


AROUND
THE WORLD


MEXICO

 A MILLION passenger involved in a serious motorcycle crash in Tijuana turned out to be a corpse! The rider had been carrying the body through the city, strapped to the back of his motorcycle. But he crashed and fled before police arrived. Police treated the accident as a fatality until a post mortem discovered the victim had died some time before.

THAILAND

 BEADS are the Thai police's new weapon in apprehending wanted motorcyclists. The over-zealous coppers chase their targets and throw handfuls of beads and seeds under the bike's wheels to make the rider crash. The latest victim, teenager Phee Pong, was watching a motorcycle race when he was caught for having no ticket. But the bloodthirsty coppers chased him down and made him crash before arresting him.

INDIA

 A BIKE-MAD man repeatedly tortured his wife as her family could not fulfil his demand for a motorcycle. The woman was starved and locked in her room for days and had her hair chopped off. He accused his wife's parents of not paying a dowry and continually harassed his wife to meet both his "financial and recreational" needs.

CHINA

 THIEVES in China have begun using motorcycles in order to steal fresh pig meat, in response to rising pork prices.

New Yamaha Super Tenere ready to roll

Test mule is spotted on Italian endurance run blazing a trail into BMW's territory

chris.newbigging
@motorcyclenews.com

THIS is how the new Yamaha Super Tenere will look, according to people who have seen prototypes being endurance tested in preparation for its expected launch next month.

A European magazine spotted the bike on Italian roads, but the test rider made a fast getaway before the photographer managed to capture the bike.

The new Tenere 1200 is one of a host of new bikes from Japanese and European manufacturers, all anxious to get a slice of the market dominated by BMW with the R1200GS range made famous by Ewan McGregor and Charlie Boorman on TV's *The Long Way Round*.

This artist's impression, right, of the Tenere 1200 is based on the eyewitness's impression of the test bike. Created by former BMW designer Oliver Neuland, the drawing is thought to be the most accurate representation yet of the new bike that Yamaha is still refusing to admit exists.

The Super Tenere and other new models, including an Aprilia Pegaso 1200 and the new Ducati Strada Ape-ri-1200, are expected to be

most riders will never make use of their trail-riding capabilities.

The brakes are believed to be the same system as seen on the FJR1300, which means ABS could be offered as an optional extra. Most rivals offer anti-lock braking as an option, so for Yamaha to compete on a level playing field it will have to offer it.

The engine will be an all-new parallel twin based on the foundations of the current TDM900, but the dated motor won't accommodate the extra 300cc so Yamaha will have created a new engine from the ground up.

The TDM has a five valve head – it's not yet clear whether this will transfer to the new engine. Yamaha has

'The all-new parallel twin engine is based on TDM900'

also patented a variable valve timing system for a parallel twin, so it looks very likely that the technology will make it to the Super Tenere.

The fuel tank will have capacity of well over 20 litres



Artist's impression of the Super Tenere

WHAT WILL THE SUPER TENERE HAVE TO BEAT?

THE adventure sports market is more profitable than ever thanks largely to the Long Way Round effect, but it's also a tougher and more crowded marketplace.

Many manufacturers offer a 1000cc-plus adventure bike in their range – and others are in the process of building one.

Here are the standout models the new Yamaha will be up against when it goes on sale next year.



Class-leading BMW R1200GS

to the BMW, but with a bit more flair. Those who want the absolute best still plump for the BMW, but the entertaining Guzzi is finding fans.

Moto Guzzi R&D boss Edoardo Ruggiero said: "The Stelvio is very important to Moto Guzzi, more than any of our other 2008 models."

"The BMW GS represents about half of BMW's total production, so there is an opportunity for us to do well with this bike."



Stelvio beats BMW for flair

down the BMW route of building a bike with basic off-road ability. The Honda

the Caponord – it was a merely average bike in a class of exceptional machinery. The new 1200cc V90 V-twin engine will be used to power a new machine, which will probably be based largely on the Shiver/Dorsoduro platform. Expect to see it at the 2009 Milan show ready for sale in 2010.

KTM ADVENTURE 1190 Status: Due on sale in 2009. Central European's attack