



**'My RGV250 lasted five days before it blew itself to smithereens!'**

## INSIDE SHAKEY'S GARAGE



### BLUE HAZE

#### Suzuki RG500

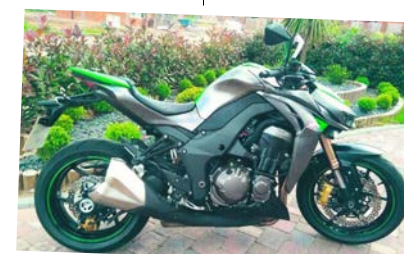
"I never got two-strokes out of my system from when I was a kid"



### CUSTOM

#### Harley Softail Slim

"A bespoke creation made by Shaw Speed and Custom"



### PIMPED-UP

#### Kawasaki Z1000

"It's currently being pimped-up by race team workshop"

### collection?

The reason I bought the RGV250 is because I had one back when I was younger. I had the banana swingarm one with the twin exhausts, and I was proper in love with it as a teenager! It was the most beautiful bike I'd ever seen, and I had one – for about five days! Then it blew itself to smithereens, and I never quite got it out of my system.

I bought another one, and Blandy (the PBM team coordinator) is currently rebuilding it for me. It's going to be absolutely immaculate, and it's only going to be a sunny day bike – I might ride it to get its MoT, but it'll look nice sat in the garage!

### What's the best bike you've ever ridden?

Back in 2010, I got a shot on a Ducati Desmosedici around Silverstone, and I would desperately love one in the collection! It's a whole lot of money to be sat in the garage as an ornament, but one of my Harleys will be up for sale soon and maybe the money from that might go towards a Desmo!

■ Next week  
Stunt cyclist Danny MacAskill

## MY LIFE IN BIKES

# Shane Byrne

The triple MCE British Superbike champion reveals his stable of eclectic road bikes

AGE: 38 OCCUPATION: RACER NATIONALITY: BRITISH

By Simon Patterson  
BSBREPORTER

### What was your first bike?

It was a Yamaha YZ100 and it was really old even when I got it aged around 15 or 16; I think it was a 1977 model. I'll tell you how trick it was – I swapped it for a remote controlled car! It was the first bike I ever actually owned though – I'd done some riding since the age of 11 or so, but that was the first bike of my own.

### So how did your interest turn into riding bikes for a living?

I started racing in 1996 – I won the first time I jumped on a bike – a CBR400 – despite nearly ending my career with a big crash. I loved it, did quite well, and started riding for a clubman team. A friend of the owner was running journalist Jimmy Miller in the CB500

Cup, and what started as a one-off ride with them turned into me doing some stuff with the magazine he worked for. Before I knew it, I was going on exciting launches and doing some really cool stuff. It seemed crazy that I was working for a magazine – when I was a teenager I looked at the magazine journals as heroes, and suddenly I was one of them!

### You must do more riding than most racers these days?

I did quite a bit back in the day, but not so much these days. I enjoy riding on the road though, and the most difficult question I ever get asked is what my dream road bike is. I've got a few different bikes in the garage, but it's always expanding. There's currently a pair of Harleys, a



Suzuki RGV250 and RG500, some motocross bikes, a Diavel that Ducati have loaned me (I think I'm going to buy one) – and Kawasaki have given me a Z1000, too. We're currently pimping it in the race team workshop, and it's going to be completely badass! I'm looking forward to having some fun on that!

### What's the next addition going to be?

I'd love a Multistrada or a BMW R1200GS. I've got the RG500 to ride on sunny days, the Harleys to plod around when I'm taking it easy, and the Z1000 which is going to be fun, but it would be nice to have a big capacity adventure bike in there as well.

**'I swapped my first bike for a remote controlled car!'**

What's your favourite of the current