

# Talking point

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## Has time run out for Marc Marquez?

So Marc Marquez is having further surgery on his arm in the US this week. What with that and the eye problems of late which saw him suffer a return of double-vision, I can't really see him winning another championship. It just seems he is having the worst luck these last few years after what was an astonishing debut in the premier class what feels like years ago. Such a shame for such an amazing rider.  
**Phil Hadley, Warwickshire Ed: We're all wishing MM93 a speedy recovery from his latest round of surgery**

**STAR LETTER**

Be our Star Letter writer and win a pair of touchscreen-compatible Weise Apex leather gloves worth £59.99 from [weiseclothing.com](http://weiseclothing.com)

### It's not kit that's to blame

In answer to Alan O'Connor who says bikes are too hard to spot because riders don't all dress up in hi-viz (MCN Letters, June 1). Bike headlights not bright enough for you? Until eye tests become compulsory for all drivers/riders over the age of 50 there will always be 'Sorry mate, didn't see you' as an excuse. Perhaps more attention to the road and other road users and less to what's going on inside the vehicle? Guess I blended into the road recently on my blue bike, wearing a brown jacket and orange helmet when a Range Rover came out of a side road into my path.  
**Paul Ogden, email**

### Bad drivers are to blame

Enormous thanks to Alan O'Connor from last week's letters page... now we all know that it's just our black leathers that cause accidents, and not the lazy, incompetent and downright dim-witted folk who can't be bothered to look properly.  
**Charles Crowley, email**



MCN reader Tim spotted this beauty

### Get your eyes tested

Irrespective of the colour of the bike or clothing, car drivers should be able to spot a quarter of a ton of bike plus rider (usually with a headlight on) coming towards them.  
**Rob Chesman, Barnard Castle**

### Just enjoying the Rhodes

On holiday in Rhodes a couple of weeks ago, I spotted this great old wartime Beeza, nonchalantly basking in glorious sunshine, as if it were the most ordinary thing in the

world; imagine my pleasure and surprise to see an almost identical one featured in MCN. The paper was sitting on the doormat when I got home, great article too!  
**Tim Hendy, email**

### Drive like a motorcyclist

I recently picked up a colleague of mine from the airport, he had arrived from his home in the Czech Republic for a job that we were working on together. We have worked closely for many many years and really like each other. After a few miles, and totally out of the blue, he said: "Peter, I didn't know you were a motorcyclist!" A little dumbfounded, I asked him how he knew that as we had never spoken about it. He went on to say that whilst driving he noticed that I was doing lifesaver checks and pausing for a second at junctions to check for bikes, and that very few car drivers do that. It turns out that he has ridden all of his life and is currently on an Africa Twin, he also told me to bring my gear next time I

am in the Czech Republic so that we can explore the roads out there.  
**Peter Eblett, email**

### Extra layer of safety

Interesting article on leather supremo Lino Dainese (MCN, June 1) and the protection available to riders. My Lewis Leathers racing suit was advanced too... for 1969. At the knees and elbows there was a double layer of leather! I still have my racing boots, the right one with a chamfered sole (Druids hairpin).  
**Paul Garrod, Portsmouth**

### Great place to stop

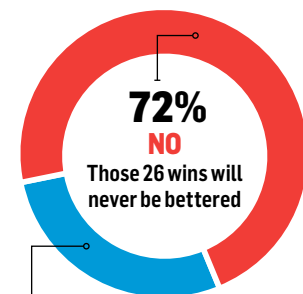
On a return trip from three brilliant days riding around Dumfries and Galloway with my fellow clubmates from Harrogate Advanced Bikes, we came upon this charming mobile café in the car park at Tarn End near Brampton off the B6413. Lovely coffee, cakes and snacks and Karen who runs Le Petit Barista is a biker too, so there is plenty to chat about. Open Friday, Saturday, Sunday and bank holidays.  
**Barry Ring, email**



Stop off for coffee with Karen...

## READER POLL

Can McGuinness equal Joey's record?



**28% YES** Nobody has more experience than McPint

## MCN LAW

Your tricky legal questions answered

### Q 'Driver fled the scene'

I had an accident when I lost control of my Hornet because I was run off the road by someone who then fled the scene. I had modest injuries and damage to my bike and leathers so I put a claim into the Motor Insurers' Bureau. But they have rejected it saying just because the driver didn't stop doesn't mean the driver was negligent in causing my accident. He swerved into my lane causing me to take avoiding action! Can you help please?

**James Norman, email**

**A** The MIB is an official body which compensates victims of negligent untraced drivers. In order to succeed with such a claim you have to persuade the MIB that you sustained injury as a result of the negligence caused by or arising out of the use of a motor vehicle on a road or other public place.

So as long as you can establish negligence on the part of the

### 'You were clearly there to be seen by the other driver'

driver you should be fine and your claim should be accepted. The MIB is correct that the fact the driver left the scene is not evidence of negligence in causing the accident. However, if you were established in your lane you were clearly there to be seen so the driver either did not look or did not look properly and undertook the manoeuvre when it was not safe.

Ask a solicitor to look at the papers as there is a six-week deadline to appeal the rejection.

### Andrew Campbell

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

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