



BSA B31

My dad bought me my first motorcycle, this BSA B31, back when I was just 11 years-old. **Kevin Fletcher**



YAMAHA PW50

Our four-year-old grandson Miller was well chuffed when he got air going through a farm gateway. **Julian Wright**



HONDA HORNET

Me on my first bike, a Honda Hornet. Amazingly this picture was taken 21 years ago now. **Richard Fleming**

Me on my first decent big bike back in the 80s with my now nearly 40-year-old daughter on the tank. **Tony Gibson.**



MOTO GUZZI V50

YOU NEVER FORGET YOUR **FIRST BIKE**
A blast down memory lane
Send your first bike pics to: yourpics@motorcyclenews.com



HONDA CBR125R

This was my first bike: a Repsol Honda Mini Blade in 2017. I've now upgraded to a Kawasaki Z650. **Angela 'Rossi' Webb**



FANTIC

1982 sitting on a Fantic that belonged to the boy I loved. Have loved him and all his bikes ever since. **Mya Floyd**



MUTT 125

Didn't start until this year, aged 40. Can't wait to progress, but in the meantime 1500 miles clocked! **Ben Hutchings**



YAMAHA YAS1 125

Age 16 in 1970 with my first proper bike (after a Yamaha 50) when I was working at Jim Pink M/C. **John Selman**

MCN LAW
Your tricky legal questions answered

Q 'Can I hop on a bike as an older car driver?'

I have decided to get my first bike and wondered what the licence rules are? I don't have a bike licence yet, but have heard that I may not need one depending on the power of the machine. Is this correct? I have had a car licence for many years.
Sonja, Reading

A The rules depend on whether you passed your car driving test before or after February 1, 2001. If you passed before this date then you can ride a moped with a maximum power of 50cc and without L-plates. If you want to ride something between 50cc and 125cc then you will need to take the Compulsory Basic Training (CBT). To remove the L-plates or ride a more powerful bike you will need to take practical tests. If you passed your car test after February 1, 2001, you will need to take the CBT and can then ride

'It all depends how long ago you did your car test'

a bike up to 125cc with L-plates. There will be practical tests to pass if you want to remove the L-plates or ride a bigger machine. Before you take your full bike licence tests you will have to take a motorcycle theory and hazard perception test. If you can get online, MCN's hub linking everything you need to know about learning to ride a motorbike is right here... www.motorcyclenews.com/advice/learning-to-ride. And it goes without saying that getting good training makes sense.

Andrew Campbell
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TT Legend John McGuinness in MCN every week

McPINT



'Who'd have put a tenner on them?'

Nobody would have expected Mir and Suzuki to come out on top

You can't help but have massive respect for Mir and Suzuki even if they had a weekend to forget at Portimao. Where rivals like Quartararo choked, Mir was able to embrace the pressure and turn it into something positive. He's obviously working with good people and the way the Suzuki turns and steers is so impressive. As a result they are so consistent and when you look at his lap times they differ by a tenth lap after lap. Champions can do that. He's not pulling one

'I like Mir but am not totally sure what makes him tick...'

lap out of the hat... it's 30 laps, one after the other. The other thing Suzuki have shown is the impact of having a good test rider. Sylvain Guintoli is an ex-WSB champion so he knows how to ride and set-up a bike and it's along the same lines as what Pedrosa has done at KTM. He has sharpened Suzuki's pencil. But I honestly don't think anyone saw it coming, whatever the pundits say. At the start of the year there was no way you'd have had your last tenner on Suzuki. Now they've finished first and third and if you'd had to have picked one of the pair you'd have



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Pressure? What pressure. Mir is a true champion

picked Rins, wouldn't you? I think it's great to have another manufacturer winning. You could argue that the other teams and riders have thrown it away. If you were Quartararo, who won the first two races and looked unstoppable, you've got to be asking what went wrong. It's not like Mir was gifted the title, he's ridden for it and things like his poor qualifying have been addressed. He's modest with it. I'm not sure what makes him tick. I like him, but I'd actually like to see a bit more emotion.



You want more emotion? How about a big cheesy grin in the new shirt?

ASK MCGUINNESS

What do you think of Ducati's line-up with Miller and Bagnaia?

Tim Sturtridge
Miller deserves a shot but they don't have a clear No.1 rider. If I was a Ducati boss I'd have done everything to keep Dovizioso on the team.

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

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