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ell of course you're going to say that
Porsches are good, you're paid to say
that." It's a line I hear time and time again
from folk when they discover what I do
for a living. The other variation is: "OK, so
Porsches? Are they really any good, or are you obliged to say

that?" There are various ways of anwering this. One is to say that I owned Porsches way before working on *911&PW* magazine was on my radar. The second is to point out the fact that when most motoring journalists get round to buying 'something for the weekend' it more than likely will be a

**Porsches? Are they really any good, or are you obliged to say that?

Porsche. And that's significant because of the breadth of machinery that they get to drive. When putting money where mouth is, and taking all factors into account, Porsche wins the hard-earned, and journos aren't easily parted from that.

I mention this because Porsche Cars GB recently held a bit of a get together at the Silverstone Driving Centre for Porsche driving members of the media. All your regular *g11&PW* and *Classic Porsche* correspondents were there parading everything from a humble *g24* to a Porsche tractor. No one made us buy these, and the job doesn't mandate it. We do it because we love them, and above all because, yes, they really are good.

Steve Bennett

FEATURES

YOU AND YOURS

Meet Tim Royds and his Boxster Spyder

36

TECHART 991 TURBO S

The 991 Turbo goes under the knife at TechArt, plus it gets more power too

42

MODIFIED 964S GET LONDON EFFECT

London 964 owners' get the hot-rod bug

52

THE RAREST 964 RS OF ALL

Could be. After all, when was the last time you came across the road race N-GT version?

66

CARRERA 3.2 NEW ENGLAND ROAD TRIP

Tipler's dream drive. It's a tough life

76

SVP MODIFIED CAYMAN CHALLENGES 911

Well, with 3.7-litres and 370bhp it does

86

ARCHIVE: PORSCHE'S 4-CYLINDER FORAYS

Part 2 as Keith Seume continues to look at Porsche's four-cylinder engines

94

SPECIALISTS: PARAGON

We catch up with one of the leading players in the Porsche sales game

102

HOW TO: 997 VACUUM PUMP REFURB

You didn't even know it had one!

108







CONTENTS 10.14





SUBSCRIBE

Don't miss a single issue of the only magazine that covers every model of Porsche. Why not subscribe today? You'll save money, too!

Just turn to page...

REGULARS

PORSCHE NEWS

08

All the latest Porsche news...

20

...and all the latest must-have

Porsche bits and bobs

PORSCHE PRODUCTS

28

USUAL SUSPECTSKeith Seume on what you don't see

when we put together a feature

PORSCHE LETTERSA packed sack of opinion!

32

PORSCHE PROJECTS

114

Keith's 912 hot rod continues its glacial rebuild, plus Pete's Targa 3.4 project

CLASSIFIEDS/T&T/BUYERS' GUIDEPorsches, parts and plenty more for sale

133





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PORSCHE NEWS





The Pebble Beach classic car auctions in mid August underlined the almost unbelievable surge in early 911 values that has been evident of late, with a 1974 911 Carrera 3.0 RS (main photo), one of 56 built, cracking the million dollar threshold, and regular 911s from the 1960s and early 1970s selling for over \$400,000. More recent 911s are becoming seriously expensive too, with a 1988 959 Komfort (the higher spec version of the twin-turbo, four-wheel supercar) making \$1,485,000 (about

£892,000), and a 1989 911 Speedster hammered down for \$308,000 (£185,000).

With the Pebble Beach Concours d'Elegance, held in Monterey in California, incorporating arguably the year's most significant premium classic car auctions, it usually falls to two auction houses, RM Auctions and Gooding & Company, to compete for the very best cars – and this year, as far as Porsche were concerned, the latter came up trumps. Besides handling the above mentioned Carrera 3.0 RS and 959, it

NEWS - PEOPLE - PERSPECTIVES

presented a 1968 911T/R – an early factory supplied competition spec 911 – which made \$440,000 (£264,700), a pre-production 911 from 1965 (one of 254 built) that fetched \$407,000 (£244,470), and a 1973 911 2.4 S, with leather Recaro seats and electric sunroof, which sold for \$330,000 (£198,200).

However RM's catalogue did contain noteworthy entries, such as the 1965 "matching numbers" 911 2.0 which sold for \$308,000 (£185,000) and a 1972 911 S 2.4 Targa in brown that made \$242,000 (£145,360). It was surely a sign of the times that the cheapest 911 the two auctioneers had between them was Gooding's 1968 911 2.0 L, a relative snip at \$104,500 (£62,770).

The 911 Carrera 3.0 RS sold by Gooding was a car bought new in Paris specifically for motorsport, its owner competing in hill climb events in France. The successor to the 1973 2.7 RS, except built in far fewer numbers, power was raised 10bhp to around 230bhp, while larger wheels and wheel arches were fitted, along with brakes based on those on the 917







racer. After passing through a number of owners, it was fully restored 10 years ago.

By contrast, Gooding's 959 Komfort is barely even run in, having covered just 8800km from new. It was purchased new by privateer racer Heinz Schiller of Geneva, and stayed in his collection until 2004.

Bonhams was also in on

the act, selling a g11 Carrera 2.7 RS for \$935,000 (£562,500), but aside from the g11 frenzy, 356s were also being snapped up by bidders. Several of the delectable 1950s Speedster went for between \$280,000 (£168,185) and \$440,000 (£264,300). However, the biggest price among these pre-g11 generation cars was not achieved by







a Speedster, but by the 1963 356 Carrera 2, the fastest 356 road car built, thanks to its 2.0-litre, four cam engine. Kept from new until the late 1990s by the first owner, it went under the hammer at \$517,000 (£310,500).

Race cars offered for sale included a 1974 911 RSR Carrera 3.0 from Bonhams with a Daytona and Sebring provenance, which made \$1.1m (£661,761), and a

1986 962 IMSA GTP, offered by RM, which was bid up to \$575,000 (£346,100) but did not reach its reserve. Following the RM sale in London on 8th September, the next big flexing of premium classic car prices will be at the Scottsdale Actions in Arizona in mid January.







CAYENNE'S MAJOR FACELIFT

Four years after the second generation, 958 model Cayenne was introduced, Porsche has given its popular SUV over 300,000 of which have been sold since 2010, making it the top selling Porsche - an extensive facelift, including a key new engine. The range goes on sale in the UK from 11th October, priced from £49,902, for the Cayenne Diesel, up to £93,763 for the Cayenne Turbo.

The previous entry-level Cayenne V6 with its VW-derived engine – a model Porsche listed but didn't really want to sell, relegating it to special order status – has been dropped, and the least expensive petrol model, at least initially, is the Cayenne S at £60,218. As happened with the Panamera, the Cayenne has down-sized in engine

capacity, the non-turbo 4.8-litre V8 in the old Cayenne S replaced by a new 3.6-litre bi-turbo V6, which was developed entirely by Porsche, the carmaker stresses.

This produces 414bhp, 20bhp more than the 4.8, and 406lb ft torque, 37lb ft more, shaving a tenth of a second off the o-62mph time, which is now 5.4 seconds, while top speed is one mph higher at a surely academic 161mph. The Cayenne S's NEDC combined fuel consumption is between 28.8 and 29.7mpg (around two mpg better than before), and CO2 emissions are 223-229g/km - allowing models with the lower figure to escape the most punitive road tax bracket, although they will still attract a first year rate of £635.

For the first time, the

Cayenne is available in plug-in hybrid form (a first generation hybrid was previously offered), the Cayenne S E-Hybrid using Porsche's already familiar 3.0-litre supercharged petrol V6 producing 328bhp and boosted to 410bhp by the electric motor, the combination making a total of 435lb ft torque available. Priced at £61,474, it is the first plug-in hybrid in the premium SUV market and its performance and economy are impressive: o-62mph in 5.9 seconds and a maximum of 151mph - but also 83mpg economy and a mere 79g/km of CO2, meaning zero road tax.

Until we see a Turbo S, the Turbo is the flagship model, its twin-turbo, 4.8litre V8 producing 513bhp and 553lb ft torque, and never mind the £1090 road tax its 261-267g/km draws. Although to be fair its market is not really Europe. The Cayenne Diesel, with its 3.0-litre turbodiesel has been made more economical, and the 4.2-litre V8 Cayenne S Diesel – priced identically to the Cayenne S E-Hybrid – delivers a stump pulling 627lb ft to complement its 380bhp.

Porsche describes the latest Cayenne as a new generation model. However, despite its new nose, bonnet and front wheel arches, and revised front and rear trim, it is still the same 958-series model underneath. Inside, there is a new multifunction steering wheel based on the design of that in the 918 Spyder, paddleshifts now standard on all five models. The rear seat has been redesigned, and seat ventilation is now optional.

OUR TAKE

DRIVEN OUT

If diesels decline due to environmental pressure, Porsche's contempt for them in the past could prove to have been visionary, David Sutherland thinks

Porsche had to be dragged kicking and screaming into the diesel world, resisting it until the reluctant launch of the Cayenne Diesel in 2009, which used a 3.0-litre Audi turbodiesel engine. Prior to that, Porsche had insisted that diesels had no place at Zuffenhausen, former CEO Wendelin Wiedeking openly mocking their inability to rev much beyond 5000rpm, the point at which the fun began in a petrol-engined Porsche, he pointed out.

Ironic, then, that five years later easily the most common Porsche engine is a diesel, be it in the Cayenne which has an 85 per cent diesel take up – or the Panamera or newly launched Macan. It was a beneficial move, even if Porsche didn't like making it.

But Porsche might, if you like, have the last laugh because after decades of increasing popularity, the diesel may soon have had its day. While diesels, with their more efficient burning give better economy than petrol engines and thus produce less CO2 - the gas believed to contribute to global warming - they are now being blamed for increased pollution in cities. The sooty particulates are the main issue, and London Mayor Boris Johnson recently helped kick start what could become a widespread antidiesel sentiment by announcing that in six years time London's Congestion Charge on diesels will be more than double the present rate.

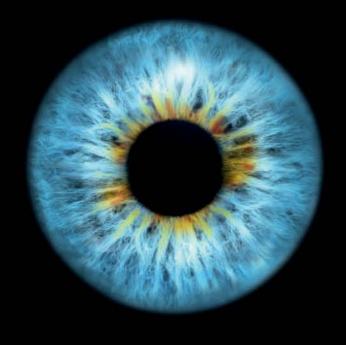
Perhaps Porsche engineers danced with joy at this. Certainly they have their work cut out to bring the carmaker's range of above average capacity petrol engines down to the required emissions level, while at the same time preserving the Porsche performance promise. But if diesel goes west, once again the shrill, intoxicating scream of a Porsche engine as it heads towards 8000rpm will become the norm, replacing the dull drone of the sparkless combustion system Rudolf Diesel brought us over a century ago.















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JZM GOES TO THE GULF

On of the UK's best established independent Porsche specialists is opening a new branch. Not in another town or another county - but over 4000 miles away, in the United Arab Emirates, where it hopes to exploit what it describes as an under-supplied demand for Porsche servicing and engineering. The country presently has two Porsche Centres, one based in Abu Dhabi, and one in Al Ain, 110 miles away, between them covering the region's seven emirate zones with six sites.

'While researching opportunities, we established a friendship with entrepreneurs in the United Arab Emirates,' says Jonas Zambakides, managing director of Kings Langley-based JZM Porsche. 'Months of planning and development later, JZM Gulf is set to open for business.' JZM staff have been out to Abu Dhabi to meet local counterparts and size up the nature of the challenge.

'JZM Porsche and the UAE is a perfect match on many levels, the majority of the population is expatriate, he continues. 'Despite a history of Porsche enjoyment here in Abu Dhabi, a Porsche specific independent service centre has never

found a foothold. We hope JZM Gulf will change all that.'

Fellow JZM director Steve McHale, adds: 'They're car nuts but they don't have any Porsche specialists. Out there, if you want your car set up for a track day, or anything else unusual for it, there's no one to do it.'

Working from an allnew, 10,000 sq ft facility, set close to European brands including Audi, JZM Gulf offers the same Porsche servicing, tuning and chassis set up, and engine and transmission rebuild services as it does in the UK. 'Whether that's a Porsche Boxster service, tuning a 911 GT3,

or adding paint protection to a local Cayenne or Panamera, all who come to JZM Gulf can count on our complete support,' says Zambakides, who has split his recent work life between the two

There is likely to be a difference in the type of cars that come through the door, as - petrol, not diesel - are more prevalent there. Because of the extreme heat, all work takes place inside the air conditioned building. The address is JZM Gulf, Mussafah Industrial M14, Abu Dhabi, UAE.











PORSCHE BUYS KYALAMI F1 TRACK

When a motor racing circuit hits financial trouble and is put up for sale, it can, depending on its location, be an attractive proposition for property developers, and that looked like being the fate of the Kyalami track in South Africa, the former F1 venue that has struggled for some time and was reportedly mired in a legal dispute. However, in a surprise move, Porsche stepped in and bought the 2.7-mile track in the suburbs of Johannesburg, saving it from the bulldozers.

The carmaker is quoted as saying that Kyalami 'will be preserved as a

race track', and there is already speculation that it could become a Porsche Experience Centre. like the one at Silverstone.

Auctioned on 24th July, the circuit - or Lot 25 as it was itemised in the sale - was offered with a reserve price of 200 million Rand (about £11.2m), and was bid up to 205m Rand. The winning bid was reportedly placed by phone by Toby Venter, boss of Porsche South Africa, who could not attend in person due to his attending the Macan launch.

Those of a certain age

will recall that Kyalami, which opened as a racing circuit in 1961, hosted grands prix from 1967 (pictured is Jody Scheckter winning his home grand prix in 1975 in a Tyrrell 007) until it was dropped from the F1 calendar after 1985,

following a sports boycott winner there, in 1993.

countries, and who will be partially based in the UAE.

Cayennes and Panameras

of the apartheid regime in South Africa.

Formula One returned to Kyalami in 1992 and 1993 following the release from prison of Nelson Mandela, but the circuit went bankrupt soon after, Frenchman Alain Prost being the last

CATCHING UP WITH

TIM SUGDEN



The professional race driver who is also commercial manager at Strakka Racing gives us the benefit of his thoughts, distilled over nearly 40 years in motorsport

How old are you, where do you live and work? I'm 50 and live in Leeds, but

tend to be travelling for most

What was your big break? Getting selected for the BMW iunior team in 1000 was a huge breakthrough.

Summarise your career After a successful singleseater career, I switched to the BTCC in 1990 and was a factory driver for BMW, Toyota and Opel. In 1997 I started racing a GT2 Porsche, winning the British GT championship, with a second championship in a McLaren the year after. That year I also got fourth overall at Le Mans. In 2003 and 2004 I drove Porsches in Europe and the US and in 2005 I was in the factory Porsche, earning the coveted Porsche Cup for most successful driver in Porsche Motorsport that year. I also won Carrera Cup Asia in 2007. Are you a petrolhead? Absolutely, all my time is spent around cars.

What was your first car? What was the first Porsche

you ever drove?
A brand new 964 911 Carrera.
It was my sponsor's road car and he let me have a go when I was racing in Formula Ford.

Which Porsche past or present do you like best? The 997 GT3. What car do you drive daily?

A BMW. What gets you out of bed in the morning?

The thought that this day is the day I need to start preparing for when my life will begin. The next thought is that at 50, it probably has!

What has been the biggest challenge of your working career?

I now race a BriSCA Formula 2 stock car and starting from red grade (the star grade) is the hardest thing I have ever done. The highest graded drivers start at the back and getting to the front in a short oval race is so difficult. There is no warm up lap and races last only a few minutes so you have to be on it from the word go.





1994 PORSCHE 993 CARRERA 2 COUPE

Rare and desirable speed yellow with full black leather interior - absolutely stunning! Upgrades include RS front and rear spoilers and Speedline alloys with black centres. Only 21,100 miles with full service history - drives as good as it looks!



2008 PORSCHE 997 TURBO - RHD 23,000 miles with FSH. - Extensive features including Sport chrono package - 911 (turbo) - a modern classic in the making.



1989 PORSCHE 911 SPEEDSTER - RHD
Only 9000 miles - the car is in as new condition and drives as if it
had just left the factory. A true opportunity for the collector.



1989 PORSCHE 930 TURBO LE - RHD Has covered only 29,100 miles and has full service history. 1 of only 50 right hand drive cars made. Immaculate.



1989 PORSCHE 930 TURBO G50 - RHD Excellent Condition throughout. Many extras and upgrades - great value. 71,700 miles.



1989 PORSCHE 911 3.2 - **LHD**Only 49,350 miles with FSH. Option of air-conditioning. One of the best examples of we have come across for some time.



1987 PORSCHE 911 SUPERSPORT CABRIOLET - RHD Original factory wide body example comes with full service history. Full black leather with electric soft top. 60,000 miles.



1997 PORSCHE 993 TURBO - **LHD**Only 28,200 Miles. LHD. Competely original. The last air-cooled Porsche Turbo model - a really exciting car to drive.



1988 PORSCHE 930 TARGA TURBO - RHD
One owner car with only 10,200 miles - Solid Guards Red with
Beige Full leather interior. Absolutely stunning condition.



1962 PORSCHE 356B SUPER T6 CABRIOLET - **LHD**Desirable 'Twin Grill' model with period chrome luggage rack
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TECH9'S WINNING WAY

A 911 entered by Liverpool-based Tech9 has won the Tour Britannia event for the third year running, the hat trick due to the car's '100 per cent reliability'. The classic motorsport event, which threads its way on UK roads to three race events and 14 special stages, is run over two days and competition is intense.

Driver and Techg proprietor Phil Hindley, along with co-driver Andy Bull, took victory by just 13 seconds over rally experts Steve Perez and Paul Spooner

in a Ford Escort Mk2, Hindley commenting that the Porsche's performance was 'testament to the crew at Tech 9, and the fastidious attention to detail in the preparation of the immaculate 1979 911 SCR 3.0. The 911 bears the "SCR" title due to it being a Ruf-converted car that was rebuilt as a lightweight 911SC, the final specification that keeps it eligible for pre-1981 historic rallies. Besides many lightweight parts, it features Öhlins suspension, for which

Techo is a UK supplier.

The car, which has been unchanged in its specification in three years, and which has also taken two one-day Mini Britannia wins, may or may not be

campaigned in 2015. 'The car is presently up for sale,' says Hindley. 'I want to sell it, but if it doesn't sell I may enter it next year.' For more information, call Techo on 0151 425 5911.



NEW PARTS FOR TRANSAXLE CARS

For many years the four-cylinder, watercooled models, starting with the 1976 2.0-litre 924 and ending at the 3.0-litre 968 of 1995, were the forgotten Porsches, with too little value for restoration to be viable, and often allowed to rot away but rising prices of early 911s appear to have stirred demand for them and made these front engined "transaxle" cars worthy of a second look, many collectors seem to

have concluded. Now Porsche has recognised that view, offering new engines for them, stripped of most components to give owners the option of re-using as much of the original componentry as possible during a rebuild.

Porsche Classic, the carmaker's division that both rebuilds old Porsches and remanufactures parts for them, can supply the aluminium crankcases for the

924S 2.5-litre, the 944 2.7- and 3.0-litre, and the 968 3.0-litre. These come with threaded cylinder head bolts and a differential housing, leaving other items such as the water and oil pumps and the various oil seals to be sourced separately, which obviously keeps the cost down. The crankshaft for a 924S, for example, is £1654 plus VAT, and £331 more for a 968.

'Thanks to the crankcase, owners of

models can therefore now ensure that the price of any repairs remains within a range which corresponds to the vehicle's value,' says Porsche Classic. Where possible, the parts are sourced from the original suppliers, or if that is not possible, are 'based on technical drawings and comprehensive store of samples and the expertise of our staff."

The inventory of parts for older Porsches is approximately 52,000, and not all are large items. It is possible, for example, to purchase an electrical relay for a 944 Turbo's water pump and turbocharger (£107 plus VAT), or a rubber sleeve for suspending the oil

information and prices, go to the Porsche Classic page on www.porsche.co.uk

classic front-engine original documentation, detailed descriptions, a

cooler on a 928 (£1.57).

For further

EVENTS

THE PORSCHE MONTH AHEAD

SHOWS AND EVENTS

September 3-5 **Salon Prive** Syon House, London Style meets concours at Syon House. The place to be seen www.salonprive.com

September 5-7

The Concours of Elegance Hampton Court, Surrey Following two years at St James's Palace. Windsor, the equally impressive Hampton Court will this year host the concours event of the season

www.concoursofelegance.co.uk

September 7

Porsche Classics at the Castle Castle Hedingham, Essex Well established Porsche clasic event in agreeable surroundings. Star of the show rumoured to be Keith Seume's project 912. Oh, and the 1970 Le Mans winning 917 and Richard Attwood

www.classicsatthecastle.com

September 19-21 **Porsche Club GB National Show** Brands Hatch, Kent The big Porsche Club event of the year, with the added bonus of racing from all the top Porsche Club series, plus the

BRSCC Boxsters and 924s www.porscheclubgb.com

Sport

September 6 Porsche Club Championship Rounds 10/11 Oulton Park, Cheshire
www.porscheclubmotorsport.co.uk

September 6-7 Porsche Carrera Cup/BTCC Rounds 15/16 Rockingham, Northants www.porsche.com

August 9-10 **BRSCC Porsche Championship** Rounds 9/10 Anglesey, North Wales
www.porscheracingdrivers.co.uk

September 11-13 Isle of Man Historic Rally MSA Historic Rally Championship Round 7 Isle of Man www.hrcr.co.uk

September 21 Porsche Club Championship, Porsche Speed Championship, BRSCC Porsche **Championship** Brands Hatch, Kent

A great gathering of Porsche race series in support of the Porsche Club GB National Show

www.porscheclubmotorsport.co.uk, www.porscheracingdrivers.co.uk

September 27-28 Porsche Carrera Cup/BTCC Rounds 17/18 Rockingham. Northants www.porsche.com



PORSCHE STILL A MONEY MACHINE

Everything on the Porsche AG balance sheet pointed in the right direction in the first half of 2014, with profits, profit margins, revenue, sales and even the size of the work force increased. The carmaker posted a profit of €1.4bn (about £1.1bn - some £6m per day), up eight per cent and with a profit margin of 17 per cent - if not the highest in the car industry then certainly close to it.

Porsche nonetheless reported that it had to watch the euros if this level of profitability was to be sustained, due to the high cost of

implementing "Strategy 2018" – its ambitious growth programme – and reducing CO2 levels to the EU's required level. 'This is the only way to sustainably achieve a return on sales of at least 15 per cent." it said.

However, Porsche is now not the only German car manufacturer revealing impressive numbers. Over the same period BMW made a profit of €4.8m (£3.8m), although despite selling over 10 times as many cars as Porsche its operating margin was lower than Porsche's, at 11.1 per cent.



DRIVE TIME AT R&D CENTRE

Porsche has given more details of planned upgrades to its development centre at Weissach, revealing the huge increase in technical work on new hybrid drive systems that will be undertaken at the top

security site. Within two years, some 600 of Porsche's best brains will relocate there, a major benefit of this being that all development functions are in one place, with the departments interlinked. 'Tiresome trips to

externally leased testing facilities will be a thing of the past,' the carmaker says.

Development of internal combustion and hybrid drive systems will be stepped up considerably, with 18 test benches installed, Even the design of the new building will play its part, the 'intelligent architecture designed to promote interdisciplinary interaction between colleagues,' Porsche explains.



Porsche is also using the building to maximise its green credentials. Two floors of the seven-storey building are to be below ground level in order to integrate it with the landscape as much as possible, while the 250,000 cubic metres of rubble dug out to create the foundations will be crushed on site and reused as backfill at a later date, and every tree removed when the site was cleared will be replaced with another elsewhere. Even most of the rain water returns to the earth in its original state, flowing through an aquifer area built specially for this purpose - the building has no zinc gutters, which would affect the water's natural state.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Oxfordshire-based Porsche specialist Autofarm has recently sold a two-owners-from-new g11 Carrera 2.7 RS that it has serviced and maintained for 31 years. 'Strong demand meant the car sold for over £500,000 before the Porsche specialist had the opportunity to market it publicly,' Autofarm said.

With Porsche back in the top level of Le Mans racing on what looks like a long term basis, it plans to establish a Porsche Experience Centre at the French circuit.

Porsche builds three petrol and one diesel Macan, but customers want the oil burner, says UK-based Automotive Industry Data. It calculates that since going on sale earlier this year, 70 per cent have been diesels, and that over the same period the diesel take up among Cayenne customers is 85 per cent.

For the 10th year in a row new car buyers in the US have rated Porsche as the most appealing brand in the JD Power "APEAL" survey (Automotive Performance, Execution and Lavour). And in the Compact Premium Sporty Car category, the Boxster and Cayman were first and second

and Layout). And in the Compact Premium Sporty Car category, the Boxster and Cayman were first and second.

Parts specialist Euro Car Parts has opened seven new branches so far in 2014, bringing its network total to 162 locations. The stores are in Cheltenham (Gloucestershire), Barnstaple (Devon), Rochdale (Greater Manchester), Weston-super-Mare (Somerset), Darlington (Durham), Mansfield (Derbyshire) and Gravesend (Kent).



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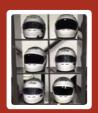


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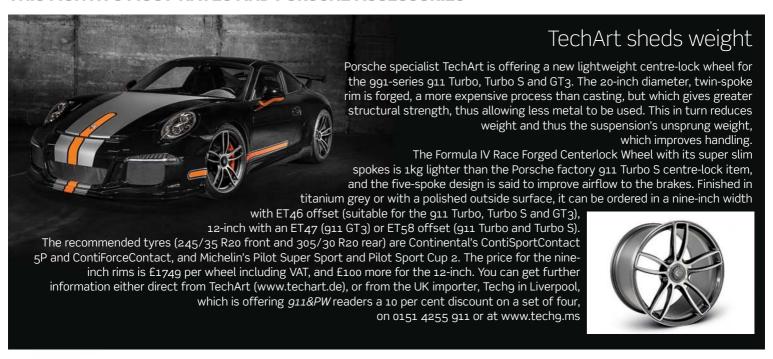


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THIS MONTH'S MUST-HAVES AND PORSCHE ACCESSORIES





More power in a flash

Was achieving an extra 20hp and 13lb ft torque at the crank on a 996-series 911 Carrera ever easier than this? Simply plug in a cable to the Porsche's on-board diagnostic port, download the ECU data to a laptop, email the file to the secure server of a company in the US, which then modifies the settings and quickly returns the file, which you then upload via the same port. The ECU stays in situ, so the car can be driven in the meantime.

That's the service that Connecticut-based programming specialist Softronic provides for pre-2004 996 Carreras, in the form of a flash drive cable. There are various maps available to take account of differing engine specifications in different countries, and also different fuel octanes, and, equally crucially, the system is guaranteed not to trigger any MOT-failing dashboard warning lights.

The process at the user end is simple, Softronic says, with instructions provided, and the remap is easily reversed because the original file is included with the modified one. The Performance Software (part number REMAP804) costs £755, having been reduced from £795, and is available in the UK from Porsche parts specialist Design911 in Essex, on 020 8500 8811 or at www.design911.co.uk

Spring into action

German suspension specialist KW Automotive has launched its new range of ST suspension for both of the Cayman generations, the 987 and 981. Direct replacement kits, the springs lower the car by 30mm if it's a 987 and by 20mm if a 981. The lowered springs give the mid-engined Porsche a more aggressive stance, and if you want it to look all the more so, KW offers a wheel spacer kit.

Having a chrome-silicon construction for maximum durability, and featuring an epoxide coating to fend off corrosion from winter road salt, the price is £299 including VAT (part number 28271008 for the 987 Cayman/S and 28271011 for the 981 Cayman/S). For more information, call KW Automotive UK on 0870 990 7536 or visit www.kwautomotive.co.uk





Macan goes retro

There are plenty of factory options available for customers ordering new Macans, but Porsche is to make some of these items available for existing cars, supplied through the carmaker's Porsche Tequipment accessories division. A Sport Design package will be available ex-works for retro-fitting as from December 2014, comprising a bodykit (nose and tail body panels, side sills, "side blades", and roof spoiler with a painted rear edge), a sports exhaust system with noise switch, bi-xenon headlamps incorporating the

Porsche Dynamic Light System, and dark coloured LED rear lights.

Additionally, Sport Classic 21-inch diameter wheels, based on the 911's traditional and well recognised Fuchs design will be forthcoming along with some interior accessories, such as the "Lime Oaked" interior package, consisting of overlays for the instrument panels and door trims. A full list will appear in due course on www.porsche.com, under the "Tequipment accessory finder."





Sitting comfortably

According to gproducts, which specialises in performance parts for Porsches, when a racing seat and multi-point harness are fitted to a Boxster or g11, it become very difficult for a tall driver to achieve a comfortable driving position. This is because if the driver's legs are the right distance from the pedals, the steering wheel is too far away.

The normal solution is to fit a dished steering wheel to reduce this distance, but what if you want to retain the factory airbag? The firm, based in Finland, has devised an extender for the Porsche airbag wheel, suitable for Boxsters, 993- and 996-series 911s. Priced at €429 (about £340), it is said to be easy to install, and, due to its finish, barely noticeable once in place. However, when fitting, disconnect the battery and keep it disconnected for at least 30 minutes before removing an airbag module, the company warns. More information can be seen at www.gproducts.com



The Tyre Bay

We look at the new Bridgestone tyre that passed the tough test for Porsche original equipment approval

Established in 1931 and now the world's largest tyre manufacturer, Bridgestone has introduced a new Porsche original equipment (OE) ultra high performance tyre. Following on from the Bridgestone RE050, a very common and popular fitment on many 997-series 911 variants, the tyre maker's new Soo1 has gained N rating and Porsche approval for the current shape 981 Boxster and Cayman in 20-inch diameter 235/35 ZR20 (front) and 265/35 ZR20 (rear) fitment.

The Bridgestone Potenza Soo1's key

The Bridgestone Potenza Sooi's key features include an advanced asymmetric tread pattern for outstanding sports performance in wet and dry conditions, super slant grooves for rapid evacuation of water and high traction on wet surfaces, and high-grip shoulder blocks for optimum road holding and high braking force and maximum cornering grip. A lightweight construction with spirally wrapped nylon cord helps maintain performance but reduces rolling resistance, thus improving fuel economy.

improving fuel economy.

The Soo1 was greatly influenced by Bridgestone's experience in Formula 1. Its suitability for high performance cars is borne out by it being OE not just on Porsches, but on the Aston Martin Rapide, Ferrari 458 Italia and Audi RS5 too, and it redefines the limits of power and control in a performance tyre. Developed and tested in motorsport's toughest arena, the Bridgestone Potenza Soo1 lets you unleash the full potential of your high performance car.



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Porsches get clocked

Porsche has become renowned for its engineering efficiency in recent years – for example two decades ago it took one platform and one engine, and made both the Boxster and the 996-series 911 out of them, and then later the Cayman. So we shouldn't be astonished to learn that when Porsche Design, the carmaker's accessories division, decided to make a wall clock it didn't waste money sourcing new materials, but instead found some spare 20-inch 911 Turbo wheels to use as the face.

Part of Porsche Design's "Masterpieces Collection", it takes the outer rim of a genuine Turbo wheel, and has aluminium hands which save yet more money by being painted in Porsche's existing "Indian Red" bodywork colour. A Porsche crest is mounted in the centre of the quartz powered clock, and rotates with the minute hand. You don't get a sweep second hand, and the clock makers didn't even feel they could design its own mounting hook, because that's a copy of a Porsche valve cap. The price is €1500 (about £1200). More details at Porsche Centres, or at www.porsche.com/shop

Good navigation

Many Porsches are equipped with satellite navigation, but if yours doesn't have the Porsche Communications Management system, or indeed pre-dates its availability, then your smartphone will show you the way home. But there is still a place for dedicated, free-standing navigator units, which arguably do the job better than both. One product that presents a particularly compelling argument in this respect is the recently launched Essential Series from industry leader Garmin, keenly priced at £89-£159.

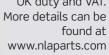
The displays are bigger than Garmin's previous units, five-inch on the nüvi 55/66, while the nüvi 65/66 (the 65 is pictured) has the firm's first six-inch screen, and functions are kept simple to operate. One very useful feature is Lane Assist, which provides close up views of major junctions to help you take the right slot at a complex intersection. The units come pre-loaded with European maps, and others, such as a map of the USA, are available to download at extra cost.

As you can imagine, our description can only scratch the surface of what they do, and there is much more information at www.garmin.com We have one piece of crucial advice if you are driving in France, though: using a navigator with a camera detector is illegal and attracts a hefty fine, so before travelling check that a navigator's French map does not have speed cameras marked.



Keeping your cool

The original oil cooler on a Porsche 356 or a 912 might still be working, but its cooling will be far from optimal compared to more modern coolers. So if it looks like it needs renewing, it makes sense to replace it with a modern spec, retro look item, such as that from classic Porsche part specialist, NLA Authentic Parts, based in Reno, Nevada in the US. The NLA-107-041-00 Aluminum Oil Cooler is claimed to be half the weight of the original cooler (which was steel), yet offers 20 per cent more surface area. It thus 'could prevent a cracked engine case,' its maker suggests. It fits every 1948-65 356 and all 1965-69 912s, and as a direct replacement is an 'easy weekend upgrade', NLA adds. The price is \$510, though obviously you need to allow for shipping and UK duty and VAT.





on most older cars are going to let in a certain amount of moisture, especially if it's a convertible, which creates an unpleasant damp, musty odour. Perhaps if you've never owned a new car you thought that's how all cars smelt! JF Stanley & Co, based in Hamburg in Germany (given the company name, you will not be surprised to learn that proprietor Jos Stanley is English), claims to have a solution to dampness, the PermaPack, which contains a natural and environmentally friendly desiccant (a drying agent) that will draw the interior's moisture. It comes in two sizes: the 18cm PermaPack, designed for the car's interior and which will absorb up to 600ml, and the 6cm item, for the boot, holding 200ml. Prices are £68 and £40. You find out when it has absorbed its full capacity by weighing it. And once full, the units, made from marine quality stainless steel, can simply be baked in the oven, and reused, and will 'last for years and years', according to Stanley. They lie loose in the cabin - under the seat is a good place - and in the boot.



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KEITH SEUME Classic Porsche

LIGHTS! CAMERA! UMBRELLAS!



July 2014 marked 37 years since I first fell into the world of motoring journalism. That was back in the days when we bashed out stories on ancient typewriters, used bottles of Tippex correcting fluid (can you still buy that?) to cover up our mistakes and took pages of notes in our ring-bound reporter's notebooks – in my case, largely indecipherable notes...

Over the last (almost) four decades, I've been on hundreds of photo shoots with some of the best (and some of the most temperamental) photographers in the business. I've also met some real characters among the owners of the cars we were there to feature. I mean, *real* characters. One of them, from back in the 1970s, ended up in prison for armed robbery, another was done for fraud. Yes, the East End of London 40 years ago was an interesting place...

I am quite sure there were no future armed robbers among the members of the London 964 Owners who came along to the photoshoot for this month's cover and major

Photo shoots bring out the different characters in owners: some like to clean and preen, others like to stand and chat. Some just want to go home early – but not the London 964 Owners! Spending half your life up a ladder seems to be the norm as far as car photographers are concerned. But then how else are you going to get a shot like the front cover of this issue?

feature. If there were, they kept their weapons concealed at all times. No, seriously, what a great bunch they were – patient, too.

You see, one of the big problems about photoshoots where several privately-owned cars are involved is that most people have little idea of how long it can take. I've been on shoots where after half an hour the owner is already looking at his watch and asking if it's going to take much longer. When you break it to them that it can take three, four, five hours – or more – you'll usually see a look of desparation descend across their visage.

Arranging a photoshoot can be a major exercise in its own right. If you have just one car, life can be pretty easy, especially if the car belongs to a dealer. In that case, more often than not, they will just throw you the keys and tell you to have fun – and please bring it back in one piece. But many shoots involve several cars, and that's where things frequently start to get complicated.

I learnt long ago that the best way to bring a group of cars together is to involve the owners themselves in making some of the arrangements. This is specially true where a club is concerned. When Editor Bennett asked (ordered) me to do a story on the LgO, as the

g64 group is generally known, my first point of contact was Ivan McCutcheon, who'd originally told me of the group's existence. He did some ringing round and then put me in touch with Frank Pereire, the group's frontman, and that set the ball rolling.

We wanted six to eight cars (any more than that can become a bit of a handful unless, like last month's cover shot, they are all supplied by one source), preferably in a range of colours. Now that last point can be difficult where more modern Porsches are concerned – yes, you got it: the majority seem to be silver or black.

Fortunately, 964s were born in an era when I suspect hallucinatory substances were filtered into the air-conditioning unit at Porsche: black, silver and red made way for magenta, peppermint and pastels. Heaven knows what Ferry Porsche made of it all...

After just a couple of days, Frank (whose own car is, er, black) had a list of willing candidates prepared to take a day out of work.

In the meantime, I'd called Antony Fraser to check if he could make a couple of dates the following week (time was tight, due to magazine schedules) and got the 'all OK' from him, so it was then a case of choosing a suitable venue. The obvious choice was the old Longcross proving grounds – known by most in the business simply as 'Chobham'. It's easily accessible, being just off the M3/A30 in Surrey, and has plenty of space for group shots and car-to-car action photography.





Here they are: The usual suspects, 911 & Porsche World's elite squad of journalists and Porschephiles. They've always got plenty to say so we've given them a couple of pages each month to chunter on











PAUL DAVIES

CHRIS HORTON

JOHNNY TIPLER

STEVE BENNETT

BRETT FRASER



The first time I ever used Chobham was in July 1977 for a 'road test' of one of the first Golf GTIs in the UK. Back then, the place was still owned by the military and in use as a test facility for all kinds of armoured vehicles. It was commonplace to go flying round the track (part of which is banked and, in the 1970s, free of any speed restrictions) only to come upon a tank trundling along at 40mph, shedding chunks of rubber from its tracks.

Today Chobham is used by motoring publications for photography, and manufacturers and dealers for corporate driving events – and the film/TV industry. In fact, watch old episodes of *The Sweeney* and you'll be amazed at just how often car chases were filmed here. But I digress...

So we had a group of cars, a photographer and a location. What could possibly go wrong? Well, as it turned out, nothing. Unless you count a rain shower of truly biblical proportions that coincided with Antony's request to do some action photos. Poor Ant, he looked like a North Sea trawlerman wrapped up in oilskins as he poked his soggy Nikon from behind the trackside shrubbery. But he's a tough fellow and it took more than a few drops of rain (ha!) to dampen his spirits.

Prior to this, we'd spent time posing and shooting the cover image. Now trying to round

And just when you think everything's going to plan, it pours with rain. If there's one thing you can rely on about British weather it's that you can't rely on it...

It takes a lot of thought getting the right photo, as Antony Fraser (left) proves... Sometimes, though, it all gets too much and he has to have a little lie down...

up car owners who are all mates and naturally want to stand around and chat has been compared to 'herding cats'. It can be an impossible task. Then, once you've managed to attract everyone's attention, you now have the task of trying to get each car into position.

With Antony looking through the viewfinder, he'll give orders as to where he wants each car placed. From ground level this can look pretty random but, when viewed from on high (ie, up a stepladder), it all starts to make sense. The problem, though, is it's not always easy communicating the photographer's wishes to the owner behind the wheel.

'Left full lock and back a couple of feet' frequently translates itself into 'Hard right and forwards'. 'Left!' becomes 'the other left' (ie, right) and 'a couple of feet' can turn into a couple of yards in no time at all. Such shenanigans can further be complicated by the one car which has a flat battery and needs to be pushed into place.

There were no such problems at this shoot (well, maybe a couple of 'other lefts') and pretty soon the cover image was in the can – or maybe that should be 'on the memory card' these days – followed soon after by the photos for the opening spread of the feature. Things were looking good, with the sun shining and skies a delicate shade of blue.



And then we heard it: the not so distant roll of thunder, followed soon after by the not so sunny drops of rain. This soon turned into the deluge I referred to earlier, coinciding with the exact moment when Antony expressed his wish to do the all-important moving shots.

Car-to-car work is a little disconcerting if you've never done it before. Asking owners to drive side by side, no more than 18 inches apart, while paying attention to the commands of the photographer (who's generally leaning out of the back of the camera car) can be nerve-fraying – I tell owners to think like the Red Arrows: watch the car to your right, and let the car to your left watch you. I've never witnessed two cars touch, but I'm sure it's happened on somebody's photoshoot.

After a few hours, the shoot was all over and it was time to adjourn to the pub for a bite to eat. The London 964 Owners were some of the most accommodating people I've worked with. And do you know what? I don't think there was a bank robber amongst them...





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LETTERS

GOT SOMETHING TO SAY? NEED TO EXPRESS AN OPINION ON THE PORSCHE WORLD? WELL, HERE'S YOUR CHANCE...



FIRST THOUGHTS

I was looking forward to reading your September issue as I have been spending the last few months debating what to replace my Subaru WRX with. The choice was between a Lotus Elise or a Porsche of some description. Yes, I know, please don't shoot me for sounding so vague about which model to buy!

I have been particularly interested in the g64 series, but am still not sure if this is a good idea given their reputation. I know you say that it is largely unfounded but why else would values be so depressed in recent years?

I am not interested in a cheap 996, or a Boxster, for the obvious reasons (which have been well highlighted in recent issues of your magazine), but the 964 appealed to me because it was more 'modern' than the older cars, but more characterful than the 993 which, I have to say, leaves me rather cold.

I have around £20,000 available but am now starting to wonder if this enough. I may be able to stretch this to £23K at the most. What do you think? Am I foolish to be thinking this way? Would I be better looking for an older car, such as a Carrera 3.2? What worries me is the rust and oddball handling.

Many thanks for any advice you can give me.

James Williams, via E-mail

Keith Seume replies: First of all, it's great that you want to swap your Subaru for a Porsche. I'm sure you'll find it ultimately rewarding, whichever model you choose.

Your £20-23K budget should see you OK, but be aware that prices are rising at the moment and certain models, like the 964, are most definitely in the ascendancy, so don't hang around too long.

Having said that, don't get rushed into making a decision - if at all possible, try to get behind the wheel of a few different models before parting with your cash. It should be possible to find a good g64 C4 privately but it will be wise to get it checked out with a PPI first. If you don't mind a Targa (or a Cabrio) then the choice will be much wider. Good luck with your hunt!

FIRST THOUGHTS (2)

Your buyers' guide in the September 2014 issue was interesting. I am not entirely sure where your correspondents got their price information, as some of it seemed wildly inaccurate. For example, I'd like to know where you can find a good Carrera 3.2 with a G50 gearbox for 'around £20K' these days.

If you look through the advertisments in your own magazine, I am sure you'll see that many of the cars you mention are far more expensive than you quote, in some cases by quite a substantial margin.

Although this sort of feature is a useful reference, I do think it is important not to mislead readers into thinking that their dream cars are cheaper than they really are.

Michael Simmons, via E-mail

Keith Seume replies: As a contributor to the feature, I can assure you that the prices

Right: Howard Little loves his Targa and had no problems with wind noise. But, he says, maybe he's not as tall as Brett Fraser quoted are all based on 'real world' examples – you only have to look at on-line resources such as AutoTrader and Pistonheads to get a measure of the market. In many cases, don't forget, people will ask far more than they realistically expect to get for their cars – you can always come down, but you can't put a price back up.

FIRST THOUGHTS (3)

Can I just say a quick word of thanks for your 'First Porsche' feature. It was the catalyst I needed to step up to the world of Porsche ownership.

I had been torn between a g11 and a water-cooled car – sounds an odd choice, I know, but I always had a soft-spot for the g68. Reading through your review confirmed what I had always thought: the g68 is truly a hidden gem. I am now on a mission to find the car of my dreams. Thank you!

Piers Gordon, via E-mail

TARGA ALTERNATIVE

It was interesting to read Brett Fraser's view of the new 991 Targa (*Usual suspects*, September 2014). Interesting because, with regard to wind noise, I have found completely the opposite to be true.

For many years, I owned a Porsche g11SC Targa, which I loved dearly. Then along came

family and the need for something more practical. The SC Targa was great but it did leak when it rained!

Once the children had flown the nest, I bought a 993 Targa, impressed by its sliding roof panel and modern looks. When I say 'impressed' I mean I was impressed for about a year.

The roof was an endless source of problems for me, mostly electrical in origin. We have no idea to this day why that car was so bad, but bad it was – having the roof jam halfopen was no fun.

Earlier this year, I took the plunge and put my money down on a new 991 Targa and anxiously waited for it to be delivered. It took less time than I expected as the dealer was able to offer me a cancelled order. It wasn't my first choice of colour (red as opposed to dark blue) but it looked great and the price was right.

Since taking delivery I have covered some 5000 miles, mostly touring France and Switzerland and have nothing but praise for the design. I love the retro styling and have lost count of the number of people who have stopped to take a photograph when parked up.

As for the wind noise? Not a problem – maybe I am a little shorter than Brett Fraser and my head doesn't affect the airflow so much!

Howard Mason, via E-mail



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SPYDER MAN

As Porsche obsessed kid, Tim Royds drew Porsches, had posters of them on his wall and even had a Scalextric 911. Then he grew up and bought a real one!

Words and photography: Brett Fraser

im Royds' enthusiasm for his 987 Boxster
Spyder radiates from his very being and fills
the space around him – he adores this car,
loves owning it, loves driving it. But in
common with so many of us, he confesses
that when it came to initial thoughts of Porsche
ownership, he'd been eyeing up a 911.

'As a kid I loved the g11 – I drew Martini-striped Turbo pictures, had posters of one on the wall, even had a Martini-liveried Scalextric car which, of course, was the best around our track... The g11 was simply this iconic car during my childhood and as a consequence I always wanted to own a Porsche.

'Many years ago in the late 1980s, while I was still working for someone else, I bought a shop, and the plan was that when I made my first £10,000 from it

'It was the wife's fault,' Tim explains. 'We were driving through our local town of Diss when she pointed out a red Boxster to me. She knew I still hankered after a Porsche and had spotted that the price tag was £5995, which back then was quite special, even for a 2.5. So, of course, I turned around... It was a 1996 P-reg example that appeared OK, and pretty much immediately it was a done job and somehow I managed to find the money for it.

'Given that it came from a side-street car lot, you may not be surprised to hear that it had a few foibles. Chief amongst those was the fact that the hood kept trying to fall off! It was all to do with the mechanism's knuckles popping, which the dealer had promised to sort out... Oh, and there was also a problem with the driver's side electric window.

The Porsche brain-worm was simply waiting for the right climatic conditions to reawaken?

I would buy a Porsche. A sensible person might have thought "I'll re-invest the profit in more stock," but I've always thought you're a long time dead...'

For a variety of reasons Tim's plan didn't go according to plan: the £10K never happened and so neither did the Porsche. Family, business and life in general pushed the notion of ownership to the back of his mind, while motorbikes, a "proper" Mini Cooper S and, to a lesser extent, a Lexus IS200, took care of a need for wheeled entertainment. And yet, although the Porsche brain-worm may have been coerced into hibernation, it was simply waiting for the right climatic conditions to reawaken.

'All the same, I did enjoy that car and took it on a memorable trip through the Lake District. I had it about 18 months before deciding that I fancied upgrading to a facelifted 986 3.2S which again I'd seen locally. Because of the 2.5's hood issues I didn't think I'd be able to trade it in anywhere, and yet Humphrey Vargas did the deal against the 3.2S: ironically the 2.5 was soon punted on to the small garage I'd bought it from a year and a half earlier.

'The 3.2S, a black one, had no problems at all. Well, nothing of any consequence. I kept the car for three and a half years and during that time had a major service done at a local garage, GM Autotech in

Right: Tim Royds and his Boxster Spyder, something of a rare beast and a seriously focussed drivers' machine. Tim describes it as a 'posh Lotus Elise,' which is a description that we rather like





TIM ROYDS YOU AND YOURS

accommodating... It was replaced by an excellent Janspeed stainless system that had no disturbing sections in its repertoire.'

With the aim of raising capital for a new Porsche in mind, Tim stuck the 3.2S on to the Autotrader website. I had a budget for a newer Porsche in my head, Tim confides, 'and knew that I'd never achieve it by trading in my current car. But after six weeks on Autotrader the only bloke who came to see it – and loved it – couldn't get the money to buy it. Then out of the blue some friends of a friend told me they were looking for a Boxster: they bought mine simply after seeing some detailed photographs I sent them.

'Another friend of mine, Steve, who owns an Audi TT, decided that we should both drive to Le Mans this year in new, to us, Porsches – I'd already been down there three times in the black car. In the back of my mind I'd been mulling over a 996, but somehow the thought of a car that had the same dashboard as my 986

'Until I bought the Spyder I never "did" forums, and quickly discovered why. There's a huge amount of snobbery surrounding the car, and mine was being criticised for having 37,500 miles on it. The wicked side of me promptly decided to wind up those critics by telling them I was taking the Spyder to Le Mans and putting another 1200 miles under its tyres.

'From the moment I first drove it I realised it was different gravy to my previous car. It's 80kg lighter, 10bhp more powerful, 20mm lower, and its carbonshelled sports seats, despite their seemingly minimalist padding, are supremely comfortable, as even my wife will attest. It's an absolute dream to drive fast, like a posh Lotus Elise, with real poise and go-kart immediacy in its responses. It's quite stunning dynamically.

'On the Le Mans trip, brilliantly organised by Wildside and encompassing many miles of really engaging French back-roads, my Boxster Spyder attracted lots

CONTACTS 911 Virgin

Not for the first time, 911 Virgin get a whole-hearted recommendation from a happy 'You and yours' buyer as suppliers of Tim's Boxster Spyder

www.g11virgin.com

Roy Humphrey Vargas Not specifically a Porsche specialist, Roy Humphrey Vargas in East Anglia have no shortage of high-end machines and supplied Tim's second Boxster

www.royhumphreyvargas.com

**Until I bought the Spyder I never "did" forums, and quickly discovered why **

Boxster was putting me off.

'Then Steve rang me to insist that I had a look at g11 Virgin's website where there was this Boxster Spyder. I was out on a job in Cambridge with my son Soren at the time, and in our work clothes we jumped in the van and went down to the edge of London: Tom and Dan at g11 Virgin were great and didn't make any judgements about us, as they seem to be accustomed to dealing with customers from all walks of life.

'I never even drove the Spyder prior to agreeing to buy it – I spent 45 minutes talking to Tom before even clapping eyes on the car. I can't recommend 911 Virgin enough, because the Spyder was seven grand more than my budget, but they gave me two months to get the money together.'

From the outset of his ownership Tim was determined to drive his Spyder whenever he could, but soon discovered that some frowned upon the idea... more lustful looks than the Ferrari 458 Spider of my friend Matt... And my car has a certain rarity value: supposedly only 230 were imported to the UK, but currently there are only 190 left.'

Not that rarity has any influence over Tim's intentions for his Spyder. Itry to go out in the Porsche whenever I can. I'm trying to persuade Wildside's Nick Duncan to do a trip to the Nürburgring for some fun driving, but I'm also contemplating a journey to the bottom of Spain for a holiday. When you've got a car as tremendous as this, why on earth wouldn't you drive it?'

Tim confesses that a g11 is always in his dreams, yet he's also a staunch advocate of the mid-engined Boxster. 'The uninformed are forever saying that the Boxster is the poor man's Porsche – my retort to them is that they should come and really drive a Boxster, especially a Spyder.' **PW**

Below left: There's something of the Carrera GT to the Boxster Spyder from the rear. Something to do with those cowlings. Despite being something of a fine weather car (the hood is something of an afterthought really), Tim's car has notched up an impressive 37,000+miles









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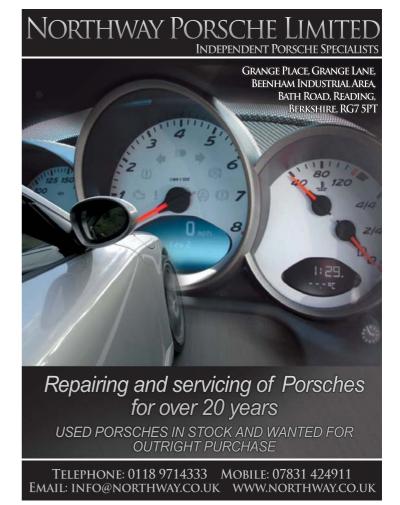


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ART FOR ART'S SAKE

TechArt's 991 Turbo S earns its stripes on the Black Forest's hilly bends, narrowly missing a speeding citation along the way

Words: Johnny Tipler Photography: Antony Fraser



peed traps. There's an inherent risk with our job, maybe more so than regular Porsche ownership: that of getting caught going over the limit. Because we all want to know how quick these cars are, and we have to pick our moments. Stretches of autobahn with no speed limit, for instance, would be just the ticket for our TechArt 911 Turbo S with its 190mph+ potential. But that doesn't reveal the car's dynamics on a switchback Broad. A dragster is fast in a straight line, but that tells us little about its chassis. So when my snapper buddy and I depart TechArt's Leonberg premises in the arable Flacht district near Stuttgart, and make off for the winding hill roads a few clicks away, by coincidence, a stone's throw from Weissach, I let him get maybe halfa-mile ahead in the snappermobile so I can get a decent run down the valley. No sooner have I floored it than I spot a blue van half hidden in a roadside copse two-thirds the way down the hill. Thank god for these mind-blowingly efficient brakes: the enormous speed already attained is annulled in a few yards. But a

couple of blue clad figures hasten to leap into the van and, horror of horrors, the blue lights began flashing. Pumping adrenaline turns to vinegar, and I slink towards them, tail between my legs. You can't hide a sparkling white Porsche, and to halt completely will arouse more attention, though the assumption is that my charge has already been clocked. Trying to look completely normal, I tool past at about 20mph, and they come out after me with their blue lights flashing, and I think, 'oh yeah, well this is it, this is the reckoning,' but no! They overtake me and carry on going! Nee-naw, nee-naw... The paddywagon speeds off down the hill, overtaking Mr Fraser and disappears from sight. I catch my colleague up and we proceed gingerly through the village, and there are the cops, having apprehended a truck. Around the next turn a shattered motorcycle tells a tale. Poor sod; there, but for the grace of god...

So, after all that, what can I tell you? It is one heck of a car, this Turbo S. We've driven their offerings before, of course, and whilst it's not a major innovation, this one doesn't disappoint either. TechArt is a prime mover



TECHART 991 TURBO S

amongst the select coterie of aftermarket planets that orbit the Zuffenhausen solar system, and introduced its latest take on the 911 Turbo at the 2014 Geneva Salon. The spec includes technical, aerodynamic and cosmetic evolutions, most obvious of which is the aerodynamic kit, made from lightweight carbon and polyurethane RIM composite, comprising the front spoiler that smartens up the aerodynamics at the front apron, various ducts, and the rear wing. The front splitter extends fully at the press of a button when going at under 60mph (120kph), or it'll emerge automatically when the car hits 60mph in any case, retracting automatically at 45mph (80kph). Matching the front end aero, the rear spoiler improves overall

competition references they connote, that does take you to a different standpoint, visually. White car, blue stripes equals traditional American racing colours. And that makes me mindful of American racing cars, from Cunningham to GT40, Corvette to Panoz, which is no bad thing, and might also indicate the market that TechArt has its sights set on with this model. In any case, stripes are an image lifter. The artwork makeover is enhanced further by the Turbo S graphics on the sides, while the rear-view mirrors match the blue of the metallic detailing in the car. Tastefully done, if you like your Turbo to stand out even more than normal. I suppose that's another reason why passing Weissach traffic is more than curious. Personally, I would have

"The spec includes technical, aerodynamic and cosmetic evolutions"

White is still very much the 'in' colour at the moment and makes a great canvas for TechArt's styling overview. Blue striping blends nicely, while stance is just right airflow, which TechArt claims 'improves driving dynamics and stability' as well as echoing the curvature of the 991 coupé roofline. Likewise, the 'aero wings' that are integral with the front air inlets, and the vents in the front apron aid streamlining and contribute to the firm's trademark visual characteristics and aggressive design cues. These include the headlamp bezels, side-skirts and diffuser trim, framing the stainless steel, dual-oval tailpipes.

Whilst the silhouette of the Turbo S is pure macho white tornado, the actual appearance of the car is dominated by the TechArt striping, and with all the

carried that blue stripe right over the top of the car, but for some reason it stops on the roof and finishes halfway up the bonnet. The lowered suspension also accentuates the length of the car, and maybe that is also to do with the positioning of the Turbo S graphics along the bottom of the door. It seems too curtailed, and maybe it should run right around the entire lower quarters, because, as it is, it runs in front of and behind the front wheel arch, but the rear wheel arch is neglected, while the main detail in that panel is the trademark air intake for the intercooler. Cosmetics, eh!









some areas where the aerodynamics have had an influence on the shape of the front splitter, but generally it's a relatively boxy, rectangular affair, and there's no front-projecting splitter which one might have expected. The side-skirts, or sills, have a slight knife-edge projecting along their centre lines. Around the rear there's a little diffuser underneath the back panel where the exhausts protrude. The aerofoil wing is purposeful, matter-of-fact, rather than swoopy Art Nouveau; it's not elegant, it's workmanlike. And yet the whole thing integrates very well into a coherent package.

The luminous TechArt aluminium door-sill guards welcome you aboard the salubrious saloon, while the

on the centre console, and the needlework in the leather on the dash and on the chairs, plus the matching blue of the panels around the PDK shift lever.

Beneath the front bonnet it's the same layout as a regular 991, providing exactly the same luggage stowing capability, but open the engine lid and, like all modern Porsches, that too is a manifestation of plastic covers so you won't see much in the way of a driveline. It's tempting to try and lift the spoiler, but the engine lid is in an even smaller panel that just lifts up to access the fluids, like a Boxster.

Its enormous 21in wheels are slightly dished to set the rim out a little bit more, and they're fitted with Michelin Pilot Sports, 245/35 ZR up front and 305/30 Interior features blue detailing, as does Tipler's hat! Below right: TechArt Turbo S looks the part on the move and is just that bit more aggressive looking than the standard Turbo

"The TechArt power-kit raises power from 560bhp to 620bhp"

ergonomically-shaped tri-spoked multifunctional sports steering wheel with its designer paddle shifters entices. It's flattish across the bottom to give space between rim and thighs. Your feet ease onto the aluminium pedals and adjacent footrest. There's a coordinated design theme running through the upholstery trim, with decorative threads in contrasting colour stitching the leather panels together. TechArt's interior styling packages also include elements of coloured carbon fibre, while the dashboard instruments are also refined versions, presenting legible dials, bezels and the leather-wrapped Sport Chrono clock. It's all in the detailing of the sewing and the carbon-fibre

ZR on the back. Oodles of grip there, then, which is reassuring considering the prodigious power on tap. From the stance of the car it's obvious that its suspension is lowered by 3cm, as it's quite squat. The suspension is fundamentally original, but the springs are replaced by TechArt's sport springs, fitted front and rear when the 'Noselift' system is installed. Speed bumps and potholes are easily negotiated by raising the front of the car, activated by another console button that operates the suspension hydraulics, lifting it by 6cm, operable with no delay at 50kph, and it lowers itself automatically in around seven seconds.

All the trimming and mechanical enhancements are

TECHART 991 TURBO S

CAYMAN WENT

We covered the TechArt Cayman relatively recently, but I wanted to find out how it compared with the standard car we drove in last month's "Your First Porsche" feature, and, indeed, how it would stack up against the warp-factor Turbo. No question, the Cayman is more of a realistic everyday car than the Turbo, easier to relate to on account of its compactness, ease of control, mid-engined chassis flowing better into the corners, smoother in and out. The handling balance is spot-on, and whilst it doesn't have the punch of the turbo it is malleable and its performance sprightly. Accelerating hard, it really takes off, whizzing straight round to 6000rpm with no messing. In this mode it screams its head off, but actually I don't feel the impetus matches the noise; it's not projecting me like it sounds as if it should be doing. However, when posing in Sport Plus setting it certainly makes a racket in town, and it's worth remembering at traffic lights that Sport Plus only works in manual, using the paddle-shifters. The Cayman's been facelifted in similar fashion to the Turbo, with a new TechArt family front panel and carbon splitter across most of the front. It too has the gunmetal grey 21in wheels, shod with almost zero sidewall Michelin SuperSport 265/30 ZR 21 on the back and 245/30 ZR 21 on the front. Detailing includes orange brake calipers and a similar hue around the extremity of the rims, while at the back of the car below the rear panel carbon diffusers frame the exhaust in a semi-circle. The most prominent external feature is the rear wing with its cantilevered supports emerging from the TechArt-badged rear Gurney flap. The interior features lovely orange stitching and orange rev counter, and it's an enticing package indeed. Possibly one in which one's licence would be more likely to remain unscathed than in the Turbo.

carried out in-house at TechArt's multi-level premises in dedicated craft workshops, which is as amazing as it is laudable. No farming-out of functions here. Hanging hides and multifarious leather-bound wheel-rims speak of hands-on endeavour, while techies toil beneath ramps in the garage. It's quieter in the design studio, where renderings for future design themes are on show. The white riot theme is carried over into the Cayman that we also drive (see sidebar), but the quartet of demonstrators on display in the rotunda showroom at street level are, if anything, more hard-core poseurs, bejewelled bling-babes each one: 991 Cab, Macan, Cayenne, Boxster and, praise-be, the wild, swamp-green 997 GT2.

As we know, the Turbo is stonkingly fast, by any standards. Beavering away in their subterranean workshops in the bowels of the main building, these guys have made it quicker still. The TechArt power-kit raises power output from 56obhp to 62obhp, boosting torque by 130Nm to 830Nm (612lb ft.), and on full boost to 880Nm (64glb ft.). All dispensed by the touch

of a button: the power-kit springs into life when the standard Sport button on the centre console is pressed. For maximum aural treats, the Sport exhaust system with 'sound muffler kit' dispenses beefy baritone boom-'n'-blare.

Well, let's give it a try. Our test car is but six days old, and that's a rare thing as far as I'm concerned! Even Porsche GB press cars have usually seen a few thousand miles. Immediately I'm impressed by the car's sheer ability. Like a jet fighter pilot, it endows me with an awesome feeling of confidence by its downright competence. Okay, so the controls are broadly standard Porsche equipment with PDK shift, but the experience it delivers is perceptibly on another level. I ease on the accelerator and it rushes forward, the immediate sensation being that it's immensely fast. Then comes my 'close shave' with the rallentando rozzers. Progress is inescapably slow - for a few kilometres. And so the converse is that you can trickle along, in PDK automatic, and it does all the work for you. You know that you're the boss of enormous latent









The Turbo forms the bulk of TechArt's work these days in terms of tuning. The Turbo is still tweakable, whereas the normally aspirated cars have little to give up power wise

power, sizzling away in anticipation of re-launch.

Soon enough, my confidence is rekindled, and the urge to surge takes control again. At first it's just seamless, linear acceleration. But when the turbos enter the fray there's a positive lunge, signalled by the exhaust note changing to a deep boom. I've got it in Sport Plus, using the PDK paddle shifts, and there's a lovely bubble on the overrun. And just as it's tempting to play tunes going up and down the gears – bah, bah, bah – it is also irresistible to floor it just for the hell of it, but as we found, there's quite a formidable police presence in the Weissach hinterland, so maximum prudence is required. It's a Porsche fest around these backroads, where every other car is a Porsche of some

these tree-lined lanes. Easing the power on and off to get the nose to dip in and out, and the steering is very direct, the turn-in is pin-point acute and the balance of the steering is just right, to the extent that the thick padded wheel invites some twirling, given a broader set of curves.

Having blasted the byways I calm down a bit, settling back for a more objective review of the white wazzer. I've got the sunroof open now. It's no bigger than a normal one, but you can have three different configurations of aperture by pressing different buttons: with just the back cranked up, wide open, or a combination of the two. I'm looking for trouble in the rear-view mirror and I'm distracted by the spoiler,

"There is one last chance for a burn up in the blanco blazer"

sort, and I lose count of the Boxsters and 991s that glide by during our static photo session, though the 918 and Carrera GT grab my attention. A big 'wow!' moment. It's a car spotter's paradise, this, such is the volume of exciting cars at large. They all look curiously at our candy-striped TechArt Turbo, and some frown, and I construe that it could be seen as a bit of an interloper, though in town it's a regular head-turner as old and young pay tacit homage. I activate noise-boosting Sport Plus to further fuel their interest.

Out in the sticks, it's extremely lively and poised. Around these helter-skelter corkscrew turns it's a pussycat, driven sensibly, but I know that there's a bottomless pit of porking grunt lurking to catch out the overzealous right foot. It's a big car, relatively, on

with its neat blue and grey detailing.

There's one last chance for a burn-up in the blanco blazer; a few, too-short miles of smooth asphalt, winding up and down through the fringes of the Black Forest, and I go for it. Heart in mouth, hoping not to find a tractor around the next bend, though a swift overtake or two is feasible when the dotted white line's in my favour. The Turbo plunges into dips and hurtles skywards to crests, and I'm totally gripped with the concentration and the thrill. There's no apparent limit to the available performance. Job done, I cool it and we slink back to TechArt's Leonberg HQ, relying on the console sat-nav for directions. All in all, the TechArt Turbo S is visually striking, an extremely competent and very exciting car. Bring on the stripes! **PW**

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Most Models

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986/996/987/997/981/991

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911/964/993/993tt

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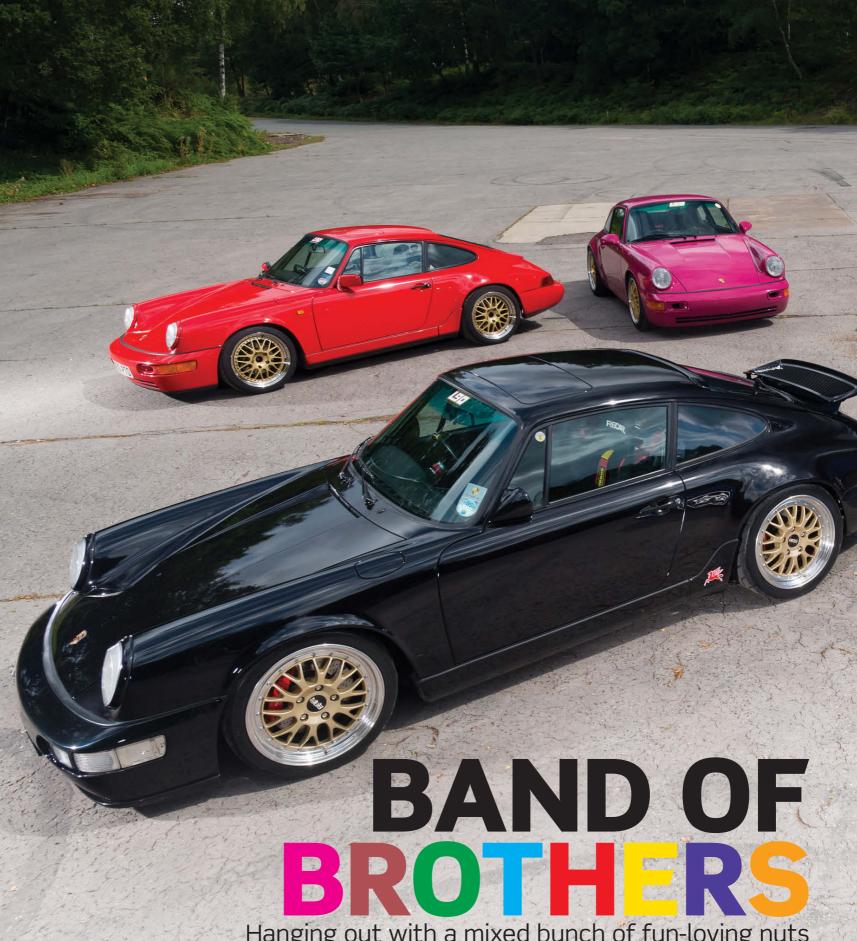


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Hanging out with a mixed bunch of fun-loving nuts drawn together by a common love affair with Porsche's first 'modern' 911: the London 964 Owners. Their motto 'Go cars, not show cars' tells its own tale

Words: Keith Seume Photos: Antony Fraser



enerally speaking, the very mention of the words 'car club' is enough to make sane people shudder. Too often, it brings to mind the image of a bunch of nerds waxing lyrical over spigot bearings on their 1947 Lumsdon Super Six, or a group of bores comparing the price tags of their new Astons or Fezzas. Yawns all round, then.

The word 'club' also hints at some kind of organisation: a committee, definitely, annual subs, probably. Sadly it also suggests politics, disagreements, arguments, disillusionment, a slow decline in membership and, eventually, a slide into oblivion. An all too common tale – but it needn't be this way, as this group of Porsche fans proves.

'The 964 generation of 911s brought us together,' says Frank Pereire, one of the more public faces of the London 964 Owners group, or L90 as it's referred to. 'As many Porsche enthusiasts will know, the 964 was regarded as the underdog (I'm sure a few PCGB members still think it is!). It was a 911 that suffered terrible and, for the most part, unjust press.'

And he's right. Ask many barroom experts about the 964 and
they'll give you the impression it's
the red-headed stepchild of the
family. They'll happily tell you
about self-destructing dual-mass
flywheels – and oil leaks that
make the Exxon Valdiz look like
the Rainbow Warrior.

'Throw in the ingredient that the 964 was born into a recession and you've got the recipe for an unloved 911,' says Frank. 'The result is that they were once cheap, unloved and frequently racked up high mileages.'

Of course, these arguments

against the 964 don't really hold water any more, if they ever did at all. Yes, the dual-mass flywheels were prone to failure but there's probably only a handful of cars left on the road with the original flywheel still in situ as most have long been fitted with the trouble-free upgraded version.

As for oil leaks, well let's face it, all older 911s with a high mileage mark their spot. Yes, the 964 may have been a little worse than others, but the problem was that it had a plastic undertray in which oil would gather, giving the



impression that things were far worse than they really were. Other ancient g11s simply dumped their oil mist over the cars behind...

As a consequence of this bad press, for the longest time 964s were frowned upon by enthusiasts. They fell into the category of the 'cheap Porsche', the one you bought if a) you didn't know any better or b) you had Champagne tastes but a Prosecco budget. That meant many were snapped up as runarounds, logging up high mileages in the process – and mechanically neglected. That, of course, led to

one thing: depressed values.

But in this case, 'depressed' has a positive connotation, as Frank explains: 'This meant that 964s tended to attract a certain type of enthusiast. With high mileages being the norm, people felt they could modify 964s without worrying about them losing value. So much so that now the market suggests that modified 964s are commanding a premium - for the most part it's a market where values are led by condition and the quality of modifications, rather than mileage or originality.'

This certainly seems to be born

out by others who belong to the seemingly disparate bunch who have come to join us at the photo session. The owners come from all walks of life, from a skilled windscreen installer to an IT specialist, graphic designer to the owner of a bodyshop.

Ages vary but most are in their 30s and 40s, with Tony Clinch, owner of the red car you see here, the elder statesman of the group at a youthful 57. All come from the London area, but again precise locations vary from Buckinghamshire in the north, to Surrey and Hampshire in the south, via all points east and west.

For many of the crew, the 964 is their first taste of Porsche ownership. Jack Pegoraro, for example, set out a few years ago to buy a 911, ideally a mid-'70s 2.7, but found they were out of his reach. 'While looking for a Porsche, I came across a few Mercedes 107 SLs and saw they were incredibly cheap. Tragically, as it turns out, I then convinced myself that an SL might be a viable option...'

It will come as no surprise that he was ultimately disappointed: 'After two years, having got the car in good shape, I started actually driving it and realised it







was just awful, way too dull for me. It was like driving around in a magnolia marshmallow.

'I started looking at air-cooled g11s again, both Carrera 3.2s and g64s, but eventually settled on the latter as the more complete package, which still retained the g11 silhouette.

'My budget was, however, at the bottom end of the scale so when I found my car, a Carrera 4, advertised as a "Cat C" write off, I saw it as a way to get a solid car owner of Lemass Automotive, a body and paintshop based in Stoke Poges, feels 'they are a timeless design that mixes the old with the new. They have the original silhouette but as they are actually 85 per cent more advanced than the previous g11, the Carrera 3.2, to me they are the ultimate g11 in every way. The g93 may be the last aircooled Porsche, but the g64 is the last model that has the original-style headlights, and



It seems that this combination of old-school styling and more modern underpinnings acted as something of a magnet for most LgO guys. Mark Taylor is the windscreen specialist we referred to earlier. His business, Specialised Windscreens, has something of a reputation in Porsche circles as being the place to go if you have a problem with your g11's glazing.

Through his contacts, he's able to supply heated rear screens

looks, with the promise of not too many rust problems, as well as the feedback you get when driving a 964. It's just a great looking classic shape 911 with not too much modern stuff to spoil the fun!'

Mark's Baltic Blue C2 was originally owned by Tony Clinch and has had a lot of work done to it over the years, in every area. 'After finding the car,' says Mark, 'the plus points were that the body was in great shape having

"The combination of old-school styling and modern underpinnings acted as a magnet for the L90 guys"

for a good price.' As it turned out, it wasn't a 'Cat C' but a 'Cat D', meaning that the damage had been purely cosmetic but, because of the low values of 964s, the car was written off by the insurer. The previous owner's loss was Jack's gain.

The fact the 964's side profile reflects that of earlier 911s is not lost on other members of the group. Tom Martin, 31-year-old

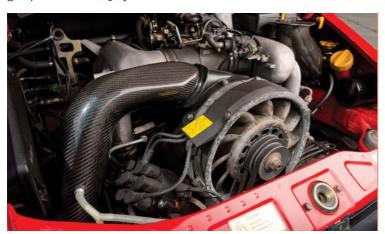
that's what I like.

'They are also brilliant to drive thanks to the coil-over suspension, ABS, power steering and even today they offer great performance, with a top speed of over 16omph, sub-six-second o-6omph and great mid-range. They sound brilliant, the deep growl that turns into a roar is better than the 3.2 or any of the later cars.'

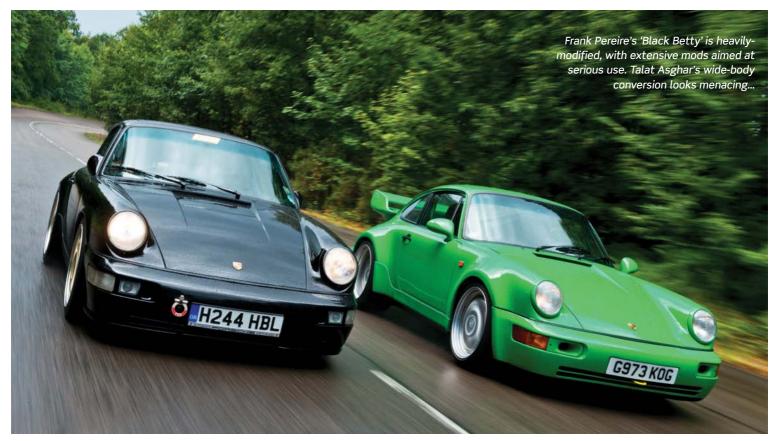
with 'invisible' elements, which are far more efficient – and discreet – than the factory item. In fact, such is his reputation that he's now supplying glass to Singer in the USA for use on their bespoke 911s. So what drew him to the 964 – and the L90?

'i'm an old Volkswagen fan, and about four years ago I decided to buy myself a 40th birthday present. I liked the old-school had around £8000 spent on it at a Porsche approved bodyshop a few years previously. It had had a repaint and two new front wings, and various mechanical things done to it, but the engine needed a top-end rebuild. I decided to go

Engine mods are generally restricted to rechips, but Frank Pereire (second left) went for 3.8litre conversion and Motec ECU







for it anyway as I had a plan...'

The plan included the installation of a later 993 engine and ECU that he happened to have sitting in his workshop ready to shoehorn into his VW camper. The Volkswagen was forced to take a back seat, leaving the way clear for the 964 to benefit from the engine transplant. And that was just the beginning, for the engine now sports 964 RS silencers and de-cat pipe, while the ECU has been remapped by EcuTek in Uxbridge.

Making an already quick car go faster is all well and good but there's little point in doing so unless you can get it to go round corners, too. Much of the conversation between owners revolves around suspension modifications and set-up. Paul

Wallace bought his Marine Blue C2 back in 2008 to use as his daily driver but, like so many other cars in the group, it's progressively turned into something more special, more of a weekend plaything.

'At the time limited funds allowed me the choice of a 996, a high-mileage 993 that was a bit rough around the edges, or a decent 964. I didn't fancy the Kettle (the quaint term for the water-cooled 996! - KS) and I figured a cheap 993 could end up costing me more in the long term. When I found my car, it was love at first sight, and the fact that my wife liked the colour helped seal the deal!' laughs Paul.

'My intention was to keep the car relatively standard but, having said that, I have already

fitted a G-Pipe and Dansk catbypass. The tired 20+ year old suspension has recently been upgraded with H&R Green springs and Bilstein HD shocks, plus polyurethane front and rear wishbone bushes.

'I have also fitted RS engine mounts, a K&N filter element in a drilled air-box and a Steve Wong chip. Most of the modifications were carried out to improve the driving quality rather than outright performance.'

Mark Taylor again: 'I fitted all new suspension, using a Bilstein and H&R set-up, with every bush replaced with Powerflex urethane. When the car was all back together after its rebuild, I had a full geometry set-up carried out at Center Gravity, getting the corner weights

balanced and the ride height set to what I call "RS +10", ie 10mm higher than the 964 RS setting. I wanted the car to ride and handle as best it could, even though they do look cool in the weeds!'

'Number 27' is the enigmatic name Jack Pegoraro has given his 964 - it's a reference to the atomic number for cobalt (it is Cobalt Blue, after all!). He's followed the tried and tested 'Bilstein plus H&R' route, too, with Green springs and B6 shocks, along with a strut brace and RS engine mounts. He's also added H&R adjustable anti-roll bars, currently only at the rear, with a

Who cares about the rain? Jack Pegoraro (left) and Paul Wallace are happy to prove that the LgO cars are, indeed, built for go not show...





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standard g64 bar at the front, to help with his C4's inherent understeer. 'Number 27' has also been set up with aggressive geo for the same reason.

He's pretty happy with the setup but feels it could be improved, especially as the car sees quite a bit of track action: 'it's a good combination, but not really good enough for the track.

'Ideally I would like something adjustable so the car doesn't lose its road manners too much. I think an air set up might be the way to go, but I need to look at weights, and so on.'

Ah, yes, weight – or rather, weight loss. That, you see, is a particular fetish of Jack's, to the extent that others chuckle behind his back at his seemingly encyclopedic knowledge of the weight of various innocuous components. He's been known to arrive at pub nights muttering about how much weight he's managed to save on his 964 but, as he agrees when we chat, weight is free horsepower. Colin Chapman would have been proud.

'The last time I weighed my car,' says Jack, 'it came in at 1302kg with a quarter of a tank of petrol. Porsche claimed 1475kg for the C4 (with a full tank) so it's doing pretty well – but I would like to do more.' The list of parts he's removed (sorry, 'deleted'...) includes things like the spare wheel and compressor, gas struts for the front and rear lids, the boot carpet and stock washer reservoir, the radio and speakers, rear seats, rear blower, engine undertray and the rear wiper.

To further save weight, he's also added a carbon-fibre bonnet, cat-bypass, lightweight RS-style

door cards and carpet, and a lightened flywheel. And you can expect that heavy motorised spoiler and engine lid to make way for a lightweight glassfibre ducktail sometime soon, too.

Clearly (and unsurprisingly) the factory-produced 964 RS stands as something of an inspiration for many, with several LgO cars featuring near clones of the RS interior treatment. Recaro SPG seats, plain door cards, webbing straps in place of door handles, plus lightweight carpet sets and rear seat deletes are common fare, as are Momo steering wheels - usually the 'Model 7', with its mildly-dished spokes and yellow position marker at the top. rather than the Prototipo favoured by the early outlaw crowd. Full harnesses and rear roll-over bars are popular, too, hinting at the serious trackday work many of the cars see.

If you're thinking that these guys are all about function over form, you'd be only half right. Yes, the most important thing is that any modifications must earn their right to be a part of the car, but those mods need to look good, too. Take a look at the photos: do you see any LgO car that doesn't look mouth-watering? No way, and it's commendable that beauty consistently proves to be far more than skin-deep. And we like that – like that a lot. As that motto says, the LgO is all about 'Go cars, not show cars'...

There's no denying these are good-looking Porsches, not some hastily hacked around specials you see at many trackdays – these are a million miles from the £1500 eBay BMWs that make up the numbers at many such





events. LgO is fortunate to have Porsche-trained Tom Martin among its members. He's been in business for six years now and always has Porsches in for paint and bodywork.

'We currently have four 964s in for paintwork (including Ivan McCutcheon's unique Royal Purple example), and have become known as a bit of a 964 specialist,' says Tom.

'Word of mouth seems to bring a constant stream of customers our way. We're happy to work on any performance or classic cars, but we are happiest when working on Porsches, no matter what year or model.'

Tom's own car, resplendent in Rubystone, is packed full of neat details, many of which would be lost on anyone other than a diehard 964 aficionado. He spent ages looking for the right car to replace his last 964, and eventually tracked this one down. It was Guards Red, which wasn't his first choice, but the bodywork was pretty solid. However, it still needed a fair amount of attention and proved to be the

perfect base for what he refers to as 'Project Rubystone'.

'I drove it around for just over two months before taking it off the road and starting a full baremetal repaint in Rubystone, which is a colour I've loved since I first worked on an RS when I was just 18. I also made a few tasteful modifications along the way,' he says, in a masterpiece of understatement.

His idea of a 'few modifications' shows the divide between an experienced body man and we mere mortals. Less is definitely

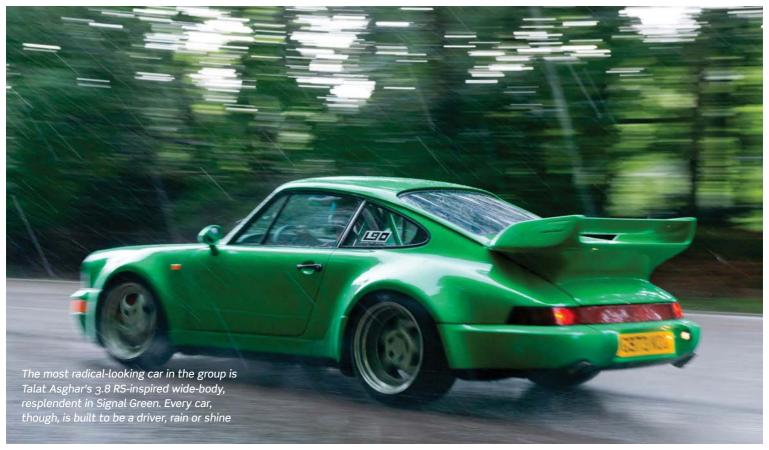
more, in Tom's eyes, so the mods include a 'smooth front bumper with plate recess removed and the tow eye moved to the grille – I've made a number plate holder that screws into the tow eye.'

He continues: 'I also removed the side repeaters from the front wings – this is legal and still passes the MOT, by the way – and then added a 993 front

Far page, from top left: Paul Wallace; Tom Martin; Jack Pegoraro; Tony Clinch; Talat Asghar; Frank Pereire and Mark Taylor







scuttle panel to move the wipers closer together.' It's a small touch that you don't notice until it's pointed out to you, and then you wonder why every 964 doesn't look like this. There are 993 'Cup' door mirrors, along with 993 door handles with the chrome centres refinished in matt black, too.

Tom shortened the rear number plate recess to fit the five-digit number plate and then installed 993 rear quarter glass and rubbers for a cleaner look. As a final subtle detail, Project Rubystone has a custom heated Pilkington wiperless rear screen, supplied by Mark Taylor.

A major part of the way these cars look is the choice of wheels, with the choice generally evenly balanced between factory 'Cups', genuine original BBS split-rims and more modern Cargraphic wheels. Tom's car wears its original BBS E28 Rennsport three-piece wheels (with magnesium centres) with pride. They were new old stock and specially built to the specs of the car, 8.5J x 18 at the front and 10Js at the back, shod with Continental tyres.

Tony Clinch, on the other hand, prefers to roll his Guards Red 964 on 18in Cargraphics. This is the second 964 he's owned – his first is now in the hands of Mark Taylor – and began life as a two-owner car (the first only keeping the 964 for three months) needing quite a lot of work. He spent two years getting it looking the way it does now and three years later he still sees it as work in progress.

It runs KW suspension and

benefits from numerous deletions, substitutions and performance upgrades (Steve Wong chip, for example) to create the RS-influenced hot-rod it is today. And who can argue against that combination of Guards Red and gold split-rims? Gorgeous is the word that comes to mind.

But the two other cars at the shoot which we haven't mentioned yet march to a slightly different tune – in more ways than one. First up, let's take a look at Talat Asghar's Signal Green wide-body 3.8 RS lookalike. It's by far the most eyepopping car here today, that vibrant green really coming to life in the sunshine.

It started life as a Slate Grey narrow-bodied Carrera 4, with the

highly-desirable bonus of being a factory non-sunroof model. I looked to convert it into a 964 3.8 RS type look-a-like, says 42-year-old IT consultant Talat.

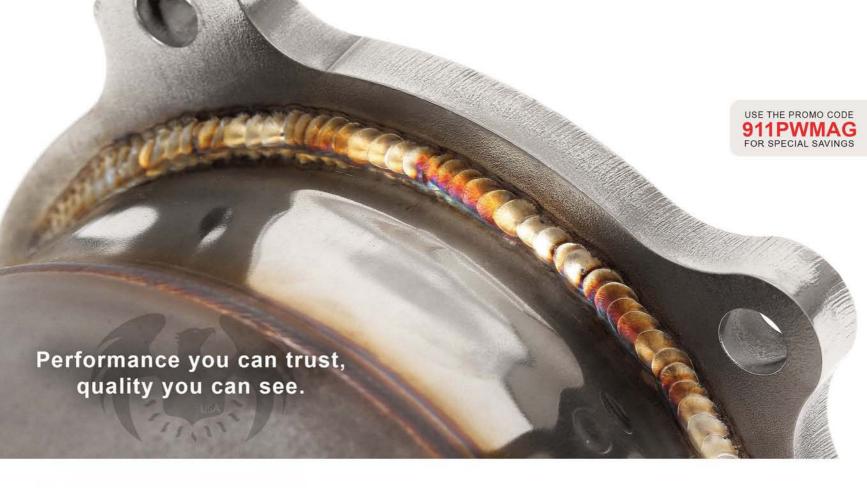
'I wouldn't says it's a replica since it lacks the 3.8 engine, but the modifications I've carried out include the wide-body conversion and repaint, along with converting it from four-wheeldrive Carrera 4 spec to twowheel-drive C2.'

That may sound like a pretty radical thing to do, but it makes sense as it's generally believed that the Carrera 2 is more fun to drive, more involving than the Carrera 4. The problem is that there are too few non-sunroof Carrera 2s to go round...

He's then gone on to uprate the suspension with KW









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Clubsport coil-overs, factory RSspec anti-roll bars and polybushes all round.

It's a pretty uncompromising conversion, Talat having also forsaken the ease of powersteering in favour of fitting an RS manual rack, and then fitted polycarbonate windows to the side and rear, and dumped the air-con, both to save weight.

The interior is now more race car than street car, with its RS-styled interior by Southbound, rear seat delete and a Heigo half

include swapping these for the wide-body arms and having the wheels rebuilt to suit. Talat would also like to have the Recaros retrimmed in leather but, apart from his wish that 'it wouldn't stall so much with the lightweight flywheel' he's pretty happy – and who can blame him?

Frank Pereire, the man who first kicked LgO into life, has owned his black g64 for eight years. Christened 'Black Betty', it's possibly the best-known car in the group, recently playing a

It sounds wonderful through its Fabspeed exhaust system – and yes, it does spit flames at the track...

Helping it to go round corners are KW V3 adjustable dampers/coil-overs, aided by H&R anti-roll bars and Powerflex bushes. *Black Betty* is brought to a halt by 993 Turbo II calipers at the front, aided by stock C4s at the back, on cross-drilled discs squeezed by EBC Yellow and Hawk Blue pads. Wheels are BBS GT2s with Toyo R888s or RH

will soon be spending more.

'This includes the clutch (£1600!), a defective fan controller (£70 secondhand), bonnet seal (£95), re-Connolising the seats (£65, doing it myself), a full service, various other bits and a full geo (£1100), Cup 1 alloy wheels (£1100 secondhand!) and new Bilstein sport dampers (£950 and fitted by me).

'A large chunk of that cost is down to the engine. The 964 is infamous for needing top-end rebuilds and, unsurprisingly, after

"I refuse to believe it can't do everything, so I've tailored it to my warped sense of perfection..."

roll-cage. Talat has slightly mixed feelings about the interior, as it now means that the 964 is now very much a two-seater.

But then it does get to see plenty of action, 'Mainly track days,' says Talat. 'The build was completed earlier this year and so far I've taken it to Anglesey, Oulton Park and Castle Combe, and I intend to do three more track days this year. I love the looks, the driving experience and the fact that I can drive to the track, have a day driving around the circuit and be able to drive home again without any issues.'

The green machine runs on a set of RH Alurad three-piece wheels, the rears having been rebuilt with a hefty outset as the car still retains the narrow-body rear trailing arms. Future plans

The devil's in the detail. Julian Reap was responsible for the new gauge faces on Frank Pereire's Black Betty. BBS wheels are a popular choice starring role in a short film directed by Frank (it's worth checking out on YouTube – visit http://youtu.be/fzUCdnp61fo). It's also one of the most heavily modified cars in LgO.

'I refuse to believe it can't do everything,' says Frank, 'so I've tailored it to my warped sense of perfection. It's a race car for the road which is equally at home spitting flames on the track or battling gradients in the Alps.'

With its Aston Martin Onyx Black paintwork (by Tom Martin at Lemass), Pereire's 964 is a stunning-looking car that gets driven hard and fast. The upgrades the 32-year-old advertising exec have made could fill a book.

Redtek was chosen to carry out the engine work, which includes independent throttle bodies, ported heads, high-lift cams, 993 RS 3.8-litre cylinders and pistons, Pauter Machine conrods and a Motec M84 ECU. Speedlines with Yokohama ADo8s according to use, both sets running 225/40x18 and 265/35x18 sections.

So, enough of all this love; what do the London 964 Owners collectively dislike about 964s? Hello? Anyone there? How about you Frank? 'The only thing I can think is the premium on Porsche parts prices and the cost of refuelling! And I'm not too impressed by the mushy bit behind the wheel: the car's fine – I'm the problematic one!'

Most others in the group simply shake their heads and shuffle their feet. 'Nothing much to criticise,' they say. 'We love these cars – they're such fun, so responsive and perfect all-rounders.' Only Jack Pegoraro is a little more outspoken in this regard: 'The cost of maintenance is perhaps the only thing that leaves a sour taste. In the three years that I've owned my car I've managed to spend £13,280, and

one year of ownership, my car started smoking and using too much oil, so that was the next priority. The car went to engine experts Redtek – while it was there I went for a few improvements, including a change to Cup cams and replacing the tinware with lightweight glassfibre as part of the car's diet.'

Outweighing the negative financial aspects of owning and modifying an older Porsche, are the pleasures to be gained from driving them, and sharing the experiences with other likeminded people. Jack continues: 'I love almost everything about this car; what a contrast to my old Mercedes SL! There's nothing quite like an air-cooled g11: the car is so small, it feels like it's hewn out of granite, and the view from the driver's seat is really unique.'

We'll leave the final words to Frank, the incredibly enthusiastic frontman for the group: 'When







you modify a g11 and you're working on a budget (which used to be why you bought a g64: because they were cheap) you need a bunch of like-minded nutters on your side to share your highs and lows.

'Due to its history, the 964 is a car that induces camaraderie – that is really what brought us together. Most of the L90 964s are modified and driven often, and hard, so you'll mostly find us blasting down B-roads once a month, smoking tyres on the track, making pilgrimages to Spa-Francorchamps and, soon, touring the Alps. That's not to say we don't sometimes attend more show-orientated events, but really we're a group of drivers who happen to adore 964s.

'The London g64 Owners is just that, an owners' group, not a club. There are no club politics, no membership fees, no strictly organised fun, no committees – we're just a bunch of g64-obsessed friends. The simple rule is that if you like g64s, then join in. But that doesn't mean to say we're exclusive – while you'll mostly see g64s at our pub meetings, often we'll be joined by other g11 generations.'

To keep track of the LgO's activities – and their cars – check their input on the g64 forum of the Rennlist.com website, or good old Facebook. **PW**

Thanks:

Our thanks to Frank and Ivan for helping get the cars together on the day, and thanks to all the members of the LgO who braved a downpour of truly biblical proportions midway through the photoshoot!











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BLUE RONDO

There are few track toys as swift and efficient as the 964 RS, but the Weissach-built N-GT evolution takes matters a step further. We get tuned-in and turned-on with the prototype

Words: Johnny Tipler Photography: Antony Fraser



964 RS N-GT DISCOVERED

very so often a rare beast bubbles up that we know very little about, and the 964 RS N-GT is just that. It's basically a sleek, narrow-body RS with even more kit left out, substituted by pure racing tackle. The suffix implies that it's a 964 RS that's been homologated for the FIA GT circuit racing class and Group N series of production-based touring cars for racing and rallying. So it's a stripped-out RS? Even less equals even more!

That's fine for starters, but it's the nitty-gritty that makes this turking Blue Rondo even more of a fascinating case. It emerged from Jürgen Barth's skunkworks, AKA Weissach's Customer Racing Department, on June 6th 1990. As we know, Porsche habitually creates a roadgoing model, and then its motorsport division gets to grips with it, cutting weight and refining the mechanical parts for racing. Hence Cup cars and the N-GT. Essentially a '91 model-year 964, this one was whipped off the

production line and handed over to Jürgen for him to create a short run of homologated race cars, catalogued under Porsche's Moo3 option, which specifies a raft of competition-oriented additions and subtractions from the standard spec, which we'll itemise in a minute.

After Jürgen and his illustrious colleague Roland Kussmaul had waved their magic wands, these 260bhp N-GTs saw action in the BPR Global GT endurance race series that replaced the World Sportscar Championship in 1994, which accounts for the large 91-litre fuel tank they're fitted with. Along with Patrick Peter (of Peter Auto fame) and Stéphane Ratel, Jürgen was the founder of the BPR Endurance series, their surname initials forming BPR, which turned into the FIA GT Championship in 1997. Along with the 964 GT2, rivals included McLaren F1, Ferrari F40, Callaway Corvette and Lotus Esprit. So this N-GT played a fundamental role in establishing the bedrock of the front-line international endurance series of the mid-'gos.



In November 1991 the car was handed over to former Porsche race star Ulli Richter to tempt him back into racing, and he kept it until 1993 when he returned to the tracks again, enjoying considerable success in a private 964 RSR and with Stadler Racing's 993 RSR in FIA GT2, till he got killed at the 'Ring in 2001 in a Manthey 996 GT3RS.

All part of the legend. But we need more provenance on the N-GT. The car's most recent owners, Des Sturdee and Paul Ward, did some digging, and Porsche GB as well as Steve Kevlin from PCGB did some of the groundwork for them. An email from Jürgen to Steve substantiates that it's 'a special car of the special edition Carrera 2 NGT.' Correspondence from Porsche GB confirms that the car's chassis number, WPOZZZ96ZMS400701 (engine number 62M01542), is the prototype for the N-GT series, further nailed down by the Z-option 12281 designation, cited in the original build sheet as a 'special series specifications prototype 964 Carrera 2 N-GT build description prototype'.

All 290 N-GTs were delivered in 1992 – every one a left-hooker, and all sold in Germany. From 1990 to 1993, as a comparison, 297 964s were syphoned off for the Carrera Cup (see sidebar), and that's essentially what the N-GT is, a road-going Carrera Cup car. A Club Sport, if you will. Overall 964 RS production was a rarefied 2,282 cars,

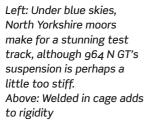
so it's pretty exclusive territory we're exploring here. Des and Paul told me they'd heard recently that there could be just two other 964 N-GT prototypes in public ownership.

In the first place, this car was a development hack, but so far as we know, it was never raced, even by Richter, although he was an aficionado of the Nordschleife, so it must have had a hard life in those formative years. After it had served its purpose in the pre-production programme as the N-GT prototype it was converted by the factory to RS Lightweight specification and then did its time as the RS 'Basic' Lightweight prototype, verified in the 1994 Fahrzeugbrief (Log Book). The final transition in its rich and varied career occurred earlier this year when Porsche specialists Paul McLean of GT Classics and Tony Littlejohn of GT Motorsport turned it back into its more austere N-GT specification.

MALTON

How about that special inventory then: what differentiates an N-GT







from an RS? Get shot of all in-cabin niceties for a start. You can have a glorious colour though: it's painted one of the more standout 964 hues, Maritime Blue. The features specific to the N-GT include an aluminium bonnet, genuine 7.5J x 17in and 9J x 17in SM magnesium alloy Cup wheels (recently refurbished) with correct centres, rolled wheelarch edges, an all-encompassing Matter roll-cage that's welded-in, not merely where the down-tubes meet the floorpan and rear inner arches, but along the A- and B-



aggressive, and that's also partly down to 12mm spacers that push the Cup rims right out into the extremities of the rear wheelarches. Front fog-light niches have been turned into brake cooling ducts, and beneath the front lid lives a strut-brace, drilled for lightness, and a Varta battery. The list goes on, so keep up! There's a front tow hook, thinner 3mm window glass, ribbon door-pulls, manually adjustable Cup door mirrors, manual wind-up windows, battery cut-off switch, and a piddly

"Forget about underseal and sound proofing, it's going to be noisy as hell"

In their Cups

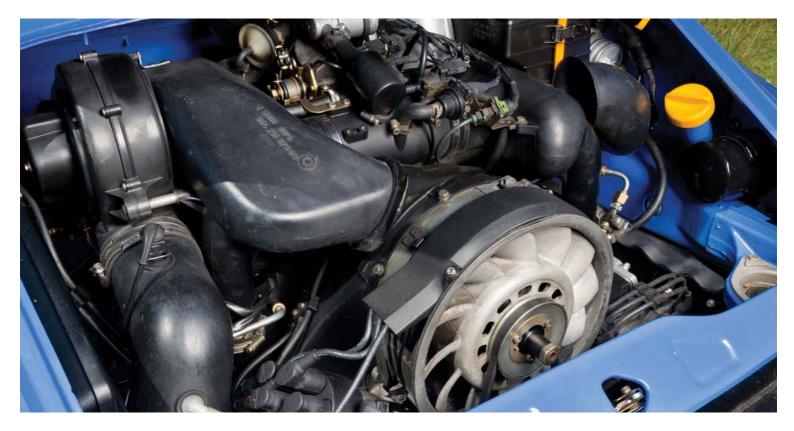
If the N-GT is the Club Sport incarnation of the 964 RS, it's also the (slightly) more sober sister of the Carrera Cup car. Introduced in 1990, the 964 Cup cars were built at Weissach and sold to private customers to run in the eponymous race series in Germany, and subsequently in dedicated series worldwide. From 1986 the Carrera Cup was the curtain-raiser at F1 Grands Prix, opening the door to international and national Carrera Cup and Super Cup series. The 944 Turbo was the weapon of choice till the 964 came out in '89. Fifty 964 Cup cars were built in 1990, 120 in '91, 112 in '92, and 15 in '93, then superseded by the 993 Output from the 3.6-litre M64/03 flat-six was 265bhp (195kW) at 6,100rpm, red-lined at 6,800rpm. The blower fan was dropped and an aluminium induction chamber was replaced by a plastic version, saving 1.2kg in the bid to eliminate extraneous items in the quest for lightness. The five-speed G50 gearbox came with shortened ratios for 3rd, 4th and 5th gears, plus limitedslip diff. Suspension featured harder, shorter springs, adjustable dampers and antiroll bars, with ride-height set 55mm lower than standard. The original aluminium roll-cage was replaced in 1992 with a welded-in steel cage and, all told, the spec of the N-GT was pretty similar to the Cup car.

posts too, rendering the bodyshell 50% stiffer than standard. The chassis is also seam-welded, so structural and torsional rigidity is maximised, certainly by 1994 standards. The flat-six is secured by solid engine mounts, and there's an M220 limited slip differential, and no undertray, in order to save weight and improve heat dissipation. Braking is by ventilated discs, Pagid pads and black Turbo calipers, and there's an ABS cut-out normally only found in Carrera Cup cars, intended to be deployed in the event of emergency braking or whilst going backwards. The Cup alloys are shod with Michelin Pilot Sport Cups, 255/40 ZR17 on the back wheels and 205/50 ZR17 on the front. Its suspension is lowered by 55mm to give a 100mm ride height, so the stance is suitably

1-litre washer bottle.

What it doesn't have, predictably, is a full complement of the creature comforts packing a regular g64. There's no sunroof, rear seats are absent, hi-fi is deleted, no rear wiper, a lack of air conditioning and that goddam monstrosity of a pump lurking in the engine bay, no power-assisted steering; inside, the carpet, headlining and A- and B-pillar trim are missing, as are tiny items like headlight washers, central-locking, air-bag, interior lights, even sun-visors don't get a look-in. Forget about underseal and soundproofing, it's going to be noisy as hell. Oddly, to my mind at any rate, the hefty electrically retractable rear spoiler is retained, when a plastic ducktail lid would be so much lighter. Why fiddle around with





smaller washer bottles when a big whack of weight like the engine lid can come off in one go? In the event, the wing only managed to emerge halfway out of its housing on our test run. So where does that leave us on the weigh-in? At 1,120kg, there's a weight reduction of 230kg, compared with the stock 964 C2 that tips the scales at 1,350kg.

Since the car came to England in 1994, a whole lot of love has been lavished on it. Big money has been spent. In 2005 the engine was given a top- and bottom-end rebuild at Colin Belton's Ninemeister, with all new bearings, cam-

Eibach springs, seals, spacers, washers, covers, bellows and stops and wheel bearings were all replaced. In 2007, a Motec engine management system was added to the fresh engine, lifting it to a lusty 330bhp at a banshee 6,050rpm, matched by 410Nm of torque at 4,900rpm. Other work carried out in recent years includes clutch, heater fans, starter motor, distributors and leads. Then, in 2008, it was given a full glass-out repaint by Ninemeister, costing £16,383. Since the engine rebuild it's only done 8,000km, and the current odometer reading is 82,000kms. Good as new. And it is available, on sale with John and

Engine has undergone a full rebuild with Ninemeister yielding a healthy 305bhp. Further work saw a Motec engine management system fitted taking power to 330bhp

"Since the car came to the UK, a whole lot of love has been lavished on it"

chains, valves, carriers, racing valve springs and retainers, cam-followers, valve guides, pistons, rings, ARP rod bolts and clutch. Got to be £20 grand's worth. On the 9m dyno at the time, the engine registered a robust 305bhp at 6,16orpm and 385Nm torque at 4,775rpm. In 2006, the rest of the running gear was overhauled or renewed: discs, pads, sensors and springs, Bilstein shock absorbers,

Mark at Specialist Cars of Malton, whose convivial company we enjoy yet again when we pitch up for a photoshoot and test drive.

What to make of such a car on the road? More R than S, I suspect. I ease between the scaffold poles doubling as rollover protection and squirm into the tight-fitting Nomex-clad Recaro seat. Ahead of me is the Sparco

Right: On the road the N-GT sits just right. Wheels and tyres sit almost flush with the arches thanks to 12mm spacers bringing the track out





964 RS N-GT DISCOVERED

Lighten up

Another even rarer manifestation of the 964 to emerge from the Barth oeuvre is the 964 C4 Lightweight or Leichtbau. Created at Weissach under the direction of Jürgen Barth, 22 cars were built between 1990 and '91, incorporating spares left over from the '84-'86 Paris-Dakar 959 and Le Mans 953 programmes, and aimed at the US Club Sport market. The limited-slip differential is regulated by two hydraulic wheels the size of biscuits on the dash so the driver could fine-tune the car's oversteering or understeering characteristics. The Leichtbau is basically a g64 Carrera Cup car with AWD and short gear ratios from the all-wheel-drive 953. There never was a licated race series for them like the Carrera Cup, so they remain an enigma.

steering wheel, deeply dished and pointing back at me, so although the chair is perhaps a little further away from the pedals than I would prefer, the wheel is nicely within range. The dashboard contains the main gauges, but there's no radio space, no air bags, and the air vents either side of the dash are missing, as are the fog lights and the rear de-mister switches on the centre console. The interior of the cabin is dominated by the shapely Recaro chairs with the Porsche crest, which are very comfortable, but the Matter roll-cage is the prominent internal feature, with a cross-brace just behind the chairs, and the frame coming right down the side of the 'A' posts, and then there's a diagonal across the roof, so it's here for keeps really. I survey the curves of the down-tubes, both front pipes following the contours of the inside of the dashboard. They are also welded against the front and rear door shut panels and, glancing over my right shoulder, it's like I'm in the presence of a gargantuan blue octopus, though viewed objectively, what with the diagonal door bars and the four-point TRS four-point harnesses (valid till 2019) and fire extinguisher, I'm actually in a pretty safe place. On the floor there's an aluminium plate that looks like it would be more at home in a rally car, and it's entirely bereft of carpet. There are signs of previous welding that suggest the roll cage was fitted in a slightly different orientation, maybe an earlier aluminium one, with bars along the sills. The RS door-

the economy spec, and there's an ignition cut-off wire in the bottom left-hand corner of the dashboard, with a switch on the outside of the car, and it's also got an OHP cut-off next to the passenger seat.

I fire up the flat-six. Instant cacophony. The noise inside the cabin when the car is at a standstill is like an oldfashioned washing machine drum rumbling around. That's the thrashing valvegear and transmission whine, of course, and it's probably how every car sounds but it's prominent because of the lack of noise insulation. I slot the G50 into 1st and ease off the clutch; praise be, it's a normal one, not the sintered job the Cup cars had. It revs freely, the tacho needle darting round to 5,000rpm, accompanied by very sharp acceleration. It's an uncompromising ride, and not surprisingly I'm feeling all the bumps and, because there is no interior trim, I'm hearing all the mechanical noises from the engine - and they are really something – not to mention the glorious bark of the exhaust blasting through the Cup pipe that dispenses with the main silencer.

On the way to the magnificent Yorkshire Moors I pull into the petrol station at Kirkbymoorside to fuel up with 98-octane, and discover that the petrol flap lever has been replaced with a wire loop, thanks to the intrusion of the rollcage down-tube. Not an austerity measure, just needs must.

The more I get accustomed to the N-GT chassis the more I enjoy it – and don't forget I drive a lowered 964





with similar Bilsteins and Eibach suspension every day, so it is very much my kind of ride. It's nice and solid, and I'm feeling all the slight bumps and undulations on the Aroad, though realistically this is too firm a setting for regular road use, but undoubtedly good and hard for a trackday. If ever there was a car that needed to be on some smooth road, this was it. The low profile tyres and firm RS coil-over suspension make it want to dart this way and that, so a light touch on the wheel is needed as it feels its way. Coming across Blakey Ridge, which is very

Acceleration is sharp from the get-go, taking off swiftly in every gear, and at 5,000-6,000rpm it's driving furiously and still accelerating brutally. It's so well sorted that I can maintain the desired pace through the curves because of its fabulous handling. As for turn-in, well, I'm just thinking it around the corners, eyeing as far ahead up the road as possible, like the proverbial motorcyclist, looking into the distance where I want to go, and the car simply goes there. It's so responsive that driving it becomes second nature.

CONTACT:

With thanks to Des Sturdee and Paul Ward, and Ralph Paprzycki for translating documentation.

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"There's a little bit of tram-lining from the front tyres, but the speed is there"

bumpy indeed, it develops into quite a wrestling match, good fun though, but I know it will really come into its own on a flatter surface. On the main drag it really gets up and goes, and there's a little bit of tram-lining from the front tyres, but the speed is all there and I can carry that velocity through the corners, where it's really nice to be hugged in this Recaro seat and strapped in with the full harness.



Here's the thing: moorland roads are great because there's not so much traffic, but they are bumpy. So, find a stretch of smooth asphalt, preferably the Nordschleife, and the azure blazer is the perfect companion for a ballsout blitz. It's quick, biddable, cooperative, forgiving even, and you can't ask much more from a track-day buddy than that. Young Turks, here is the perfect Blue Babe to Rondo with. **PW**



Above: That classic silhouette is unmistakeable. Colour is, too. Below: 17in Cup wheels look tiny by today's standards





PORSCHE 997 — GT3/TURBO / C4S / C2S / C2 2010 - 997 GEN II TURBO COUPE PDK (BASALT BLACK) 20,000 Miles Sand Beige Ither Intr, GEN II, PSM/PASM/PCM-Touchscreen Sat Nav-GEN II, CD Changer, Telephone, Heated Seats, Memory Seats, Sport Chrono Package, Three S MF/S wheel, Rear wiper, White Dials, Rear Park Assist, Porsche Vehicle Tracking System (VTS), Climate Control, Xenon Headlights, 19" Turbo Alloys (GEN II), Full Porsche Service History ee Spoke

2010 - 997 GEN II TURBO COUPE MANUAL (CARRERA WHITE) 19,000 MILES

19,000 WILLS

Metropole Blue Lther Intr, PSM/PASM/PCM-Touchscreen Sat Nav, BOSE Surround Sound system, CD Changer, Telephone, Heated & Memory Seats, Rear wiper, White Dials, Rear Park Assist, Xenon Headlights, 19" Turbo Alloys (GEN II), Full Porsche Service History

2008 - 997 TURBO COUPE TIPTRONIC S (BASALT BLACK) 19,000 MILES Black Leather Intr, PSM/PASM/PCM-Sat Nav/Telephone, BOSE, CU Changer, Chrono Pack Cruise Control, White Dial, M/F/S-Wheel, Memory/Heated/Sports Seats, Sunroo Porsche Crest Headrest, Xenons, Rear wiper, Rear Park Assist, Full Porsche Service

2007/56 - 997 TURBO COUPE MANUAL (GT SILVER) 26,000 MILES Full Black Leather Intr. PSM/PASM/PCM - Sat Nav, Telephone, BÖSE, CD Changer, Sunrod, Chrono Package Plus, White Dial, Habeted Seats, Memory/Electric Seats, Rea Wiper, Rear Park Assist, Xenons, 19" Turbo Alloy Wheels, Full Porsche Service History

2007 - 997 TURBO COUPE TIPTRONIC (BASALT BLACK) 47,000 Miles Black Leather int, Sports Chrono, PASM/PSM/PCM-Sat Nav, Telephone, Sports & Healed Seats, Part Electric Seats, Sunroof, Rear Wiper, White Dials, Porsche Creste Headrest, Climate Control, Traction Control, Rear Parking Sensors, 19" Turbo Alloy Wheels, Full Porsche Service History

2010 - (997 GEN II) C2S COUPE MANUAL (BASALT BLACK) 15,000 MILES Full Black Ither Intr. PSM/PASM/PCM-Touch screen sat navi Pleiphone, Chrono Package Plus, Cruise Control, White Dial, Electric/Heated/Memory Seats, BOSE Surround system, DC Hanger, MF/Stepering wheel, Rear wiper, Rear park Assist, Xenons, 19" Split trim Alloys, Full Porsche Service History

2007 - 997 TARGA 4 MANUAL (COBALT BLUE) 44,000 Miles Grey Lther Intr, PSM/PCM-Sat Nav, telephone, Heated Seats, Climate Control, Rear park Assist, 19" Splitrim Alloys, Full Service History (Just been Serviced)

2007 - 997 CARRERA 2 COUPE MANUAL (METEOR GREY) - 41,000 Miles Black Grey Lither Intr. PSM/PCM-Sat. Nav/Telephone, BOSE, CD Changer, Heated Cruise Control, Alcantara Headlining, Rear park Assist, 19" Carrera S Alloy wheels, Full Service History.

PORSCHE 996 - GT3 / GT2 / TURBO / C4S / C2

2003 - 393 Toribo S Goor Enhanced.

56,000 MILES
Turbo S, Black Lther Intr, PSM/PCM-Sat Nav, Telephone, BOSE, 4 CD Changer, Memory & Electric Seats, Carbon Pack, Sunroof, Alcantara Headlining, Rear Wiper, Ceramic Brakes, 18" Turbo Alloys, Full service History.

2003 - 996 TURBO COUPE MANUAL (POLAR SILVER) - 70,000 Miles Dark Metropole Blue Lther Intr, PSM/PCM-Sat Nav, Telephone, BOSE, CD Changer, Fully Electric Seats, Sunroof, Rear wiper, Rear Park Assist, Alcantara Headlining, 18" Turbo Alloys, Full Service History

1998 – 993 TURBO "S" COUPE MANUAL (SPEED YELLOW) 60,000 Miles Black Leather/Carbon Fibre Interior, Litronic Lights, Sports Seats, Electric Seats, Electri Mirrors, Yellow Dials, Porsche Radio & Single CD Changer, Yellow Seat Belts, Sunroof, Rear wiper, Yellow Callipers., 18" Turbo S Alloy Wheels, tull Service History.

1996 - 993 TURBO COUPE MANUAL (MIDNIGHT BLUE) 21,000 MILES Grey Leather Interior, Sunroof, Part Electric Seats, Electric Windows & Mirrors, Rear Windows, Air Conditioning, Becker Radio Player, 18" Turbo Alloy wheels, Full Main Dealer Service History

1995 - 993 TURBO COUPE MANUAL (ARENA RED) 31,000 Miles. Grey Leather Interior Wood Package Electric Sunroof/Seats Sports Seats Cruise Contro Uprated Becker CD Player/Bluetooth/Speakers/Sat-Nav Compatibility Climate Control 18" Turbo Alloys (OPC Service History)

1997 - 993 C2S COUPE MANUAL (ARCTIC SILVER) 71,000 Miles Varioram, Metropole Blue Lither Intr. Sunnoof, White Dilats, ŠÖNY Single CD player & Radio, Electric Window & Mirror, Air Bag, Air Conditioning, Factory Fitted Alarm System 18" Turbo Alloys, Turbo Spoiler, Fully Documented Service History

1996 – 993 C2S COUPE MANUAL (BLACK METALLIC) 80,000 Miles 1997 Model (registered 12.1996), Carrera 2S (Widebody Specificiation), Manual (6 1997 Model (registered 12.1996), Carrera 2S (Widebody Specification), Manual (6 Speed), VARIORAM; Full Grey Lither Int. Sport Seats, Electric Mirrors, Alpine Upgraded Stereo, Surrord, Air Conditioning, Rear Wiper, 18* Porsche Turbo / S Alloy Wheels, Full Porsche Service History, Very Clean and Cherished Weekend Car. Extremely detailed history, with Porsche Authenticity Certificate, and with one owner since 2004.

1997 - 993 C4 CABRIOLET MANUAL (MIDNIGHT BLUE) — 92,000 Miles Marble Grey Lther Intr, Air Conditioning, Radio & CD Player, Electric Window & Electric Mirror, 17" Carrera 4 Alloys, Full Service History

1996 - 993 C2 COUPE TIPTRONIC (ARENA RED) 73,000 Miles Black Leather Interior, Sports Seats, Electric Window & Mirror, Part Electric Seats, Sony Radio Player, Sunroof, Rear wiper, Climate Control, 17 Alloy wheels, Full Main dealer and Porsche Specialist Service History

1995 - 993 C2 COUPE MANUAL (IRISH BLUE METALLIC) 109,000 Miles Black leather Interior, Electric seats, Wondow, & Mirror, Sunroof, Porsche immobiliser System, Spare keys, Rear wiper, Electric spoller, UK Supplied car (C16), Full Service History

1995 - 993 C2 COUPE MANUAL (MIDNIGHT BLUE) 99,000 Miles Sunroof, Black leather electric seats, No accident damage, Clear lenses, Porsche immobiliser and spare keys, Recent cosmetic paintwork carried out to remove stone chips, Porsche document wallet and manuals, Rear wiper, Electric spotier risers and falls as it should Porsche inscribed mats, The car is always garaged and is a C16 UK car. A very nice example in excellent condition.

1995 - 993 CARRERA COUPE MANUAL (BLACK METALLIC) 111,000 Miles 6 Speed Manual, Sand Beige Leather Interior, Sports Seats, Sunroof, Electric Windows, Electric Mirrors, Rear Wiper, Air Conditioning, 17" Alloys, Full Service

1994 – 993 C2 COUPE TIPTRONIC (BLACK METALLIC) – 73,000 Miles Black Lither Intr, Kenwood CD Player & radio, Sunroof, Rear Wiper, Electric Window, Mirror, 17° Alloy wheel, Factory Fitted Alarm System, Full Main Dealer & Porsche Specialist Service History

1994 - 993 C2 COUPE TIPTRONIC (BLACK) 99,000 MILES

Marble Grey Lthr Intr, Sunroof, Becker Radio, Electric Seats, Electric Windows, & Mirrors, Rear Wiper, 17 "Alloy wheels, Full Porsche & Specialist Service History. (Just been Serviced)

1987 PORSCHE 930 TURBO COUPE MANUAL (BLACK METALLIC)
140,000 Miles
DEEP Plum Lthr Intr., 3.3L engine, KKK27 Turbo, Manual Gearbox (915), Porsche
Sports Steering Wheel, Fully Electric Seats, Heated Seats, Alcantara Headliner, Full
Climate Control (AC) converted to modern AC gas, Upgraded Bi-Xenon Lights, Front
Suspension Strut Brace, Rear Wiper, Original 16 FUCHS Alloys with new Continental
N1 tyres fitted. Upgraded High End Sound system, Full Service History with Invoices
and photographs documenting the full restoration. Subject to a full and extensive
restoration, just recently completed Concours condition throughout

Manual Gearbox, Matching Numbers Exmple, Iris Blue Metallic, Full Beige Intr. Matching Dark Blue Hood, Fully Electric Softtop, Electric Windows/Mirrors, Peric Correct Fuchs Alloy Wheels, Comprehensive Service History, 10 Years With The Same Owner. 1989 - 911 CARRERA 3.2 CABRIOLET (G50 GEARBOX) 124,000 Miles

1984 PORSCHE 911 3.2 COUPE SPORT (BLUE METALLIC) 72,000 Miles Manual, Black Liher Intr. Sunroof, Electric Mirror/Window, Factory Fitted Air Condition, Factory Fitted Alarm system, Fully documented service history, Rust Free, Accident Free and Finance Free.

1987 PORSCHE 911 CARRERA 3.2 CABRIOLET 1989 (G50 GEARBOX) 126.000 Miles, Manual Gearbox (G50), Matching Numbers Example, Immaculate Blue Metallic Exterior, Full Marble Grey Interior, Matching Dark Blue Hood, Fully Electric Softtop, Electric Windows and Mirrors, Period Correct Fuchs Alloy Wheels, Comprehensive Service History, Very Original Condition, 10 Years With The Same Owner, Kept with the same specialist for a number of years

RRARI - MODELS FROM 1967 + - Ferrari F430 Spider v8 Manual Titanium Silver

2006 - FERRARI F430 SPIDER V8 MANUAL THANDER CO. 28,000 MILES
6 Speed Manual, Titanium Silver Exterior, Rosso Leather Interior, Carbon Fibre Trim,
Ferrari Stereo with a telephone module, Manettino with Sports and track settings,
Climate Control, Ferrari Crested Headrests. FFSH.

2003 - FERRARI 360 SPIDER F1 (GRIGIO SILVER) 28,000 miles F1 Gear box, Grigio Silver Coachwork, Black Leather Interior. ASR. Chellen

F1 Gear box, Grigio Silver Coachwork, Black Leather Interior, ASR, Chellenge Grill, Climate control, CD changer, 19" Ferrari Alloy wheels, Full Ferrari Service History, Two previous Keepers

1998 – FERRARI 550 MARANELLO COUPE MANUAL (SILVER) 53,000 Miles. Navy Leather Interior Satellite Navigation with DVD ASR Sports Mode Electric Seats Upgraded Radio & 6 CD-Changer Climate Control (Ferrari Service History)

1996 - FERRARI F355 SPIDER (MANUAL) GIALLO MODENA

1990 - FERNARI F353 SPIDER (MANUAL) GIRLLU MUDENA 28,000 Miles Giallo Modena Yellow, Full Nero Black Int. Optional Sports Mode, Electric Seats, Electric Hood, Tonnau Cover, AC, R/Parking Sensors, Electric Windows & Mirrors, 18 Ferrari 355 Alloys, Original Toolkit, FSH, Recently Serviced, This car has been known to us for a period of 5 years.

1973 – FERRARI 365 GTB/4 DAYTONA RHD (ROSSO RED) 38,000 Miles.

38,000 Miles. Black/Red Leather Interior Red Carpets Climate Control "Ferrari Classiche" Full Continuous History Superb Provenance 3 Owners From New.

1967 – FERRARI 275 GTB/4 MANUAL LHD (ARGENTO SILVER)
59.000 Miles.
Full Black Leather Interior Detailed Restoration History Full History Original Build
Sheets/Sales Invoice/Tool Kit/Wallet/Hand Books Numerous Concourse & Awards
Winner Engine Rebuilt By Ferrari In Johannesburg 26,000 KMS Ago Comprehensive
photos showing The Repaint & Work Done By Ferrari Exceptional Condition
Throughout.

LAMBORGHINI
2011 LAMBORGHINI GALLARDO (YELLOW) 9,700 Miles
Paddle shifi Gearbox (Automatic), Interior in Nero Leather, 19 inch Lamborghini
Crested Alloys with Yellow Callipers, Satellite Navigation, Fully Electric Seats with
Lamborghini Crests, Aluminium Crested Flat Bottom Steering Wheel, Aluminium Dash
Dials and Fascia Timis, Fully Electric Heated Seats with Lumbar Support and
Lamborghini Logos, Tracker Fitted, Bi-Xenon Lights, Rear View Camera, Rear Parking
Sensors, Full Official Lamborghini Service History, recently Serviced, New
Lamborghini Pirelli Tyres Fitted

CLASSICS - AC / BENTLEY / JAGUAR / PORSCHE 356 1991 - AC COBRA LIGHTWEIGHT (BLACK METALLIC) 5,000 Miles.

1 of 26 RHD Lightweights Black Leather Black Metallic Coachwork with White Stripes Full Black Leather Interior Full Weather Equipment Absolutely Stunning Condition Very Rare With Approximately ONLY 26 Vehicles Manufactured.

1964 - PORSCHE 356 SUPER 90 COUPE LHD (SIGNAL RED)
Manual,2600km since a full restoration, Soft Beige Leather Interior, 1600 cc, Left
Hand Drive, Eligible For Many European Events, Supplied with Porsche Certificate of
Authenticity, 1 owner for the last 15 years

1958 PORSCHE 356 A COUPE 1600cc (SILVER) LHD

73,000 Miles, Silver Coachwork, Green Leather Seats, Sunroof, 15" Wheels Superbly restored, concours condition.

1962 - JAGUAR 3.8 MARK II AUTOMATIC LHD (BLACK) 16.478 Miles. Automatic Black Coachwork Red Leather Interior Power Assisted Steering Wire Wheels Recent Restoration To Virtually Concours Standard

1962 JAGUAR 'E' TYPE ROADSTER 3.8 SERIES I (OPALESCENT SILVER BLUE)
Refurbished by one of the UK's most renowned E-Type specialists restored to Concours level. Manual, Series I, palescent Silver Blue Coachwork, Black Leather seats with Navy Blue Carpets, Aluminium Centre Console, Dark Blue Soft top, Restoration work Fully documented. Chromed wire wheels.

1936 - BENTLEY 4 1/4 PILLARLESS COUPE (MIDNIGHT BLUE)
Grey Leathr Gurney Nutting Coachwork 1 Owner 40 Years Extensive History A True
Classic Completely Original Throughout & Has Been Exhibited At Luois Vuitton
Concours D'Elegance In Paris 2003. Sunroof Produced By Gurney Nutting Chassis
Completely Original Throughout

1998 FIAT BARCHETTA CONVERTIBL MANUAL LHD
Blue with a new black mohair hood, It has done just over 51,000 miles, We imported
it from Germany at 6 months old in 1998, It had previously been owned by Hertz
Germany, The car is clean, but not concours, This is a well loved Italian thoroughbred,
which provides an excellent entry into sports car ownership.



Brands Hatch Festival of Porsche

Porsche Club GB's National Event 2014

- Packed programme of races
- On track demos and parades
- Iconic machinery on display
- Club stands
- Family entertainment
- Children 12 & under FREE

Brands Hatch Sunday 21 September

The world famous Brands Hatch race track will be firmly in the spotlight as the Kent circuit hosts a Festival of Porsche and Porsche Club GB's 2014 National event on Sunday 21 September. Classic and contemporary models from the brand's history - from both road and race backgrounds - will be seen on and off the track!

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MAIN EVENT DAY (Sunday) £20 online (save £5 off general advance)

Saturday – £7 online

(save £1 off general advance)

Weekend – £25 online

(save £5 off general advance)

Enter promo code: porscheowne "discount only available online through the website



www.festivalofporsche.com

*Advance tickets available until midday Wed 17 Sept. Booking fee applie









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Above: JLG Autocrib's fab Porsche collection. Left: 3.2 Carrera at Lime Rock circuit, Connecticut

t's a few miles north of Boston on the I-95 Turnpike where we come closest to a speeding citation. The beauty of the three-lane interstate highway is that overtaking on the inside is perfectly legal and, abandoning the 55mph maximum we'd joined the rest of the fast movers at closer to 85mph. Having passed a middle lane gaggle on the right, I pull left behind a fast lady in a new Honda SUV in the outside lane. As she ducks around a couple of slower runners, suddenly the blur of blue flashing lights blazes atop a dark sedan, which summarily whisks her over onto the hard shoulder. Toasted. I don't know specifically what she's done – maybe too casual at the wheel, sipping a smoothie, but it could so nearly have been me: a red g11 would normally be like a red rag to a bull.

Me and Mrs T are on a road trip, touring New England in a late model 3.2 Carrera, kindly loaned by Connecticut dentist and Porsche enthusiast Dr Jack Gish (see JLG Autocrib sidebar). Our mount proves extraordinarily economical, but then we have adhered fairly rigidly to these sometimes absurdly low speed limits: max is 65mph, often 40, sometimes down at 15 and even a standstill where school buses are operating. It can mean that vehicles pull out ahead of side turnings or across your bows without a by-your-leave, but generally everyone complies. Except, evidently, Boston bound commuters, and that includes big semi-trucks too. Such decorum is difficult to imagine in Blighty, though of

course Boston, Lincs is not Boston, Mass. There's the thing about New England: it's as if someone's taken a huge handful of random English place names out of a hat and scattered them liberally over a map of north-east America. You'd think it might be quite disorientating to find Manchester alongside Norwich, Litchfield next to Salisbury, but of course it's not, because the environment is so totally different. Vast, lush, wooded country, and habitations all a Farrow & Ball pastel fest. With a few redbrick exceptions, all buildings are timber-frame, mellow-hued, colonial style clapboard; Georgian churches with spires, houses with porches, gable windows and some with mansard roofs. In the absence of a GPS we're using maps – remember them?

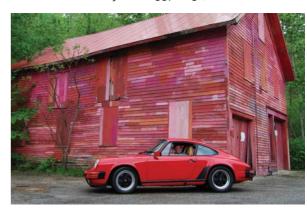
We've flown over with KLM, six hours and three movies out of Schipol to JFK. We've been in the Big Bagel, helping our daughter Zoë party down after graduating from Columbia journo school, then Man-Tran'd out of Grand Central and picked up Dr Gish's g11 from Danbury, Connecticut. First stop is the wonderful Lime Rock racetrack at Lakeside, and to head north we spurn scenic I-684 Taconic Parkway in favour of the gentler 22. The 3.2 Carrera has been standing for a while in his collection, though Jack's had it prepped for us.

It's Memorial Day race weekend, with a five-event programme including the domestic Porsche Carrera Cup counter, IMSA GTs which encompass modern Mustangs, Camaros and a feisty trio of 997 GT3s; a similar number

Below: Fantastic racing at Lime Rock; fuelling up at Lakeville, North Adams barn









of Caymans joust with Jap jets in the GS race, and stately '50s classics ease through the lovely parkland hills in the vintage derby. We sign on in the media room and stroll the paddock. First encounter is with snapper Ed Hyman whom I know from a previous visit, and he's pedalling his 356 in the historic race. Only other racer familiar to me is Bill Auberlen in an M3, scrapping with the delightful GT3s in the GT event, and that really is a humdinger, muscle cars bumper to bumper, no quarter given through the gorgeous twists and turns, and these are long, two hour, two heat races. An M3 runs out the winner, though two 996s are in the top five.

At day's end you have to lay up somewhere, and our journey is punctuated by a succession of blissful beddings, and I make no excuse for identifying them. First up is 142 Wells Hill, Lakeside, a charming 'good life' B&B run by Diane Monroe, breakfast eggs freshly laid, and just five minutes' drive from the circuit. Cardinals and orioles call stridently from the treetops. Sunday brings a 200-strong classic car parade, a mix of ancient and modern, and we meet Russ Truelove and his Mercury Monterey who drove the Daytona 500 in 1956 when the race was literally on the beach, against names like Lee Petty and Junior Johnson. Heady stuff.

Fuelling up at Lakeville – \$40 for half a tank of 93 super premium – you have to pay in advance, as at most garages, but the pump is erratic and it splashes back over my arm. Where's the rest room?!

Memorial Day is a big deal in the States; like Great Britain's Poppy Day, it commemorates the fallen. Unlike our sombre Remembrance Day, in America it's carnival town, with military bands, army vehicles and fire engines, cheerleaders and mounted cowboys packing the streets. Stars and Stripes fly from literally every gateway and flagpole. We see the parades lining up in towns as we pass north through Massachusetts and, halted by state

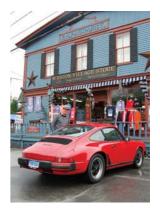
troopers, we witness the local razzmatazz sashay by.

We set off on the I-7, through lush meadows and densely forested hills dotted with lakes. At Pittsville the roads are really pitted, and though they keep asking you to sponsor a road, obviously nobody has. Passing Mount Greylock, tallest peak in the state, we motor on to North Adams to visit MASS MoCA, (Massachusetts' Museum of Contemporary Art) housed in one of the town's disused factories. Strange sound effects echo through the pipes of the former boilerhouse, and an Airstream caravan perched 3oft atop a gantry is filled with the debris of the artist's exploded brain. Most impressive exhibition is a barn-sized installation of around 40 seascapes by Anselm Kiefer, all based on the spurious pretext that great naval battles happen every 315 years. Who knew?

At Williamstown we check into the Maple Terrace Motel, a high-end example of the trad American roadhouse, and enjoy a full immersion in the pool behind our room. Williamstown's tiny for a university city, but we stuff ourselves into an intriguing Indian movie, The Lunchbox, showing at the arts cinema. The following day we head east along The Mohawk Trail, a picturesque 30-mile section of an old trade route between Albany in Upper New York State to Boston on the Massachusetts coast. Giant alert! Almost immediately there's an impressive 20ft tall Red Indian statue beside a roadside diner, along with a similarly monumental grizzly bear, endorsing the local ancestry. The Mohawks were English allies in the American Revolution, and Hiawatha is the most famous. Further along, in a commemorative garden, there's another larger-than-life Mohawk brave, in bronze, arms aloft in supplication to the happy hunting grounds, presumably lamenting his tribe's virtual extinction.

We're in The Berkshires, hilly, forested and unremittingly green, part of the Appalachian mountain chain that runs north from the Catskills in New York State up to Quebec.

Sweeping roads and great scenery, plus familiar names, make New England a great place for a touring drive. The 3.2 Carrera makes for a great travelling companion, too



NEW ENGLAND ROAD TRIP







Above: Carrera tries to blend in with the locals. Architecture is old town American. Below: Posing at Lake Willoughby at the top of Vermont Local geological phenomena include the Natural Bridge, spanning a chasm in a marble quarry, and the glacial potholes in the rapids at Shelburne Falls in the Deerfield River. We pause here to slurp a smoothie and walk the Bridge of Flowers, a former tramway over the river, now florid and fecund. Like many of these backwater towns the old-fashioned stores is a delight just to wander round, scanning the local produce.

For the first time I'm starting to open up the throttle, because the trail follows the course of the river and it's twisty enough for the car to flow beautifully through the bends, and although the speed limit is 45mph - even down to 15mph at 'Hair-Pin turn' - it's enough to indicate what the 3.2 Carrera can do around them in the right gear. It's lined on one side with forested cliffs and it would be a great road to drive fast. Maybe this is one reason why, after Lime Rock, Porsche sightings are rare. Lunching at the Coffee Bean diner, Charlemont, a woman tells us that although she was very familiar with Porsches from when she lived in Hudson, New York, she hadn't seen a single Porsche on the Mohawk trail since she moved up here in 1985. A hamlet called Florida claims to be the coldest place in Massachusetts; it's pretty high up and the abandoned motels suggest a hey-day in the '40s and '50s, and then affordable air travel meant people no longer came up here.

That evening, back at Williamstown, we go beer tasting at the Hops & Vines Bar and Brasserie. Encouraged by the waitress's indefatigable politeness (a delightful US trait), we consume rather more than we probably should.

Our goal is Lake Willoughby at the top of Vermont, a

stone's throw from the Canadian border. It's a damp morning as we ease through lower Vermont on the I-7A. Mount Equinox in the Taconic range is shrouded in cloud and the Skyline Drive tollroad barriers are down, so we press on, looking for a diner for breakfast. Signs promote down-home organic and natural products, including the Cheese House, the Chocolate House and the Sugar Shack. We pull into Manchester, which happens to be a retail outlet centre as well as the location of a café that serves up the most ample selection of pancakes, bacon and French toast with lashings of warm maple syrup and sour cream. Spurning the siren song of the designer labels - Armani, Brooks Bros, Orvis fishing tackle - we point the trusty 3.2 northeast, and the period quality of the '87 Carrera somehow blends exactly with the oldfashioned nature of the 'B' road with double yellow lines down the middle, bending through steep, grassy hills topped with woods and bumpy back road. We climb higher, passing Bromley ski lifts. At South Pomfret, first registered in 1761, we stop at a garage and I pour a quart of oil into the engine, and the woman at the pump store finds me a paper funnel as the plastic boxes in the engine bay make access to the 911's filler even more difficult. With hindsight this is New England's best driving country because, despite unmended 'frost-heave' ridden surfaces, there just aren't many other vehicles around. Uh-oh. Spoke too soon. We receive an admonishment from a traffic cop who's sitting in his car in the middle of a village where we should have been doing 25mph and we were probably doing 30/35, so I slow right down next to him and happily it's just a finger wagging exercise. Soon

JLG Autocrib

Housed in a former kindergarten, hence 'Autocrib', Dr Jack Gish's dedicated Porsche collection numbers 24 cars, ranging from 356 to 996 and encompassing a cross section of Zuffenhausen models along the way. He began collecting them 20 years ago and hasn't looked back. For me, the peach is the grey Weissach special edition 3.2 Carrera.

The old school anterooms are made over to an engine display shop, complete with a vast array of associated paraphernalia including components of race cars like a brake disc from a Daytonawinning 962, Hurley Haywood's race suit and Mario Andretti's driving gloves, plus library and model collection. The former classroom houses a Pre-A Speedster that belonged to Nicholas Cage, a fab RS60 replica that starred in the movie Death Becomes Her, driven by Bruce Willis; plus a 914/6, a Ruf Yellowbird rep for his son to drive in autotests. and a 3.0 Carrera RSR race rep in Gulf livery.

Dr Gish displays his cars at local concours events, and gamely lent us his '87 3.2 Carrera for our drive trip, and when we called by to collect it we were greeted by Dr and Mrs Alice Gish, his PA Kim Filler, techie extraordinaire Dean Beckman and motorsport photographer Sean Smith who kindly supplied a couple of photos for the story. To augment his collection, Dr Gish is looking for an F-programme 911 with external oil filler, so if anyone can help, message him at drgish@sbcglobal.net and he'll be glad to hear from you.











ary Postcards from New
ms, England. Long, straight
Clyde roads and gentle curves
erican and highways that invite
you you to sponsor them, not
ktop that it would appear that
many do
o the

enough we join I-92, a broad dual carriageway with a broad grassy trench in between the opposing lanes, part of Eisenhower's interstate system planned in the 1950s. It's a leisurely 65mph cruise through great open valleys and distant peaks to St Johnsbury where we go right onto the 5A. The surface has more wrinkles than Sitting Bull.

Long, comma-shaped and deep at 333ft where it's edged by sheer cliffs, Lake Willoughby is wonderful. We're billeted in Birches cottage opposite the Willough Vale Inn, a sumptuous bungalow with its own veranda, waterside jetty and the biggest jacuzzi bath ever. Our host Roy Clark lays on washing tackle so I can spruce up the 3.2, and we ease round the end of the lake to take some photos, then we visit the village store for supplies and a takeaway pizza. You only find these places off the beaten track; they're like stepping back in time to an era when general stores sold almost everything you could possibly need, service was personal and relaxed and you didn't need to push a trolley around. The antithesis of the modern strip malls that now dog the outskirts of every major town. We eat outside, catching the sunset and watching the few boats fishing mid-lake.

Next morning the sun slowly burns the mist off the lake, placid, sublime, a heavenly scene enlivened by occasional cormorants, ducks and jumping fish. No time to savour for long though. We've a lengthy drive ahead, southeast through Vermont, across New Hampshire and Maine, down to Newburyport on Massachusetts' Atlantic

seaboard, and it's going to take all day. Our preliminary shortcut turns out to be a dirt road, passing old farms, crossing cattle pastures and marshland beside the Clyde river. It goes on and on, a reminder of the great American dream, to drive and drive, like Dean Moriarty, and if you don't like one place you simply keep driving. On blacktop again, we slow for 'road work', the old boys holding the stop-go signs while the lad hurriedly shovels tar into the potholes. Vegetation is scrappier – though no less dense than most other places, but scruffy roadside houses and trailers suggest poverty. This is the backwoods.

New Hampshire's Interstate 3 has the Connecticut river to the left and the forested White Mountains ahead white's apt even now: Mount Washington still has snow patches. Long straights, long curves and a few typical roadside diners, though traffic's sparse so they can't be doing much business. Certainly there are more trucks and utes than cars; light industrial equipment includes earthmoving and forestry vehicles. State slogan: "Live free or die"! We're cruising at a steady 60-65mph between 2,500and 3,000rpm on the 110, signed as a 'scenic and cultural byway' between Groveton and Berlin. It's wide-open mountainous country and we're flanked by Nash state forest, with Percy Peaks over to the left, and White Mountain national forest to the right. The 16 going south to Goreham swoops uphill and down dale, and a railway line runs on a causeway literally bisecting the Androscoggin river. A section of smooth new blacktop on

Below: The Carrera puts on a pose for the camera. Interstate bound and the names are familiar, even if if you've never been to America









Above: Spectacular dunes and sea views, Chatham fish market, Cape Cod, supplies the region's restaurants with... cod

Below: Provincetown, timber-frame buildings, also Cape Cod's liveliest swinging hot spot, a walk on the wild side



the 2 tempts me to open up the 3.2 again, and at 80 I detect a slight vibration from the steering and hear a wheel bearing noise. The throttle's not shutting down instantly as I lift off the gas pedal, during shifts for instance, so I buy a can of WD-40 to lubricate the linkage, but to no avail. On the whole, though, the car is feeling more and more compliant the further we go. We cross into Maine (slogan: "Open for Business"), and again, the road would be mighty entertaining were it not so bust up by frost-heave. We fetch up at the vast Sebago Lake. Virtually all beach and lakeside is privately owned, and we turn in at one spot where it says \$10 to park. There's no one around, so Mrs T sheds her clothes for a dip, at which point the attendant appears, causing a bit of a commotion in the bathing costume department. Sunny as it is, it turns out the water is too cold for the full immersion, having only unfrozen six weeks previously. In the depths of the lake lie two WW2 Corsair aircraft, their British pilots having collided on a training flight. Despite the facility to recover them, for the moment they're designated a war grave.

Late afternoon, and the three-lane I-95 – the Maine Turnpike – brings welcome relief from the more arduous back roads with their poor surfaces, no views and slow traffic, allowing the car to stretch out now and cover some ground. Following a truck at around 100mph, it's about now that the incident I mentioned at the outset between the SUV and the cop car takes place, but there's still no let up from the fast movers. We come off at the toll – just \$3 – to take the beach road along New Hampshire's scant coastline, though as it turns out we're only too happy to extricate ourselves from the 10-mile downmarket strip-mall of cheap joints along Hampton and Salisbury Beach. Rows of clapboard houses two deep, one

facing the sea, the other a dingy marsh, uglifying a wonderful landscape.

Newburyport's a different matter. We check into the Garrison Inn, red brick like most of this prosperous seaport, once a whaling station and rebuilt after a disastrous fire in 1811, and we cruise the cafes and boutiques and watch the boats on the Merrimack river. Leaving town next morning on I-1, we stop at Willy P's Classics (www.willy-p-classics.com) to ogle the fabulous '50s American autos. Gorgeous two-tone colours and lavish detailing directly inspired by jet age fighter planes and space rockets. The pink '55 Ford Fairlane Crown Victoria Skyliner convertible gets my vote, while Mrs T lusts after the turquoise '55 Chevy Bel-Air convertible. Everything's immaculate, and most cars seem to be priced at \$6oK. Trundling along in 5th gear at 150orpm, I reflect that the flat-six is so unstressed, and that precept makes buying any old car in America a fair proposition.

The three-lane I-95 dual carriageway morphs into the I-93 mid Boston, striding imperceptively between the skyscrapers and over the rooftops, a bit of a gamble on account of traffic, but pretty swiftly we're spewed out of the vast conurbation and heading southeast through a tree corridor to Sagamore Bridge (built 1935) and the Cape Cod peninsular. We turn off the I-6, and lose our bearings among the strip-mall morass. Any signs are ambiguous: north is south, and vice-versa. First taste of seafood is at Hyannis, beloved of the Kennedys and ferry port for Nantucket island. Ever heard of a Quahog? Me neither; kind of baked clam, and pretty delicious. We stay at the Little Inn on Pleasant Bay, a wonderfully neat, pegtiled hotel run by two ex-pat sisters Pamela and Sandra, with a jetty and views to die for over the east-facing bay and a delicious breakfast of eggs benedict. Winding,



undulating B-road, lush, wooded, and breathtaking sea views. The Great Gatsby would be right at home here. We tour the neighbouring dunescape of Nauset Beach where people go sport fishing, and fetch up at Pisces in Chatham for the best fish supper ever. Next day's run up to the top of the peninsula brings some surprises. Towards Provincetown the I-6 gets into some serious sand dunes, and the town itself is an agglomeration of brightly painted wooden buildings, many cafes, boutiques and bars, grand public buildings funded by cod and whales; smaller, but reminiscent of San Francisco in the late '6os. 'Brighton on speed,' says Mrs T. A lovely woodblock print tradition from the '2os, plus modern cabaret and drag acts. Many couples are holding hands, mostly same sex too. It's a walk on the wild side!

Final restover is the handsome Captain Freeman Inn at Brewster off the I-6A (known as the Old King's Highway) on the north-facing, bay side of the Cape, where Donna and Byron make us thoroughly welcome, and again there's an amiable crowd here and an inventive breakfast of poached-egg-in-croissant. We walk the 100m to Brewster beach to paddle and collect seashells, and then attend a performance of Jerusalem in a theatre in the woods (English west country dropouts versus the establishment). We survey the souves in the general store and, as the sun goes down, we discover an amazing clamshack at East Dennis.

Another diners' delight is Buzzardstown, landward side of the Cape Cod canal, where there's a golden mile of them, and Percy's boasts 'the largest menu in Massachusetts!' The way back to JLG Autocrib to drop the

SHARE SHARE

car off takes us through New England's smallest state, Rhode Island, though time pressure obliges the Interstates: I-6, 495, 90 (Massachusetts Turnpike), 84, and 7/202, rather than the scenic coast roads. We listen to drive-time Elvis Presley radio, live from Graceland, and the miles fly by. 'No room to rhumba in a sports car,' he claims, though I beg to differ. Four hours later we're back in Brookfield, Connecticut. I garage the 3.2, and Kim runs us to the station for the train back into Manhattan.

It's been a fantastic trip. We've clocked almost 1,500 miles, and the g11 has served us very well. 'I'd be happy just to keep driving,' enthuses Mrs T. The car's been utterly reliable, the cabin's spacious, and though filling up is invariably slow as the petrol pump keeps switching off, it is economical – as you'd expect where the speed limit's so low. I've also added three quarts of synthetic during the week. The 3.2's steering is heavy, brakes adequate, gearshift spot-on, throttle controlled oversteer and understeer, and it's its idiosyncrasies that make it so interesting and enjoyable.

Standout driving roads? The smooth blacktop in western Maine where it was possible to drive the car as fast as possible, controlling it on the throttle through the bends, and northern Vermont's 'B'-roads, fast flowing, up and down, good visibility and little traffic, the surface OK and the car riding well. I would love to do it again, and maybe next year Dr Gish will have some new gems to peruse. So close to the Big Apple, and such wonderful countryside and charming townships; back at base, Norfolk, England seems positively dull compared with Norfolk, Connecticut. **PW**







Above: Captain Freeman Inn, Brewster; Willy P's Classics, Newburyport Below: Brewster clamshack; Provincetown busker; 3.2 Carrera back in Connecticut

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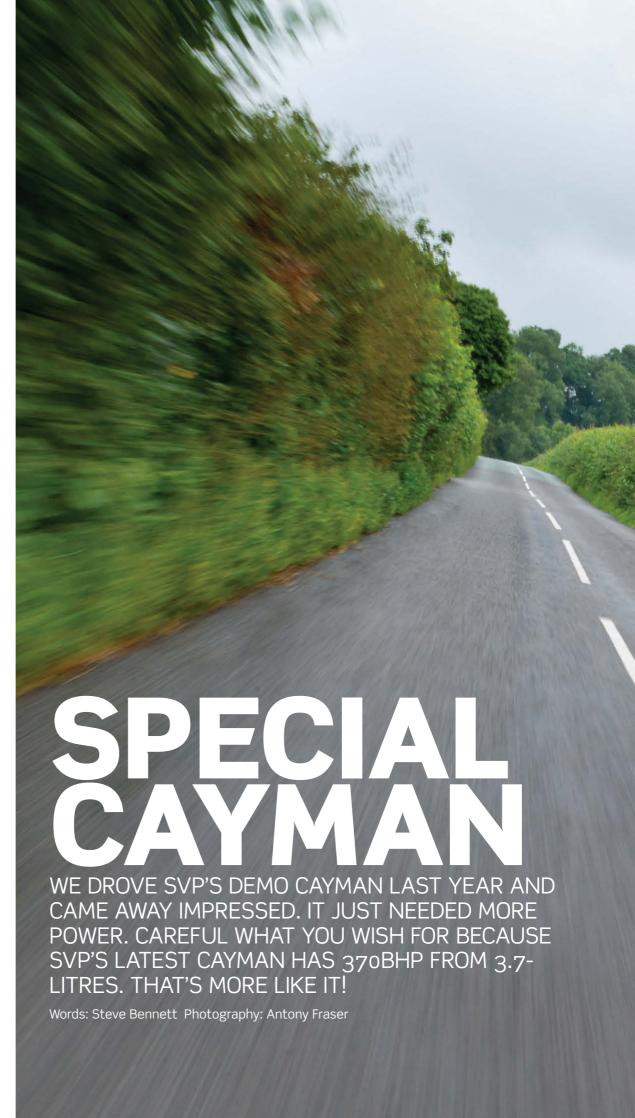
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e like the Cayman here at g11&PW. Indeed for your humble wordsmith and Porsche enthusiast tapping this opening paragraph out, it is the best of the modern range, save perhaps for the 997 GT3 RS Gen 1 (I'm very specific about that).

Of course for Porsche the Cayman was a no-brainer. Stick a roof on the Boxster and turn an already good car into a brilliant one thanks to that extra rigidity and the already excellent, low slung mid-engined layout. I well remember driving an early Cayman S on UK roads. While not quite a revelation, it was the entry level to precision, midengined dynamics, but without an Italian style price tag or associated Latino image issues.

While the Boxster had the more populist appeal, and the 911 was the top of the Porsche tree, the Cayman, or the 'Cockster' as Clarkson described it, became something of a leftfield choice. The thinking man's Porsche? Yes, could be. Or how about the enthusiast's choice? Yes, I'd stick my colours to that particular mast. Boxster? Great car, but for me a rag top is more of a lifestyle choice, and besides I've already got a scruffy old Mk1 MX-5 for 'wind in the hair' shenanigans. A 911? Well, we've already been there. Love 'em I do, but the Cayman is a dynamically better car. End of.

And Porsche knew that too, which is why they implemented the Cayman/911 glass ceiling. A suitably powered Cayman would run rings around a 911, no question, so the Cayman was/is factory neutered to keep the 911 on top, although that appears to be changing in the current line up as the 911 becomes ever more the GT, the Cayman, it would appear, is being allowed to realise its full potential. The GTS is fully focussed, and there is a more powerful, lightweight version on the way, if testing pics from the Nürburgring are to be believed. Porsche, it would appear, feels safe to let the Cayman really fly, but that's not much help to owners of older models. Which is, of course,



SVP MODIFIED CAYMAN





spanners of the tuning brigade, urged and financed by pioneering early Cayman adopters. It's that weren't really into that scene. It was only when the Cayman R arrived late into the Gen 1

something missing: Power.

OK, so we've driven many tuned Caymans over the years, Cayman R, most notably SVP's (Specialist Vehicle Preparations) Cayman SV that we sampled

"What we've been waiting for, then, has been the elusive 'complete package'"

sort of car. One that inspires a bit of jiggery tweakery in the way that the Boxster or 911 doesn't. Coming in just two variants for many years, the only hot Cayman was going to be an aftermarket

car's lifeline that Porsche engaged in making it more hardcore. The result was a machine that had us journos nearly wetting ourselves in praise of this tactile handling most notably turbocharged versions and a few with complete 997, 3.8-litre engine transplants, but none have really felt like the complete package. That said, we've driven plenty

about this time last year. What we've been waiting for, then, has been a meeting of engine and chassis tweaks to make that elusive 'complete package' and, praise be, we've found it, thanks

SVP MODIFIED CAYMAN







again to SVP and main man Dominic Delaney.

A quick recap at this point.
Delaney's Droitwich based SVP
looks on the outside to be a fairly
typical Porsche specialist outfit.
Servicing, repairs, restoration,
classic, modern, they can do it.
But scratch the surface and you
discover that Dom and his crew
are all from motorsport stock,
most notably rallying, with many
of them having worked in the
World Rally Championship for
Mitsubishi/Ralliart and Toyota.
Dom has also worked for Williams

F1 Engineering. They know their stuff, they have a way of doing things and going faster, improvising and improving is in SVP's DNA. It's evident in some of the projects in the workshop and not all are Porsche related.

Dom decided some time ago that the Cayman was going to be SVP's niche and has set about a range of developments. His aforementioned demo car featured KW suspension and associated geometry tweaks, lightweight panels and wheels, an LSD and engine mods that

were restricted to an exhaust and remap. Doesn't sound like much, granted, but the overall effect was a Cayman that really hit the spot. Hardcore, yes, but so engaging, poised and pointed, that you forgave the compromises that come with the territory. But still there was that issue of power, which brings us to SVP's latest Cayman development. Power at last.

Low key it may look, but this here new machine from SVP features all the lightweight bits, and the chassis work, but Left: It may not look much, indeed it looks largely standard – Q-car even, but under the subdued exterior beats a 3.7-litre heart, with 370bhp. And while you can't possibly tell from the pic, the rear tailgate is lightweight GRP

crucially it's got 370bhp from 3.7-litres. Now that's more like it!
How? Well this customer car started life as an early 295bhp, 3.4-litre Cayman but has benefited from engine developments that are as much to do with the M97's well









documented 'issues' as just the need for speed. It's no surprise that Dom and the SVP boys have seen their fair share of these engines with IMS failure and bore wear, particularly to the number six cylinder, which is at the end of the cooling chain. They have their own fixes, which include replacement cast iron liners and a cooling system upgrade.

that he's seen none of the Mg6/Mg7 engine woes occur on race cars, the theory being that at race speeds the oil is at temperature and pumping and likewise the cooling system. On the road, engines can be subject to different loadings and at low speeds, but in say a high gear, the cooling and oil system is not working as efficiently. Kind of

system from Milltek efficiently extracts the exhaust gasses, while a prototype air filter that lives in the passenger side air scoop allows in more precious combustible oxygen for a bigger bang.

For added drivetrain zing, a single mass flywheel is fitted here, as is a Quaife LSD. Weight saving is enhanced by SVP's

Shiny bits! Top left: KW coilover suspension is adjustable for bump and rebound. Carrillo rods are the ultimate in connecting crank to piston. Above: IPD 82mm throttle body and plenum for efficiency

said, with Dom's chosen cams it does rev out too, aided by its lightweight and balanced bottom end and single mass flywheel.

"Is this the 911 beater that Porsche was scared of building? Well yes it kind of is"

Of course with the engine in pieces anyway, and with bigger capacities a relatively simple task on Porsche flat-six engines, it's something of a no-brainer to explore the big bore route. Hence SVP have come up with a range of engines that can be displaced from 3.7-litres to 4.0-litres, although the latter is rather more complicated.

The 3.7-litre engine gains capacity thanks to bigger cylinder liners and larger, forged pistons, which are connected to the standard crank with Carrillo steel rods. The standard rods do not feature highly on Dom's radar, he's seen too many fail on race cars he reckons. Interestingly though, Dom says

makes sense, really.

The maximum capacity that can be achieved from oversized pistons and liners is 3.9-litres. Beyond that – say 4-litres – and a 997 3.8 crank is required, which starts to make it rather more expensive, for not that much more in the way of gains. Although we will come to the cost/power analysis later.

So what else is involved here? Well it's not mandatory, but on this engine Dom uses a larger IPD 82mm throttle body, which enhances torque, plus different cams, which are off the shelf Porsche, but he'd rather not reveal from which model here so you'll have to ask him yourself. Naturally an uprated exhaust

lightweight tailgate and Perspex rear window, a lightweight battery and fixed back race seats. These relatively simple mods bring the weight down to 1200kg. KW coilover suspension is adjustable for bump and rebound and more rigid Carrera Cup gearshift cables do exactly that and so enhance the shift action. A sequential set-up using Porsche parts is next on the development curve.

So what's it like? Is this the 911 beater that Porsche were scared of building? Well yes it kind of is. It should come as no surprise that with 370bhp and a relatively meagre 1200kg, performance is strong. With 3.7-litres, it shouldn't be a screamer but, that

Best of both worlds? Yes, and it's 20bhp more than the current base 3.4-litre 911, that needs a savage beasting every time you want to get the most from the torque-shy engine. SVP's 3.7-litre motor builds strongly in the mid range and then really takes off at 5000+rpm as the Varioram kicks in, delivering its full 370bhp at 6500rpm. It's not some sort of moody race engine though. You can mooch around quite happily. Stick it in a high gear and just use the torque that's the byproduct of the bigger capacity.

Is it too much for the chassis? No, of course not, but it does make the underpinnings think a bit. In standard form the Cayman S had a chassis in search of more

SVP MODIFIED CAYMAN

power. Serious liberties can be taken with the throttle, but the Cayman just digs in and goes. Now it has the power to overcome its prodigious grip should you want to, which opens up possibilities and will get the mid-engined machine dancing on the limits of grip, which is always the fastest way to go, assuming you can keep up with the dance. I'm not making any claims here, but the extra power does certainly make the Cayman SV a rather more exciting machine.

So putting it all together then? Well no surprises here. The SVP Cayman takes the original factory blueprint and blends and modifies the dynamic variables that go into making the near perfect sports car. This Cayman is used by its owner pretty much exclusively for Sprint and Hillclimb events, but despite the track bias, the Cayman is astonishingly good on the road, with the KW suspension working with the bumps and undulations and never against them.

Rumours of an aforementioned track-biased Cayman persist. Will it get the 3.8-litre, 400bhp 911S engine? Doubt that somehow, but it may – if it happens – end up with the 350bhp, 3.4-litre engine. Will it be expensive? Yes, because with Porsche less is always more. Is the SVP car expensive? Depends on your

starting point really. If you had a Cayman and were looking to future proof it against potential engine problems, at SVP a standard engine rebuild with new liners, pistons, cooling upgrades, IMS bearing etc, would cost £8000. Alternatively, though, you could go for the 3.7litre, 370bhp, have your cake and eat it version for £12,995, complete with warranty. Pricey? Not in the great scheme of things, and not when the result is this good. For under £30,000 you could have one hell of a midengined supercar.

And then there is the worstcase scenario. Your Cayman has gone pop, what do you do? Well that really is a no-brainer.

Interestingly Dom reckons that a lot of track driving 911 owners are getting into Caymans, particularly those that were tracking GT3 RSs and 993 GT2s, both of which have gone through the roof value-wise, making them too expensive to use. In comparison the Cayman is almost disposable and cheap to run. Maybe I will never achieve my dream 997 GT3 RS (Gen 1 remember), but a Cayman, complete with a GT3 busting engine should be rather easier on the pocket and even faster on the track. All of a sudden it doesn't seem like second best at all. PW





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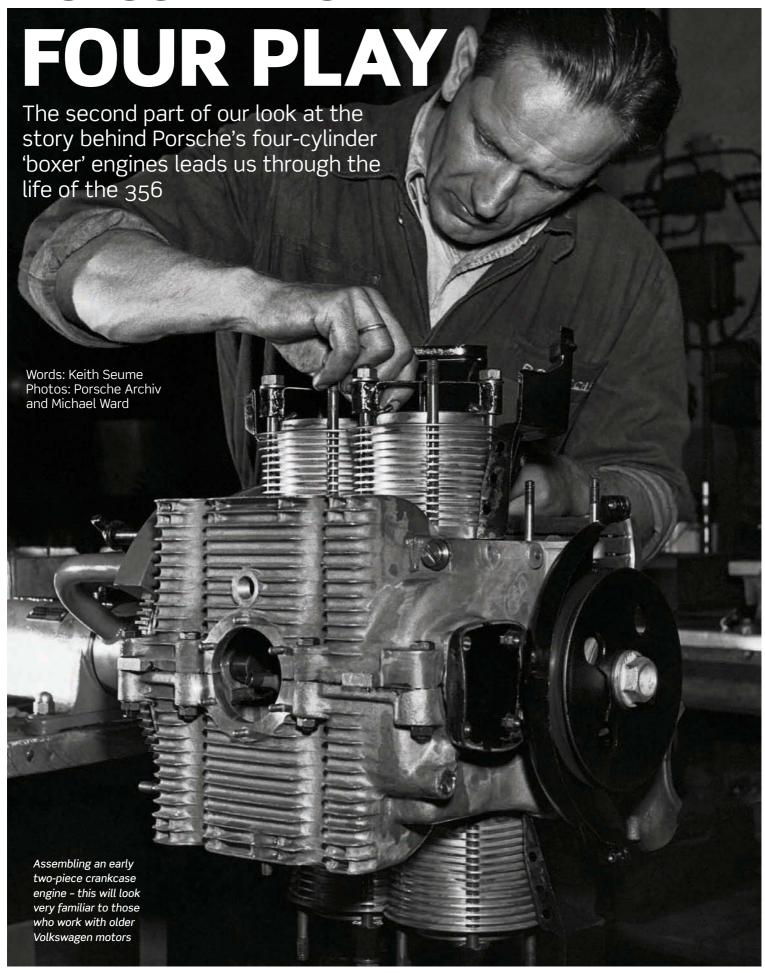
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PORSCHE ARCHIVE



PORSCHE ARCHIVE

Right: Porsche's first sportscar was this midengined roadster powered by an 1131cc engine based on the KdF-Wagen motor, tuned with the addition of larger inlet valves and dual carburettors. Producing 40hp, it propelled the car to a top speed of 84mph



Below: By the time the 500th 356 had been sold, the engine had been upgraded still further, with Porschedesigned cylinder heads, sporting larger valves and ports

had hostilities ceased than Ferdinand and Ferry Porsche's thoughts turned once more to the subject of producing a sportscar of their own design, which bore the family name. The easy way to go about this would be, of course, to simply rebody the KdF-Wagen, as others would do in the coming years, making a cheap and cheerful sportster out of the utilitarian Beetle.

Thankfully, Porsche, father and son, had other

ideas. While the ill-fated Type 64 Berlin-Rome car must surely have been an inspiration, proving that the concept of a small, light sportscar was basically sound, it was not what Ferry Porsche had in mind when he began penning some ideas. Instead, he drew more inspiration from the Cisitalia Grand Prix car project, with which he had been involved since late in 1946.

The Cisitalia was a midengined, tubular-chassied design and this, thought Porsche, was the best route to follow for a new two-seat roadster. Cisitalia had already built a sportscar based on Fiat components, demonstrating that it was possible to build a decent car from humble origins.

In mid-1947, Ferry
Porsche and his righthand man Karl Rabe
began working on a plan
to build a two-seat
sportscar based entirely
on VW components. The
project was given the
internal design number
'Type 356'.

It was clear that the original 25bhp *KdF-Wagen*

engine would be less than ideal as the motive power, yet there was really no viable alternative at this stage. However, using the experience gained thus far, Porsche managed to turn the low-powered flat-four into an engine worthy of use in a sportscar.

The little 1131cc engine had its roots in the pre-war 985cc unit used in the prototypes, as discussed in the August issue of this magazine. During the wartime period, Ferry Porsche had driven a supercharged version but its reliability was questionable.

Instead of following this route, Porsche's engineers opted to look at ways to improve the Volkswagen engine by more conventional means.

The standard cylinder heads were modified by the installation of larger inlet valves, with correspondingly enlarged ports, while the compression ratio was boosted from a modest 5.8:1 to a heady 7.0:1.

This was an obvious way to improve power output, but a brave move bearing in mind the poor quality of the fuel available at the time. Fed by dual carburettors (a single Solex was also tried), the engine produced in the region of 40hp, good enough for a top speed of 84mph.

This first prototype, serial number 356-001, was sufficiently successful to give Porsche the confidence to pursue the idea of building a sportscar for general sale – confidence prompted by the interest shown by Rupprecht von Senger, a Zurich-based advertising agent with wealthy connections.

Car-mad, von Senger persuaded Porsche to forge ahead with their plans, promising to buy 50 cars in addition to helping

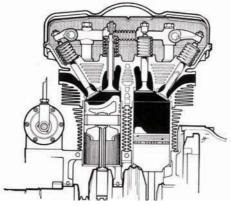


Right: Porsche's own cylinder heads angled the exhaust valves outwards enabling the use of a larger inlet valve. This meant that the VW-style rockers could no longer be used Far right: Development work on a new 1500 engine first began in 1950, and was given the project title of Type 502

with the essentia The ne 356/2 –

Below: Early Porsche cylinder heads used a 'bellcrank' rocker arm to open the exhaust valves. This design took into account angled valves but was weak and costly to produce

Below right: Early crankshafts were VW forgings, which were fine if a little fragile at high rpm



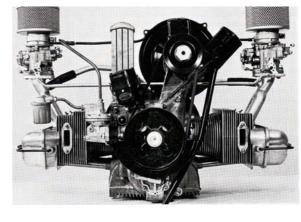
with the the supply of essential parts.

The new models – Type 356/2 – featured redesigned cylinder heads. The original VW-based castings had been designed deliberately to limit engine rpm and even with the larger valves installed on 356-oou's cylinder heads, they were still considered to be too restrictive.

Porsche was not alone in recognising the limitations of the old pre-war design, for racer Petermax Müller had adapted a set of cylinder heads from the wartime Stürmboot (assault boat) project, which had used modified KdF-Wagen engines with relocated valves in specially-cast heads. These alone were good for some 40bhp at 3800rpm.

Although these heads undoubtedly worked well, helping to take Müller's homebuilt VW-based specials to numerous victories, they were unsuited to volume production due to the high manufacturing costs. Instead, Ferry Porsche pushed his designers to develop a new cylinder head with the exhaust valves angled outwards by some 32 degrees. The inlet valves remained in the same location as before, not quite in line with the crankshaft.

This increase in the included angle between the inlet and exhaust valves meant that the former could be increased in diameter from 28mm to as much as 38mm, while the exhaust valve could be enlarged to 31mm in

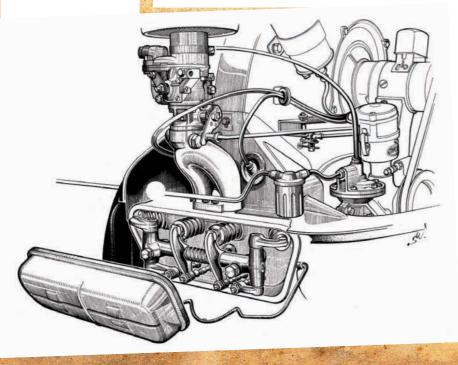


diameter. An added bonus was that the exhaust port could now be reshaped, allowing a better flow of cooling air over and through the cylinder head.

Relocating the exhaust valves meant that the VW pushrod-operated rocker arms and shafts could no longer be used. Instead, the exhaust rockers were replaced by new longer arms pivoting on two vertical shafts, while the inlet valves were opened by Volkswagen rocker arms on a horizontal shaft. Dual valve springs were also fitted to take into account the higher engine speeds and more aggressive cam profile.

The new engine relied on the Volkswagen twopiece crankcase, VW crankshaft and in some cases the 75mm VW castiron cylinders. However, at least four early cars, plus all the 'production' models made at the Gmünd workshops featured new 73.5mm cylinders which dropped the capacity from 1131cc to 1086cc. Why? So that the cars could compete in the growing 1100cc class in circuit racing.

With dual Solex 26VFJ carburettors on fabricated manifolds, the 1100 engines were capable of producing 40bhp at 4200rpm, ie, the same power but at roughly 400rpm more than the earlier motors. The fact that the compression was lower (6.5:1 instead of 7.0:1) without having an adverse effect on power shows how much more efficient the new cylinder heads were compared to





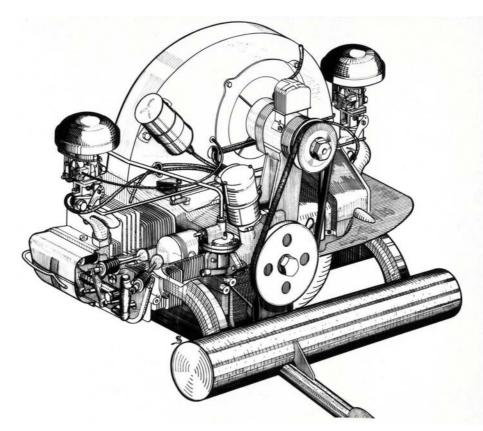
the older VW castings.

This engine developed into the Type 369 unit, as fitted to the first cars assembled at Zuffenhausen in 1950. It was essentially the same as the earlier motor in that it still relied on the VW two-piece crankcase, forged VW crankshaft, and VW camshaft and followers. The heads were the same as used on the old engine, too, cast by the Karl Schmidt company based in Neckarsülm. Now fitted with dual Solex 32 PBI carburettors and running a compression ratio of 7.0:1 once more, this latest production engine still only produced 40bhp.

At the Frankfurt motor show in April 1951, Porsche displayed its latest incarnation of the 356 with its new 1.3-litre engine. Referred to as the Type 506, it gained its extra capacity through the use of 80mm pistons and cylinders, resulting in a swept volume of 1286cc. The new pistons and cylinders were made for Porsche by Mahle, the latter being cast aluminium rather than the cast iron of the previous VW-sourced items. Apart from allowing the engines to run cooler, the use of the aluminium cylinders reduced engine weight by around 5.5kg.

The pistons were redesigned at the same time, with an asymmetrically-domed crown which pushed the fuel-air charge closer to the spark plug for better combustion. A downside of the new piston was that oil consumption was increased as the piston rocked back and forth as it moved up and down the bore. Compression ratio was reduced once again to 6.5:1 in deference to the poor fuel of the time.

The Type 506 retained



Left: Type 502 engine retained the Volkswagen crankcase and crankshaft but utilised Porsche's own cylinder heads. Carburettors were dual Solex 32 PBIC

Below: Every engine was handbuilt by one person. This is a later 1600 Normal engine (Type 616/1) equipped with dual Zenith 32 NDIX carburettors

Midway through 1950, work had already begun on a new 1500cc engine, known as the Type 502...

the dual 32 PBI Solex carburettors, re-choked and jetted to suit the increased capacity, but it's interesting to learn that there was serious talk of producing this engine with just a single centrally-mounted carburettor to make it easier to tune.

To prove the worth of the new engine, Porsches were entered in the 1951 Baden-Baden Rally, a rather odd event by today's standards where competing cars simply drove back and forth between two checkpoints and were required to cover as many miles as possible in the allotted time of 30 hours. This meant seemingly endless trips up and down the Autobahn connecting Munich and Stuttgart, the three Porsches covering over 2200miles each at an average speed of around

75mph. That's pretty impressive given the engine capacity. The highest top speed recorded by one of the cars was just over 85mph.

Midway through 1950, work had already begun on a new 1500cc engine, known as Type 502. The problem with increasing the capacity over and above the previous 1300cc was the lack of space within the VWbased crankcase. There was barely enough room between the big-end caps of the con-rods and the camshaft lobes as it was, so 'stroking' the VW crank was not an option. Increasing the bore size was a problem, too, thanks to the design of the VW case, which placed the cylinder centre lines too close together.

The solution? Increase the stroke but use a different crank, one which allowed the use of more compact big-ends. Enter the Hirsch roller-bearing crankshaft. This dispensed with bolt-on big-end caps on the conrods, the rods being in

one-piece with roller bearings replacing the normal plain big-end bearings. The crank, along with the four con-rods, was assembled in no fewer than 13 separate





parts (not including the con-rods and roller bearings), all splined and bolted together.

The compact design allowed the stroke to be increased by 5mm to 74mm which, along with the 80mm cylinders, resulted in a capacity of 1488cc. The same crank was also used in a revised '1300' engine with a bore size of 74.5mm, to give a capacity of 1290cc.

Up until now, the Porsche engines had all been recognisably descended from the humble Volkswagen motor which was essentially a pre-war design dating back to the late 1930s. All this changed – well, not exactly all – in November 1954 with the introduction of a new three-piece crankcase. This saw the main crankcase split vertically, as before, but with a separate 'timing cover' bolted on to the front of the engine, housing the camshaft and distributor drive gears.

The critical dimensions of the crankcase remained much as before, with a 102mm cylinder spacing, but stronger silicon-aluminium castings

What made these such great engines was that they were supremely reliable

made the crankcase much stronger, if heavier. There were numerous other detail differences between the old and new crankcases, but the cylinder heads, valves and inlet rockers remained essentially the same.

The exhaust rockers, though, were redesigned so that they no longer relied on a bell-crank layout but were instead designed so they ran at an angle, pivoting on a separate shaft. The result was easier to manufacture and stronger in operation.

In September 1955, Porsche showed its new model, the 356A, at Frankfurt. It was a car which finally broke (most of) the ties with the old VW-based designs. With the new 1500 engine with its three-piece crankcase barely a year old, Porsche looked to increase the capacity yet again, this time to a nominal '1600' (1582cc). This was achieved by increasing the bore size to 82.5mm, and featuring long-skirt pistons with one piston ring located below the wrist (or gudgeon) pin. This was in an effort to combat the rocking motion of the pistons due to the asymmetrical design of the crowns referred to earlier.

Known as the Type 616/1 and 616/2, there were two versions of the new 1600 engine – 'Normal' and 'Super' – while the 1300 continued in production as the 1300 Normal (Type 506/2) and 1300S (Type 589/2). The Super versions of the new engines retained the Hirsch roller-bearing crankshafts, while the 1600 Normal used a new Alfing plain-bearing

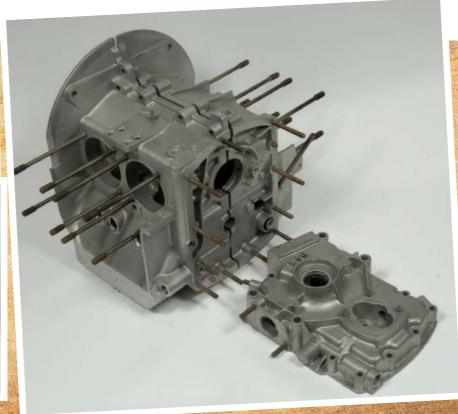
crankshaft. The old fabricated inlet manifolds were changed, making way for new castings which carried a pair of Solex 32 PBIC (1300S and 1600 Normal) or 40 PBIC carburettors (1600 Super).

The new 1600 engines were not overly powerful, with the Normal producing iust 6obhp at 450orpm (38bhp/litre) and the Super a higher 75bhp (47.4bhp/litre). The basic 1600 engine produced 80lb ft of torque at a lowly 2800rpm, while the Super pushed this up to 85lb ft at 3700rpm. But what made these such great engines was the fact that they were supremely reliable at a time when most rivals' engines were heavy, crude, cast-iron

Above left: All 356 engines relied on external pushrod tubes to channel oil back into the sump Below left: Note the extralong exhaust rockers required to operate widely-spaced valves in the Type 616 cylinder head Below: Three-piece case was first introduced in November 1954







lumps prone to failure when pushed too hard. Aircooling also meant that they weren't prone to overheating, as were many of their more exotic rivals.

The Type 616/1 and 616/2 engines were long lasting, both in terms of their mechanical reliability and their position in the Porsche line-up. In September 1957, the roller-bearing crankshaft was dropped unilaterally, apart from its use in the more exotic Type 547 Carrera 'four-cam' motors, which we'll look at another time.

In March 1960, the Type 616/7 engine appeared in the line-up, boasting gobhp and referred to as the Super 90. The increase in horsepower was brought about by redesigned cylinder heads with larger ports and 40mm inlet valves (the exhausts remained as before at 31mm) and the use of larger Solex 40 P11-4 carburettors, first seen

on the Carrera engines. Redesigned rocker arms, with a higher ratio (1.13:1 as opposed to 1.17:1) were also introduced at the same time, maximum valve lift being increased from 9.6mm to 10.8mm as a consequence.

These stronger rocker arms were installed using a new aluminium carrier, while lighter pushrods and re-spec'd single valve springs helped ease the load on the valve train.

There were changes made to the crankshaft and its bearing journals, too, with the principal main bearings being increased in diameter to 55mm (number five main bearing remained 40mm in diameter throughout the lifespan of the engine) on the Super 90. Rod bearings remained at 53mm diameter.

The bearing surfaces were nitrided for use alongside lead-bronze bearings, while the conrods were made stronger, too. The 1600S cylinders were cast from aluminium. with the inner surfaces coated with a wearresistant molybdenumsteel – this process was referred to as 'Ferral coating' - but the Normal engine reverted to castiron cylinders to reduce cost. The Ferral coating had been developed by Mahle, allowing molybdenum-steel to be sprayed onto the aluminium cylinder walls.

With a flywheel lightened by a little over 2kg, and thanks also in part to the lighter valve train and valve springs, the Super 90 was happy to rev freely to 6000rpm without any problems.

In many ways, it was seen as being a better engine than the exotic, and occasionally troublesome, Carrera fourcam, which required regular maintenance and careful set-up to run at its best. The four-cam was also sufficiently complex

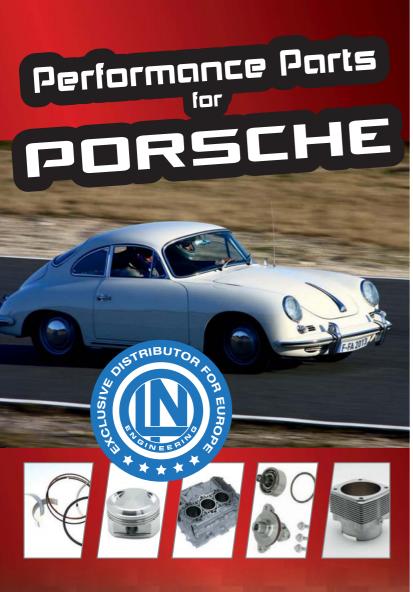


The Super 90 engine was happy to rev freely to 6000rpm without any problems...!

to put rebuilds beyond the means of regular mechanics. It is for this reason that many Carreras were equipped with replacement Super go engines in period. **PW**

Above: Cylinders grew in bore from 73.5mm in 1950 to 82.5mm in 1957 Below: Modest badging only ever hinted at what engine was used. This is a 75bhp 1600 Super





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PARAGON

RUNNING A BUSINESS IS ALL ABOUT EVOLVING AND REACTING TO CHANGING MARKETS, AND IT'S NO DIFFERENT AT PORSCHE SPECIALIST, PARAGON, AS WE DISCOVER

Words and photography: Brett Fraser

hings are changing at Paragon, one of Britain's best-known Porsche specialists. Perhaps not massively so, but significantly so. Mark Sumpter, the 21-year-old company's founder, CEO and figurehead, is taking on new responsibilities and will be leaving the day-to-day running of Paragon to Jamie Tyler and Pete Twyman.

But Mark is keen to emphasise that he's not stepping back from Paragon, simply giving himself the time and opportunity to expand the business in a new direction: well, actually in an old direction... 'At the beginning of this year I took a couple of months out to visit California, where there is a mass of historic Porsche dealers all within a comparatively small area. I always go over to the US for the Scottsdale auction which is why I know they're there, but I've never had the time to meet up with those guys and find out if there are any business opportunities – are there cars out there I can source for clients' collections or for Historic racing?

'Being away for those couple of months gave me the freedom to research the historic Porsche market in the States more thoroughly, and also let me see how the team back home could operate without me: it was a chance for key members of staff to grow and develop, which they did admirably.

THE SPECIALISTS: PARAGON





Opposite page: Paragon's well known forecourt is packed with top-notch modern Porsches, although increasingly the company is starting to focus on the classic sales side too. No surprise, then, to see a 356 up on the ramps in the workshop (left)

'So when I came back I was confident that I didn't need to slot back into my day job. That said, I'm still in the office three days a week on average, and can cover for the others when they're really busy or are on holiday or ill. But my focus is now on the older cars and I'm in the fortunate position that I can adopt a longterm strategy for acquiring cars and caring for clients. The experience I've built up over the years, and the fact that I have a mechanical background, are invaluable in this role - I've owned my own 356 Speedster and have raced Porsches, so I can give people first-hand information.

'When I go with a client to look at a car I can give it a pretty thorough mechanical inspection without the back-up of a garage, which is useful if the car's located somewhere remote. And when it comes to racing I'm happy to be a technician at the circuit for the race cars and Historic track cars we look after. It's early days with this new arrangement at Paragon, but I've already sold a handful of classics that previously we might not have done because we were unable to invest the time to make it happen.'

While Mark broadens Paragon's reach in one direction, Jamie Tyler and Pete Twyman are hard at work maintaining the company's core business in sales and service. Jamie has been with Paragon from the outset, originally serving petrol when the place still had a couple of pumps, and valeting the sales cars. These days he's the sales manager and judging by the continuous trilling of his phone on the day of our visit, there's plenty of selling to be done.

'Yes, things are picking up again in the wake of the economic downturn - and this is in the summer



holidays when traditionally we might expect things to be a little quieter,' explains Jamie. 'It's interesting to see how our customer base has changed over the years. Back when Paragon started a couple of decades ago, it was primarily Porsche enthusiasts - we sold a lot of mid '70s 911s and 944s, and that gradually evolved into 964s and 993s: we've got a picture knocking around of the forecourt just full of them.

'Over the last ten years we have seen an increasing number of customers who just want to use a Porsche as an everyday car, one with a prestigious badge. We do still have plenty of enthusiasts buy from us as well, and we treat everyone the same. I like to talk to the customer to find out precisely what it is they want from their Porsche - quite a few people come into the Paragon showroom with a clear idea of what it is they think they want, but then leave with something completely different that better suits their driving style and how they intend to use the car.

'Our aim is always to make the buying experience as easy and reliable as possible. We go to great lengths firstly to source the right cars - which can be quite hard at the moment as there's a lack of really good examples out there - and then prepare them exceptionally well, which is why we're happy to offer a 12 months/12,000 miles warranty. Prior to selling a car we give it the next service on its schedule; we also refurbish damaged alloys and do "bumper off" paint repairs if the front end of the car is badly stone-chipped.

'We like to think that this approach is why Paragon does a lot of business through personal recommendations - I've sold several cars to customers



As you would expect, the workshop is immaculate and typical of a specialist that also goes racing. Cross section of cars ranges across the Porsche board



Paragon's reputation is reflected in its stock and showroom, which is both varied and top quality. Walls are adorned with pictures of Mark Sumpter's racing exploits, which includes his Gp C Porsche g62

who haven't even been in to look at the car, let alone drive it, and have bought on the strength of what friends and colleagues have said about us. And having such a solid reputation for quality means that we have no difficulty selling the alleged problem Porsche – 996s at £20,000 to £25,000 simply fly away from here.

'Because of the diversity of our customer base we try to keep a good variety of cars on the forecourt, from £10,000 Boxsters upwards: we like to keep the honest,' says Peter, 'and I suppose by that I mean "transparent". We like to get a good sense of a customer's budget constraints and how they use their car – then when we've thoroughly inspected what needs doing, we can list the work in terms of priority based on what they can afford and the type of driving they do: for example, a set of brakes that are approaching the end of their life will rank as an urgent job for a customer driving 20,000 hard miles a year, yet

We have no difficulty selling the alleged problem Porsche – 996s at £20-£25k fly out of here!!

forecourt packed, because it gives our customers greater choice. Very popular at the moment is the 997 Turbo – we sell lots and lots of those, and they're currently exceptional value.'

Jamie's passion for selling Porsches – and for selling the virtues of Paragon – has the sort of infectious quality that has you sub-consciously reaching for your chequebook: his counterpart in charge of servicing and parts, Pete Twyman, may be a little quieter, but he's no less enthusiastic about the company or the need to properly look after its clientele.

'Our approach in the workshop is to be fair and

will fall further down the list for a customer doing just 2000 miles annually going to and from the pub on sunny Sundays.

'We want servicing to be as affordable as possible, and it helps that our workshop team have many years of experience behind them, both here at Paragon and at official Porsche Centres – it means that they instinctively know what to look for, how problems can be most efficiently remedied, and they're able to mend things rather than just throwing away whole assemblies and replacing them with expensive new ones.





Far left: Our correspondent relaxes in Paragon's comfortable waiting area. Reading material seems familiar Left: Pete Twyman's 'lair' complete with shiny stuff! Is his desk always this tidy, or did he have a quick whizz round before 911&PW descended?

THE SPECIALISTS





Far left: 996 minus front end, a familiar procedure on modern 911s, exposing as it does the vulnerable radiators and air con gubbins Left: Jamie Tyler (left) and Pete Twyman

'It's not enough to read the fault code off the diagnostic machine, you have to be able to interpret what that code really means so that you can get to the heart of the problem, which may not be what the fault code is telling you it is. The team also prepares several race cars and many of our customers like the fact that those same guys are working on their road car.

'Within our recently refurbished workshop we can do all the servicing and maintenance work you'd expect on our four ramps, and we also have a four-wheel alignment setup, tyre fitting and balancing, air conditioning servicing facilities, and we can sort out bodywork, too, courtesy of one of our trusted partners. Because of our racing experience we often do trackday setups for some of our clients; related to that, brake and exhaust upgrades are quite popular and we're an agent for Revo ECU remapping products. We're also an MOT testing station.'

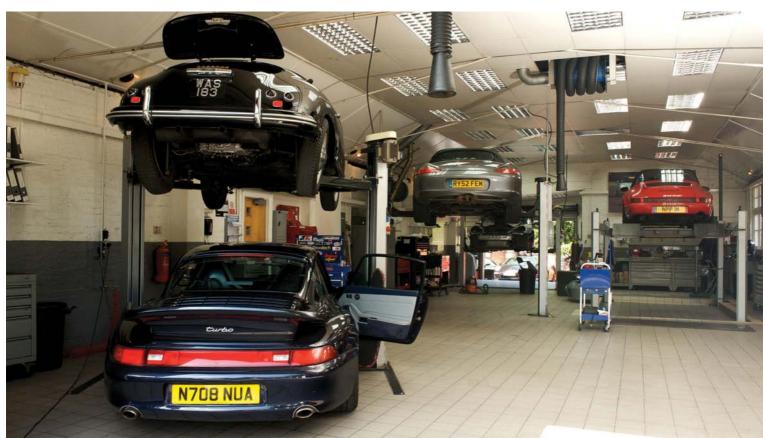
The walls of Pete's "lair", adjacent to Paragon's

upstairs waiting room, are lined with glass-fronted cabinets in which glitter Porsche accessories and spare parts, including a modern Fuchs alloy - Paragon is one of the wheelmaker's UK stockists. But not on display are a host of other spares, as Pete reveals: 'We hold a lot of consumables in our stores, which means that we can finish 90-95% of our jobs on the same day because we're not having to wait around for parts to be delivered.

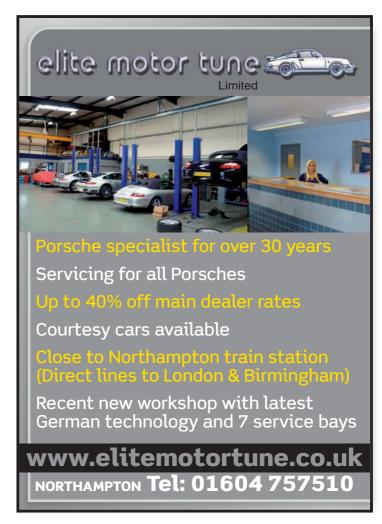
'We also keep a lot of small bits and pieces and older parts that you might not expect us to have - old Targa roof components, for instance. We tend not to dispose of parts simply because we haven't sold any for years; and when they do finally sell, it's surprisingly satisfying!

With their cheerful, welcoming demeanour, vast knowledge and experience, and their enthusiasm, Mark Sumpter's choice of Pete and Jamie to manage Paragon's day to day operations leaves the East Sussex Porsche specialist in very capable hands. PW

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VACUUM ASSISTANCE

Drive a mainstream 997-model 911 Carrera? In that case, read on and take heed. Sooner or later your Porsche will need a new engine-driven vacuum pump to activate the brake servo – because the old one, far from just wearing out, will have started to rot away



orsche has notched up many remarkable achievements over the last six-and-a-half decades, but it is fair to suggest that the design and then location of the Gen(eration) 1 M97 engine's vacuum pump is not overly high among them.

Compared to some of the now well-known problems that can befall these clever but famously flawed power units, said pump's frequently rapid demise is not exactly disastrous, and will in any case have no more serious a consequence than an oil leak. Even so, you can't help thinking that it takes a rare talent to design and then build an engine component that, far from eventually wearing out – as you might reasonably expect of any such device – simply rots away.

The purpose of the pump, as you might assume from its name (although confusingly you will also hear it referred to as a tandem pump), is simply to create the vacuum – or, more correctly, the negative pressure – needed to actuate the brake servo.

In the first iteration of the water-cooled flat-six – the Mg6 – Porsche relied on the age-old, low-tech, and ultimately largely foolproof method of connecting the servo directly to the inlet manifold, via a small-diameter pipe. But in the first of the second-generation 911 Carreras and Boxsters it opted for a mechanically driven pump to do the same job. Nothing inherently wrong with that – beyond, perhaps, the added complexity, weight, and not least cost. Diesel engines, because of the way in

REPLACE M97 BRAKE-BOOSTER PUMP



Access to pump necessarily limited; second pic from top left shows its location on another engine removed from car. Surface rust quickly develops into tiny holes. New pump costs £318 plus VAT. Job requires draining engine oil, so a good opportunity to change it, together with filter; install magnetic sump plugs, too. Remove air-filter housing for access to top end of metal pipe

which their induction systems function, have had to rely on similar devices for many years.

But the pump, driven by a flat peg that engages in a matching slot in the exhaust camshaft, is mounted at the drive-chain end of cylinder head number two. In both the 987 Boxster and Cayman this places it at the left-hand front

Accessing the pump's two upper securing screws (arrowed) means lowering the engine as far as it will go with rearmost fixings undone, and then reaching in from above tailpipe. In this car, one stud unscrewed instead of nut alone, but no problem; just go carefully when you replace it. Disconnect cable to coolant temperature sensor; it's protected by a flexible heat shield (bottom left)



THE KNOWLEDGE

THE KNOWLEDGE

The work shown here was carried out - on his own 54-plate, 2005-model g11 Carrera 36 - by Sid Malik, proprietor of Uxbridge, Middlesse-based Porsche Torque Ltd (tel: o1895 814446; www.porsche-torque.co.uk). He bought the car from an existing customer a few months ago, naturally well aware of the already leaking vacuum pump, but had only now managed to schedule it into his busy workshop for us. Key to the success of the job, which unsurprisingly Sid has done many times before, was gaining access not just to the engine compartment but also to the underside of the car, and then being able safely to lower the power unit a few inches as required, away from its rearmost mounting points. This, as you will see from the photos, he did with the aid of a garage lift and a transmission jack, but it wouldn't be impossible to achieve on your own driveway with axle-stands and a trolley jack. (Never venture beneath any car unless it is adequately supported.)

No less vital was Sid's extensive collection, assembled over many years, of diminutive 1.24-inch-drive ratchets and extensions, with which he was able to reach in past both the exhaust system and the rear apron, and finally undo the four Tgo Torx-headed M6 screws securing the pump to the cylinder head. 'Finally,' because atthough their threads were undamaged, their always rather marginal socket-type heads were naturally as corroded as the cover, and needed careful scraping with an angled pick to make sure that the key wouldn't slip and irrevocably round them out. Even then, Sid had to tap the key very firmly into position - with the aid of still further combinations of extensions and universal joints - to minimise its chance of sligping. The replacement pump comes with a new sealing 'O'-ring (and there is no other gasket or sealant required, please note), but understandably Sid carefully cleaned off the flat face of the cylinder head with a scraper to make absolutely sure there was no corrosion present that might possibly prevent the unit seating correctly.



You might imagine that leaking oil would have preserved the Torx-head securing screws (T₃o), but the sad truth is that, like the pump's cover, they will have corroded first, leaving the internal sockets at real risk of rounding out unless you gain a good purchase on them right from the start. Trick is to scrape out as much rust as possible with an angled pick, and then to use modest heat to loosen the original encapsulation (ie sealant) on the threads. Make sure you have a good selection of small ratchets and extension bars, and be prepared to do the job by feel as much as by sight

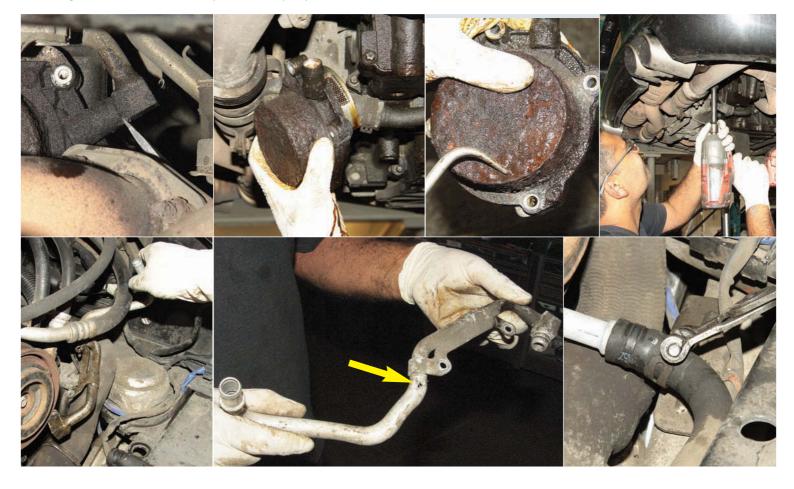
corner of the engine, when mounted in the chassis, but in the 997-model 911 Carrera at the right-hand rear corner. In this latter location it is exposed not only to the spray thrown up by the adjacent road wheel, but also to the very considerable heat emanating from the exhaust.

You might expect, and certainly hope, that the latter would offer some protection from the former by keeping the pump dry, but in truth the continual cycle of soaking and heating and drying and cooling, and then further soaking, simply exacerbates the problem. The pump's mild-steel

cover, although originally plated for protection, quickly develops a layer of surface rust, and not long after that the familiar flaky crust that culminates in a tiny hole (or more likely several tiny holes). From these oozes and ultimately dribbles the engine oil that, accumulating on their garage floor or driveway, will be most owners' first warning of the problem.

Even that, notwithstanding the frustrating inaccessibility of the device, might be no more than a minor inconvenience. But to add insult to injury Porsche sells only complete new pumps, and so a job that by rights shouldn't even

With screws removed, next job is carefully to lever the lower end of the rigid pipe out of the push-fit connection on the pump. Ideally you will be replacing the pipe, too, because of probable corrosion (bottom row, middle pic), so at least you won't have to worry about damaging it with screwdriver blade. The pump, which can now be pulled out and down, was in a real mess—although annoyingly it's only the cover, not available separately, that is corroded. In order to extract pipe, which is now loose, raise the engine and replace the two securing nuts/studs; this will allow just enough space to wriggle it free from above. Best to slide new pipe in and connect to rubber hose now, while you can



REPLACE M97 BRAKE-BOOSTER PUMP



On the home straight now. Carefully scrape the outer face of cylinder head to remove any traces of corrosion that could prevent the pump from seating correctly, photograph at top left shows slot for the pump's driving peg. Screws supplied for the job were too short, so Sid cleaned up four he'd saved from another job, replicating the OE encapsulation with Loctite; correct new ones fitted later. Smear pump body – which comes with a new 'O'-ring – with a little light grease so it slides in more easily. Lower engine again so that you can connect rigid pipe, and then fit the upper two securing screws

be necessary in the first place ends up costing around £450 in parts alone. (With an arguably still perfectly serviceable pump ending up in the scrap bin.) And while the work is certainly not impossible for any competent DIYer, the inherent difficulties - and the still greater problems that might result if you get it wrong - mean that if you have someone else do the work you will be looking at a further bill for around three hours' labour. Call it probably £650 all told, including the dreaded VAT.

What follows, then, is intended both as a general guide for those who feel they have to take the DIY route, and for those who farm the job out an explanation of what you will be paying for. Perhaps even as a warning for every Gen 1 997 owner to get outside and, if it's not already too late, to spray the vacuum pump's cover with some suitable corrosion-inhibiting spray - before the engine's own oil starts to do the same job. Because once that happens, you have missed the boat. PW

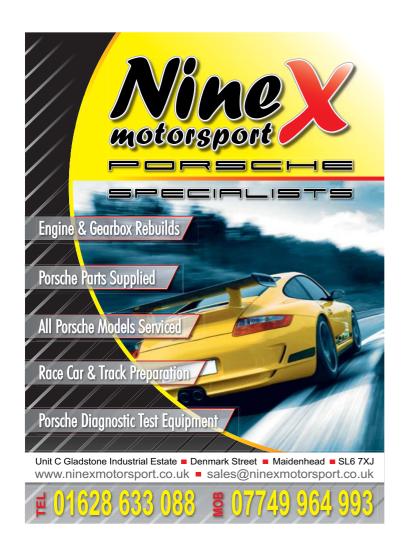
Pump screws are supposed to be tightened to 10-13Nm, but whether you'll be able to get a torque wrench on them – or will even have one that reads down to that level – is another matter. In practice, most of us would rely partly on natural limit of 1/4-inch-drive tools, and partly on experience. Don't risk over-tightening, anyway. Don't forget to reconnect temperature sensor. Last job is to clean off old oil to highlight any subsequent leaks, and then to spray new pump with preservative wax

IS YOUR PORSCHE'S VACUUM PUMP AT RISK?

The cars affected by this issue are the Generation 1 (ie 2004–2009) gg7 Carrera and Carrera 'S'. Both the contemporary g87-model Boxster and Cayman have and Carrera '5'. Both the contemporary 987-model Boxster and Cayman have exactly the same system as these two 911s, but in both of those applications the pump's position within the chassis appears better to protect it from the elements. The 997-model Turbo and GT3, too, employ a similar vacuum pump to actuate the brake booster, but in this case mounted at the rear end of the left-hand cylinder head (see the photograph below). Anecdotally these, too, seem less affected by corrosion, and are in any case quite a lot easier both to see (to check and/or periodically spray with corrosion inhibitor, in other words) and then to access for replacement. Good job, too: the price for one of those pumps (part number 997 107 022 72) is no less than £859.04 plus VAT – although fitting should be both quicker and, therefore, somewhat less expensive.









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THE TEAM

912/6 EL CHUCHO



ng's not finished but the inside of the car is better than it did. What lies ahead, though, are several weeks of hard work, finalising the electrics, brake and fuel lines, and installing the engine and gearbox. Will the little mongrel ever be drivable? Well, for once, I'm feeling optimistic that it will - but when?

CARRERA 3.4 TARGA



le have a little progress! Work on the Targa has commenced and I have managed to remove the rear trailing arms ready for some TLC. I will be fitting the trailing arms up with all new particular including the handbrake which has many little bits and pieces, but luckily all available from Car Parts 911. The build up will be fun!

944. 924S



ave in my hand - as the saying goes - a piece of paper.
is a new tax disc for the 924S, which means that the car now has a
valid MOT certificate, too! Full story
next month, but suffice it to say that,
after a surprisingly brief burst of
activity on the headlights, the wipers
and not least a sticking brake caliper,
it passed with flying colours. Result!



to be worth the wait, that's what I keep telling bit of 'mission creep' has set in with the 944. It was close to being finished when I decided that in my heart of hearts I knew that the clutch was on its last legs, so out it came and then, of course, it was apparent that the torque tube bearings needed doing, and then...

BOXSTER 3.2S



y of joys, the Boxster now stops. Properly. Without deous scraping noises. That's because it now has a full set of discs and pads, as supplied and fitted by Paragon - £550 for the front pair, £520 for the rear, just in case you need to sort out the stoppers on your own 986 Boxster.

EL CHUCHO

This month we turn our attention to the interior, fitting new carpets and installing a custom-made roll-bar. Then it's time to fit the 911R-style windows and rear brakes

lthough I always tend to think otherwise, quite a lot has happened to El Chucho over the last couple of months. I tend to think it's never going to get finished, but whenever I'm asked how the project is progressing, I find myself saying 'Pretty well - I've only got to...'

The 'only' encompasses fitting the engine and transmission, completing the wiring and plumbing the fuel system – quite a big 'only', I guess, but a lot further down the road to completion than I realise.

I've managed to sort out two major 'style statements' on the car recently – by that I mean little touches that help determine the car's character. I wanted a period 'hot-rod' feel for El Chucho, so a chunky rollover bar was a must. I also wanted a pair of functional 911R-style rear quarter windows. I have never understood why people fit the 911R windows with fake, filled-in louvres...

The roll-over bar is loosely based on the design of the early factory-supplied items very loosely. It was bent up for me by one of R-to-RSR's suppliers from heavy-gauge aluminium tubing. Yes, aluminium.

People tend to forget that this was used a lot in the past for roll bars (ever looked at a 917?) before eventually being outlawed by the FIA. But as I don't intend to compete in this car, I was after something that would add rigidity and look good at the same time. And, let's face it, nothing looks better than polished aluminium!

Installation required welding in some mounting pads at the base of the Bpillars, the rear brace bars picking up on the rear seat mounts, as per the factory cages. There is also a transverse 'harness bar', although I will probably be mounting the shoulder straps to evelets on the rear bulkhead. The end result looks fantastic.

Now that the roll-bar was ready, I could give some thought to the carpet. I had already bought a 'rear seat delete'

1966 912

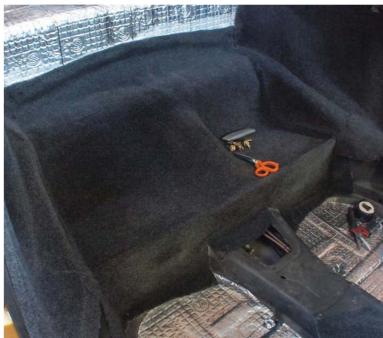
Mods/options: Six-cylinder engine conversion, etc.
Contact:

carpet kit from a wellknown US supplier and was looking forward to fitting it. Surely it would be a doddle? Wrong!

The 'one size fits all' carpet set proved to be a 'one size definitely doesn't fit all' carpet set. I think the problem is that the shape of the rear seat pressings differs between models, and the carpet set may have fitted a later 911, but it certainly didn't come close to fitting a SWB car.

This set me back to square one and I was left. scratching my head about what to do. It was while surfing the 'Net that I came across a reference to the lightweight carpets used in early race 911 race cars - that set me thinking. Many, it seems,







used a very lightweight felt-like material, closely resembling the grey lightweight carpeting sold to line the interiors of vans and campers.

A quick eBay search (oh, how I love eBay...) turned up just what I was after at a price I could afford. For under £60, I bought enough material to do the interior and, as it turns out, the front boot. And they supplied two tins of the stickiest spray adhesive I've ever seen.

The material is grey and very similar in tone to the original carpeting. It has the benefit of being easy to cut using a pair of sharp scissors, doesn't need binding and stretches easily so you can form it over any contour.

In for a penny, in for a pound, I attacked the interior without using any templates and was pretty satisfied with the results. It only took me a couple of days to do, too.

This material isn't hardwearing enough to use in place of floor mats, so I made templates for those and had a local trimmer make me a pair to match.

As a finishing hot-rod touch, I treated myself to a pair of Rennline's brushed and drilled aluminium floor boards.

Now the carpet was finished, I could refit the seats and I have to admit I like the overall look. I had also bought a set of Sabelt full harnesses (with MOT-compliant E-marking) partly because their black with yellow trim looked at home in El Chucho.

I had been intending to use a wood-rim Nardi steering wheel on the car but, now the rest of the interior had taken shape, it just wasn't going to look right. So I bit the bullet and bought a Momo Prototipo from - you guessed it eBay. It looks like it had only been fitted but never used and looks great.

I'd fought against using a Prototipo wheel as, well, they're so common! I wanted to be different but in the end I swallowed my pride and went with the flow. And I'm glad I did.

The rear quarter windows were supplied by R-to-RSR and are the proper 911R style, designed to be bonded in rather than coming with a flange to install with a rubber seal.

A friend in the USA who has these fitted lost one on a road trip when it blew out after driving along with a door window wound down. He fitted replacements using little

Above left: Interior looks a whole lot better now the carpeting is done. We used lightweight 'van liner' material

Above: Custom-made aluminium roll-over bar looks great!

Far left: We used some of the lightweight material to line the top of the dashboard, too Below left: Roll-bar is fitted by bolting to a pair of weld-in plates attatched to the inner sills Below: We've thrown away the old wood-rim wheel at last and fitted a Momo Prototipo









Above: Sabelt full harnesses match the seats perfectly.
They're E-marked, too, so are road-legal in the UK
Above right: 911R-style rear quarter windows are held in with two small tabs and then bonded round the edges with sealant

Below: View through the

Below right: Four-pot rear

system is like in practice

(missing) rear window shows the

general layout of the interior. It's minimalist and functional

calipers are now fitted and I can't

wait to see what the new braking

tabs, which I thought was a good idea.

Fitting them wasn't too tricky – I made a couple of little brackets out of stainless steel, which held the windows in at each end. Then we masked off the paintwork and used black sealant to bond round the edges of the windows, smoothing off the sealant with a wetted finger. It worked a treat.

The other main job has been to install the rear brakes and complete the brake lines. The new four-pot calipers are fantastic and, despite their size, fit comfortably behind the space-saver wheels (and

regular Fuchs rims, too). And, because they only use small-diameter pistons, they're designed to work with the regular 19mm master cylinder.

What these billet six-pot front and four-pot rear calipers allow you to do is run a much bigger pad without undue pedal travel or increased effort. I'm looking forward to seeing how they perform as they promise to be a great upgrade for any SWB early 911 or 912.

So, we now have an interior that's almost complete, quarter windows, and rear brakes sorted. What's next?

CONTACTS

R-to-RSR: www.r-to-rsr.com

Web Cam camshafts: www.webcamshafts.com

ARP fasteners: www.arp-bolts.com Bob Watson: www.canfordclassics.co.uk Wossner pistons: www.tsr-performance.com Pelican Parts: www.pelicanparts.com

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Jenvey throttle bodies: www.jenvey.co.uk

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Powerflex bushes: www.powerflex.co.uk

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THE REAR END STRIP DOWN

Whoever said taking these cars apart was easy? Maybe no-one did, I just imagined the whole thing! Where has that fading light gone at the end of that tunnel?

lthough the Targa has moved into its new home, very little work has gone on, but I have managed to get started on the rear end and it's finally apart.

It was a struggle, and some of the bolts looked like they had never been removed, especially the trailing arm bolt. It was goddamn tight. The solid brake lines were tough as corrosion had set in, and while trying to get them off they snapped with ease.

This wasn't the biggest problem with the trailing arms, though. That award went to the rear bearings, which hold the hub in. While holding the arms on the 10-tonne press, and adding a little heat now and then, they eventually started to move but it took a lot of persuading

and a lot of swearing, even when they gave up to the 10-tonnes of pressure. The next job was to unseize the corroded steel handbrake carriers from the aluminium arms. Steel loves being with alloy for years and years, it's like a marriage made in heaven... These took a bigger beating than Rocky Balboa. Once they were apart I felt I had conquered 25-years of corrosion and

celebrated with a beer.

I'm hoping that after all that work the rear arms, once all cleaned up and powder coated, will go back together nicely as I don't want to go through that again!

The inner arches will now go through the same process as the fronts. They will be stripped, sealed and painted so it all looks nice and clean - well, for now anyway!

911 3.4

Home town: Horley, Surrey Previous Porsches owned Car: 911 Carrera 3.2

Owned for: 6 years Hods/options: In total, ar too much to list here!



CONTACT

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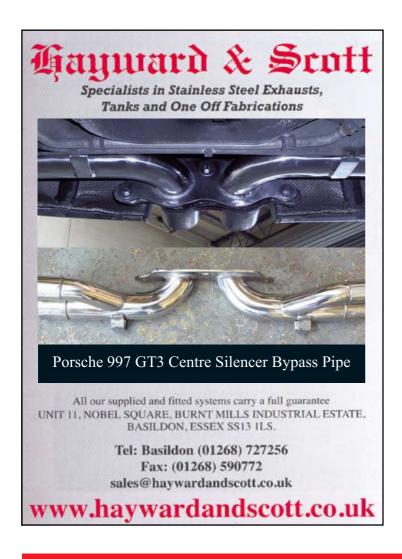
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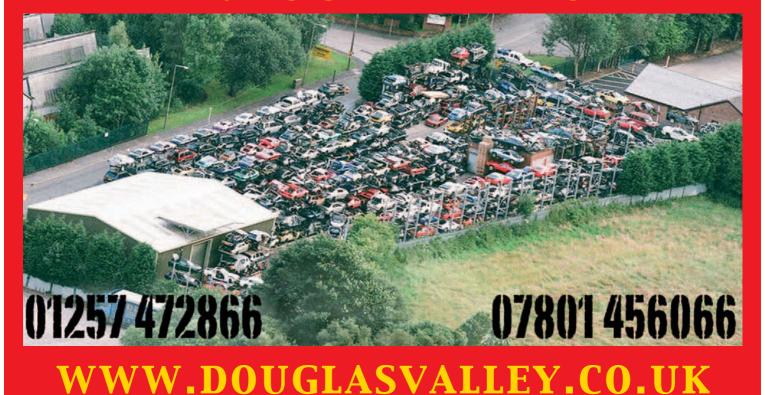
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MEET THE TEAM

Welcome to g11 & Porsche World's Q&A pages, edited and assembled by the magazine's technical man and incorrigible do-it-yourselfer, Chris Horton (right). It's much the same format as you would expect – you ask, and our experts answer – but we have recently added more detail (including part numbers and typical costs, and also contact phone numbers and websites where relevant), and not least as many illustrations as we can squeeze in. Please note that all prices quoted were to the best of our knowledge correct - for the UK market – at the time of writing, and for the sake of consistency generally exclude VAT, unless otherwise stated. We naturally do our very best to make sure that the information given is both accurate and useful, but unfortunately we can accept no responsibility for any effects arising from it.



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996, 986 FAN RESISTOR: THE PROPER WAY, AND THEN THE WAY EVERYONE ACTUALLY DOES IT

It appears that one of the two radiator fans in my 996-model 911 Carrera 4 will now run only at the lower of its two speed settings. Does this indicate a fault in the motor, or else somewhere in the no doubt horribly complicated switching and/or control system? The car is already on its second engine, after the first expired from the dreaded cylinder-bore scoring, so I am understandably nervous about the possibility of it overheating.

Michael Heaton

Chris Horton, 911 & Porsche World: This sounds like the result of a faulty so-called ballast resistor. It's quite a common problem in all of these water-cooled models.

The resistor is secured by a couple of spring-steel clips behind the lower part of the radiator's mounting frame, and can be reached from beneath the front of the car after you have taken off the relevant small section of the under-body shielding. Raise the car on a jack and support it safely on axle-stands to improve accessibility.

The new resistor 'pack' (part number 996 616 101 00, and costing £66.29 plus VAT from Porsche) comes with the necessary leads and plug/socket arrangement to connect it to the rest of the car's wiring harness, plus two flying leads (one green, one black) that require connection to the fan motor.

The correct way to do the job is to remove the fan and its mounting frame, but that is inevitably such a long-winded process that most people (many specialists included) simply splice the new resistor into the existing wiring, either by means of crimped connectors or, better still, by soldering. A good independent should charge for no more than around an hour's labour.

Remember, by the way, that if necessary when you are stuck in slow-moving traffic, for instance – you can generally overcome a faulty resistor, and temporarily get the fan(s) running at their higher speed to keep the engine sufficiently cool, by switching on the air-conditioning, ie to fully cold.



Resistor pack, as it is known, comes complete with wiring and integral connection, plus new clips - as you might hope for £70-plus a time



Removing the entire radiator fan to make the necessary connections is such a palaver, however, that most specialists simply cut and splice into the wiring here



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M96 AND M97 TIMING-CHAIN TENSIONERS RESEALED - FOR £2 IF YOU DO IT YOURSELF!

The underside of my 996 Carrera 2's engine is showing no evidence of what I am told are the usual M96 oil leaks, but there is a suspicious-looking dampness around the large hexagon-headed 'nut' near the left-hand front corner of the bolt-on sump pan.

It looks like this has a pretty straightforward sealing washer, which ought to be dead easy to replace, but despite a reasonable hands-on knowledge and experience of more mundane sports cars – and also owning the required trolley jack and axle-stands – I am reluctant to undo the device to try to fix this nascent leak without knowing precisely what it does. Can you advise, please?

Chris Horton, 911 & Porsche World: You are in luck. Not only were you correct to leave well alone without the required specialised knowledge, but by chance I recently photographed the relevant procedure while watching Sid Malik at Porsche-

Daniel Turner

Torque in Uxbridge, Middlesex, replace his 997 Carrera's vacuum pump for this month's how-to feature – see pages 108–111.
And since there wasn't room in that story for the resulting pictures, what better use for them than to illustrate here the answer to your question?

The device you refer to is one of the engine's two camshaft-chain tensioners. The other one is situated on the right-hand side of the engine, close to the screw-on oil-filter housing. Very simply put, both utilise pressurised engine oil to force a small piston against the nylon blade that bears against the relevant drive-chain.

Crucially, they must be removed only after the crankshaft has been set (and ideally locked with a special pin) at the so-called 'OT' position. This will place the camshafts such that there will be no tendency for the chains to jump over the sprockets when the former temporarily become fully 'relaxed'. You will also need to drain the engine oil and, if

removing the right-hand tensioner, perhaps to unbolt the adjacent pipework to allow better access for the required 32mm socket spanner.

Thereafter the work is easier still. Undo the nut (both require that same 32mm socket, and ideally a longish breaker bar for better leverage), being ready to resist the modest residual spring pressure as you rotate it the last few turns. Carefully ease the aluminium sealing washer away from the mating face with a sharp pick or the like. Rinse the tensioner in clean petrol or perhaps less flammable paraffin - or better still give it a good, long squirt with an aerosol can of brake cleaner.

Fit the new washer (part number 900 124 147 30, and just £1.12 the pair plus VAT from Porsche). Offer the tensioner back into its aperture and, while again applying modest pressure with your hand, rotate it until just enough of the thread has engaged to prevent the device dropping straight out again. Using the 32mm socket, torque

it to the required 80Nm.

Repeat on the other side – and if one is leaking, the other surely won't be far behind – take out the locking pin, if necessary, and you are just about done. Don't forget to refill the engine with the correct grade and quantity of oil – and when you restart it remember that it will naturally take a second or two for the oil pressure to rise sufficiently to reactivate the chain tensioners fully. So the valvegear may be momentarily a little noisier than you expected.

The two tensioners, as you will see, are 'handed', and must go back in the positions whence they came. Obviously the best way to avoid mixing them up is to remove and replace just one at a time. Otherwise, remember that the one with the visible external spring comes from the oil-filter side of the engine. (We try to avoid the use of 'left' and 'right' in this context because the engines in these water-cooled Porsches can, of course, be fitted either way round in the chassis.)



First task when removing tensioners (also required when replacing IMS bearing) is to rotate pulley to 'OT' position - indicated by alignment of cut-out with adjacent line - and then ideally to lock it with this special pin (top left). Drain oil, and then undo tensioner body with socket. Clean all components, inspect for damage, and fit new aluminium washer. Torque device to 80Nm. Same job on the tensioner on the oil-filter side of the engine (which can, of course, be mounted either way round depending on application) might entail removing external pipework for improved access, but principle is exactly the same. Note corrosion on washer: it's this that starts the leak

THE ITALIAN (SUNROOF) JOB: AND THEN 944S2 WEDDING CAR WAS READY FOR THE LONG RUN HOME

Some time ago you correctly diagnosed some worrying sloshing sounds from the rear of my 1990-model 944S2 as the result of blocked drain tubes, and a build-up of water in the cavity behind each rear wheel. I hope you will be as successful with this new question!

I shall shortly be lending the S2 to my new son-in-law, Dominic, for his and my daughter's honeymoon. They are planning to spend a week or so out here in Italy, and then to drive the car back to their home in London.

Unfortunately, however, we cannot open the sunroof (an essential summer extra in the absence of air-conditioning). After many years of trouble-free operation, one motor (on the lefthand side of the car) seems to be clicking away as usual when the 'up' button is pressed, but the other motor (on the right-hand side) is totally silent.

Is there any quick fix? WD-40 hasn't made any difference. I am told by those who know these things that it should be possible to disconnect the actuating

mechanism from the rear of the roof panel itself, and then lift that out completely. Is this correct? If so, will the happy couple be able to lock the roof down again, or might they need physically to tape it in place?

Any advice much appreciated – it's 32 degrees Celsius out here at the moment, and over 1300 miles back to London!

Simon Mitchell, Siena, Italy

Paul Stacey, Northway

Porsche: The 944's sunroof system has just one drive motor, with a built-in clutch. It's located inside the boot on the left-hand side, behind first the carpet and then a plastic panel just beside the battery. The motor drives a spiral-wound cable, which in turn either pulls or pushes two white nylon gears built in to gearboxes located just behind the lifting sunroof panel itself.

The most common fault is the stripping of the teeth on those nylon gears, causing one or other of the sunroof's lifting arms to fail to move – or sometimes even both of the arms together.

This is usually because the clutch drive somehow tightens itself over a long period of time, and there is no micro-switch to stop the motor when the roof is being completely removed.

You will have to remove the cover from behind the sunroof (it's held on by a number of self-tapping screws), and then either remove or carefully cut the headlining in order to gain access to the sunroof lifters. The covers for these are again held in by a number of screws. The nylon gears should simply pull out, along with the lifter arms.

Now you need to press the roof switch until the cable is in its normal closed position (with the roof removed the system won't work, so you will have to press the micro-switch at the front of the sunroof aperture, while operating the button). Refit the new gears and the old lifting arms, with the two arms sticking out approximately 2.5 teeth.

Next you need to remove the cap from the motor drive. Inside it you will see two 13mm nuts locked together. Loosen both off

completely; they are Loctited on. Screw the inner nut back up until it just starts to tighten, nip it up by just one flat only, and then lock it with the outer nut.

Sometimes the micro-switches on the motor mechanism can also play up and require adjustment, but this can be a minefield, and so they are probably best left alone unless you have some experience with the system.

Simon Mitchell: Thanks, Paul, you were absolutely spot-on! I had my mechanic out here follow your excellent instructions and, sure enough, the two gears were, indeed, completely stripped – as you can see in the accompanying photo. Two new ones – the equivalent of around £15 the pair plus VAT from Porsche – and a careful rebuild, and the roof is working perfectly again.

Also attached is a photo of my daughter and her new husband on their big day, and by way of contrast another shot showing how, only the day before, the S2 was doing duty as a builder's truck. Versatile machines, 944s!







Only the day before his daughter's wedding in Italy, expat Simon Mitchell's 944S2 was doing sterling duty out there, collecting building materials. Middle photo shows the stripped gear from the sunroof mechanism, as correctly diagnosed by Northway's Paul Stacey. Bride and groom (above) later drove the repaired car back to London

CAYENNE VIN GIVES UP ITS TYPE-NUMBER SECRETS

As a very long-standing follower of g11 & Porsche World I dimly recall that some time back in the mid-2000s you ran a feature in the magazine about the many Porsche type numbers that have been used over the years.

Is that right, and if so have you ever updated the information in light of more recent releases from the company? Either way, can you tell me, please, what numbers - or other designations - have been used for the so far three iterations of the Cayenne? Frank Muscroft

Chris Horton, 911 & Porsche World: You are correct. In fact, we ran just such a guide, in two feature-length parts, in the January and February 2001 editions – and thereby pre-dating the introduction of the Cayenne by quite some margin. Needless to say, it seems like only yesterday.

The Cayenne, as far as we can tell from published information, and also by 'disassembling' its VIN, or Vehicle Identification Number, bore the type number gPA when it was launched in 2002 – as a 2003 model, of course.

The second-generation cars, launched in 2007, carried essentially the same designation, with a separate code AL1 on the Vehicle Identification Label, or VIL. See the accompanying photo of the VIL and VIN from a 2008-model Cayenne GTS (right).

The current model, on sale since 2011, has the type code 92A. We have, though, seen the numbers 955, 957 and 958 used chronologically in this context, and no doubt these will eventually come to serve as a





2008 Cayenne's VIN - stamped into cargo-space floorpan - shows type number, like that of first-generation cars, to be 9PA; VIL (left) shows additional AL1 code

reasonably precise way of establishing any given Cayenne's overall type. Unfortunately we can no longer

Unfortunately we can no longer supply back copies of the two issues of the magazine containing that

original type-number guide, but photocopies are available, for a modest fee, from our editorial office in Surrey. Please call 01883 731150, or go to www.chpltd.com/shop.

AIR-COOLED 911: RUSTY KIDNEY BOWLS BEST TACKLED WITH EXPERT KEYHOLE SURGERY

My g11 Carrera 3.2 is showing signs of corrosion in the lower rear corner of the left-hand door aperture, and also in what I am told is the adjacent kidney bowl. What is meant by this term, and what is likely to be the best way of dealing with the situation?

Paul Stanley

Chris Horton: The air-cooled 911's so-called kidney bowl is a pressing welded to the base of the inner and so normally hidden part of the 'B'-post, at the rear end of the inner sill. Its purpose is to add strength to this vital area, and its nickname comes from the fact that it looks like the bowls used during surgical procedures for clinical waste – and themselves thus named because of their resemblance to the shape of a human kidney.

Only 911s up to and including the early Carrera 3.2 have true 'kidney bowls', however. In later cars the stiffener is a larger and roughly 'L'-shaped pressing, which as a result extends further up the door pillar. The photos bottom right show the main differences between them, although it is important to note that here the later (Dansk) repair panel has had a section cut out of it to provide the small section needed to effect a particular repair.

That repair, part of which I recently watched being done at independent specialist Auto Umbau (01525 861182; classicporscherepairs.co.uk), was similar in scope to what is most likely needed on your car. In all cases the underlying cause of the problem, not entirely surprisingly, is a build-up of mud in this hard-to-reach area. It is also exacerbated by the inherent inability of the factory-applied underbody sealant, sprayed on after construction of the body shell, to reach all of the necessary nooks and crannies.

Crucially, Auto Umbau proprietor Robin McKenzie takes a softlysoftly approach when he tackles this kind of job, first cutting a small 'inspection panel' from the relevant part of the door aperture. This enables him to see clearly what is going on inside, and thus to decide how best to expose the real problem areas, with minimal disturbance to the exterior sheet metal and paintwork.

To begin with this one didn't look very good at all and, with evidence of further pinholing in the outer sill beneath the rear end of the door, Robin cut out the section shown in the photo immediately below. (The shot next to it shows what the same piece looked like from the inside.)

That, in turn, revealed that the major damage to this car's kidney bowl was confined to the upper, forward surface, where mud had been accumulating for years (and which, to be fair, is virtually impossible to wash out, such is the tiny gap between stiffener and outer skin), and by precisely cutting the required piece out of that Dansk panel, to match the good edge he had obtained on the car, Robin was able to buttweld it into position to create an effectively seamless repair.

All that remained was to rebuild the exterior panelwork with another section cut from a scrap donor vehicle – easy for a man with his demonstrable skill –

and then to have the finished surfaces painted and then protected with industrial-grade rust-preventing cavity wax.

Total cost of the job in this instance was around £1500 plus VAT, but with cars of this nature rising in value all the time that can only be money well spent. Have a chat with Robin if you would like him to quote on your car – he's passionate about doing only the very best job possible.

For more about Dansk's Porsche repair panels (and also its exhaust systems) go to www.jpgroup.dk for a downloadable catalogue.

911's 'kidney bowl' is hidden inside the lower rear part of the door aperture; prudent repairers will make exploratory incision(s) to avoid disturbing more original metalwork than absolutely necessary - but usually the base of the wing will have to come off, too. Note previously unseen pinholes in this one. With all rust cut back to good metal, repair panels can either be fabricated from scratch or, better still, themselves cut from proprietary items and then butt-welded in place. Only 911s up to early 3.2 have true kidney bowls, though: in later cars (and 964/993) the 'L'shaped stiffener extends quite a lot further up the inside of the door pillar













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DETAILING SCIENCE

PART ONE: CORRECT WASH PROCEDURE (TIME REQUIRED 2HRS)

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Over the coming months we will be covering everything from plastic headlight restoration to leather repair. If your Porsche has a specific aesthetic malady, send photos and a description to porscheworld@chpltd.com

ver the next twelve months we will be running a series of articles covering the art of car detailing, revealing some of the secrets that surround this esoteric world of advanced car care. As a term, 'detailing' is yet another Americanism that has woven its way into the UK as an automotive subculture, where concours is king and mirror-like gloss is de rigeuer. To help us we have commissioned Professional Valeters and Detailers, the UK's trade association for car care experts, and their highly skilled members to show us the ropes.

In this first article Rich March, owner of Classic Details in Gloucestershire (www.classicdetails.co.uk), demonstrates how to wash a car safely and correctly. The benefactor is a first gen GT3 with nearly 90,000 miles under its wheels, belonging to g11&PW snapper Antony Fraser. The g96 will benefit from the full detailing Monty in subsequent articles.

Having received a recent wash, the silver GT3 appeared to be fairly clean as it rumbled into sight: but to a detailer's eye it may as well have been plastered in mud and grime. The first step was to pre-wash the car, where as much detritus is removed as possible without actually touching the car, thus reducing the chances of adding swirl marks. In this instance, Rich used a correctly diluted Citrus Pre-Wash solution made by ValetPro, spraying it liberally on the lower portions of the car, into panel gaps, grilles and door shuts and giving it time to loosen the dirt, before rinsing it off thoroughly at high pressure.

Despite some claims, sponges, hose brushes and chamois leathers are not only obsolete but actively

despised by detailers, who spend a lot of their lives correcting the damage caused by such utensils. For example, a sponge may take the dirt off, but it holds it between the sponge and the paint work, acting like sand paper and adding swirl marks. For the home user, a simple chenille mitt is a far safer way to hand-wash your car, while polymer mitts are a marginally more expensive alternative. For professionals, the real wool mitt is usually favoured, despite sometimes costing up to £20 each. You will notice that a car is normally dirtier at the bottom than it is at the top, and this is why any professional will always start at the top and work downwards, in layers, panel by panel to minimise the amount of contamination that could be dragged up from the lower areas.

You will also find detailers using three buckets to wash a car, often much larger, 20-litre receptacles with plastic grids in the bottom. One is used for clean water and shampoo, referred to as the 'wash bucket', another with just water for rinsing the wash mitt, the 'rinse' bucket, and one for the wheels and really greasy bits. The grids in the bottom are designed to trap dirt particles so they don't re-attach themselves to the mitt.

Once the vehicle has been hand washed and rinsed (Rich prefers a low-pressure rinse as it helps water flow off the car instead of misting), specialist micro-fibre drying towels are used to stop water marks, which would appear if left to dry naturally. These are designed to be highly absorbent, sucking in up to eight times their own weight in water. In this

instance Rich is using a particularly large one. In the constant battle to avoid swirl marks, the towels are simply placed on the damp panels and patted, as opposed to wiping. This is a more involved process, but the end results make it a worthwhile investment.

The process covered thus far would perhaps take two hours, in stark contrast to the five minutes a road-side hand wash would take, but even at this point a detailer hasn't even warmed-up - it is the automotive equivalent to turning the ignition and letting the fuel pump build pressure. Next month Rich will show us the decontamination process, turning Antony's GT₃ from 'not dirty' to 'trulv clean'. PW

EQUIPMENT LIST

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996 GT3 RS BUYERS' GUIDE

THE ROAD RACER

The 996 GT3 RS wears it badge proudly as a proper Porsche road racer. With prices on the up, now is the time to buy

SPECIFICATION

PORSCHE 996 GT3 RS



hile the 996 GT3 is a pretty impressive compromise between trackday and road car, the 996 GT3 RS was a real Porsche race car that you could buy from your OPC.

Launched at the Frankfurt show in September 2003, the GT3 RS was a homologation special designed to compete in international GT racing. Just 200 of them needed to be built to satisfy FIA regs that it was a real 'production' car, but in reality far more than this were sold.

The drivetrain shared the same 'Mezger' engine as the GT3, but the RS reputedly came with a bit extra and more torque.

And if you thought the basic GT3 was spartan, the RS version came with even fewer frills – it was only ever meant to be a racer in thin disguise. Nomex covered seats and a fire extinguisher should set the tone, and weighing 50kg less than the second generation GT3 the RS makes for an extremely rapid machine. It's also going up rapidly in value thanks to its RS badge and relative rarity.

PRODUCTION AND MODELS

The 996 GT3 was always a pretty exclusive car, and was really only ever intended to be a bridge between 'ordinary' road cars and true racers. The road legal GT3

RS was primarily built to homologate the GT₃ RSR race car. It is not to be confused with the GT₃ RS racer of 2001, which was a development of the earlier 996 GT₃ R. Confused? Don't be... The chances of you coming across one of the previous RSs at your local specialists are slim to, frankly, remote.

Although the original plan was to build just 200 cars, there seems little doubt that considerably more were sold. 'Unofficial' sources put the figure at 686, of which 113 reputedly came to the UK with RHD.

Of the two colour schemes offered, around two-thirds of GT₃ RSs came in white-with-red, making the white-with-blue

example shown here doubly desirable. Production ended in 2005.

STYLING AND BODYWORK

That the GT₃ RS gives more than a nod to the styling of the classic 2.7 Carrera RS is no coincidence. This, too, was a limited run homologation model, although the available colour choices are rather more limited, but that said for most the classic colour combo for a 2.7 RS will always be white/red or white/blue.

The styling is altogether more aggressive, with lowered suspension and a rear spoiler, that even by today's Porsche road racer standards is

996 GT3 RS BUYERS' GUIDE



impressive. Carbon fibre was used for the bonnet and luggage bay liner, while more bare carbon graced the mirrors and rear wing. The rear window was lightweight acrylic, too, flexing slightly as you shut the door.

INTERIOR

One look at at the interior will leave you in little doubt as to the intended purpose of the GT₃ RS. The full factory-fitted roll cage, the Nomex-covered bucket seats and contrasting red or blue seat belts all point to a life on the track. Air con, sound system and air bags were optional. This is weight saving taken seriously.

The seats are thinly padded, and manually adjustable. On a long journey your backside will go to sleep, but on a track, they will come into their own. There's no back seat, but then access is all but impossible thanks to the cage anyway. The front section of the cage is removable, and Porsche supplied blanking plugs to conceal fitting points.

ENGINE

The GT₃ RS shares the same basic normally aspirated engine as the GT3, using the Mg6/79 3.6-litre unit, also known as the 'Mezger' engine after its designer, Hans Mezger.

It is an amalgamation of air and water-cooled using, as it, does the cylinders, heads and valve train of the Mg6 engine used in the mainstream 996-series, but combined with the bottom end of the GT1 race car engine, which was a derivation of the aircooled motor from the 993model GT2 and the earlier 964 series 911s.

It's all pretty exotic internally, with its GT1 crank and titanium con rods and lightweight forged pistons, all backed up by redesigned cylinder heads, fuel

injection and Varioram systems. The RS also shares the single mass flywheel with the Club Sport version of the 996 GT3.

Official figures show an indentical power output for the two models - 381bhp at 7300rpm - but tests on Porsche's own dynos have shown a true figure to be closer to 400bhp for the GT3 RS. Torque output is said to be 284lb ft at 5000rpm. The rev limter is set at a lofty 8200rpm.

TRANSMISSION

The six-speed manual transmission is fitted with a limited-slip differential assembly as standard (it was an option on

The driveline is pretty damned rugged, as you might expect, considering its intended useage. But as we will come to, there are known problems with the LSD. The shift is precise - wonderfully so - encouraging you to make full use of the 'box (sadly manual shifting is no more on the current 991 GT3). But be warned: the clutch is heavy.

SUSPENSION AND **BRAKES**

Along with the standard GT3, the RS uses the bodyshell from the all-wheel-drive Carrera 4, as it is torsionally better suited to the extra stresses that result from using stiff suspension settings.

All suspension components are fully upgraded and fully adjustable, and part of the fun of owning a car like the GT3 RS is being able to adjust ride height and camber angles etc. Indeed factory settings are fairly conservative, and the first thing that most owners undertake is a front geometry change to give the RS a better turn in to corners. Suspension is, as you would expect, pretty stiff on the road.

WHAT TO PAY

It's getting on for three years since we last looked at the 996 GT3 RS and it's fair to say that if you'd bought back then, you'd be chuckling to yourself right now. Prices have more or less doubled in that time, which is the RS effect and a sign of the 996 GT3 RS's rarity - just 113 came to the UK. What should you pay? Well, realistically somewhere beyond £100,000. In fact lets not be shy here, some way beyond £100,000. Few 996 GT3 RSs have massive mileage on them. A car with, say, 20,000 on the clock is probably going to retail at £120,000. Last time we looked at prices, in early 2012, a delivery mileage GT3 RS was being sold for £125,000 with a dealer.

Ultra-low mileage cars now are likely to be £150,000+ or POA. What does all this mean? Well it means that the 996 GT3 is an absolute bargain at £50,000 for good useable cars, and the RS is now a collectors item.

Big 350mm-diameter discs and six-pot calipers mean the GT3 RS had brakes to match its performance. Optional were PCCB ceramic brakes. They're more than you would ever need on the road and if you do find a car with them fitted, it's debatable whether they add anything more to the value and they are extremely expensive to replace, so much so that many owners chose to retrofit the standard system, relegating the PCCB set up to the garage shelf.

WHEELS AND TYRES

The 18in wheels and tyres might have seemed big back in 2004, but these days they're pretty

weedy. Having said that, the rears at 11in wide still put a lot of rubber on the road.

To accentuate the GT3's hardcore track credentials tyres were exclusively Michelin's Pilot Cup Sport, which was a semi slick tyre for the road, with a preference for grip over anything else.

WHAT TO LOOK **OUT FOR**

As a thinly disguised race car for the road, many GT3 RSs will have seen track action, but most will have been scrupulously cared for and maintaned - it's that sort of car. That said, if you're checking one out track damage has to be

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WHAT THE PRESS SAID

Is it better than a 993 RS? No, not quite. But being a close second best to the finest 911 ever – at a time when legislation makes this kind of exercise infinitely more difficult than it was in 1995 - is still a mighty achievement.

The RS looks set to be the most exciting g11 yet. But with just 200 being sold worldwide we suspect that many will be snapped up by collectors and put into storage as a long-term investment, with their owners no doubt hoping that this new classic will perform financially as well as the 1973 car.

911 & Porsche World, Aug 2003

What an absorbing, entertaining and hugely effective car the RS is. You can feel the edge of grip, front and rear, and play them off against each other in the tighter bends.

at the forefront of your mind. Look for a missing front splitter - they tend to disappear the moment a GT3 hits the grass. Likewise look for underside

damage. The GT₃ RS is low slung and it can get hooked on kerbs.

Cars that have seen regular track use can have badly stonechipped front ends and windscreens, although any dealer worth its reputation will repaint a front end as a matter of course, particularly with GT3 RS values as they are.

The interior can take a bit of a hammering. It's difficult not to boot the roll cage as you're clambering in and out, likewise the plastic sill covers. The seats, too, get worn on the deep, gripping bolsters as you slide in and out of them.

The GT₃ RS is pretty bullet proof mechanically, but the diff unit is a known weak point. The friction plates can wear fast, leading to a costly repair bill.

We'd recommend you have a full PPI carried out on any GT3 RS, with particular attention paid to checking for evidence of what are referred to as Type 1 or Type 2 over-revving. This will show up in a diagnostic check.

Type 1 over-revving is nothing more than evidence of the car being taken to the rev-limter, which should protect the engine from any damage, but frequent journeys to the redline might suggest a lack of mechanical empathy. Type 2 over-revving is rather more serious, suggesting an over rev caused by missing a gear coming down the 'box, which in the heat of a bit of track action is more than possible, and there's nothing the rev-limiter can do. That, of course, can lead to big bills and maybe an indication as to how a car has been driven and looked after.

The GT₃ RS originally wore Michelin Pilot Sport tyres, which were designed for the GT3 and

are what the car works best with. Of course other track day orientated rubber is available from the likes of Toyo and Kumho, but we'd be surprised to see anything other than Michelins fitted.

THE DRIVING **EXPERIENCE**

The 996 GT3 RS is the antidote to the current generation 991 GT3. If electronics and PDK gearboxes are not your thing, and you prefer a more 'analogue' approach to the current 'Playstation' generation of cars, then it's the car for you.

There's no electronic nannying, the steering is corrupted only by a hydraulic rack, the clutch is heavy and the gearbox is operated via stiffened cables. It transmits every nuance of the road and the engine chatters and chunters, and then howls as it works for its living.

Clamped into the bucket seat, with the roll cage wrapped around the interior, you really are living the road racer dream. True it's a pain in traffic, but on the right road it's sheer driving nirvana and surprisngly supple and compliant on even a bumpy B road, which is more than can be said for some subsequent GT₃ RSs. And on the track? Take it to Spa or the Ring and hear the penny drop - kerching!

Values may be soaring, but this is a car that deserves to be used. In fact it should be the law. PW

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'I BOUGHT ONE **Russell Grinham**

I've been watching prices for classic Porsches going through the roof for some time now, but I never imagined the same thing would happen with the newer cars, but then I guess that anything with an RS badge is going to have some value, and will be dragged up behind the air-cooled RS models. Well that's certainly what seems to have happened with the 996 GT3 RS. I wasn't looking for an investement when I bought mine six years ago. I was just looking for a Porsche in the mould of the old road racers. A car that I could enjoy on track, but wouldn't need to trailer backwards and forwards. The GT3 fitted the bill perfectly and at the time RS prices weren't so different from standard

GT3 prices, so I thought 'why not?'
I picked my car up from a specialist dealer for £60,000 with 18,000 miles, and since then I've only put another 7000-miles on it. It's not so much that I'm protecting my investment, more that it's very much a third car, and because I live in London it just doesn't get much use unless I'm off to a trackday. Of course, with values going the

way that they are, I'm now aware of its mileage and condition, which is immaculate and standard. I'm not going to stop using it on track, but I will probably now only do two or three events a year, and I'll make sure it's insured too. Quite how long I will keep that up for is a diferent matter, but it would be a shame to see cars like this become too valuable to use.

In terms of ownership it's been absolutely 100% reliable and I'm reassured that it's got the 'Mezger' engine, with its bullet proof reliability. It did come with ceramic brakes but, like many, I've swapped them for steel discs. I've had the geometry tweaked for a slightly keener turn in on track. The factory settings seem

to be very 'safe?'
Overall, though, it's an absolute thrill
to drive. I just wish it was just a little
more 'under the radar' so to speak!



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928

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944 S2 CABRIOLET, stunning car that drives as good as it looks, finished in white with blue leather and blue hood complete with tonneau cover, 159K miles, £5995, call to make offers. Tel: 07887 931632. Email: anakin.skywalker@hotmail.co.uk (Berkshire). P1014/001

944 LUX, full history, owned for 22 years, 3 owners, outstanding original condition, suit car collection or enthusiast, 74K, just serviced, taxed, MoT, drives perfect, any inspection welcome, £5100. Tel: 07793 874664. Email: philipdell@hotmail.co.uk (London). P1014/028

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BOXSTER 3.2 S (2005), mint condition, convertible, unmarked alloys, drives beautifully, full Porsche service history, metallic black with black leather. Chrono Sport option, heated seats, a/c, sat nav. electric windows. Bose sound system, 43,300 miles, taxed till October, MoT till October, £14,250. Tel: 07836 564030 or 01423 359690. Email: steve@workhaus.co.uk (N.Yorks). P1014/022



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CAYMAN

Parts specialists for Cayman

'07 CAYMAN 2.7, 5 speed manual, Guards Red, FSH, 65,000 miles, new clutch and flywheel, new brakes and suspension, must sell, nice condition, call for full details, £13,250. Tel: 01929 761526. Email: chrisp1973@ hotmail.co.uk (Dorset). P1014/029

WITH 911 & PORSCHE WORLD'S CONSULTANT EDITOR, CHRIS HORTON

911 CARRERA (996) ■ 2002/51 ■ 85,877 MILES ■ £15,000

ften the hardest parts to write of these Tried & Tested stories are the preamble and then the conclusion; the argument that will prove the inescapable logic of the facts packed in between them. Here, then, I shall start and finish with this alone: if you are in the market for a classic 996, don't let this beauty pass you by.

Classic? Well, yes, actually - certainly by at least one dictionary definition of the term. The car is a 'facelift' 911 Carrera 2; the post-2001 model with so-called teardrop headlights, clear (as opposed to orange) indicators, and not least the glovebox denied the earlier iterations. Thus the engine is the 3.6-litre, 320bhp version of the Mg6 flat-six that, even if not quite a paragon of unblemished reliability, certainly has a rather better reputation than the similar unit in the 997 models that eventually followed. Transmission, by the same token, is the standard sixspeed manual, driving the rear wheels only. All nice and simple, then - and in practice undeniably highly effective.

But that is where this 996's essential ordinariness comes to an end. Paint, for instance, is not the commonor-garden Arctic Silver, but Meridian Silver: just the faintest hint of purple, and I think stunning in the sunshine. Wheels - recently refurbished - are GT3-style, 18-inch split-rims, with newish Bridgestone S-02 tyres front and rear. Other options include the not particularly rare sunroof, but also ruffled (classic black) leather, full electric seats – with memory - and the desirable bi-xenon headlights. The car has also been retro-fitted with both a genuine Porsche cruise-control (of absolutely no interest to me, but perfect for those who enjoy such devices), and what we are told is £1000 worth of Parrot touch-screen head unit, with sat-nav, Bluetooth - for hands-free phone connectivity and Android; a complete high-quality loudspeaker upgrade, too, apparently. There is also Porsche's own on-board computer, and not least a 'coloured' (silver, in other words) centre console, gear knob and handbrake.

Standard fixtures and fittings include air-conditioning (which pumps out a veritable gale of cold air; both of the condensers were replaced quite recently, and the system naturally recharged), overmats both front and rear, a black Alcantara headlining, the aforementioned opening glovebox, and sill-mounted switches for the two lid release mechanisms. There are two good keys and, up front in the

luggage compartment, a fairly new Exide battery.

Little to complain about on the condition front, either. The front apron is modestly stone-chipped – and part of the lower ducting appears to be secured with cable-ties; they would be my first job if I bought the car. There is the usual abrasion on the wheelarch edges, behind the front wheels, and some light scuffing on both the right-hand kickplate and the sill below it. But the body sides and under-floor areas are all good, and at the rear there are no signs of oil or coolant leaks. (A recent clutch and flywheel replacement included both an intermediate-shaft bearing and seal, and a main crankshaft oil seal.) As in many a now ageing 996 and 986 Boxster the headlight covers are disappointingly opaque, but those should have been polished clear again by the time you read this. Wheel bolts are predictably scruffy, but the wheels themselves, thanks to that recent refurb, are generally very good, indeed; just a couple of minor marks on both front rims. The discs and pads visible through them look - and are - nearly new.

Inside, the cabin is generally very good to excellent beneath a layer of summer dust - with a nice patina on the front seats (and the rears appear unused). The top of the gear knob is rather worn and scratched, but the steering wheel is clean and tidy, and the ashtray as new. Up front, the boot space is reasonably clean (although I notice a missing retaining screw from the left-hand end of the plenum-chamber cover), and the engine compartment shows signs of nothing more than good, honest toil.

The car drives beautifully. The engine pulls predictably strongly, with a lovely sporty rasp from the exhaust, and the clutch is as smooth and progressive as you would expect of new components. No rattles or clonks from beneath - again, the front suspension has recently been overhauled, with new coffin arms, drop links and top mounts - and the similarly new brakes pull straight and true. There is quite a lot of road noise on rough surfaces, but that is almost certainly down to the tyres.

The history file shows 10 stamps in the book – two from Porsche Centres, eight from reputable independents and the next attention will be due this coming October. Road tax runs to the end of September, but the car will come with a brand-new MOT certificate. Will you find a better-specified and better-preserved mainstream 996? Personally, I doubt it - and certainly not at this price. PW

CHECKLIST

Background: A seemingly quite ordinary 996 C2, but fitted with some unusual and worthwhile extras, and benefiting from a fair amount of recent overhaul work by the current vendor. including a clutch, flywheel, IMS bearing, and rear main seal. New air-con condensers, as well. Seven previous owners, a good history, and will come with a full MOT - a warranty, too

Where is it?

Orchard Industrial Estate, Toddington, Gloucestershire GL54 5EB: tel: 01242 620180: e-mail: info@cotswoldporsche specialists.co.uk For: All the usual stuff, really: specification, condition, price, history, provenance. Recent overhauls have targeted the most common problem areas after the engine - and that, even at 85K miles, appears hale and hearty enough to cover at least the same again

Against: Meridian Silver might

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be a bit 'girly' for some, and the GT3-style split-rim wheels will need regular cleaning to keep them looking as good as they do now. And one wonders how long it might be before the headlight covers need further polishing - or replacement Verdict: As in any modern 911, there remains the thorny question of the engine's likely lifespan, but given this car's many other attributes, and not least its price, we would be happy to take a chance on that





Value at a glance

Condition Price Performance Overall

ノノノノノ

✓ Poor ✓✓ OK ✓✓✓ Fair ✓✓✓ Very good ✓✓✓✓ Excellent

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964 PARTS, air box complete with K&N filter and air metering device, £100; pair of rear seat belts, £40; rear wiper assembly including motor, arm and blade, £150. Tel: 01325 377125. Email: peter.herbert@btinternet.com (North Yorkshire). P1014/005

PORSCHE 914 PARTS, very good dash and lower dash, \$150; valance, \$125; brain, \$25; doors right, \$35, left, \$35; brakes, shocks with spring, rear light misc, all cheap. Tel: 802-349-7375. Email: greenamyre@myfairpoint.net (USA), P1014/006

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MISCELLANEOUS



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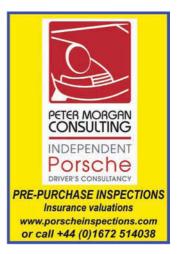
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no.220 July 2012 and no.236 November 2013, and Classic Porsche issue no.1 summer 2010. Email: John, samsonnz@yahoo.co.nz.

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WITH 911 & PORSCHE WORLD'S CONSULTANT EDITOR, CHRIS HORTON

CAYMAN 'S' (987) ■ 2006/55 ■ 105,196 MILES ■ £11,000

ileage has always been the most easily assimilated single factor in assessing any given car's remaining lifespan, and thus its value. But our traditional suspicion of odometer readings over 100,000 is today rather like the old-fashioned notion that we humans are universally past it at 50, or 60 - or any other purely arbitrary figure. It just depends, as the saying goes. Personally, and assuming that its condition and performance and not least service history match the price, I would far rather buy a car that has been driven far and fast than one that has either sat around for days or weeks on end or, worse still, has racked up many fewer digits on the school or station run.

This so far three-owner Cayman 'S', then, ticks all the boxes for me. It is not perfect - whatever that actually means. Its remaining working life is necessarily 105,196 miles shorter now than it was in January 2006. And it is patently not the 911 which for some remains the only Porsche even to consider owning. But it looks great, it drives beautifully, it has all the right equipment, and at £11,000 is, frankly, a bit of a bargain. And whatever may be the patchy reputation of Porsche's Mg7 engine, you don't hear of too many Cayman or Boxster motors failing in the way seemingly so typical of contemporary Carreras. I would be happy to have it parked on my driveway when I wasn't pushing the mileage to 200,000 or beyond.

Body colour, as you can see, is Seal Grey, and no less obvious - or attractive - are the 'lobster claw' 19-inch Carrera 'S' wheels. As a Cayman 'S' the car has the standard 295bhp, 3.4-litre flat-six, and here the optional five-speed Tiptronic 'S' automatic transmission that, while spurned by some, offers an excellent compromise between performance and practicality, especially for busy urban traffic. Porsche claimed o-62mph in 5.4 seconds and a maximum of 171mph for the manual model when new, and even now this one won't be too far behind. Inside, there is black leather (the seats have manual fore-and-aft adjustment, but electric backrests), air-conditioning, PCM and sat-nay, the standard on-board computer, PSM and PASM, Park Assist, and not least a three-spoke steering wheel. There is no Sport Chrono (which is fine by me), but the sound system benefits from the sought-after Bose upgrade. Headlights, I believe, are the usefully bright

bi-xenon Litronics, and so come with washers, as well.

Condition throughout ranges from good to very good, particularly in light of the mileage; the car has plainly benefited from busy but conscientious keepers. There is the usual collection of minor blemishes on the front apron, and no less typically the lower lip spoiler is abraded, but there is no evidence of even minor underbody damage. (No leaves jammed in the air-conditioning condensers, either, and both are reassuringly clean and dry. Likewise the underside of the power unit is bone-dry.) The front end of each sill has the not unexpected gravel rash, too. Just a little disappointingly the clear protective tape at the rear end of the left-hand sill is coming adrift, where it meets the wheelarch, and there are signs here of a minor scrape, but surely nothing that couldn't be rectified easily enough. The wheel bolts are the usual rusty horrors, but the rims themselves are excellent, and reveal new-looking brake discs and reassuringly thick friction pads. Tyres are Pirelli P Zero Rosso and Michelin Pilot Sport at front and rear, respectively - the latter nearing the end of their lives.

The interior could pass for one with half the mileage. There's the usual moderate scuffing on the black-plastic kickplates over the sills, especially on the driver's side, and the lettering on the cabin-temperature and fan-speed switches is unusually worn, but the seats and fascia are barely marked, and the carpets protected by overmats. Same story in the rear luggage compartment, with only a few faint scratches on the metal trim next to the engineoil and coolant fillers - and no evidence of those needing frequent attention. Up front, there's a pack of Mobil 1 oil in the cubbyhole provided, and a fairly new Bosch battery.

Performance, as I've suggested - and insofar as you can tell in the vicinity of a built-up area like Uxbridge - is brisk, suggesting the car to be as good mechanically as it is cosmetically, and it coped uncomplainingly with idling for a prolonged period while I shot my photos. Likewise all the other key systems - brakes, suspension and steering. So it's good to go, basically - far and fast. The car is MOTtested to mid-November, and road-taxed until the end of next April. The service book appears to be a thus far blank duplicate, but the history file contains a thick (but not suspiciously so) sheaf of invoices, via which Porsche-Torque proprietor Sid Malik will have the former officially filled in and stamped by Porsche. Sounds good to me. PW

CHECKLIST

Background: A fairly run-ofthe-mill and now eight-year-old 3.4-litre Cayman 'S' in Seal Grey with a black leather interior. Has Tiptropic 'S' automatic transmission, plus a number of other sensibly chosen options. Three previous owners, and a good service history - but see also end of main text. Taxed and tested. drives well, and in short belies its age with ease

Where is it?

Porsche Torque Ltd is at Unit C2, Arun Buildings, Arundel Road, Uxbridge, Middlesex UB8 2RP; tel: 01895 814446;

www.porsche-torque.co.uk For: It's a Cayman, for a start and an 'S' model to boot. So much more exclusive than a 997-model Carrera - and anecdotally, at least - so much more reliable, too. Great colour combination, good options and service history, and ready to be used and enjoyed right now **Against:** Tiptronic automatic

won't appeal to everyone, and likewise the mileage - although that's still an average of less than 12.5K per annum. Some very minor body blemishes, too - but nothing that wouldn't be fairly easily fixable

Verdict: You can never say for sure how long an M97 engine might run before needing major attention, but we'd argue that this one, having bettered 100K, could easily do the same again given correct maintenance. And, given both the price and specification, it's well worth taking a chance to find out





Value at a glance

Condition Price Performance Overall

ノノノノノ

✓ Poor ✓✓ OK ✓✓✓ Fair ✓✓✓✓ Very good ✓✓✓✓✓ Excellent

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ADVERT INDEX

CLIENT	Page	FVD	2	Numeric Racing	92	South Coast Classic Car Storage 120
Aase Sales	83	GT-Racing	106	Ohlins (Design 911)	27	Specialised Covers 113
Addspeed Performance	40	H&R Suspension (Euro Car Parts)	33	Paragon GB	107	Specialist Cars of Malton 106, 117
Akrapovic / Design 911	41	Hartech Automotive	40	Parts Heaven	50	Specialist Vehicle Preparations 93
Auto Detailing Studio	18	Hayward & Scott	123	Patrick Motorsports	117	Sportwagen Eckert 101
Auto Umbau Porsche	100	Hendon Way Motors	73	Paul Stephens	112	Stoddard Parts 39
Bilstein UK	25	Hexagon Modern Classics	13	Pelican Parts	85	Strasse 21129
Brands Hatch Festival Of Porsche	74	Hillcrest Specialist Cars	124	Performance Direct Insurance	132	Tech g (TechArt UK) 148
Braunton Garage	30	HP Motorsport	30	Pirelli Tyres Ltd	11	Tipec 129
Brey-Krause Manufacturing	6	Jasmine Porschalink	26	PMO	120	Twinspark Racing & Engineering 120
Cargraphic	147	Jaz Siat Porsche	64	Porsche Cars GB (Aftersales)	7	Yorkshire Classic Porsche 123
Carole Nash Insurance	132	JLG Autocrib	83	Porsche Club GB	129	
Cavendish Porsche	34	JMG Porsche	112	Porsche Torque	64	Classifieds 133, 137,138, 140, 141
Classic & Sports Finance	16	JZM	16	Porscheshop	19	Brian Miller Motors
Classic Additions	129	K&N Filters	34	Porscheshop (Euro Cup GT)	124	Car Cover Shop
Classicline Insurance	144	KW Automotive	57	Portiacraft	124	Car Inspections
Clewett Engineering	120	LA Dismantler	84	Professional Valeters & Detailers	131	CMS Porsche
Cotswold Porsche Specialists	100	LN Engineering/Fast Forward	100	Promax	64	DSD Motorwerks
Design 911	35	Machine Mart	124	Ramus Porscha	30	Finlay Gorham
Douglas Valley Breakers	123	Marque 21 Racing	120	Reap Automotive	117	Karmann Konnection
Dove House Motor Company	51	Mayfair Performance Insurance	145	Rennline	49	Motorfarm
EBC Brakes	18	Millers Oils	6	Restoration Design	75	Octane Garage
Eibach UK	17	Nick Whale Sportscars	84	RGA	74	Peter Morgan Media
Elephant Racing	65	Nine Excellence	113	RH Classic Insurance	143	Porsche g11 hire.co.uk
Elite Garages	23	Ninemeister	92	RPM Specialist Cars	113	Prestige & Performance
Elite Motor Tune	106	Ninex Motorsport	112	RS 911	124	Roger Bray Restoration
Engine Builders Supply	31	Northway	40	RSJ Sportscars	26	TJS Sportscars
Fabspeed	61	Norton Insurance	144	S-Car-Go Racing	50	Williams Crawford



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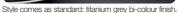




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