

# Talking point

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## CBF proved the perfect therapy

Almost one year ago I received a shock diagnosis of advanced stomach cancer. In the weeks to follow I started putting my affairs in order and sold my NC750. Lying in the hospital bed, one of the main distractions was the thought of getting a cheap commuter that I'd promised myself if I came through the other side. So with tubes coming out of me like the opening scene in the Matrix, I trawled eBay for a CBF600. Fast forward 10 months, 18 weeks of chemo, full gastrectomy and radiotherapy, I'm about to get back riding to work as a mental health nurse. Riding bikes is one of the most therapeutic things you can do and just dreaming about it helped get me through. **Philip Brooke, North Shields**



STAR LETTER

Write something that spikes our interest, and you could get selected for the Star Letter slot and receive this brilliant Maintenance Pack from our friends at XCP worth £30



## Lessons from history

I refer to your star letter on the Voge being a bit of a Honda copy (MCN Letters, September 22). Andrew is perhaps not of an age where he remembers the early days of the Japanese takeover of the UK motorcycle market. At that time Kawasaki produced an exact copy of a BSA - well, exact except it vibrated and weighed even more than the Beezer! Kawasaki learned fast and look at them now, full of innovation, creativity and effort. **Andrew Hayes, email**

## Give us more Keith please

I tuned into BSB coverage on Sunday and was delighted to hear Keith Huewen with James Whitham. I really miss his input on BT Sport's MotoGP coverage - it just isn't the same without him. It's all a matter of personal opinion, but his insight, humour, accuracy, and predictions really lifted the coverage. Not a hint of pomposity, and plenty of humour with self-deprecation to go with it. Please BT, get him back on MotoGP commentary duties! **Nick Rymond, email**



The curse of the bargain bungee...

## Seriously false economy

Just a reminder that it's worth spending a couple of extra quid on quality bungees. My discount ones let go while I was doing 70mph on the A2. Result: 150 metre black line down the road, tyre flat-spotted, bag and waterproofs wrecked, pants soiled. Thanks to Kent Police for helping me shift the bike to a safer position than the slow lane of the main lorry route into Dover. **Mark Barrowcliffe, email**

**Ed: Sound advice there!**

## Know your limits

As a seasoned motorcyclist I have to question the wisdom of Iron Butt rides. I've done a 1000-mile day and it's not a clever thing to do. We all know tiredness kills. Ride safe. **Paul Woolard, email**

## Cut straight to the height

I can't be the only one who looks for the seat height as the key stat when shiny new bikes appear. Sure the power etc is nice to know, but the one thing you can't do anything about is your inside leg. I am sure there are riders who are on bikes that don't really suit them for that very reason. **Martin Donaldson, email**

## Time to grow up

As a regular reader of MCN, I want to show some respect to Andrew Campbell who answers legal questions in the 'MCN Law' column. Some questions he gets asked must be genuinely heart-breaking, others just make wonder what the hell is going on in people's heads. Last week the question came from 'Ryan' bemoaning the fact he can't

claim compensation for a collision he was involved in. He freely admits that he was travelling at around 60mph in a 40mph zone - that's around 50% faster than the speed limit. He also admits that he is being prosecuted for dangerous driving, which was obviously a primary contributor to the accident. Yet in spite of all this, our 'Ryan' protests his innocence, claiming that it's all the car driver's fault - 'it was a long straight and he should have seen me and not pulled out'! As bikers, when are we going to grow up and stop acting like children? If a road has a 40mph limit, it's there for a reason. We may not like it, but it's the law, so get over it. **Phil Allman, email**

## Chaz is a living legend

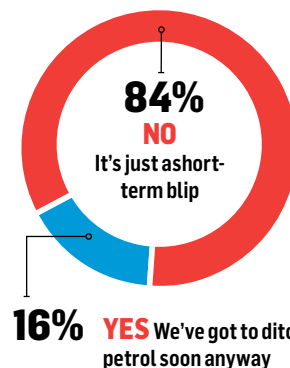
Chaz Davies, like Randy Mamola, is a champion and a hero - even though he never got to lift the one trophy he really wanted. Poor Ducati, they seem to think the answer is to keep changing riders in WSB until they get a winner. Kawasaki know better, they have stuck with Jonathan Rea and he has paid them back with title after title. **Don Wann, USA**

## Can we trust the dash?

Really interesting article about riding 1000 miles in 24 hours. Not sure it's for me, but each to their own. What alarmed me was towards the end when it was noted that the BMW recorded 1005.3 miles but the Tracer was showing 70 miles more over the same route. That's a massive difference. **Pete Errington, email**

## READER POLL

Has the fuel crisis made you want to go electric?



## MCN LAW

Your tricky legal questions answered

### Q 'Judge got my case wrong...'

I was in court last week as a result of my bike accident. I was claiming against a van driver for injuries caused in the incident but I lost my case. My friend says that I should appeal the court's decision and have a retrial. Basically, the accident involved the driver turning in front of me without warning. The judge found fully in favour of the driver but I believe that he misunderstood the evidence that was presented. Please let me know if I can, and should, appeal against this. **Ben Matthewson, email**

**A** You are up against a time limit of 21 days from the court decision in which to lodge an appeal. To succeed you will need to show that the judge was plainly wrong in law or fact (and this had a bearing on the result) or that they erred seriously in their judgment - in other words, that no reasonable judge would have found as they did.

### 'You need to get an urgent opinion from the barrister'

The most sensible approach would be for the barrister who represented you to write an urgent short opinion on the prospects of a successful appeal and ask your legal expenses insurer to fund it. They may not due to proportionality (costs versus benefit to be derived) if the case is only of modest value. I note you don't say how badly injured you were. If the insurer does not agree to fund it then your other option is to pay privately. Again you may feel proportionality will rule this option out.

#### Andrew Campbell

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

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