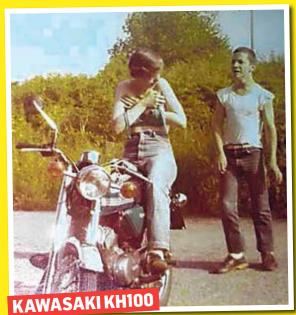
LIFE ON BIKES



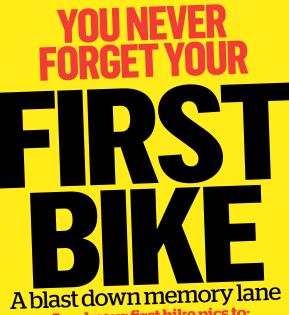
Here's a picture of my lad Jack, aged six, looking pretty pleased with himself on his Beta 50. Dean Hark



My first brand new bike from Clay Cross in Derbyshire when I was 17. Rode it everywhere until a car driver wrote it off. Helen Fox



My father-in-law Tony Peatfied on his Triumph Tiger Cub. He's now celebrated his 80th and is still going strong. Peter Rowbotham



Send your first bike pics to:



Proud moment with my first bike taken in 1978 – it was a Honda CB125J bought secondhand. Anne Jokowski



This is my step-father Des Hawkins with his mum and dad on their AJS sideca outfit back in the days when everyone wore smart suits. Martin Green



Me at 21 on my BMW in 1997, in Bridgend, South Wales where I grew up. Petrol used to leak onto my right foot! A bit different from my XDiavel. Guy Butler



Me with my YPVS. I crashed it on my way to vote in the 1987 General Election My brother now has that one but I have another. Glenn Henderson



γΔΜΑΗΑ XS750

This was my Honda 400 Dream and Yamaha XS750 early in the 80s with my girlfriend (who is now my wife). Denis Calvert

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NEW

News 01733 moto

Senio dan.s



failed and I 'My brakes ran into the car'

Last month I was riding normally when the traffic came to a stop without warning. I applied my brakes but they failed, causing me to go into the back of the car in front. The guy in front is now making a claim against me, but there's nothing I could have done differently. I had some cuts and bruises and am still a little bit sore myself, but every solicitor I've contacted has turned me away. Is it a hopeless case? Roger, email

In order to prove that A this accident wasn't your fault you need evidence that the accident occurred as a result of a braking issue, and not rider error, and, while possible, getting that evidence will not be easy or cheap.

The first step would be to check whether your bike has been the subject of a safety recall due to a braking issue. Any solicitor acting for you would then need to instruct a forensic engineer to inspect

'You would need a report on the brakes. It would not be cheap'

the brakes. Unfortunately these reports are expensive and there is no guarantee they would be favourable, especially if the bike has been damaged or if renairs have been carried out

Depending on the report, vou could have a claim against the dealer. the manufacturer. a company which carried out repairs to the brakes, or no one at all. If you obtained a report vourself it could help with finding a lawyer, but it would be disproportionately expensive.

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

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'Like a motocross dad but in reverse!'

McGuinness junior gives his old man the hurry-up at Silverstone

re three rounds nto the TriOptions Ducati Cup and it's going alright. At Silverstone last time out I did OK in the first race, got a great start and was running in fourth. I felt quite racy and finished sixth and was happy with that. But in the second one I rode like the district nurse and

finished tenth. As I crossed the line I looked over to my pit-board and my son Ewan was there giving me the w****er sign. It's like reverse motocross dad! I used to get a fair bit of stick off my old man when I raced motocross as a kid.

'EWAN WAS MAKING RUDE GESTURES.

but Ewan wasn't happy about me finishing tenth, in fact he was disgusted! He wouldn't take any of my excuses. I think he was a bit embarrassed!

Apart from that, it's all good. I'm still nervous at the start of the race. It doesn't matter how many races I've done, when there are 30 bikes and 30,000cc piling into turn one and fighting for the same bit of tarmac, well that excitement never goes away. I had an exhaust split and it was like going back 20 years as I was walking round the paddock looking for someone to weld it up. In the end a lad called Alberto Solera, did it for me. He races in the Ducati Cup



too, which is cool. He didn't have to do that, did he? There is a lot of camaraderie in the paddock. which I like. My team-mate Andre also split his exhaust and Hutchy welded that up for him!

The next race is Oulton Park and that should suit me a bit better because Silverstone sho circuit is a bit scratchy. But, saying that, the last sector at Silverstone is really fast with a long right hander. It's a bit like Station corner at the NW200, but instead of being fast I was pitiful I'm still working to understand the bike – I've had six races, six

finishes and I'm enjoying it.



Hutchy gets involved with a spot of welding for McPint's team-mate

ASK McGUINNESS

Will you begoing to Macau?



Dave Brown I honestly don't know yet. I love the race

and I've been going for 20 years but there are still so many things up in the air regarding travel and quarantine that we'll have to wait and see. It's a case of fingers crossed.



IEEK MORE WISDOM FROM THE FAST MAN FROM MORECAMBE