

Talking point

mcn.letters@motorcyclenews.com  motorcyclenews  motorcyclenews  MCNnews

'E-bike? I'd rather buy a VFR1200'

I have considered purchasing an electric bicycle for getting to the shops but what strikes me is the price of these simple and basic bits of kit compared with motorcycles. I know that lithium batteries are expensive but the comparisons are amazing. For the price of an average electric bike, say £3000, you can buy a powerful and reliable motorcycle from the classified pages of MCN any day of the week. And for the price of an 'upper end' lecky bicycle you could buy, say, a Honda VFR1200 with only a few thousand miles on the clock. It fair puts me off the shopping bicycle but am I being fair to the people who produce them?
Ted Wilson, 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

Biking at its very finest

I just wanted to say what a brilliant job the police outriders did in escorting Her Majesty the Queen's coffin on her final journey home to Buckingham Palace in difficult weather conditions. Then seeing them line up heads bowed made you proud to be British – as a biker myself I know how difficult that job was, well done to all involved.
David White, email

Get the Atlas on the map

C'mon Royal Enfield, jump in and build something along the lines of the Atlas that Norton aren't going ahead with (MCN, September 14). It will fill the gap between the Continental and the Interceptor.
Ian Halliwell, email

It's all about priority

Reading MCN Law, September 7, I was reminded on the importance to know each country's road rules (not saying Ruth was in the wrong). France has priorité à droite, which appears not to follow any rule



Peter Ranson and friends on the way to Mugello MotoGP back in 2010

consistency in the way it is implemented. What to look for are any entering roads on your right without any road markings, stop or give way – typically this will be the case in cities. In the country, look for a triangular red-bordered sign with a black cross in the middle. This indicates the next road on the right, has priorité à droite, where you need to stop and give way to any cars entering your on your right. As a point of interest, if it stops the vehicle forfeits its right of way. My

wife is French and even she thinks the rule is ridiculous. Also, flashing amber traffic lights mean proceed with care, typically road works.
Dominic Tee, Folkestone

Great Mugello memories

Thought you might like to add this pic to one of your pages. It was taken on June 4, 2010 and we were on our way to the Mugello MotoGP (when Rossi broke his leg). We are still riding, albeit getting a bit long in the tooth. That's me with MCN.
Peter Ranson, email

Keep track of your licence

Re lost entitlements and the DVLA refusing to help (MCN Letters, September 14) – if you look on the DVLA site you can check and then print off your entitlements. That way you have proof of your licence before you send it away to amend details, such as a change of address. I did this many years ago when the problems were first reported in MCN and got a printout.
Jim Campbell, Balerno

Just ask the grid girls

In response to Pete Eblett and his view that grid girls are being exploited (MCN Letters, September 14). So good looking women have no right to a career they thoroughly enjoy? Ask those girls themselves what they think of your opinion, you may not like the answer.
Paul Cutler, email

Are grid girls out-dated?

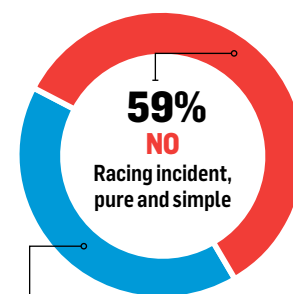
I just read Pete Eblett's letter ref grid girls (MCN Letters, September 14). I have no strong feelings either way but his suggestion they are 'exploited' is way off the mark – these girls do it because they want to, when Formula 1 decided to stop using them, I remember a few of the F1 girls saying it's their job and they enjoyed it. It probably is outdated and perhaps MCN should have an article where some of these girls are interviewed about it.
Tim Claridge, Cornwall

Bobber's just the job

Your test of the Indian Scout Rogue and Harley Nightster (MCN, September 7) was interesting, but for my money the bike to go for in that category is the Triumph Bobber. I'm the current owner of the latest Bobber (my second) with the larger fuel tank, cruise control, Brembo brakes and the smaller 16 inch front wheel. I must say there's nothing out there quite like the Bobber for looks, individually etc. The latest model being the best in my humble opinion.
Mick Venables, email

READER POLL

Did Rea mean to skittle Bautista?



41% YES It's part of the rough and tumble of WSB racing

MCN LAW

Your tricky legal questions answered

Q 'Crashed after forced swerve'

I had an accident when I avoided hitting a car that changed suddenly into my lane on a roundabout. He was on the inside lane in very slow-moving traffic (around 5mph), and I was between two exits. Due to me having to avoid the car, the bike hit the ground and I came off. The driver did not indicate before turning and denied responsibility. I contacted my insurer and they said it was my fault as I avoided a collision with the other driver. I don't accept this – the reason for my evasive action was the car's sudden change in direction without indication.
Jason, Hove

A Your insurer is wrong. If the other driver did not indicate or look properly and simply cut you up then it is likely to be mostly his fault if not entirely his fault. However, there was an unhelpful Court of Appeal case from 20 years ago called Grace v Tanner which was

'Your insurer is wrong to say it was your fault'

decided as 50/50 blame. Court of Appeal case decisions are binding on lower courts in cases of similar facts. As a result, many roundabout accident cases are settled on a 50/50 basis. A lot of the time they should not be due to the individual fact-sensitivity of each case. In your case, you should do better than 50/50 and hopefully you will succeed in full. I would need all of the evidence to be more precise on the likely liability outcome.

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



Bikelawyer

Motorcycle Accident Solicitors