw two of us riding with one hand on the bars and gave us a warning that we could be prosecuted if we were caught doing it again. I was not aware that it is against the law. **Craig, York**

A There is no law that says you can't ride one-handed. However, if a police officer believes there are other factors that do constitute the offence of 'not being in proper control', you could find yourself being prosecuted. Mobile phone use is covered by the same legislation. Therefore riding one-handed is fine so long as you remain in proper control. If you are not then you could be found to have committed an offence. An officer could argue in court that resting one hand anywhere else other than the handlebars for an

'An officer could say you are not in proper control'

extended period hampers your ability to brake and, for example, swerve around a sudden obstacle. The penalty for this offence at a Magistrates Court is a maximum fine of £1000 and three points on your driving licence with the discretion to disqualify. ● In last week's column we omitted to say for the NIP to be valid it must be dated within 14 days of the offence and dispatched within time to be received within 14 days – by first class post this would be on the 13th day after the offence.

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



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McPINT



'Team orders? Just let the guys race'

The key thing is that Rins and Mir don't take each other out

When it comes to team orders there are two sides to the story. From a management side it's a case of what is best for the team and from a rider's point of view it's what's best for them. I've never really had team orders myself, but I remember the rumours back in the day in the British Championship when there were supposedly ten grand envelopes flying around if one rider would take another guy out! Personally I don't think Suzuki should be giving team orders to either Rins or Mir at this stage. They're in a sweet spot either way

'There were rumours of ten grand envelopes'

whether they're winning races or winning the title. So they should leave them both to it and keep it all happy. That's what I'd do if I was the manager – tell them both to go out and enjoy it without throwing another curve ball into the equation – but I'd also say: "FFS don't take each other out!" Yamaha are in a different position. Would Morbidelli help Quartararo? Possibly. He might be thinking a bit more long term about the factory team so won't want to do anything to piss Yamaha off. These guys could be thinking about a job for life if they do the 'right' thing.



Will the boys in blue be getting some instructions?

Also the rider plays a massive part in it, because none want to win the title just because they've been helped. It looks horrendous when your teammate is way out in front and then on the last lap they slow down and let you pass. That's not good for the fans, it's not good for the sport, it's not good for anyone. At the end of the day it's been a weird year all round but the racing has been good and it would be a real shame if at the 11th hour someone wins the title through really obvious team orders.



Would Morbidelli give Quartararo a hand? You can see why he might

ASK MCGUINNESS

Can Rins and Mir remain friends?

Alan Murphy
When you're not expected to win you can enjoy it but when all the pieces of the jigsaw come together things can change as egos start flying around and nerves kick in.

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

MCN
How to get in touch
Motorcycle News, Media House, Lynchwood, Peterborough, PE2 6EA

EDITORIAL
Editor Richard Newland, 01733 468447, richard.newland@motorcyclenews.com
Deputy Editor Emma Franklin, 01733 468084, emma.franklin@motorcyclenews.com
Office Manager Alison Silcox, 01733 468025, alison.silcox@motorcyclenews.com
SPORT & FEATURES
Editor Michael Guy, 01733 468883, michael.guy@motorcyclenews.com
Sports Reporter Josh Close, josh.close@motorcyclenews.com
CONSUMER
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BIKES
Director of Content Andy Calton
Chief Road Tester Michael Nieves, 01733 468010
Deputy Editor, Bauer Motorcycling Mike Armitage, 01733 468031

ADVERTISING
Group Commercial Director Gareth Ashman, 01733 366444
Senior Writer Chris Dabbs, chris.dabbs@motorcyclenews.com
NEWS
News Editor Jordan Gibbons, 01733 468011, jordan.gibbons@motorcyclenews.com
Senior Writer Dan Sutherland, dan.sutherland@motorcyclenews.com
Staff Writer Ben Clarke, ben.clarke@motorcyclenews.com
PRODUCTION
Senior Production Editor Simon Brown
ART
Senior Art Editor Nick Lemon
Senior Designer Simon Ralph
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Chief Financial Officer Bauer Magazine Media Lisa Hayden
H Bauer Publishing company number L1003328, Academic House, 24-28 Oval Road, London NW1 7DT
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