

Talking point

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Don't knock Honda's DCT cleverness

I have just read the February 16 issue and one thing stood out – the jibes at Honda's DCT gearbox. I'm a lifelong biker, 56 years so far. I have a 2014 BMW R1200RT with a gearbox similar to the crash version on the Honda C50 of old. I have a 39-year-old Yamaha RD350LC YPVS, whose gearbox is fabulous, and a 2018 Honda Integra 750 with, yes, a DCT gearbox. And the DCT gearbox is fantastic. Always smooth, always in the correct gear in Sport mode for regular riding (forget normal mode for any riding) and super-easy in manual mode. I think you guys and girls need to get with the programme!
Robert Highfield, Herefordshire



Be our Star Letter writer and win these DXR Code Evo Boots worth £79.99. They are available exclusively at www.sportsbikeshop.co.uk

I can see clearly now...

In reply to Shaun in last week's letters page about glasses steaming up, I discovered Sparklebright at the MCN Show several years ago and it works a treat. A very small amount on your lens and smear over both sides and then polish off. Lasts for ages and works for visors and sunglasses, too. Happy riding.
Roger Holden, email

Bad vision can fog off

In reply to Shaun's misting problem (MCN Letters, February 23) the best solution I've found is Muc-Off Premium Anti Fog Treatment. Not the cheapest but the best and it goes a long way. I use it on my spectacles. Brilliant stuff.
Tom Coomber, email

How can I combat crime?

I work in Leeds city centre with my office adjacent to a bike park and over the last couple of years there have been numerous bike thefts. These have become bolder and more visible in recent times, including yesterday, when thankfully the thieves were prevented from taking



A slice of MCN and biking history

the bike by passers-by and a local office security guard. An imminent theft is usually indicated by one or two scooters being ridden across the pedestrian courtyard, the riders of which are wearing tracksuits, trainers, balaclavas and no helmets (which as I type I have just witnessed again). As a biker myself (well, pillion actually) and knowing people who ride to work in the city centre, I wondered if there was a way of finding out bike theft figures for Leeds city centre and then somehow pursuing West Yorkshire

Police or the council to take action. I'm unsure how to go about this and would appreciate suggestions.

Katie Ward, email
Ed: Your best bet is to contact the West Yorkshire Police & Crime Commissioner via www.westyorkshire-pcc.gov.uk

Turning back time

A customer just brought in a piece of history in the form of this copy of MCN from 1962. Thought you would like to see it.

Dave Sutton, Oily Rag café and clothing

Oi! Watch it, Triumph!

Just reading your article on the latest Triumph special edition tie-up with Breitling (MCN, February 23). Before I say anything, let me say I'm a life-long Triumph fan and have a soft spot for the watches. But what is this special edition all about? I honestly thought the bike featured was the wrong model or an old photo. On closer inspection you can pick out the styling tweaks... but come on... Of all the things the collaboration

could have produced they've come up with some minor suspension mods and a paintjob that's instantly forgettable. The cost of the bike plus the watch is just taking the Michael.
Ken Dagless, email

Code red on new rules

Having just read about the new Highway Code, I'd like to add that I for one won't be hitting the brakes mid-turn if a pedestrian steps out in front of me, only to risk getting hospitalised myself by the car behind. The new rules are as dangerous as 'Smart' motorways.
Chris Dale, email

Zero common sense

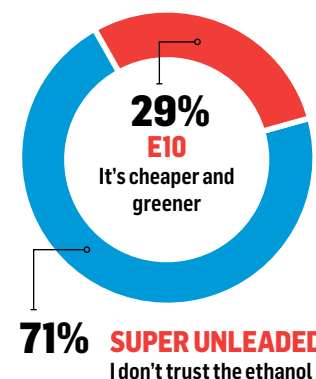
The new rules in the Highway Code bear all the marks of having been formulated by low ranked civil servants who use the train as transportation. After a hundred years of using common sense (i.e. getting hit by big metal things hurts), they turn it all upside-down to 'make it safer'. I wonder if they asked blind people whose guide dogs are trained to wait until the road is clear what they think? Health and safety gone mad.
Andrew Hayes, email

London leads the way

I have long regarded Motorcycle Live at the NEC as the UK's mainstay. But are the tides turning? Since 2015 I have made pilgrimages to both the Birmingham and Carole Nash MCN London Shows and noted over this period how the London show has matured and grown in stature, and (disappointingly) how Birmingham has not.
Jim Hind, email

READER POLL

Are you using E10 or Super Unleaded?



MCN
LAW
Your tricky legal questions answered

Q 'Can I ride to my MoT garage?'

If my MoT has expired, how would that affect my insurance while riding to the MoT test station? My friend says that I would not be insured to ride to the test station because my MoT expired last month. But my brother who works in car insurance says I should be fine to do so. Which of them is correct here? I don't want to run the risk of riding uninsured and getting prosecuted.
Curtis, email

A I believe that your brother is correct on this. Provided you are in possession of a valid insurance certificate, you can ride your motorcycle to a pre-arranged MoT inspection. You can also ride your motorcycle without road tax in these circumstances (en route to a test and being able to prove this) but having valid insurance is compulsory.

There is no specific guidance on the location or proximity of the MoT inspection, but it would be sensible to find a local garage and

'You could call your insurer to double check'

to take a direct and undisrupted journey there. For example, don't stop at a shop on the way.

If your motorcycle fails the MoT, then you should contact your insurance provider to discuss whether your policy permits you to travel from the garage. It is better to be safe than sorry.

On this point why not call your insurer before setting off to the appointment to get confirmation from them that you are insured – that doesn't hurt and will give you peace of mind that all your paperwork is in order.

Andrew Campbell
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