

Talking point

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'Here's one that I made earlier...'

Nice to see that Ducati are continuing to address the slightly droopy look of the Scrambler range with the new Urban Motard (the saggy seat just doesn't give the bike the correct stance). Here's one I made earlier, based on the Icon model in 2016, the reprofiled seat, fabricated side panels and motocross handlebars amongst other mods, transformed the bike. I hope you like it!
Hugh Davies, email

STAR LETTER

Be our Star Letter writer and win a pair of touchscreen-compatible Weise Apex leather gloves worth £59.99 from weiseclothing.com

Leave space for everyone

Just a quick message to remind some of our fellow bikers that considerate parking should always be normal practice. I'm referring to the dedicated bike parking areas often located at the roadside. You still occasionally see bikes parked 'longways', taking up space that two or three other bikes could occupy. I would always recommend reversing in and parking in a 'herringbone' fashion to allow as many of your fellow riders as possible to slot in. It shouldn't be necessary to have to point this out, but there are always one or two!
Jonny Pollard, Hartford

We all have a duty of care

With reference to MCN Law (July 6) and the pedestrian who stepped out in front of a filtering rider, I would suggest blame is directed mostly at the pedestrian but also the idiot driver who waved him across. Eons ago I was in a stationary queue (sorry, in my car) and I noticed a driver ahead had given way to a



Peter won't be wearing that one again

motorist who was crossing our queue to turn right. At the same time I saw a motorcyclist filtering. I waved him down before he arrived at the intersecting car. He stopped and nodded a thanks. My point is we all have a responsibility and duty of care; it's called due diligence.
Paul Garrod, Porstmouth

The wrong sort of buzz

Don't leave your shed open in the summer! I was left scratching my

head as a mob of wasps had taken up home in my old open face.
Peter Lee, South Wales

Did tracker eat battery?

Re Michael Guy's issue with the Multistrada - I had a 2018 Fireblade and would find the battery flat all the time. It was fitted with a tracker and I'm sure that was the culprit - the bike was kept in a garage and I was told by the garage that if the tracker couldn't get a signal due to being inside, it would 'ping' away until it drained the battery.
Andy Morrison, email

Don't give up pothole fight

I hit a pothole in December 2021, resulting in a dented front wheel and irreparable tyre. The county council website has a highways section that allows you to report a pothole and then make a claim, however when I made the claim the website page states that 90%+ of claims are unsuccessful as you have to prove the council were negligent in their responsibility to maintain

the road and state the Highways Act 1980 as their guidance.

Facing a repair bill of £835 for new wheel and tyre, I set about my claim with photographs of the damage and three quotes from dealers for the new parts together with photos of the road, where the pothole was, how deep it was, its position on the road etc.

The website also has a section of where potholes have been reported and this was key to my claim, the pothole had been reported in October, and again in November; no action had been taken and this was all documented in my claim. The following week I returned to the site and no action had been taken, in fact the pothole had got bigger so more photos were taken and an update was sent to the council, this was repeated the following week.

Strangely, the hole was repaired very soon after. Three weeks later I had a letter stating the council had not fulfilled their responsibility and my claim was successful. Moral of the story, get as much info as possible, use the council website to see if the hole has been previously reported and don't give up.

Nick Ward, email

Three wheels pricier?

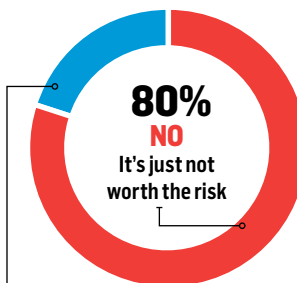
If the new Piaggio MP3 is classed as a trike, what happens at places like the Dartford Crossing?

John Murphy, email

Ed: The Govt website says the crossing is free for quadbikes so there is no reason why a trike would be charged differently to a motorcycle.

READER POLL

Do you compromise on safety kit in the hot weather?



20% YES You have to make a few minor adjustments

MCN LAW
Your tricky legal questions answered

Q 'Kid on scooter caused crash'

I was riding my BMW to work in Reading. It was a single lane road in each direction with kerbs both sides and the speed limit was 30mph. I was doing about 25 to 30mph. A kid on a scooter was on the kerb coming towards me on my side of the road. He lost control of the scooter and it went into the road in front of me. I tried to swerve but lost control, hit the kerb and came off. I had some injuries and was off work for three weeks. I would like to claim compensation and wonder if there is someone that can pay up, for example the Motor Insurers' Bureau that I have read about?
John Chilcott, email

A The Motor Insurers' Bureau (MIB) only compensate victims of negligent untraced or uninsured drivers of motor vehicles, so unfortunately you won't succeed with them. The other Government body, the Criminal Injuries

'You may be able to claim against house insurance'

Compensation Authority (CICA), is highly unlikely to compensate as a "crime of violence" is required to have been committed.

I suggest you see if you can claim against the parents' household contents insurance. These policies often cover negligent acts of members of the household. Write to the parents and enquire as to the existence of such insurance, assuming you have the contact details.

Andrew Campbell

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

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