

Talking point

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MCN
LAW
Your tricky legal questions answered

Young guns show their true speed

It shouldn't surprise anyone that British Superbikes' young guns are taking over. Kyle Ryde has beaten Fabio Quartararo as a youth and Bradley Ray finished fourth in Red Bull Rookies eight years ago, behind Joan Mir and Jorge Martin, but ahead of Darryn Binder and Toprak Razgatlioglu. Rory Skinner's results in the junior world series suggest that he is every bit as good as Raul Fernandez, Ai Ogura and Tony Arbolino. But while those guys all went on to bigger things on the world stage, our three youngsters had to start over again when they turned 16, struggling to find the money to ride 600s in the British championships on their way up to BSB level.

Marie Summers, Newcastle



DOUBLE RED

They're too freaky

I'm at a loss as to what on earth is going through the minds of EV bike designers. I'm all for change, but why do electric bikes have to look like something from a sci-fi film? Some of these so-called motorbikes look more like a broken Rubik's Cube. It seems manufacturers have forgotten that bikes are supposed to look beautiful too.

Russ Gillespie, Brighton

Cruise control? No thanks

Each to their own but I'll never understand the armchair-and-slipper brigade who frequent motorways and dual carriageways to go all the way sedately and serenely to their touring destinations with only a fuel stop, rather than research great A- and B-roads and plan their journey to get somewhere on this fantastic island of ours. Tell the satnav where you want to go and specify those exciting-looking routes you want to use rather than let it tell you what roads to take as if you were at the wheel of a car or a truck.

Steve Wood, email

Hollow victory?

It was good to hear that there has been a victory on anti-tampering. I just hope that those of us like me who responded to the rallying call from MCN don't find we have achieved a hollow victory and the positive measures in the proposals to hold manufacturers to account for construction blunders get watered down, leaving us owners to pick up the tab for manufacturers' poor diligence.

Bob Broadhead, Rotherham

They might even like it

As a retired Met Police advanced trained covert surveillance motorcyclist, I have held a personal view about licence testing for many years. Now I am a CBT trainer waiting to be assessed to move to DAS, my view is stronger than ever. Compulsory Basic Training should be a requirement for all learner drivers to complete before they are let anywhere near a car. First, they will get a solid idea of what it is actually like to be a motorcyclist and the dangers that car drivers pose. Secondly, after that enforced opportunity to ride a bike they may make the choice to take up motorcycling themselves.

Crossy, Essex

Spark up those sliders...

Further to Robert Highfield's excellent advice on filing down 'wannabe' sliders before a meet, (MCN Letters, May 11)... I'd suggest a little smear of lighter fluid on them. Light it. Extinguish it, then make a grand entrance with your sliders smoking. Cool factor +40%!

Badger, email



Roy got to meet the man himself

Great day out with Sammy

Following an article you did on Sammy Miller last year, I decided to put a visit to his museum on my to-do list once travel restrictions were lifted. I finally visited the museum with my partner and we were not disappointed. I've been riding for 50 years and there were makes there I'd not even heard of. The collection of bikes and memorabilia is truly amazing and I'd recommend it to all enthusiasts. And just to make a great day perfect,

as we were leaving the museum we noticed the man himself busy in his workshop. We chatted and he very kindly spared a few moments for a photo. A true gentleman.

Roy Bailey, Newton Abbot, Devon
Ed: It certainly is a must-visit spot

Don't be an idiot

To the bloke that was caught doing wheelies on a public road (MCN Law, May 11). You are a d***head. Keep them on the track!

Steve Goodman, North Yorkshire

Bikes are for everyone

With regards to opening biking up for all (MCN Letters, May 18). As far as I know, it already is, though I'm all in favour of simplifying the confusing testing system. How do you make biking appealing to minorities? For all he knows, half those 'white middle-aged men' may have unseen disabilities or be part of the LGBTQ community. You want to get into biking, then buy a bike, big or small! The only thing potentially stopping you is the cost of getting the bike and training.

Ian Shakespeare, email

Q 'Missing out on Navy pension'

I was knocked off my Vespa 18 months ago and my compensation claim is well underway. I was in the Navy for 10 years and steadily getting promoted. Due to the accident I was medically discharged and have recently started working in IT. I will now lose out on a fair amount of naval pension and my solicitor is making a claim based on that. The other side are asking for a life expectancy report. Why is this?

James, email

A When we calculate future financial loss, such as a claim for loss of pension, we need to work out how long the Claimant is likely to survive. This is normally done by reference to a book of tables called the Ogden tables. This is a tool that uses statistical data to provide what we call a multiplier – that is how many years we need to multiply the annual loss by. The tables take into account 'everyday' health issues that the general population

'Why do they want to know my medical history?'

will encounter and so these tables are the starting point and should normally be used.

However, where someone has a pre-existing condition that is unrelated to the injuries sustained in the accident and which could have a material impact on life expectancy and the claim is of a significant value, the court will often allow a life expectancy report to ensure a fair result. I don't know your medical history and suggest you discuss this with your solicitor who will have access to your medical records.

Andrew Campbell

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

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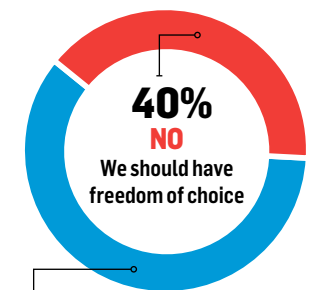


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READER POLL

Have loud exhausts had their day?



40% **NO**
We should have freedom of choice

60% **YES** They just annoy people for no good reason