# **LIFE ON BIKES**



I thought I was cool at 16 on my Fizzy and went everywhere on it, but I was even cooler at 17 on my RD250! Tim Hughes



Actually my third bike after a Fizzy and RD250, but how I wish I still had this beauty from back in 1976. Simon Baker



My first big bike complete with Eminem haircut circa 2001 About 12 bikes later, I would love to have this one back, Stuart Allan



This is a photo of my brother Gary King on his first motorbike in 1978: a little Honda SS50. These days he has a Fireblade. Sandra Clarke



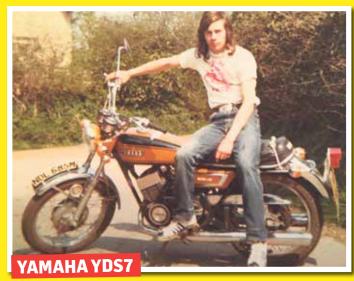
The start of many great adventures on two wheels in 1976 with the essential Yamaha Fizzy. Jamie Lawson



Here is my brother. Ben, who is clearly chuffed to bits with his first bike a 2020 Aprilia SX125 at the age of 25. Joss Williams



Me and my RD350LC in 1996... sold it three months later for £450, what a bargain that was for some lucky owner. **Steve Hall** 



This was my first new road bike, a YDS7 Yamaha in 1974, You'll see I even had my Barry Sheene T-shirt on for the photograph. Steve Pilcher

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# Your tricky legal questions answered

### 'What if he had made me crash?'

I had a near miss at the weekend and I can't stop thinking about it. A van driver pulled across my path from a junction and the driver didn't even seem to realise what he had done. I managed to brake hard enough to avoid a collision, but I very nearly lost control in the process. What would have happened if I had come off and caused myself damage while they drove off without a care in the world? George Brandish, Rochdale

The answer depends on whether efforts to trace the van driver were successful. If they were, then you would be able to bring a claim against his insurance.

If the van wasn't traceable. you would still be able to seek compensation via the Motor Insurers' Bureau (MIB), which compensates victims of untraced/uninsured drivers.

People think that there needs to be contact between two vehicles in order for liability to be established, but

# 'There doesn't need to be contact for there to be a claim for liability'

the reality is that it just needs to be any negligent driving resulting in an accident. Once someone has caused

a hazard through negligence. then the court will allow you a lot of leeway in how you respond. This is called 'the agony of the moment' and as long as your actions were reasonable you won't be held responsible even if in hindsight there was something you could have done, such as swerving instead of braking.

### **Andrew Campbell** Solicitor and author of the MCN Law

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# TT LEGEND JOHN McGUINNESS IN MCN EVERY WEEK

# 'What are Ducati playing at here?

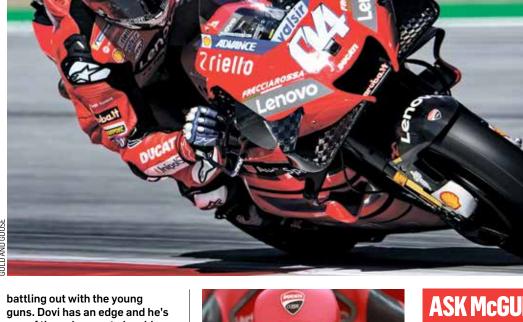
McGuinness says it makes no sense losing talent like Dovizioso

going on in MotoGP. From KTM winning to brakes exploding, the list goes on... What I'm still trying to understand is the Dovi situation at Ducati. I can't get my head around why they are parting ways, and I can't understand the infatuation with getting deals done so early every year. Why aren't riders given the package and then given time to show what they can do on it before having to do a deal for the following season? Poor old Alex Marquez lost his ride before he'd even got

# **'DUCATI ARE GOING TO LOOK** LIKE RIGHT **MUPPETS**

to race the bike. There should be a rule introduced where teams and riders aren't allowed to talk about future contracts until a certain date, give the riders time to prove themselves and then make a decision. They have a testing ban in winter, so why not have similar on early deals and introduce a transfer window?

Dovi is a cool calm and collected guy, but it looks to me like he's lost interest. He's solid, he's not a whinger and he's not throwing it in the gravel every weekend. He's one of the old guard and it's always fascinating



one of the only guys to be able to actually beat Marguez in a straight fight. Ducati are going to look like right muppets if he ends up winning the championship for them this year and then he doesn't have a ride.

Negotiating a contract at that level must be hideous – it won't be done with a handshake! There's so many reasons why it's gone wrong, but at the end of the day Dovi isn't happy with something and you have to think that has to be down to money.

**JEXT WEEK MORE WISDOM FROM THE FAST MAN FROM MORECAMBE** 



Only Casey Stoner achieved more for Ducati

# **ASK McGUINNESS**

with Ducati has

turned rather sour

Whatdo vou think **Polis** thinking now about

going to Honda?

**Craig Peters** 

Well even though the KTM looks the petter bike at the minute, Pol isn't shy and he'll have a proper go on that Honda when the time comes.

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

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