

Talking point

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'How about a Valentino corner?'

Watching the Australian MotoGP earlier this month, I spotted that the track had renamed the Honda Hairpin in honour of Jack Miller. No problem with that, I like Jack and he is their local hero. But it got me wondering why there aren't corners being named in tribute to the greatest of all time, Valentino Rossi. You'd certainly expect Italian tracks to be honouring the great man and quite a few round the world too. Why's it not happening?
Peter Exelby, Redruth, Cornwall
Ed: Good point, the how about Laguna Seca having a Rossi Corkscrew? That might work!

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

Time for a racing rethink

Following yet another tragic death in the Supersport 300 series with the passing of young Victor Steeman, I think it's high time that the FIM reconsidered the format of this class and also Moto3, as there have been far too many high-speed incidents and fatalities due to the riders racing far too closely on evenly-matched machines with similar abilities.

Colin Humphries, Hampshire

Irwin's on a BSB high

Brilliant season for new British Superbike champ Brad Ray, but you've got to admire Glenn Irwin with two wins at Brands!

Robert Kittle, email

Read leant me an RC30

Having read the sad news of the passing of Phil Read, I felt I must write to express my condolences as I have known Phil for over 40 years and, having been his bank manager for over five years, I feel I got to know Phil rather well. I particularly



Fond memories of the great Phil Read

remember Phil asking for help in 1988 in importing 20 Honda RC30s from Honda France and then letting me have the use of one of the machines for over a month as a thank you! I have fond memories of attending parties at Phil's house near Woking many years ago and seeing the hundreds of trophies on display. He did admit many needed a polish! I always found Phil a most pleasant and generous person and will miss his voice over the

telephone. As recently as four months ago Phil contacted me for advice on a project he was putting together. I had to tell him, as I have now been retired over 20 years, I could not really help and he fully understood. Rest in peace Phil.
Mel Watkins, Retired chairman CBX Riders Club UK, CBX specialist VJMC

Well that's awkward

When I'm watching WSB on the telly, I always have a wee chuckle when I see Sam Lowes' name on the ladder of riders at the side of the screen abbreviated to SLOW. I'm not sure Max Cook would have appreciated how his name was abbreviated for his BSB Supersport debut at Brands Hatch though, it seemed to end up as COK.
Ian Craig, Aberdeen

Licensed to look daft

After reading about and laughing heartily at Triumph's new 007 Speed Triple Bond Special, I had to wonder who actually has enough money to waste on such an awful

bike? Why the actual "ask M for forgiveness", would you want 007 on the fuel tank and, if that's not bad enough, all 25 Bond film titles on the tank? Stick to the basics and all will be well with the biking world once more.

Dave Lee, email

My weekly Bruceie bonus

Another interesting MCN (October 12). The Phil Read article was perfect. Ace. And thank you to Bruce Dunn for his workshop bike maintenance item. This is always very useful, good photographs, an excellent read, and is for me probably one of the best parts of MCN. Nice one.

Steve Hearn, Halesworth

Ed: Kind words, thanks!

Edge-of-the-seat stuff

Just been watching Phillip Island. Who says MotoGP isn't exciting? What a competitive race and what an amazing win from Rins.

Andrew Smthers, email

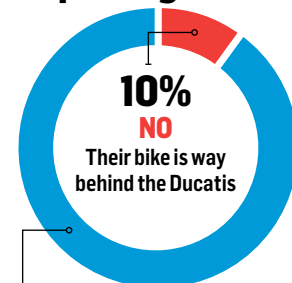
Caught on camera

A response to Dave Lee (MCN Letters, October 12) who was filmed by a cyclist's dash cam. I can only speak for my force but all of our traffic process officers are civilians. There aren't enough traffic officers as it is to just sit them behind a desk. The lack of traffic cars on the road massively contributes to fellow reader Jon Carter's well-made point about poor driving standards. I'm afraid Dave is out of touch with reality. Or cheated off!

Tony Clarke, email

READER POLL

After Rins' win, were Suzuki too hasty in quitting GPs?



90% YES It's a sweet-handling bike. MotoGP needs them

10% NO Their bike is way behind the Ducatis

MCN LAW

Your tricky legal questions answered

Q 'My lid came off, what now?'

My opponent's solicitor in my personal injury claim from my bike accident has queried whether I was wearing a helmet during my accident, as I sustained facial fractures. They say that they don't think I was, but even if I was then it cannot have been strapped up properly as it came off, so I should accept some blame for my injuries. I was wearing a helmet and have no idea how it came off as I always ensure it is properly secured. While I can prove that I was wearing the helmet, how am I supposed to prove it was properly strapped on? Am I likely to get less compensation as a result?
John W, email

A A European study showed helmet loss in nearly 13% of accidents. There doesn't seem to be any authoritative research on why this might happen, but it is generally thought to be due to an ill-fitting helmet or some issue with the chinstrap.

'Invite them to prove that it wasn't done up'

That said, perfectly fitted helmets can also come off.

In the 1988 Court of Appeal case of Capps v Miller the court held that contributory negligence of 10% should apply for failing to do up a strap. This means that the Claimant would receive 10% less compensation.

However, contributory negligence is for the Defendant to prove so resist any deduction and invite them to prove it, making it clear you always did the strap up.

Andrew Campbell

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

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