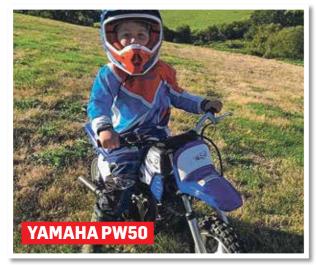
THIS WEEK



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



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



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.







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



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



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



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

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BACK ISSUES







rules are? I don't have a bike for many years. Sonja, Reading

you can ride a moped with a need to take practical tests.

perception test.

motorbike is right here. good training makes sense.



How to get

Media House, Lynchwood,

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in touch

Motorcycle News,

'Can I hop on a bike as an

I have decided to get my first bike and wondered what the licence 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

The rules depend on whether you passed your car driving test before or after February 1, 2001. If you passed before this date then 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 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 vour 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 vou take vour full bike licence tests you will have to take a motorcycle theory and hazard

If you can get online, MCN's hub linking everything you need to know about learning to ride a www.motorcyclenews.com/

advice/learning-to-ride. And it goes without saying that getting

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TT Legend John McGuinness in MCN every week

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

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

ou 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 Guintioli 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



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.



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

NEXT WEEK MORE WISDOM FROM THE FAST MAN FROM MORECAMBE

65 YEARS OF MCN November 25 2020 27