

Talking point

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Take time to kick up the dust

Just reading an excellent MCN... Pecco winning MotoGP, Suzuki's budget MT-07 challenger and a brilliant adventure piece 'Kicking up the dust' (MCN, November 9) the only trouble is it was just too short! Having explored Spain at least once a year for the last 15 years, it's a brilliant place and people don't bat an eyelid when you rock up for some lunch in off-road gear. There are also brilliant companies that will take the load off planning a trip – some are geared to lads/lasses being loud, but search for the tourers if it's a quieter experience you want. The temperature is still in the 20s all through the next few months... you won't regret it!
Ken Davidson, email



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

Weight for it

Ducati's Gigi Dall'Igna is right regarding weight limits in racing. Weight on the rider and weight on the bike are two different things – the rider can move around on the bike but if the weight is on the bike it equals greater gyroscopic effect in corners etc, instead of protests going in there'll be lawsuits flying about when the inevitable happens and a rider gets hurt or worse.
Vincent Wright, email



Reader Chris shares a memory from a brilliant weekend at Valencia

Gresini Team Experience. I took a lot of photos from this fantastic time but which one would I share with MCN readers? Would it be VisionTrack's Scott Ogden and Josh Whatley shivering on a chilly Saturday watching their bikes being warmed up? Remy Gardner blowing his rear tyre after a huge burnout? The Ducati team singing around the No1 Pecco bike? Ago casually walking down the paddock... or Vale finally signing my 17-year-

Valencia was brilliant
My first trip to a European MotoGP was the Valencia 'decider' last weekend and I treated myself to a

old Rossi Fan Club T-shirt? My choice was two families enjoying a weekend of breathtaking racing [see pic, left].
Chris Hornsby, email

Pecco's a true gent

Well done to Francesco Bagnaia for clinching the 2022 MotoGP title and in particular the comments he made about Fabio Quartararo. For him to say that Quartararo is a more complete rider is a rare thing indeed, especially in the cut-throat world of racing. Every one of these guys is at a level most of us can only dream about and it shows there they have a great deal of respect for each other as well.
Michael Donald, email

Stella performance

Regarding the article on Alan Cathcart and his ever-supportive wife Stella, let's also remember Stella was the first woman ever to be allowed to crew in pit lane at the Isle of Man TT.
Andy Stevenson, email

CB's a proper gem

I've had my Honda CB1000R (MCN, November 16) for a year, it has the sweetest quickshifter on the market, rides lovely and enough poke to scare the hell out of you. I must admit I haven't ridden all the other bikes in your test but I love my Honda and it looks great too.
Paul Bonnell, Hull

Thing of beauty

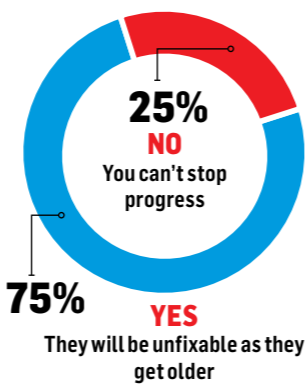
It's not that often I feel I have to defend what I believe is a fantastic motorbike: the Honda, CB1000R. I think the CB1000 was put in the wrong group test in the first place as it's more a retro bike than a super-naked. I would agree that the rear shock is a bit soft and a good set of tyres like Michelin does improve any bike immensely, but other than that I think that you are missing the point of what a great bike it is. It's very hard not to get off the bike and just keep looking at it and it's about the only bike in this modern world, it gets comments from many people who don't even ride bikes.
David Banbury, email

Ride of Respect

Fantastic to see so many riders turning out for the Ring of Red on Remembrance Sunday. It just goes to show what amazing people our fellow motorcyclists are and helps show the passion we all share in the very best of lights – especially when there are some members of the public who might not agree.
Jason Taylor, Kent

READER POLL

Are bikes getting too complex?



MCN LAW

Your tricky legal questions answered

Q 'Conflict of interest?'

I was riding along the A48 with my girlfriend on the back and happily going along enjoying the ride. A car was waiting at a junction to our right, about 60 metres away and indicating to turn left. The driver pulled out on us giving me no time to react and there was an accident in which we were both hurt. My insurer appointed a solicitor to act for us both and so far it has been a smooth process. I have been acting as a litigation friend for my girlfriend due to the nature of her injuries, providing instructions on her behalf to our solicitor. The car driver's solicitor is now alleging that I was partly to blame for exceeding the speed limit, which I was not, and says there is a conflict of interest and my partner and I should have different solicitors. My solicitor says this is not necessary.
Darren James, Cardiff

'You and your partner should have separate solicitors'

A If the Defendant is pursuing an allegation of contributory negligence against you, i.e. that you were partly at fault, you and your partner should have separate solicitors. Your partner is bound to succeed in full with her claim either entirely against the other driver or with your insurer making up the balance. Also, I do not think you can continue to be her litigation friend and she should find an alternative one who is not a party to the claim.

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



TRIUMPH BOBBER

My first road bike. Taking in the amazing views at the top of Bwlch mountain, South Wales. **Rhydian Jones**



BENELLI

Around 1972, my first mini-bike... a small Benelli. I'm desperately trying to find one now. **Mike Shepherd**



YAMAHA RXS100

My beautiful wife Sharon on my first bike, a Yamaha RXS100 in 1990. **Ian Sharpling**

Notice knee sliders courtesy of West Malling bypass roundabout in Kent when it was just opened! In the days with less traffic. **Reece Myers**



SUZUKI RGV

YOU NEVER FORGET YOUR FIRST BIKE

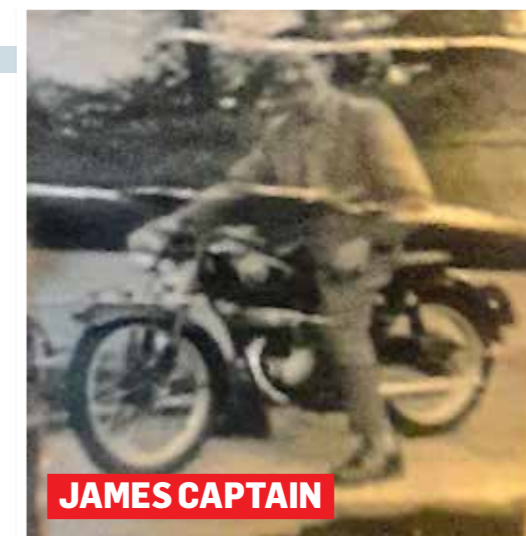
A blast down memory lane

Send your first bike pics to: yourpics@motorcyclenews.com



TRIUMPH 250

My late parents Don and Aileen on a Triumph 250 en route to Cornwall from Manchester 1954. **David Taylor**



JAMES CAPTAIN

Here's my Dad on his first bike a James Captain 1955. He's now 86 and still rides a Tiger Cub. **Peter Warner**



NORTON DOMINATOR

My passion began in the 60s on dad's Norton 600. I'm now on an R1M. **Stephen Clarke**



HONDA CB125F

Only did my CBT last July and absolutely love it! Can't wait to get myself a bigger bike! **Aerona Wills**

MCN

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Media House, Lynchwood, Peterborough PE2 6EA, UK
ISSN 0022-1858 (Print) / ISSN 1748-0073 (Digital)
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The US annual subscription price is \$238.88. Air freight and mailing in the USA by air mail to the USA and Canada. Inc. 500 US, 300 Street, Jamaica, NY 11435, USA. Periodicals postage paid at New York, NY, and at additional mailing offices. Postmaster: Send address changes to MCN, World Content Inc, 100 US, 300 Street, Jamaica, NY 11435, USA. Subscriptions are maintained at Bauer Media Subscription, CO, 2000, Tower House, Sovereign Park, Lakeside Drive, Newark, Ohio 43055, USA. Please allow 4-6 weeks for delivery. Air Business Ltd acting as mailing agent.
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