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SILLY SEASON

IT WAS TOUCH-AND-GO FOR A WHILE. YOUR FAVOURITE TEAM LOOKED TO BE WITHOUT A SPONSOR FOR THE 2000 SEASON. THEN – WHILE THE LAST DRAMAS OF 1999 WERE BEING PLAYED OUT – A DIFFERENT BACKER STEPPED INTO THE PADDOCK, AND MOTORCYCLE RACER MOVED TO A NEW HOME.

And here we are. A little late, so apologies to all who've been waiting for this issue. No doubt you've noticed a few changes already, so I'll bring you up to speed. In order to keep **MOTORCYCLE RACER** on the shelves, we had to take some of those tedious economic decisions. That's why there's no gatefold cover, no swish metallic ink and no impressive-but-expensive binding. We thought long and hard about what you, the motorcycle racing enthusiast, would want to see in **MOTORCYCLE RACER**, and we decided that you'd want more...

...more words, more pictures, more information, more understandings. So that's why you'll find an extra 16 pages in the magazine, making this issue of **MOTORCYCLE RACER** the largest ever. You'll also find many of the regular Racer crew whose words and pictures we wouldn't be without, plus some new people we hope you'll like.

Not everyone could transfer with the magazine, so it's with some sadness that we say goodbye to Racer's founding father, Gary Pinchin. We'd like to thank him especially, and all the folk at Key Publishing, for taking such care in building a fine product and for all their help during the hand-over process. We'll do our best to treat it well, guys.

But in order to survive, Racer has to develop. Just like any competitor in an active field, we can't stand still. And this is where you come in. We need to know what you like – and what you dislike – about Racer. What should we change to help Racer flourish in a market where the dice is loaded for the major players? What should we never change, to keep the magazine exactly as you like it? What do you want to see more of? What do you never want to see again?

There's a questionnaire on page 96, but you're welcome to write, fax or email other comments too. We need to know, so we can build the best road-racing magazine you've ever seen.

I'm listening...

Rowena Hoseason

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- 4 Warm Up**
Warms something up, anyway
- 6 Front Row**
An all-star cast and a fond farewell
- 12 On The Gas**
True scoops or hot air?

- 18 Grand Prix 99**
Every round, revisited
- 29 Vincent's Price**
Future 250 superstar?
- 34 World Superbike 99**
Full of facts, and Foggy

- 42 Chill's GSX-R750**
What made it better through 99?
- 48 VTR-SP1: Naked**
Undressing Honda's WSB Vee
- 54 British Superbike 99**
Who, where, when, why and how

- 62 Haydon: Head Down**
Planning for 2001 and the world stage
- 68 V4 Victory**
Vees rule GPs, OK?
- 74 Yanagawa's 750**
Green Meanie screamer

- 84 Endurance 99**
All day, and all of the night
- 90 Track Trek**
Riding around Donington
- 96 Win! Win! Win!**
Great Foggy Giveaway

- 80 The Kingmakers**
Building the best team

- 98 Backmarker**
Paul Ricard's last lap