

# Talking point

mcn.letters@motorcyclenews.com motorcyclenews motorcyclenews MCNnews

**MCN**  
**LAW**  
Your tricky legal questions answered

## TV was wrong to ignore Rins

I have just watched the final MotoGP of the season. It was obvious during the race that Fabio Quartararo was not going to win and when Pecco Bagnaia lost a wing and started dropping down the places, the title and standings were certain. Why then did we have most of the race focused on these two and then Brad Binder for a short while during the final few laps? We did not have any coverage of Alex Rins winning for Suzuki's final race. The only clue about how he was doing was the listing on the side of the screen.  
**Rob Williams, South Wales**



**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

## Bring back the fours

More parallel twins? Yawn. I don't think I'm alone in noticing all the manufacturers are cost cutting and chucking out twins for everything from Honda's biggest tourer to tiny first bikes. The British bike industry died because the Jap four was far better than any Brit twin... yet 60 years later they are all trying to tell me this is the way forward. Really?  
**Steve Davies, email**  
**Ed: See this week's MCN250 test for some magnificent inline fours**

## Catch the real criminals

I've just read that Hull and Humberside police are going back to the old trick of putting mobile cameras in parked and unmarked vehicles. Whilst I applaud safety, sneaky tactics will only infuriate motorists. Where I live, we are plagued with mask-wearing scrotes on nicked bikes running rings around the police. Let's get away from lazy easy-target policing and make them do their job.  
**Ian Rivers, email**



Just don't let him find the keys...

## Gotta start 'em early!

Thought you might enjoy this pic (above) of my grandson aged 11 months in his Yamaha babygrow on my XSR900. They do say you have to start them early!  
**Paul Walker, Leeds**

## Insurance discrimination

I took out an insurance policy on my bike but found a mistake on the docs, nothing much just my marital status which had been put down as

'married', which I'm not. So I called up to have this changed and found that the difference in cost was £70. 'Surely this is discrimination?' I expressed to the very nice lady on the phone but she said it's the same for all policies. How long can a company go on discriminating against singles, and why are you less of a risk due to being married?  
**Stephen Holgate, email**

## Is that a Cowasaki?

When I saw the letter from Phil Bridgewater suggesting we sort out a helmet for the cow riding the bike in the Virgin Media advert (MCN, November 2) it reminded me of what my wife said when she saw the advert: "Is that a Cowasaki." Made me laugh anyway.  
**Derek Hoblyn, Hucknall, Nottingham**

## Chrissy was a true star

It is no exaggeration to say millions beyond Chrissy Rouse's family, friends and personal acquaintances have been terribly saddened by his death. That is the measure of the

man. His many qualities were self-evident, shining through to all who followed *Chasin' the Racin'*. It was their mutual chemistry that made the show so informative, entertaining and successful. The eloquent tribute from Emmanuel College, Gateshead, says everything about this exceptional sportsman and teacher: "A person of excellence who lived with humility and demonstrated a remarkable love of others." It is not only motorcycling but the whole world that is poorer for his tragically early loss.  
**Robert Chaundy, Cornwall**

## Double standards on noise

Out fishing in the Dales I was approached by a friendly individual who enquired how we were faring and conversation soon moved on to cars and bikes. The point to remember here is that the fellow was an ex-fighter pilot and now flies passenger aircraft, plus he drives an Audi RS4. Talk then turned to him complaining of the noise created by bikes in the Dales and he said he'd made numerous complaints to the police in an effort to get them to do something. Over the years I have read with some consternation that residents have complained about motorcycles and some even want them banned. Well, now you can see that at least one of these complainants applies double standards. When I lived in Scotland, Tornados and Eurofighters came over our house at under 400ft and I didn't complain once. And yes, I did point this out!  
**Ric Marr, email**

## Q 'Was I insured or wasn't I?'

I was recently pulled over by the police. The officer said their automatic records system showed that my GSX was not insured. I told them I was insured and showed her an email on my phone with the insurance certificate. She was not interested and reiterated their record said I was not insured. It turned out that my broker had failed to arrange my insurance, even though they had taken payment and issued a certificate. Can the police really stop you riding for a reason you know to be false? I thought you had seven days to produce documentation?

**Ian C, email**

**A** Your bike was not in fact insured so the police were correct, although it was clearly not your fault. The police can stop a vehicle for any reason with reasonable cause to suspect something is not right. If they ask you to stop, you should pull over

## 'You must always stop if the police pull you over'

as soon as it is safe to do so. You're breaking the law if you don't.

If you're stopped, the police can ask to see your licence and insurance certificate. If you don't have these documents with you, you have seven days to produce them. You are breaking the law if you don't produce the requested documents within that time.

You can have your bike seized if you are stopped on suspicion of riding without insurance and for some other offences.

## Andrew Campbell

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

Visit [www.bikelawyer.co.uk](http://www.bikelawyer.co.uk) or email [andrew@bikelawyer.co.uk](mailto:andrew@bikelawyer.co.uk) or call 01446 794169

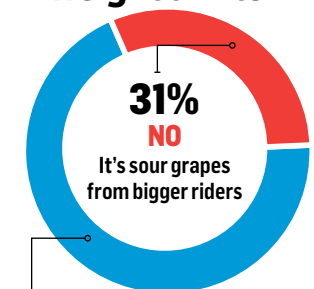


**Bikelawyer**

Motorcycle Accident Solicitors

## READER POLL

Should WSB have minimum rider/bike weight limits?



69% YES It's no different from the rules in horse racing