The world's biggest Porsche magazine

# GTPORSCHE

OCTOBER 2016 £4.50 Issue 179



# Retro 964

Backdated and enhanced by UK Porsche specialist Ninemeister, does this 964 Carrera 4 offer the best of both old and new worlds?





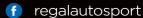
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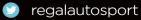
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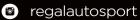
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## Ignition



Simon Jackson
Editor y@retro\_jackson

odifying a Porsche can be a contentious talking point but it's an interesting one nonetheless. This month's cover car reflects a relatively buoyant section of the current Porsche scene that indulges its passion for retrostyled 911s. The cars which are part of this movement are either backdated to appear older than they are or they are modified with a twist of nostalgia by mixing all sorts of styles, both old and new, together in one automotive melting pot. Broadly speaking these are cars shaped by each individual owner's personal desires and the ultimate goal is to stand out from the crowd. Don't however presume that these are people who can't afford an original classic Porsche so opt for an artificial version – far from it. Owning a piece of the Porsche pie which looks classically cool yet that also performs like a modern car is perhaps the most common driving force here, and in the pursuit of that sweet spot owners are prepared to spend upwards of six figures. For them the end result is more than enough justification for the fiscal outlay, as they are left with a totally unique car, restored and modified to their taste and which perfectly suits their needs. Sure, they could've bought an original factory standard car but they just didn't want to.

Like many of these 911s, the car you see here is based on a 964. The penultimate air-cooled 911 offers an ideal basis for a project of this nature. In theory a 964 requires less restoration work

than, say, a G Series base car might and it already boasts a number of the modern features many of these owners require. I know there will be some who'll dislike the concept but I'm also confident there will be plenty of you excited by a car such as this. You can read all about this one, built by UK Porsche specialist Ninemeister, on page 64.

If modified 911s are not your bag, then try turning to page 20. The 3.2 Carrera has been a stalwart of the air-cooled 911 scene for an age, and it remains so today. We've brought together two examples in this issue, a Coupé and a Targa model, to understand the rise in popularity of the open-top version. Admittedly purchasing either of these cars will set you back a fair bit more today than it might have a few years ago but they still represent a wise investment and, more importantly, they'll provide you with that genuine good old fashioned Porsche driving experience every time you turn the key. The financial aspects of Porsche ownership are tough to ignore these days but ultimately it is the purity of the driving experience that these older cars provide which makes them so popular. It's important to remember that this always was, and should therefore remain, the foremost attraction to entering the world of Porsches, whether they're standard or modified.



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#### Andrew Frankel @Andrew\_Frankel

One of the industry's most respected senior automotive journalists, Andrew writes for Motor Sport, Autocar and the national newspapers.

This month: Andrew gets behind the wheel of the all-new Panamera: what's it like and what can it tell us about future Porsche models?



#### Karl Ludvigsen

A journalist, author and historian for over 50 years, Karl's book, Excellence was Expected presents the definitive history of Porsche

*This month:* Karl looks at the history of the 935, one of the most exciting racing Porsches to ever turn a wheel in anger.



#### Johnny Tipler @johnnytipler

Journalist, historian and author, Johnny's specialist subject is Porsche. He drove the 2011 La Carrera Panamericana in a 914.

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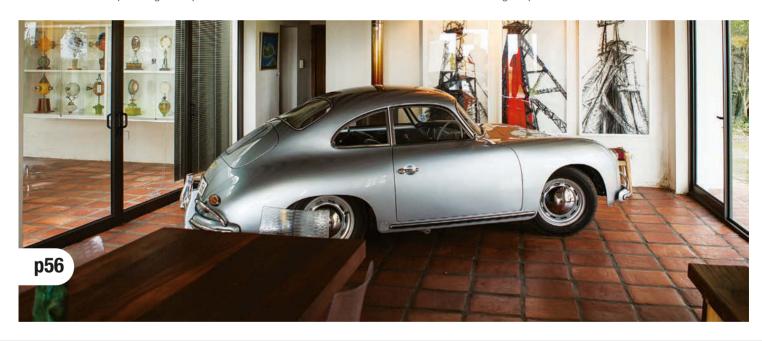
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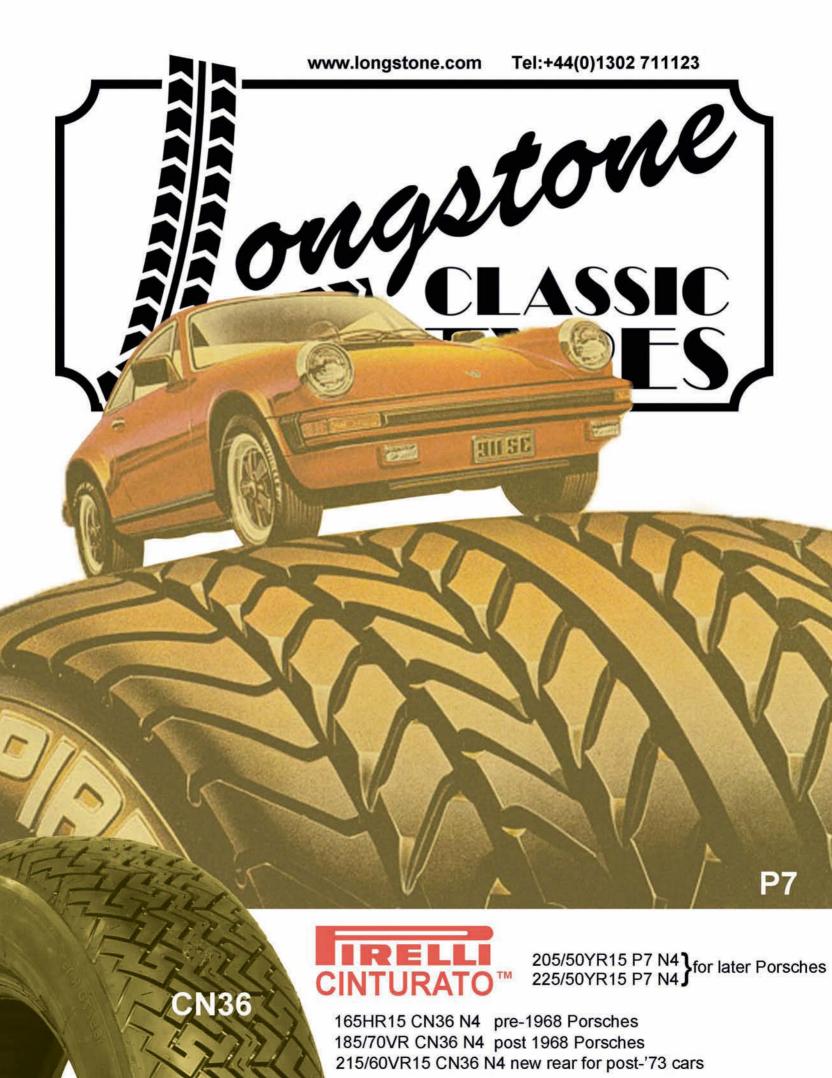


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## PORSCHE MUSEUM SUPPORTS ENNSTAL CLASSIC

Mark Webber and Neel Jani drove historic Porsche racing cars through the Austrian Alps for the Ennstal Classic.

The Porsche Museum provided 11 rare Porsche cars for Austria's Ennstal Classic this year when the event took place back in August. Held since 1993, the Ennstal Classic has become highly respected as one of the most exciting historic racing events on the European calendar. The three-day endurance road test through the Austrian Alps includes 30 special stages, all kept secret in advance of the car's arriving at them and all designed to be as demanding as possible.

Given that the Ennstal Classic takes place in Austria, the home of the

Porsche family, the Porsche brand has always gravitated towards the event and been strongly represented. Indeed Walter Röhrl clinched two overall victories in the past, while Mille Miglia winner Paul-Ernst Strähle and European hillclimb champion Eberhard Mahle also achieved good results. Of the 198 pre-1972 cars that took part in the Ennstal Classic this year, around 20 percent were from the Porsche stable.

The Porsches supplied by the Porsche Museum in Stuttgart included a cross-section of milestone cars in the

firm's historical timeline. They included a 356 Coupé (with V-shaped windscreen); a 356 Speedster; a 356 B GS Carrera GTL Abarth; a 550 Spyder and a 718 RS 60 Spyder. What's more, sitting at the controls of these cars were some of Porsche's top management and works racing drivers. Chairman of the supervisory board, Dr Wolfgang Porsche, and LMP1 project manager, Fritz Enzinger, represented the company from a business point of view.

Meanwhile current Porsche LMP1 drivers Mark Webber and Neel Jani were joined by huge names from

Porsche's racing past; Hans-Joachim Stuck and Richard Lietz.

Whenever Porsche enters a competitive racing event you can be confident that it will push as hard as possible in search of a good result, and the Porsche Museum's entry into the Ennstal Classic was no different. Naturally, though, the primary goal of the museum's attendance was to ensure all the teams enjoyed themselves, something of a given in a scenario such as this. The Austrian Alps served up thoroughly demanding special stages that the cars tackled











at high speed and altitudes of over 2000 metres above sea level. Regardless all 11 cars made it to the end of the event having driven almost 1000 kilometres.

Porsche's dedication to ensuring as many of the cars in the museum's collection are used as they were originally intended remains admirable, and its ethos was neatly summarised by the director of the Porsche Museum, who competed at the event in a 1956 356 1600 S Coupé: "Even the most valuable classic sports cars need a regular run-out," he said.





#### PORSCHE AND MERCEDES-BENZ MUSEUM DISCOUNT

While we're on the subject of the Porsche Museum, it has joined forces with the Mercedes-Benz Museum (also located in Stuttgart) to offer visitors a discount if they are attending both automotive museums. Valid until 30 December 2016, the offer means that visitors to the Porsche Museum will receive 25 percent off the regular ticket price of entering the Mercedes-Benz Museum when they present their ticket.

The Mercedes-Benz Museum in

Bad Cannstatt was opened in 2006, and is well worth a visit for its impressive display of period machines. The building itself will prove intriguing to anyone with an interest in design, for it was created by Dutch architecture firm UN Studio Ben van Berkel and has won various awards.

Home to 160 vehicles and more than 1500 exhibits, it is celebrating its tenth anniversary this year with a special E-Class 'Masterpieces' exhibition. Likewise the Porsche Museum, home to some 90 vehicles, is a fascinating trip for any Porsche fan, proved by a footfall of more than three million people who have visited it since it opened seven years ago.

To signify the tie-up, the two museums have swapped classic cars. A 1975 911 Carrera 2.7 will be on display at the Mercedes-Benz Museum, while a 1966 W111 230 S will be temporarily housed at the Porsche Museum. Visit www.porsche.com/museum for more.



## PORSCHE CLASSIC CELEBRATES 40 YEARS OF TRANSAXLE

### More than 100 Porsche vehicles were paraded at the Nürburgring Oldtimer in celebration of the transaxle era of cars...

The AvD Oldtimer Grand Prix at the Nürburgring played witness to a special parade of Porsche cars in celebration of the 40-year anniversary of the transaxle models. More than 100 classic Porsche cars took part in a procession around the track led by the 924 GTP recently restored by Porsche Classic partners in the UK (*GTP* 09/16) driven by Derek Bell.

Porsche's presence at the event extended to a prominent stand that was home to a wide range of transaxle vehicles, mostly owned by Porsche customers. Porsche Classic offered visitors an insight into its products and services, a big part of which is supplying parts for Porsche restorations. The team showcased various new additions to its product range at the Oldtimer, its available genuine parts supply now comprises of around 52,000 items.

One such car restored using the Porsche Classic range of products was also present, the 1972 Le Mans class winning 911 2.5 S/T recently restored by a private owner.

Typically, Porsche Classic deals with model lines that were discontinued ten or more years ago, which means its range is constantly evolving and increasing, and includes a number of water-cooled Porsches not just their classic air-cooled descendants. Partly as a result of Porsche's commitment to its older vehicles, more than two thirds of all Porsche vehicles ever built remain on the road to this day.





## EB MOTORSPORT LIGHTWEIGHT 911 PANELS

Fancy building a new air-cooled 911 R? EB Motorsport can help...

The original Porsche 911 R is an icon. It remains the lightest 911 ever produced, weighing just 800kg – over 200kg less than the 911 S upon which it was based. Porsche achieved this by taking pretty much anything bolted on to the steel shell away and recasting it in glass fibre. Combined with lightweight, wider wheels and an uprated engine producing 210hp, the 911 R was a very successful race and rally machine.

An original 911 R is going to set you back a small fortune, but there are specialists out there producing reproduction panels to the same specification as the originals, enabling owners to replicate the R in a way that's honest to the original car. One such firm is Yorkshire-based EB Motorsport, which has been producing lightweight panels since mid-2015. "The original 911 R is an important car in Porsche history and there is great interest in this rare Porsche racer," said EB Motorsport boss, Mark Bates. "Our full 911 R body panel kits substantially reduce the weight of an early 911, so restoring a SWB car which may have rusty body panels using our 911 R panels is a straightforward way to go about building a great racing car, an entertaining road car or both."

EB has seen a large proportion of purchases come from America, where there is still a healthy flow of short wheelbase 911s being recommissioned. In Japan, 911s using the EB's 911 R kit have seen success in historic racing against some stiff competition, demonstrating that the benefits of lightweight panels for those building a race car are more than skin deep. "Like so many other EB parts, we started building 911 R kits when there was nothing else out there. Now we can supply everything seen on our own 911 R, including wide six- and seven-inch Fuchs wheels. Historic racing is a very competitive arena, so we believe lightweight 2.0-litre 911s will become more popular as drivers chase maximum performance within vintage racing regulations."

To find out more about EB Motorsport and the 911 R kit, visit www.eb-motorsport.com











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Jet Black • Black Nomex Bucket Seats Manual Gearbox • Satellite Navigation Porsche Ceramic Composite Brakes 22,012 miles • 2008 (57)

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#### 911 Turbo (993)

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911 GT2 (996)

Arctic Silver • Black Leather Bucket Seats Manual Gearbox • Porsche Ceramic Composite Brakes • Rear Roll Cage 48,992 miles • 2002 (02)

£119,995



Boxster Spyder (981)

Carrara White • Black Half Leather Bucket Seats • Manual Gearbox Toucshcreen Satellite Navigation 2,348 miles • 2016 (65)

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#### 911 GT3 (997)

GT Silver • Black Half Leather Sport Seats • Manual Gearbox • Satellite Navigation • Sport Chrono Pack Plus 37,739 miles • 2007 (57)

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911 SC Targa

Rosewood Metallic • Brown Pasha Seats Manual Gearbox • 15" Cookie Cutter Wheels • One Owner From New 23,091 miles • 1981 (W)

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Macan S Diesel

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911 Carrera 4 S (997)

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911 Carrera 2 S (997)

Meteor Grey • Black Leather Sport Seats Manual Gearbox • 19" Carrera 'S' II Wheels • Touchscreen Satellite Navigation • 35,067 miles • 2008 (58)

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911 Carrera 4 S (997)

Basalt Black • Cocoa Leather Sport Seats Tiptronic Gearbox • Satellite Navigation • X51 Factory Power Upgrade 26,657 miles • 2007 (07)

£38,995



Boxster 2.9 (987)

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## TUTHILL INVITES **SAFARI CLASSIC** RALLY **ENTRIES**





**Tuthill Porsche is** inviting entries for the 2017 East **African Safari** Classic Rally, which takes place on alternate years.



Although the 2017 East African Safari Classic Rally doesn't start until the end of next year, entry is now open and potential participants should act now to guarantee their place, says Tuthill Porsche, which has a mass of experience at the African event.

Two-time Safari winner, Tuthill Porsche, urges anyone interested in taking part in this exceptional competition, that has been widened to include eligible FIA-homologated rally cars up to 1985, to get in touch in order to secure one of just 60 available places. Tuthill Porsche's Richard Tuthill, said: "The last Safari was fully booked a year before the start and we expect the next one to be equally as popular. Those who wish to experience the wonders of African rallying should contact us to discuss

their entries as early as possible."

In 2015 the East African Safari Classic Rally comprised eight days of driving with a rest day in the middle, and saw competitors cover 4000km. Entry fees for 2017 have been reduced, while there are rumours of a new route to reinvent the challenge, and both factors are expected to encourage new entrants.

The Porsche cars Tuthill will ready for the event will be shipped from the UK in August next year, allowing just 12 months preparation time before the start of proceedings in Mombasa not long in the world of classic Porsche preparation.

Richard Tuthill said: "Safari is considered one of the world's toughest rallies, but it is also a social event. Combined with a huge sense of

adventure, this is what makes it so wonderful and I would go as far to say there is no other event like it! Our focus is providing clients of all levels the opportunity to enjoy this potentially life-changing experience in the best possible way, with full support and surrounded by enthusiastic, committed people who share the same passion. The fact that one can be in the same team as World Rally Champions is a major benefit, as they bring to the team a vast wealth of experience at the highest level."

The 2017 East African Safari Classic Rally takes place from 23 November to 1 December 2017. Those interested should contact Tuthill Porsche on +44 1295 750514 to discuss availability or visit www.tuthillporsche.com for more information.





## 

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## CAMMISH WINS FOUR FROM FOUR

Defending champion Dan Cammish took four wins from four races in the Carrera Cup GB to further increase his championship lead over Dino Zamparelli...



#### Points standings after round twelve:

Pro Category:					
1.	Dan Cammish	Redline Racing	239		
2.	Dino Zamparelli	GT Marques	195		
3.	Charlie Eastwood	Redline Racing	179		
Pro-Am1 Category:					
1.	Euan McKay	IN2 Racing	120		
2.	John McCullagh	Redline Racing	85		
3.	Sean Hudspeth	Parr Motorsport	83		
Pro-Am2 Category:					
1.	Tautvydas Barstys	Juta Racing	106		
2.	Peter Kyle-Henney	Parr Motorsport	100		
3.	Mark Radcliffe	Intersport Racing	94		











Round nine of the Carrera Cup GB at Snetterton saw Redline Racing's Dan Cammish and Charlie Eastwood lining-up on the front row for the rolling start. Cammish took a dominant lights-to-flag victory but he was kept honest all the way by his team-mate over the 14-lap race. Behind the duo Tom Sharp maintained his grid position of third to the flag, keeping Lewis Plato behind him in fourth. Plato and Tom Oliphant enjoyed a race long battle, but when Oliphant went for a move on the last lap he went wide backing Stephen Jelley into *GT Porsche* contributor, Dino Zamparelli. Jelley and Zamparelli made contact causing Jelley to crash and putting him out of race two.

In Pro-Am1 Euan McKay also took a lights-to-flag class victory, placing ninth overall and clinching his fifth category win of 2016. Further back brother Dan McKay fought with Greg Caton, Caton took second with Dan claiming the final podium spot. Pro-Am2 was a close run thing, with Adrian Barwick, Tautvydas Barstys and Peter Kyle-Henney all pushing. When Barwick and Barstys touched, Kyle-Henney capitalised taking victory ahead of lain Dockerill. Shamus Jennings followed them home.

After Cammish's win earlier in the day, Redline Racing had 99 Carrera Cup GB wins under its belt, so all eyes were on the championship leader to see if he could repeat his earlier performance and make it a historic century for the team. Cammish got off to a great start and duly did just that, taking another win at Snetterton and Redline Racing's 100th victory in the series. Behind him was team-mate and Porsche GB 2016/2017 Scholar, Charlie Eastwood.

Behind the Redline Racing duo was championship challenger, Dino Zamparelli, who resisted pressure from Oliphant in the closing stages; Oliphant had passed Plato at the start. Zamparelli could do little more than minimise his championship points deficit to Cammish. Further back Sharp and Gelzinis battled, Sharp coming home fifth, with Gelzinis sixth in class. McKay had been running with the pair in the lead of Pro-Am1 but his brother, Dan, closed the gap to take the class win on the last lap, his first victory of 2016. Sean Hudspeth took third by keeping Caton at bay, Justin Sherwood finished behind in fifth in class. In Pro-Am2 Barstys took a confident victory with Kyle-Henney in second, Mark Radcliffe placed third. Kyle-Henney took the 'Driver of the Weekend' award for his performances. Behind them Barwick and Shamus Jennings got together,

leaving Barwick with a ten-second penalty.

For round 11 at Knockhill, Cammish was dominant from the off, converting his pole position to a lead and maintaining it throughout the race. Backup, in the form of second-place man and Redline Racing teammate, Charlie Eastwood, no doubt helped. The Porsche GB 2016/2017 Scholar demonstrated his ever-growing ability, keeping Cammish in check throughout the race, maintaining a gap of around one second, with his fastest lap just 0.012 seconds slower than the 2015 champion. Completing the podium in third was Tom Sharp, gaining a place as Alessandro Latif slipped back from the start. Championship contender, Dino Zamparelli of GT Marques didn't pick up the result he'd have wanted, finishing sixth overall after fending off a charging Tom Oliphant in the closing stages of the race. N2 Racing's Euan McKay celebrated his 21st birthday in style by taking the Pro-Am 1 category victory. Pro-Am 2 was won by Peter Kyle-Henney – his third victory in the class this season.

As with the previous race, round 12 was Dan Cammish's to lose after he started on pole. Eastwood followed closely but for rookie Latif a slow start pushed him down the order as Tom Sharp was followed by Tom Oliphant into fourth and fifth. Up front, Cammish managed the pace, keeping Eastwood in check and finishing 2.7 seconds ahead of him.

Sharp and Oliphant provided some of the best racing of the season so far, Oliphant passing Sharp into Duffus Dip on lap four to take third place. After establishing himself in the final podium position, a tiny mistake from Oliphant let Sharp back through, an advantage he maximised to good effect by establishing a small gap in return. However, on the penultimate lap a mistake from Sharp gave Oliphant the run into Duffus Dip, but the gain of place was short lived as Sharp powered back through on the inside of Leslie's and held third to the flag. Dino Zamparelli repeated his round 11 performance, finishing sixth.

In Pro-Am1 Euan McKay continued his birthday celebrations by taking a second class victory, while in Pro-Am2 Mark Radcliffe of Intersport Racing took the class win – battling hard to take it after stalling on the line. With just four rounds remaining the championship form is beginning to reveal itself, while virtuoso performances continue to excite and enthral. The next races will take place on 17 and 18 September at Silverstone's National circuit.

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## DISAPPOINTMENT FOR PORSCHE AT ROAD AMERICA

Porsche narrowly missed out on a potential victory and podium result at Wisconsin's famous Road America track during Round Eight of the IMSA SportsCar Championship.



During qualifying the factory 911 RSRs showed improved pace for round eight of the IMSA series at Road America. Nick Tandy and Patrick Pilet qualified the No.911 machine on the front row, with Earl Bamber and Frédéric Makowiecki starting their No.912 car in fifth spot. Pilet made an excellent start snatching the lead at the beginning of the race. He was joined at the front during the first hour by the No.912 car.

But it was a final yellow flag caution period that set the race up for a grandstand finish. Tandy went for it in an attempt to steal victory but ended up going off the track relegating the No.911 car to seventh spot. "Obviously I'm disappointed to have lost an almost certain podium position shortly before the finish but the entire race was really tough with lots of contact," he said. "After the final caution phase, it would have been almost impossible to have fitted a piece of paper between the Ford, the Ferrari, and me. I was determined to use my chance to win, which proved a little too ambitious and ended with my spin."

In what is being touted as the closest race of the 2016 IMSA season so far, Bamber and Makowiecki also lost out on a potential podium finish in the

melee towards the end of the race, crossing the line in fourth place. Overall project manager for GT Works Motorsport, Marco Ujhasi, said: "We put the pressure on right from the start and we could turn consistently fast laps. Everything that we had planned actually worked. A podium result would definitely have been possible. All in all, this race was a ray of hope. We'll continue to fight."

After eight of eleven races both the Porsche drivers and teams sit outside the top three in the GTLM class points' standings. Porsche trails both Chevrolet and Ford in the Manufacturer standings.







#### Points standings (GTLM - Drivers)

<ol> <li>Gavin/Milner</li> </ol>	Chevrolet Corvette	264 points
2. Briscoe/Westbrook	Ford GT	251 points
3. Garcia, Magnussen	Chevrolet Corvette	223 points
4. Bamber/Makowiecki	Porsche 911 RSR	219 points
7. Pilet/Tandy	Porsche 911 RSR	204 points
Manufacturers		
1. Chevrolet		262 points
2. Ford		249 points
3. Porsche		237 points
Teams		
1. Corvette Racing #4	264 points	
2. Ford Chip Ganassi Racing	251 points	
3. Corvette Racing #3	223 points	
5. Porsche North America #	219 points	
7. Porsche North America #	204 points	



## CAIROLI AWARDED HOCKENHEIM WIN

Round six of the Porsche Mobil 1 Supercup proved a difficult one for championship leader, Sven Müller, who was handed a time penalty after the race, costing him a victory he'd achieved on the track.









Porsche junior, Müller, had started on pole with series rival and fellow Porsche junior Cairoli alongside. Cairoli got the better start off the line but Müller immediately reclaimed the top spot using the run-off at turn one to do so. Track limits are a hot topic in Formula One at present, and given that the Porsche Supercup supports F1 it was little surprise that the stewards looked carefully at the move. It was ultimately deemed unacceptable, and so Müller was handed a one-second time penalty which was enough to cost him his victory, promoting Cairoli.

Behind Müller and Cairoli two backmarkers collided during the race bringing out the safety car. At the restart Cairoli tried everything he could to get by Müller but to no avail. Behind Cairoli sat Jeffrey

Schmidt in third. Schmidt had overtaken Robert Lukas off the start. Lukas came home in fourth with Christian Engelhart in fifth. Series frontrunners Michael Ammermüller and Porsche junior Mathieu Jaminet took seventh and eighth positions respectively. Jaminet had been given a ten-place grid penalty following his antics during the previous round at the Hungaroring, meaning he started thirteenth; this meant finishing in the points was his main goal at Hockenheim. Despite the result Müller continues to lead championship, ahead of Cairoli by 16 points, but it's all to play for during the remainder of the season. Both Porsche juniors will be looking to emerge from F1's summer break with the momentum to clinch the 2016 Supercup title.

#### Points standings:

1. Sven Müller	Lechner MSG Racing Team	101 points
2. Matteo Cairoli	FACH Auto Tech	85 points
3. Jeffrey Schmidt	Lechner Racing Middle East	78 points

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In the past, opting for a 911 Targa over the classic Coupé was considered a suspect move. Today the Targa has grown in popularity, meaning a whole new audience is appreciating the model's benefits.

Story: Philip Raby Photography: Gus Gregory





have a confession to make. Many, many years ago, as a rookie Porsche writer, I wrote an article in which I described the 911 Targa as 'ugly'. Oh dear, that was a baptism of fire; fresh-faced and naive, I'd no idea just how much heated discussion the written word could stir up. Targa owners put pen to paper (yes, it really was that long ago) in their droves complaining that I had the audacity to slag off their beloved 911s. On the other hand, others backed me up, agreeing that the Targa was, indeed, the ugly duckling of the 911 range.

I was writing then about the original roll hoop Targa – the all-new glass-roofed 993 Targa (a concept that would be carried over to the 996 and then the 997) was yet to make its debut – and, looking back, I can understand my thinking. One of the joys of the Porsche 911 shape – one of its signatures, in design-speak – is

that lovely dropping rear roofline and the accompanying semi-oval rear quarter windows. It gives the 911 one of the most recognisable side profiles in motoring history. Look how many Porsche specialists have a logo made from a few deft brush strokes that distinctly say '911'. I challenge you to achieve a similar effect with any other car, with the exception of the Volkswagen Beetle (which, of course, also came from the Porsche design stable).

With the 911 Targa, this side profile was changed considerably. Gone was the sweeping down roofline and curvaceous side windows, to be replaced by a large roll hoop, lift-out roof panel and (on all but the very first examples) a large, rotund rear window. It was undoubtedly a less cohesive design, which is why I didn't warm to it in my youth. Over the years, though, I have learned to appreciate the Targa and I realise now











that its roll hoop and rear window are design signatures in their own right. Indeed, hone in on the side of the roll hoop and its width, three vertical slats and its jaunty rear slant are enough to make it instantly recognisable. Add the curve of the rear window into the equation and, with a few strokes of a marker pen, you've created yourself a Porsche specialist's logo with a fresh twist. It really is that iconic.

I have to admit, then, that I have grown to love the 911 Targa. Sure, it doesn't have the gracefulness of the Coupé's lines, but it does have a retro-cool appearance. The rear window has more than a hint of the Jenson Interceptor (and you can't get much cooler than that), while the roll hoop looks purposeful and stylish, especially in the original brushed metal finish – this was a Butzi Porsche masterstroke which, sadly, was replaced by satin black in later cars.

Back in 1963, when the 911 was introduced, it was still thought by many that true sports cars

should have open roofs, so the fixed-head 911 Coupé was a radical move for Porsche, replacing as it did the 356 which had been offered in both open and closed forms. Porsche, therefore, wanted to introduced an open-top 911 but was concerned by unrest in the USA – a major market for the company – caused by the publication of a book called *Unsafe at Any Speed* by Ralph Nadar, which claimed that the motor cars of the day were basically death traps (which, to be fair, they were).

The American government took note of Nadar's comments and introduced the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act, which led to the adoption of, among other things, headrests, energy-absorbing bumpers, seat belts and padded steering wheels. There were rumours at the time that the act would also ban open-top cars, which Ralph wasn't keen on, so Porsche's designers put their heads together and came up with an all-new concept – the Targa roof.

This, Porsche hoped, would get around any future draconian laws by incorporating a strong box-steel roll hoop, effectively protecting the occupants as well as, or perhaps even better than, a sheet steel roof. Open-air motoring could be enjoyed by removing the semi-rigid roof panel and storing it in the boot. It was a stroke of genius.

Actually, it is possible that Porsche pinched the idea from other manufacturers. As far back as 1961, you could get an optional hard-top kit for the Triumph TR4, which transformed the little roadster into a coupé with a fixed glass rear window, roll hoop and a lift-out roof panel, known as a Surrey top. Then, in 1964, Saab showed off its Catherina concept car with a roll hoop and lift-off roof. What's more, Toyota's first sports car, the diminutive 1965 Sports 800, also had a similar roof arrangement.

What Porsche certainly did do first, though, was coin the name Targa for this type of



I challenge you to drive a 911 Targa with the roof off on a sunny day and not grin with happiness...

roof. After the marque's many successes in the Sicilian Targa Florio road race during the 1950s and 1960s, it was a natural choice of moniker and one which has gone on to be synonymous with other lift-off roof panels. The original 911 Targa show car of 1965 came with a rigid roof panel which could be left at home in good weather, plus a lightweight fabric cover to stretch over the roof aperture in case of an unexpected downpour.

The trouble was, this had an unfortunate habit of ballooning up when the car was travelling at speed, so production Targas came with a folding roof panel that could be stored in the boot. These early Targas also had a retractable roof section with a plastic window behind the hoop. The combination of removable roof and folding rear section meant that the Targa roof could be used in four different ways; fully closed, top section out, rear section open, or top and rear both open together. Porsche gave these options

evocative names; Targa Hardtop, Targa Bel Air, Targa Voyage and Targa Spyder. Sadly, despite the exotic descriptions, the rear section was liable to leak so, in 1968, Porsche replaced it with the now iconic large glass window, although the folding window remained a rarely-taken option for some years after.

The new Targa became an instant hit with buyers eager to experience open-top Porsche driving: in 1996 a full 40 percent of 911 and 912 sales were of Targas. It remained a popular option until 1982, when Porsche introduced the 911 Cabriolet that all but killed off Targa sales, as people were tempted away by the fully open roof. Ironically, today, the classic Targa is more popular than the 911 Cabriolet, and it's easy to see why. The air-cooled Cabriolets don't have a fully resolved appearance, especially when the hood is folded, whereas the Targa has stood the test of time well. The roll hoop helps to ensure a more rigid bodyshell, too, and there's less wind

buffeting, thanks to the fixed rear window.

However, the king of the road in 911 terms remains the Coupé, which still commands a price premium, although Targas aren't far behind. The tin-top wins on the looks front, for the reasons we covered earlier; it's a thing of great beauty from every angle. In practical terms, too, the Coupé has the edge, as the Targa's roof seals can be problematic and, no matter how well fitted the roof is, you will inevitably get some wind noise at speed, plus the odd creak and squeak, and even some water ingress during heavy rain.

That noise can become tiring on a long drive but there is a simple solution to it (albeit one that only works in good weather) – just remove the roof, fold it up and stick it in the boot. Doing so transforms the Targa and makes it an absolute joy to drive. It gives you all the fun of open-top motoring but without the wind buffeting associated with a full Cabriolet. I challenge you to drive a 911 Targa with the roof









off on a sunny day and not grin with happiness.

By comparison, being stuck in a classic 911 Coupé on a hot day can be a frustrating experience, as most UK cars of this period didn't have air conditioning and the sunroof is small to say the least (it has to be because there isn't much roof for it to slide back into). Sure, you can open the side windows but doing so actually gives more wind noise and buffeting than you would get with the roof off a Targa.

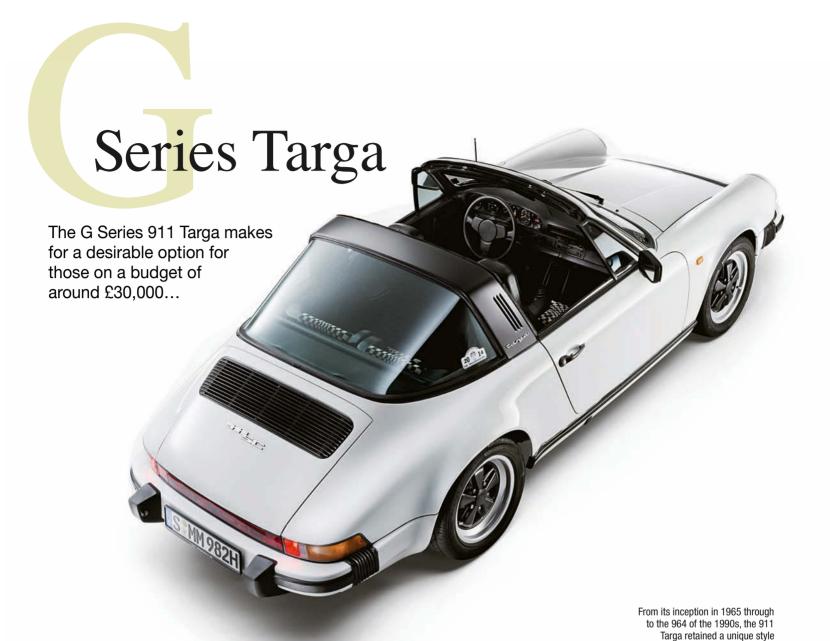
Where the coupé does better, though, is with its rigidity. Despite its roll hoop, the Targa's bodyshell does suffer from some flexing and scuttle shake (get a rusty one which, thankfully, the 3.2 Carrera you see here isn't, and the lack of roof can cause the whole body to sag alarmingly). There's not a lot of movement, but enough to unsettle the car when pushing it hard through corners, especially on the sort of bumpy back roads we get in southern England. However, maybe that's missing the point of the Targa; perhaps it's not a car to push to the limits at every opportunity, but rather one in which to cruise sedately along tree-lined roads on a warm summer's day. Don't get me wrong; you can drive

a Targa fast but sometimes, trust me, it's more fun to slow down a bit and enjoy the sensations of sun on your face and the wind in your hair. The Coupé, on the other hand, is a pure driving machine which, with none of the flexing of the Targa thanks to its fixed roof, eggs you on to drive it hard and fast. Despite being over 30 years old, it feels solid and instils in you the confidence to push it to the limit. This is 911 driving in its purest form and I love it.

Increasingly, though, buyers of older 911s aren't getting them to drive fast but rather to enjoy at a more sedate pace. I'm not sure I agree with that sentiment but that seems to be the way it is. That does, though, lead to a strong case for opting for a Targa in favour of a coupé, especially as the same people aren't going to use the cars often; keeping them for the occasional drive out in nice weather. Not to mention the fact that Targas remain less expensive than equivalent Coupés, and the launch of the new 991 Targa has boosted interest in the classic version. Would I buy one? Well, do you know what, I think I would. I enjoy top-down driving (I don't have enough hair left to capitalise on the 'wind in the hair' notion) and not only in

the summer; there's nothing better than having the roof off on a crisp winter's day with the cockpit toastily warmed by the heat exchangers. I've grown to love the Targa's appearance, too, but for me the Coupé still has the edge, appearancewise. In fact, the Coupé still has the edge for me in every way, apart from the open-air aspect, but the Targa does come a close second.

Now, to finish with another confession which may, once again, prove controversial - I don't like the new 991 Targa. The original 911 Targa was designed that way for a reason - a solid roll-bar for safety and a lift-out panel to create the convertible experience. In true Porsche engineering fashion, it was a case of form follows function. The new Targa, on the other hand, is the opposite - Porsche decided it wanted to re-create the appearance of the old Targa then went to great lengths to make it workable for 21st century drivers, who wouldn't want to be bothered with lifting off a roof. To my mind, the way the rear window lifts up to allow the roof to drop below it, is ridiculous and unnecessarily complicated, plus it's a potential financial time-bomb when it goes wrong. There, I've said it. Will I never learn? O



he 911 Targa retained many of its aesthetic design cues from its inception in 1965 right through to the end of the 964's production cycle in 1993. Once the original soft window was replaced with a glass version in 1968, the Targa was gifted a clean-cut silhouette that was altered sympathetically upon the arrival of the G Series in 1974, and transferred to the 964 version in 1989. By the time the 993 rolled around a 911 Targa meant something completely different.

Today a modern 911 Targa's design harks back to those early days, which has in part given way to a rediscovery of the model by many Porsche fans. Of those earlier cars, pre-'73 variants are (like all early 911s) now rather expensive, but a G Series era car offers a similar prospect for less outlay.

Produced between 1974 and 1989, G Series Targas are both plentiful and vastly more affordable than their earlier counterparts. Gone is the iconic silver Targa bar associated with the original 911 version, replaced by a black section that retains its forebear's style. The removable roof remains, so too the overall aesthetic and proportions of an early 911, making the G Series a wholly attractive prospect. If you have somewhere around £30,000 burning a hole in your pocket then getting into a 911 SC such as the car you see here, or a 3.2 Carrera as you've just seen in the preceeding feature, is highly achievable ○





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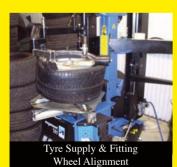




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Author of 25 Porsche books, Peter has been involved with the brand for 35 years

## Peter Morgan spends a few hours with Porsche's most underrated yet super-collectible race car: the 924 Carrera GTR.

veryone has a story about the car they missed out on years ago that went on to be worth much, much more. One such Porsche I passed over about a decade ago was a 924 GTS. I recall it was about £20k and the seller was ready to do a deal. But I just didn't have the inclination. It was, after all, a 924, not a 911, so I couldn't see the attraction. How wrong could I be?!

I knew all about Porsche's 924 race adventures in the early 1980s. The limited edition 210hp Carrera GT was a breathed-on 924 Turbo and enough were built to qualify for the FISA Group 3 class. 1980 was the year when Porsche motorsport ran three heavily modified 924 GTP prototypes at Le Mans and achieved a respectable, if not winning, result (the GTP was some 50mph slower than a good 935 on Le Mans' wide open stretches). The experience led to the Club Sport-oriented 245hp GTS and the ultimate 924 development, the GTR. Both cars were built by the racers in Weissach and only available directly from the factory. Some 50 GTS models were built to qualify the model in the FISA Group 4 class and could be described as a hot road, Tarmac rally or club race contender. The GTR was a small batch (just 17 cars) production of the earlier GTP and was a full-on endurance racer.

Nevertheless, history records that the adventures of the 924 in competition didn't work, not least because there were so many very hot 935s around for serious private teams to run. But history is a matter of interpretation and the GTR was, in fact, one of the finest examples of Porsche's command of motorsport engineering in the 1980s. This was as close as you could get to a totally modified silhouette racer and a brilliant example of what experienced race engineers can do to a reasonably priced street car.

So when Silverstone Auctions rang up in early July to ask if I would do a technical check on a GTR it was



offering at its July Classic Race Cars event, I didn't hesitate. You may even have seen some of the advance publicity for the Guards red car. The huge attraction of this one is that it appeared never to have been raced and, incredibly, only covered about 68 miles from new. And every mile had been documented by the principle Japanese keeper. Mint doesn't describe it.

The thing about the GTR was that it reflected the skills of arguably Porsche's two best ever race engineers at a time when they were at or near the peak of their skills. Hans Mezger was responsible for finding a reliable 375hp from the 2.0-litre Audi-based in-line four-cylinder – the same base engine as found in every bog standard 924. Before moving to this project, Mezger had produced not only a turbo flat-six Indy engine but also the stunning 750hp twin-turbo flat-six in the Moby Dick – the 935/78 – the ultimate incarnation of the fully modified 911 racer. The race engineer on Moby Dick was Norbert Singer and his development of the 935 chassis resulted in the car achieving 223mph

on Le Mans' long straights. And after the GTR, while Singer went on to lead the 956 prototype's domination of endurance racing in the 1980s, Mezger went on to design the triple F1 championship-winning TAG turbo for McLaren. Throw in a few other Porsche guys who had served their apprenticeships looking left at Le Mans (like Bott, Hensler, Barth, Kussmaul and, in the engine shop, Valentin Schaeffer) and you had Porsche's dream team that delivered so much race success some 30 years back.

With all their attention focused on the car, the GTR was a beautifully built racer. Sure, it looks like a 924 on steroids but every detail has been modified. The bodyshell was stripped, seam welded, strengthened and clothed in a new glassfibre skin. Nowhere is the detail more obvious than the gorgeous BBS wheels, with their handcrafted hot air extractors. Behind these sit massive 917/935 finned callipers and huge vented discs.

The engine bay is a work of techno artistry. The obscenely large turbocharger is mounted low on the nearside, and must have delivered a

The GTR reflected the skills of Porsche's two best race engineers when they were at the peak of their skills

throttle lag counted in seconds before its thrust kicked in. The inlet ducting recalls the Moby Dick and earlier 917/30 induction 'logs'. The whole engine bay is criss-crossed by countless braided hoses and linkages and is a feast for the eyes.

So a closer look at the 924 GTR reveals a fabulously well-put-together racing car and I was left wondering why we all had ignored this car for so long. After attracting significant interest at the auction, it was knocked down for a cool £495,000 before buyers' premium (another 12.5% + VAT). It would seem the GTR is ignored no longer! ○

The views of the author are not necessarily shared by the magazine.



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Single seater ace turned Carrera Cup GB driver, Dino is enjoying his second season racing Porsches

## Porsche racer, Dino Zamparelli, reflects on the Rio Olympics and a difficult few races but takes inspiration from the Go Inspire charity...

port can be a cruel game. With the Olympics on in the background as I type, I can see athletes who have spent years and years dedicated to hard training, all for their one moment to shine. That one moment to show off how skilful and talented they are; mixed with the blood, sweat and tears they've put in. A 100-metre sprinter makes a false start and is unceremoniously shown the exit. No chance to go again. Sport in general can be like that, motorsport too. There is no rewind button, there is no second chance. You're in the moment and everything needs to fall into place for you to deliver. Since my last column I've had two more rounds of racing in the Carrera Cup GB, my aim being to close in on championship leader Dan Cammish. With only four points between us and an equal share of podiums in the opening eight rounds, it was all to play for in the remaining

Snetterton and Knockhill came and went and unfortunately, I left the two rounds with few points or podiums, and felt, probably like that 100-metre sprinter, like I was never really in the races in the first place. For both events, despite the tracks being different, we couldn't dial a happy balance into my 911 GT3 Cup car — which is crucial for a good lap time.

You have to feel at one with the car, like there are going to be no surprises. Having bad balance in a Porsche is like a sprinter about to start a race with loose shoe laces. It's like a golfer having a slightly bent club, like a tennis player with a broken string. In all those situations the player can undoubtedly carry on, but with limited success. As a consequence my weekends resulted in no speed, no pace and no joy. Despite defending like an animal to keep my third place at Snetterton in race two, it was a sixth place in race one, and two further sixth places at Knockhill. My

rival Dan won all four races. There was nothing I could do to get closer to the pace unfortunately.

We know we're struggling right now as a team, and we know we've got an issue with our car — but getting to the bottom of that issue and identifying what we can do to rectify it, is the hard part. We have a balance problem, but usually when it's as bad as it is currently, it points to more of an issue with a mechanical component on the car. Frustrating times, certainly, but we'll keep pushing and we'll find our way back. We have a few weeks until the final few rounds at Silverstone first, then Brands Hatch.

Last year I joined my current team, GT Marques, at Silverstone where I won both races and set a lap record. So we're confident that with our issue resolved, we'll be back fighting for wins again. I'm not worried about the championship anymore; I'm more focused on ending the season on a high and proving in the last two rounds that we have had issues that have hampered us.

On the Monday after Knockhill I went straight to Castle Combe for a charity track day with Go Inspire. Go Inspire was set up by a chap called Ben Conolly who, like me, loves cars, speed and racing. Unfortunately, Ben was diagnosed with cancer at a young age and despite making a full recovery became paralysed from the waist down. A few years on the cancer returned and again, Ben powered through to fight it off. Spending the best part of nine months in hospital this year is unthinkable, but Ben did it and he came out the other side smiling and laughing like he always does. He's strong and inspiring.

Listening to the inspirational stories of some of the paralysed guys involved in the charity really does put things into perspective. They are all so happy and just keep going. The charity is moving

from strength-to-strength and I'm honoured to be involved and to support where I can.

So we're out again at Silverstone and aiming to end the season in style. We're still second overall in the driver's championship and the big push will be to get the final four wins. No false starts or issues are allowed anymore. We must get ourselves back in the race and sprinting to victory...

Having bad balance in a Porsche is like a sprinter about to start a race with loose shoe laces



The views of the author are not necessarily shared by the magazine.



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Simon has worked across several automotive publications over the past decade

## Simon seeks out some Porsche track driving tuition but wonders if a modern 911 is too good a tool for the job?

s a rule, when I get a chance to drive on track it's for a strict purpose, typically as the basis of a feature of some kind, which means my time and freedom is somewhat limited. I've been lucky enough to visit the Porsche Experience Centre (PEC) at Silverstone on a number of occasions now, and I always feel the tutorage of its driving consultants is hugely beneficial. Despite this I still most certainly do not count myself as experienced when it comes to track driving but I'm certainly a lot more confident than I used to be. Practice makes perfect, right?

The desire to improve further served as the catalyst for our feature with expert driving consultant Rob Colbourne

this month, p37. We'd already undertaken Rob's enlightening road driving course (GT 06/15) so the progression to his track package seemed a natural one. Porsche kindly loaned us a 991 Carrera 2 S with a few trick bits and pieces bolted on for the job. Indeed, if you were picking your ideal 911 for occasional track use I imagine you might gravitate towards a car such as this with PCCB carbon ceramic brakes and sports bucket seats. It offers a pretty good balance between road and track usability, although I have to say I prefer the adjustability of the dearer 918-style front chairs.

You can read how we got on with Rob further into this issue, but suffice to say it was a useful day and I'd urge anyone who feels apprehensive about driving on track to seek out similar tuition. As passionate car folk, particular for men I think, it can be a little embarrassing to admit that you're not as comfortable as you'd like to be on a circuit, but there really is no shame in wishing to improve your abilities. After all, you'll be the one who gains.

Personally my most enjoyable track driving moments have been when I have had the circuit largely to myself, without the pressures of someone quicker breathing down my neck, or a slower car holding me up. Naturally this is a rarity, but during our shoot with Rob at Bruntingthorpe Proving Grounds I did get the chance to take the 911 off for a play all by myself with no other

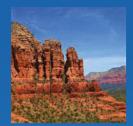
cars around. Bliss. By this point it was tipping down with rain and the track soaked with standing water but, despite this, I felt confident enough to push to a point that would have easily been outside my comfort zone not so long ago. Here, when you're really on it, you can fully appreciate the truly stunning abilities of a modern 911.

Our second-generation 991 did nothing but impress me. Even when it's pushed to the edge, wagging its tail, it is hugely confidence-inspiring. So much so that I started to wonder if the car was too good for our purpose that day. Let me qualify that. Straight after several hot laps in the C2S I jumped into a BMW 1-Series we had kicking about for a few more tours. Okay, I know the BMW is not a sports car in the same sense as the 911, but its rear-drive nature should mimic some of the 911's traits for the purposes of perfecting your lines and controlling the car at speed you'd feel. It, or rather I, was completely at sea. It was breaking traction everywhere, proved very tricky to balance and ultimately began to eradicate the confidence I'd been building all day. Who was at fault here? The BWW? The Porsche? Or me?

Of course, much of the blame should lie at my own door but I did start to wonder if the modern 911 was too accomplished for my purpose of learning; was it too confidenceinspiring, too forgiving? Or could it be that I've reached a point whereby I now feel more assured behind the wheel of a 911, more tuned to its characteristics than in any other car? I think that's a possibility, but believe me when I say that does not mean I consider myself a track driving expert in a 911, far from it. One of the things I have absorbed from Rob is that no matter how experienced you are behind the wheel, there is always more to learn. I plan to keep plugging away at finessing my track driving skills, but I think I'll stick to practicing in a 911 wherever possible  $\odot$ 



My most enjoyable track driving moments have been when I have had the circuit to myself











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# Fast Track

Advanced driving consultant, Rob Colbourn, can teach you how to better your driving technique on track with a Performance Driving Course. It worked for us...

Story: Simon Jackson Photography: Malcolm Griffiths



round this time last year we undertook a full course of driving tuition with advanced driving consultant, Rob Colbourn (*GT* 06/15). Our experience was limited to the road as that is where we spend the majority of our time behind the wheel. The syllabus focused largely around improving our general attitude to driving, whilst sharpening our observation and anticipation skills. It provided us with an arsenal of useful techniques and commonsense hints useable in practically every road-going scenario.

Rob's courses are tailored to each individual, no

matter their skill or confidence level, and his methods explore the idea that there is an art to driving well, a road craft if you will. His approach showcases that once equipped to practice it there is a whole extra dimension to driving, one so obvious it has been staring you in the face. You'd be lying if you claim that doesn't sound appealing.

Rob's background is rather unlikely, which makes his tutorage even more significant in our eyes: he was once a 'white van man'. Charging up and down the country delivering parcels, Rob was typically the guy in the nondescript van sat three inches off your back bumper, headlights ablaze, chewing the steering wheel in anticipation of getting ahead of you. Since becoming a driving instructor and then an advanced consultant, those aggressive days are long gone as Rob has gone through what he terms a "shift in attitude". However, Rob's past gives him a real world insight and pragmatic level of understanding that sets him apart from many driving experts we've encountered. Rob's understanding of driving psychology ensures he is able to both relate to, and eradicate, any long-formed habits hampering your driving. When it comes to driving on the road, erasing



bad habits is a very useful undertaking; translate it to the track and it might just save your life.

Despite spending much of his professional working life tutoring on track at Porsche's Experience Centre at Silverstone, Rob would be the first to admit that he's not a 'racing driver'. There's a distinct difference between someone who can drive quickly, intelligently and safely on a circuit and an individual who can exhume the last few tenths of a second in competitive motorsport. But if you have any level of desire to improve your track driving skill set, as we did, then Rob's teachings are most useful and the ideal basis from which to move from merely enthusiastic to

competent on track. Interestingly much of the craft Rob teaches on his road course can be translated, perhaps in an amplified fashion, to the circuit-specific driving techniques he promotes. Driving psychology features heavily once more. Although each of us may respond differently when we are behind the wheel of a car, many of the reactions caused by our actions will have the same (unwelcome) outcome. Just like on the road, first and foremost using our vision becomes key to mastering an effective track driving technique. Changing the way we observe situations can aid our ability to predict, understand and subsequently react. During road driving we're taught to anticipate

potentially hazardous situations, using a mixture of our experience and what the surrounding environment can communicate to us. This enables a driver to predict a possible course of events and act to minimise a problem which may arise in advance of it occurring. The principle is the same on track – if you know what might be ahead you can plan for it in advance. One of Rob's mantras is to look through a corner, flick your eyes ahead through the turn, then draw them back to the apex to build a picture of where you're going ahead of your arrival. Rob lets you build speed gradually, pushing on as and when you feel comfortable, and should your enthusiasm









overtake adhesion, he'll encourage you to reel it in, taking a step back before moving forward again and potentially back out of your comfort zone. As you push the envelope of your perceived comfort level, your skill set grows commensurately.

Vehicle dynamics play an important part in the process of Rob's teachings. Understanding what a car is doing underneath you, and what it might do as you feed it various inputs, is vital. For example, Rob ensures you possess a level of knowledge about the physical reaction your steering inputs have — drilling into you that as you turn the wheel you should be considering the angle of your car's



tyres, exactly what you're asking of them, and the relationship between road surface, tyre and car attitude. "Many clients are perfectly familiar with the terms 'oversteer' and 'understeer' but are not necessarily confident of giving an accurate definition or explanation of how they're caused, identified, corrected or, most importantly, prevented," Rob explains.

Likewise most modern cars feature an abundance of electronic safety aids (ESP, DSC, PSM) but do you as the driver really know how they all operate? Are you aware to what extent they influence the vehicle? Or how best to use them to good effect? Through

Rob's tuition, you'll soon learn just how clever these systems are and whether or not you really need them or, rather, why you should never rely on them! It's the same with braking techniques. Rob likens emergency braking to bankruptcy. "We all understand the basic premise but spend years, quite rightly, employing other skills to try and avoid facing it for real," he says. "If we do have to face it, we are likely to find ourselves lacking the necessary skills to overcome it. Paradoxically, practicing these skills to a high competency level reinforces the point that you should not allow yourself to need them."

Sir Jackie Stewart is clearly a big influence on the track driving techniques that Rob endorses, not for his ultimate speed but for his smoothness. Stewart was famed for his chauffeur-like driving style and it's this smooth, calculated and considered approach that Rob presses home. He teaches a driver to roll off the brake pedal, not jump off it, to balance the car through a corner, in the case of a 911 often with a small input of throttle mid-turn. Using all of the available road, letting the car gently run wide out of a corner, your task is then to gradually feed the power back in as the steering lock is wound off.

If you have any level of desire to improve your track driving skill set then Rob's teachings are most useful





"Imagine there is a piece of string between the accelerator pedal and the steering wheel," he says. "That throttle pedal cannot go down until the wheel is fully straightened."

Each and every input is designed to not upset the car; you should not overdrive it but rather make considered smooth adjustments to retain a certain level of balance. Coming out of corners this often feels like the old Martin Brundle adage of "hurry up and wait" before you're able to get on with things (and apply the throttle) but it ensures the cleanest exit and, believe it or not, will prove faster than letting

the car slide from apex to curb.

We've already stated that much of what you will learn will serve you well on the circuit but, conversely, that works both ways. Employing a smooth and flowing approach on the track can also work effectively on the road, with a focus on using and extending your vision to your own advantage.

I wouldn't consider myself a wholly confident track driver prior to spending time with Rob yet with his help I've certainly learnt both a greater understanding of what a vehicle is doing in a track environment and, perhaps more importantly, how my perceptions have altered towards my own limitations. I've learned that I can gradually push to improve my level of comfort on track and, as a consequence, my skill levels improves with it. Rob's talent is not a dark art; rather his approach and the methods he uses enthuse and inspire drivers to believe in themselves, to hone their existing abilities almost without the realisation of what they're achieving. Indeed, far from schooling his clients in an entirely new method of driving, Rob expertly extracts the better driver that lies within us all, and he does so in a relaxed and informed manner that guarantees success O



# TRACK REGULAR, SAM PRESTON, SHARES HIS EXPERIENCE OF ROB'S COURSE...

Ithough I have been on a good number of track days now, these often oversubscribed events haven't always allowed me to find the true limits of a car. At the Nürburging Nordschleife, for example, on occasions I've found myself seemingly spending more time checking my rearview mirror for the likes of GT3 RSs to appear out of nowhere than gaining the confidence needed to instead begin focusing on improving my own talents. With Rob sat beside me, however, and an empty track complete with nerve-settling amounts of runoff to play with, the rate of learning is naturally far quicker here, especially once I'd realised that Rob wasn't there to criticise my current level of driving. Instead he was genuinely

interested in helping me work on what I'd already learnt to become a better, faster driver.

Rob soon determined that smoothness in and out of corners was something that I could certainly use some help with. First up, he assisted me in honing the art of trailing off the brakes gradually into slower-speed corners. Known by the pros as 'trail braking', the technique is something of a mirror to the 'piece of string' theory mentioned earlier; where the brakes are hit hard as you'd expect before turning but then let off gradually as you begin to turn the steering wheel. As well as allowing you a later braking time, this technique perhaps more importantly helps keep the weight distribution of the car balanced for optimum grip and tyre usage throughout the turn. Easier said than done,

for sure, but with some practice it's soon simple to understand why this is one of most effective weapons a racing driver can keep up their sleeve.

Other small nuggets of invaluable wisdom Rob helped me pick up on included keeping your vision focused on where you're aiming as well as where you are ("don't just live in the moment — you don't know what's around the corner unless you look") and maintaining good positioning on the steering wheel ("those spokes are put in the ten-to-two position for a reason") with a relaxed grip to ensure you pick up on as much feedback from the car as possible. All techniques I don't know if I'd ever manage to teach myself, regardless on how much track time I was exposed to O

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# JOINT VENTURE

Classic 911s are growing in popularity on the historic racing scene and none are more competitive than the early short-wheelbase cars. We follow the fortunes of Paul Stephens driving Historika's 901 at Le Mans Classic.

Story: Johnny Tipler Photography: Antony Fraser

f the ever-expanding catalogue of major historic events on the competition calendar, Classic Le Mans is the must-do, must-see occasion for many Porsche buffs. There's the kudos of racing at La Sarthe in cars that did so in period, as well as soaking up the unique vibe with less of the intensity of the modern event.

The FIA-sanctioned historic meeting is no less rigorously policed in terms of eligibility and it's a grand opportunity to see the old-school Group Five and Six cars in action, like the 906, 908, 910 and 917. The entry list is divided into plateaux, with cut offs at years rather than categories, ensuring a broad spread of cars that competed against one another back in the day. So while 934s

The 901 testing at Snetterton (right) prior to the Le Mans Classic weekend, and (below) at full chat on the famous French circuit



and 935s from the 1970s vie with Matras, Alpines and Z1s, the very first 911s squeeze into the '62-'65 'grid four' bracket with a cut off at 1965.

One week ahead of the upcoming French classic we hooked up with Porsche specialist Paul Stephens at Snetterton as its main man, Paul Stephens, and co-pilot, Neil Shinner (who campaigns historic Formula Fords, an Elan 26R and is a current Caterham champion) acclimatised themselves to their mount for Classic Le Mans.

The car in question was Suffolk-based Porsche restoration and race preparation guru Historika's 901 (as the earliest 911s are designated). Classic Le Mans is open to experienced racers holding a full FIA international licence, although the organisers will only accept certain cars. Fortuitously, both driver and car qualified for entry. Paul had raced at international level previously in a Marcos, as well as 911s and Caterhams on the domestic scene. "I established that I could renew my FIA International licence, providing I was medically fit," Paul said. As for the car, that was more tricky. "With my experience of Marcos, I knew that only one Mini

Marcos had raced at Le Mans in period, which is crucial according to their selection process. So, when I attended in 2012 and saw two Mini Marcoses, I thought there could be a chance of gaining an entry with a 911 built to an appropriate spec." This was something that Paul's company could achieve in-house, so he discussed a provisional entry with the organisers, who were disinclined to accept his proposal since Porsche 911s have long been the car-of-choice for privateers and there were already cars competing that boasted period history. Undeterred, and wanting to race a Porsche, Paul began casting around for a car that would be eligible and acceptable at La Sarthe. This led him to Historika Racing to see about running its 901. A deal was struck, and the organisers accepted Historika's entry. The stage was set as Historika's mechanics fine-tuned the 901's setup at Snetterton.

The car's provenance was sufficiently beguiling to the Le Mans Classic organisers partly because it had run in the Masters series and Peter Auto events during Historika's tenure over the last eight years. This included a two-hour endurance race series, high profile events at Spa, Dijon, Paul



The Historika team worked its socks off all weekend to get the car back on track following mechanical issues











Ricard, Monza, Vallelunga and Imola. Last year Historika did every race, ending up second in the overall standings behind a Cobra, and it was the first 2.0-litre car home. At the wheel was flying Dutchman Pascal Pandelaar, who's one of the leading exponents in the successful Duel 2.0-litre SWB 911s. Earlier this year Andrew Smith helmed the 901, doing two Goodwood races and gaining a podium in the Fordwater Trophy, while Andrew Jordan (son of 911 legend Mike Jordan) won the SWB-Porsche 'John Aldington' race at the Member's Meeting.

Fifty years on, it's a remarkable survivor, since it seems to have been used in competition from its earliest years. We're told it was a race car from 1964, when it was delivered to Porsche agent Fleischauer in Cologne and then sold to Belgian concessionaire D'Ieteren. We've not been able to research that because in the very early days it was doing hillclimbs and the records are not based on chassis numbers, though it may be able to be proved with registration numbers. Then a little bit later it was bought by Fritz Leineweber, a big German collector of 906s and 904s. He had it prepared for the German

Historic Rally Championship in the '70s and '80s. It was used in that for a considerable time. Another collector and racer, Friedrich Fritz Kozka, bought the car in the early 1990s and had it fully restored. It was set up for Tarmac rallying by none other than Walter Röhrl and then used by Fritz in the German Historic Rally Championship. Then David Clark purchased the car and did the Tour Auto a few times, with Rowan Atkinson and Robert Barrie also driving. It was then bought at auction by JD Classics who sold it to Historika.

Since then it's been completely rebuilt. Looking at the stance of the 901, it's the narrowest of shells, and the tyres are right at the very edge of the bodywork. They are Avon radials, 185/70 R15s all-round, which have remarkably tall, bulbous sidewalls, as racing 911s did in the mid-'60s. In the cabin is a full cage, which is welded in, and there's a passenger bucket seat with a plumbed-in fire extinguisher behind it. You'll also find Schroth race harnesses, a Piloti wheel and an ignition cut-out on the dash and under the front lid. The door furniture is a lot more period with chromed window frames,

three-quarter-lights and door-pulls. Leather thongs support the windows when raised or lowered. There's a grille in the front panel and the two apertures are open for cooling the brakes. Spotlights are mounted on the horn grilles and the bonnet is fastened with rubber bungee clips.

When developing the car Historika was not especially looking at how race teams would have run a 911 R in period. "Everything's moved on so much, and we don't have a lot of flexibility in tyres because we're restricted to either the period Dunlops or, in some series, you can run Avons. You can't run any modern rubber," Kevin told us. "With these short-wheelbase cars you literally have to tick every box: its engine, its gearbox, its suspension, body stiffness, and its driver.

"The big difficulty we have with these cars is they're homologated at 1002kg, which is heavy. We could run a car at 950kg without even trying to strip weight off it, so we have to balance the car a lot. It's heavy for a realistic power-to-weight ratio, and there are many lighter cars out there."

Historika is restricted on what it can do with the engine, too. "It has to be 2.0-litres, and you have to keep within the realms of what the suspension can cope with," Kevin continues. "The problem is people are always catching up. In their day the engines were 130-135hp but most people are getting 180-190hp now." This is

mostly achieved through lightening components, blueprinting and fine-tuning the details. According to Paul Stephens: "A 901 is very similar to other short-wheelbase 911s though there are a few idiosyncrasies and details of the car that make it slightly different. It's also much rarer and more valuable than the renamed 911s that followed and I think that's why it was allowed to enter, because it's a very early car. It's got to be the authentic thing."

The 901 was trucked to La Sarthe for the big weekend with a little help from Brittany Ferries. There are six plateaux, or grids, at Classic Le Mans, defined according to era, and each comprising as many as 70 cars, from the 1920s to 1970s, plus Group C from the 1980s this year. Each plateau does three races over the course of the 24 hours, enabling participants to experience the circuit by day and night. Though Paul has driven the Bugatti circuit, this was his debut on the full Sarthe circuit. "You can only drive it for the 24 Hours or the Classic because the majority of it is on public roads," he says. "There wasn't any testing, so my first drive around the Le Mans circuit was on a qualifying lap. It was a baptism of fire, really. We were never going to be contenders for overall victory in our class as we were competing with 7.0-litre GT40s and Cobras but our aim was to mix it with the 2.0 911s. If I'm



"A 901 is much rarer and more valuable than the renamed 911s that followed"









901

When is a 911 not a 911? When it's a 901 (apart from a 930, 964 or 993, of course). The earliest '911s' to emerge from Zuffenhausen during 1964 were given the type number 901 -232 cars including prototypes - till Peugeot muscled in and pointed out that it owned the type numbers with '0' at the centre. No problem for Porsche: the 901 became the 911 overnight. How's a 901 different to a 911? There are some detail changes, such as a smooth rear slampanel, but fundamentally it's an early 911. The prototype 911 defined as the 901 was unveiled at the Frankfurt Show in September 1963, and 13 prototypes followed. At least 232 cars were built during 1964 designated with the 901 chassis number until, on 10 November 1964, Porsche bowed to Peugeot's threat of litigation.

Paul (below) had always dreamed of racing at Le Mans, so the Classic event was an opportunity not to be missed

at a circuit where there's very little testing and I don't know where I'm going, my next thought is who could I tag onto that's going to go fairly well to take me round at a decent pace. I was informed that out of the 901s and 911s, of which there were eight, the brothers Yves and Philippe Scemama were probably the two quickest. My green flag lap was my first ever sighting of the circuit and I latched onto the Scemama car for my first flying lap, though I got baulked approaching Tertre Rouge and lost time there. After one complete lap I was going down the Mulsanne Straight to start my second lap when the car started losing power, so I coasted to a standstill at Mulsanne Corner. Unfortunately it had actually cooked a piston. A combination of an open exhaust system and a lighter throttle made it go lean. That's what burnt the piston. It

happened to three cars in qualifying."

So that was one engine down, and Paul had done one lap of qualifying, posting a 6min 17sec time which meant 70th on the road. Neil hadn't had a drive at all. There ought to have been an opportunity for a night practice but a flywheel issue with the replacement engine meant they missed that, too. The Historika team worked tirelessly through the night to get the car back up and running, with a second engine fitted. It's testament to Historika's work ethic.

With a new flywheel fitted the car ran well. In the first race Paul and Neil brought it from 70th to 60th on the road. Their second race started at 4am. "We were facing the dark one minute and then dawn the other side, depending on where you were on the circuit," Paul said. "During the race a Ferrari caught fire and the stewards



# "All the highs and lows were very dramatic"





red-flagged the race and there was some chaos in the pit lane. After the restart I made up a lot of time by overtaking other cars under braking and we moved up to 42nd. I had found another nine seconds a lap. Race three began with the traditional Le Mans start, where the drivers sprint across the circuit before driving off having fastened their harnesses, of course - and again Neil took the start, with Paul doing the second stint to finish 23rd overall. I ended up doing a 5min 28sec lap, so I'd found another two seconds a lap. We ended up being the third quickest 911 on the road behind the Swiss and Columbian cars that I'd started off trying to follow in qualifying, which was fantastic after such a dismal start. All the highs and lows were very dramatic."

Paul has a positive take on the weekend: "For me Le Mans is an emotional experience because I've been going for years as a spectator, first as a kid with my dad. I've dreamed about driving there for years and to finally achieve that has been fantastic. There are parts of the circuit where you can relax and check oil pressure etc, like the Mulsanne, but the circuit also has a technical side and I can now appreciate how big accidents can happen with a momentary lapse of concentration in a long race. I think the most difficult part of the circuit for me was the Porsche Curves; to get those absolutely pieced together is quite an achievement and I don't think I ever did get those right if I'm honest."

Certainly the prospect of another crack at the Classic in the Historika 901 is an attractive one, and both Porsche specialists are keen to work together again. There's nothing quite like it; Classic Le Mans is phenomenal, and certainly it had its moments in this 901 O

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# A KENWOOD HEAD UNIT

Kenwood's new DNX8160DABS boasts a wealth of useful features such as Apple CarPlay, Android Auto, Garmin European navigation and DAB. Here's how you can win one for your Porsche...

ontemporary Porsches boast a wealth of convenience features that are hard to knock, amongst them Porsche's sophisticated PCM system. As time passes, though, these OEM systems show their age and their functions fall behind the curve of advances in technology. That's where fitting an up-to-date aftermarket head unit starts to make sense, and Kenwood is a leading name in the game.

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For Android users Google maps will display perfectly on the screen via your smartphone. Bluetooth hands-free tech is included in the spec sheet, too. The DNX8160DABS boasts a seven-inch capacitive touch-screen, playback of almost every type of media via Bluetooth, USB and HDMI. There's built-in FM, AM, DAB and DAB+ radio. Its digital signal processing includes a 13-band EQ, 4x50w of power with a 5v pre-out and time alignment functions. It is also Hi Res Audio ready. Full European Garmin navigation features, too, with free map updates for three years and free access to traffic information for two years. Front and rear camera integration can also be activated allowing you to add cameras to the unit.

To find out more about the DNX8160DABS, or to find your nearest stockist, visit www.kenwood-electronics.co.uk

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A low mileage 944, an affordable 928 and a stunning genuine flatnose 930 garner our attention this month, alongside a fantastically rare 924 race car...

# 1985 944



Auction House: H&H Classics Auction: Donnington Park Location: Castle Donnington Date: 28 July 2016 Estimate: £9,000-£11,000

This 2479cc Guards red 944 automatic has covered a very low 24,500 miles, and had been owned by the same family until 2015 when the current vendor acquired it. The story goes that it was purchased new in 1985 as a gift for the buyer's wife and was placed in storage on her death before being passing to various family members. When it was sold in 2015 the purchaser had intended to use it daily, but his conscience got the better of him given the car's condition and so it was offered for sale in July. Complete with its service book and handbook, assorted MoTs and invoices together with a V5 registration document, new tyres and a fresh MoT, this 944 with a cream/tan interior achieved a good price.





# 00 ice:

# 1986 930 Turbo SE flatnose

Auction House: Silverstone Auctions Auction: Silverstone Classic Sale 2016 Location: Silverstone Date: 30 July 2016 Estimate: £90.000-£110.000

This 930 Turbo is a genuine right-hand drive, factory flatnose built in October 1986 under the 'Sonderwunchprogramm' (Special Wishes Programme). From the 948 cars produced between 1983-1989, this is one of the 49 RHD examples manufactured. Ordered via a dealer in Switzerland in 1986 bound for a client in South Africa, the car was shipped to the UK during its lifetime and was maintained by Swinford Motors, then Wildcat Racing and, subsequently, Porscheshop. Having covered just 69,700 miles, the car had recently had over £10,000 spent on its engine with new camshafts, oil feed tubes, and a new ignition system fitted. Coming complete with its Porsche Certificate of Authenticity confirming its status as a genuine flatnose, this car was always going to attract interest, selling for within its estimate.





# 1987 928 S4



Auction House: H&H Classics Auction: Donnington Park Location: Castle Donnington Date: 28 July 2016 Estimate: £5500-£6500





This 928 was said to be in fair to good overall condition, and unfortunately its service history was lost due to bereavement. Even so it represented a bargain for someone — a 5.0-litre V8 Porsche for £4500? Yes please. With 150,000-miles on its clocks it has an automatic transmission and features black leather upholstery. It is MoT'd until May next year, and had its rear spoiler present but not fitted. The vendor stated that the bodywork, engine and electrical system were all in 'good' condition, so too the gearbox and interior trim, with the paintwork in 'fair' condition. Unlike 911s and some of the other transaxle Porsches, 928s have yet to inflate in price drastically, how much longer that may last is anyone's guess...

# 1981 Porsche 924 Carrera GTR



Location: Silverstone Date: 28 July 2016 Estimate: £475,000-£575,000







We've featured this car in *Auction Watch* before, but it didn't sell. This time it has for £495,000. The rare 924 had been hidden in Japan for the last 30 years and had only covered 109km on track at Suzuka and Fuji Speedway. Imported to Japan when new, it spent its life in the hands of just two private owners. Laid up since 2006, the car has been started and run regularly to keep the oily bits in good order and fluids circulated. Offered with its Japanese title document and records of its minimal usage and extensive maintenance, Silverstone Auctions described it as 'by far and away the most original, untouched and completely unmolested example of any Porsche we have ever seen.' That the winning bid was just shy of half a million pounds surprised nobody.







owner often drove the 356 between Johannesburg and Cape Town – a distance of nearly 1000 miles. Andrew duly had the engine overhauled, but that was the only time in the 47 years he has owned it. Otherwise, this 356 is in a near-perfect condition, and it only shows its age in the areas that you would expect.

On a crisp, early morning in the Cape, the soft lines of this early 356 look perfectly harmonious amid the aged vineyards. Outside the confines of built-up areas, where there is only the landscape to appreciate, you have time to take in the simplistic lines of a motoring icon of the 20th century. It is, after all, the car that put Porsche on the map; the car that several of its first race cars were based on. Andrew opens the front luggage compartment. Here the spare wheel is positioned at an angle, fastened by a period leather strap. The rear engine compartment lid has the single, vertical vent, and it is here that you gain access to a clean example of the 1.6-litre, flat-four that produces a claimed 75hp. That is admittedly a modest number, but bear in mind that these 356s only tipped the scales at around 820kg. As we leave the main gate of the farm, the sight of a 356 traversing a gravel road seems a trifle unusual – I (and probably most of you reading this) often browse classifieds and upcoming auctions, and the 356 is a car that is usually seen parked in a pristine environment; on a showroom floor or soft grass. But five to six decades ago, at least in South Africa, 356s experienced their fair share of gravel roads — unsealed road surfaces were the norm, so you could say that Andrew is simply continuing that illustrious history.

So what did make the car stand out in its heyday, and what was it about the car that initially





30 30 40 50 100 60

appealed to Andrew? "The elements of this car that stood out for me at the time were the handling, balance, speed and design," he answers. "And all of those aspects still hold up today. I've owned plenty of other marques of car during my time as well as Porsches, vehicles with similar-sized engines and shapes, but they can't compete with the 356. Also, you need to remember that the original shape was designed as early as the late-1940s, which makes it so much more classic and special."

With the first rays of sunlight creeping over the peaks of the Hottentots-Holland Mountains, it is time for me to climb behind the wheel. My maiden 356 experience was in an 1958 Speedster (*GTP* 03/15) and to say that I enjoyed my time with it is an understatement, so it is with much excitement that I twist the key to allow this flat-four engine to turn with a little help from the throttle pedal. My head just misses the roof lining, but other than that there is enough space in the cabin for me to find a relaxed position behind the wheel. Rounded shapes are visible everywhere, most notably when you look through the windscreen and appreciate the curved wings that lead out from the relatively flat luggage compartment lid towards the wheels. The huge steering wheel allows for decent leverage at slow speeds, while three circular dials relay the speed, revs, fuel level and oil temperature. To the left of the steering wheel is the original Becker Safari radio and, below the dashboard, the sense of space continues. There is only a small divider between the driver and front passenger's footwells, while the



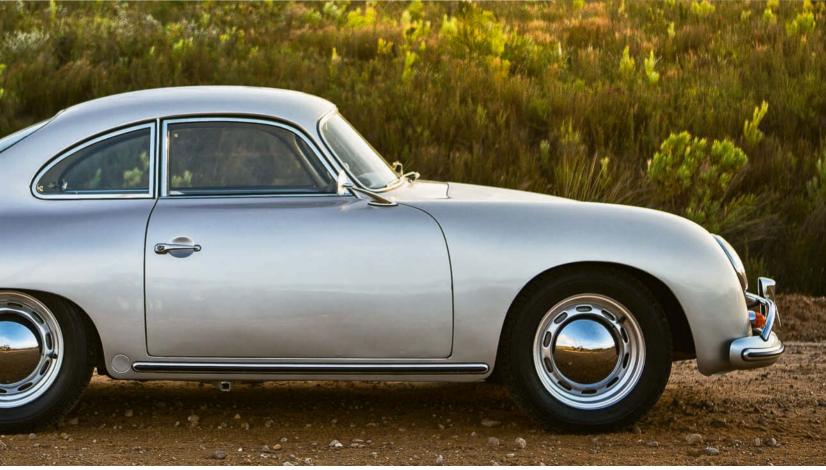
ample space around the floor-mounted pedals and gear lever must have been perfect for racers at the time. As I pull away I change into second gear and slowly increase my speed, before shifting into third and eventually fourth (top) gear. The gearbox does have long, and rather loose, shifts, but after a number of times of going up and down the 'box, you do become familiar with it. Interestingly, each gear has a specific feel to the engagement process. The engine is more than happy to potter around the 2000-2500rpm mark, but with the redline starting at 5000rpm, I felt obliged to not push much beyond 4000rpm. As I select second gear, I put my foot down and the revs built to 3000rpm, and then it picks up speed as the needle brushes past 4000rpm. Third gear, and again, with a surprisingly honest level of enthusiasm, the needle passes 4000rpm. The engine and exhaust ends emit a rough but recognisable flat-four sound. You can't help but smile at the pace of this very basic sports car from the late-'50s. There is some play in the steering wheel (like most cars from the era), but once you acknowledge this initial sensation, the 356 reacts convincingly to inputs. I keep my speeds low on the gravel road, although Andrew admits that at higher speeds the 356 is especially fun to drive as the grip levels are so low, partly owing to those narrow tyres.

As we subsequently make our way on the (tarred) main road leading to Hermanus (a coastal town that's well-known by the whale-watching fraternity), the 356 easily keeps to the national speed limit of 75mph, and there is still some margin left to accelerate. The car absorbs joints and bumps in the road with aplomb by virtue of its softly-sprung suspension and high profile tyres. There is no doubt in my mind that I could undertake a long journey in this car any day... but, saying that, the 356 would probably provide plenty of thrills on a mountain pass too. Just imagine how different the 356 must have felt all these years ago compared to cars from across the Atlantic. It's the polar opposite to the luxurious barges offered by some of its contemporaries.

As we arrive in Hermanus to check out Andrew's other pride and joy, his 991 GT3 RS, the contrasts between these cars start to surface. Andrew climbs behind the wheel of the RS, and as I drive behind him to the suggested spot overlooking the Atlantic Ocean, the size, raw intensity and focused stance of the latest RS momentously dwarf the 356. But at the same time, the 356 looks compact, elegant and timeless. "This RS is in another league, as you'd expect, and the limits of this car are simply stratospheric..." Andrew remarks. "But at least the older 911s give you plenty of warning as and when you approach the limit..."

I drove a 991 RS only a few weeks before this outing, and there is no correlation between its and 356's driving experience. What these two cars have in common, however, is that they have those rounded wings over the front wheels. They are faultless sports cars of their respective eras that grabbed







headlines in numerous motoring publications and were eagerly discussed in pubs around the globe. Andrew's story is an unusual tale of a life with Porsches. Being able to share anecdotes from the late-'60s, through the next four decades up to the advent of the latest RS makes for fascinating conversation. As his history with his cars illustrates, he believes a car should be driven, enjoyed and then passed on. A prime example is when he took delivery of his new RS and immediately did a 1600-mile jaunt through South Africa's Western and Eastern Cape provinces. And he didn't stick to the highways, either. He allowed those cambered 265/35 ZR tyres on 9.5x20-inch front wheels to sniff out some of the best mountain passes in the country. That's how it should be done!

The modest 356 started the Porsche story not only for Andrew, but for countless enthusiasts all over the world. Even after roughly 70 years, it still surprises with its honest approach to driving fun. It's truly refreshing to drive a car which has low limits and where everything can be measured in seconds, not milliseconds, where you, the driver, execute every action and there's no nannying from some sophisticated electronic system. It's no wonder Andrew has kept the 356 all these years O

"I've owned plenty of cars with similar-sized engines and shapes but they can't compete with the 356"





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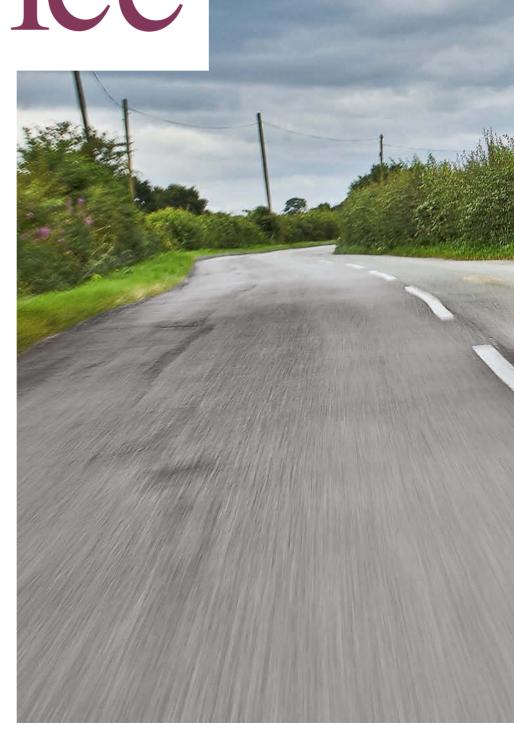
# Customer Service

Based on a 964 Carrera 4, this 9m64ST from Porsche specialist Ninemeister is a custom fabricated 911 that blends old with new in a unique way...

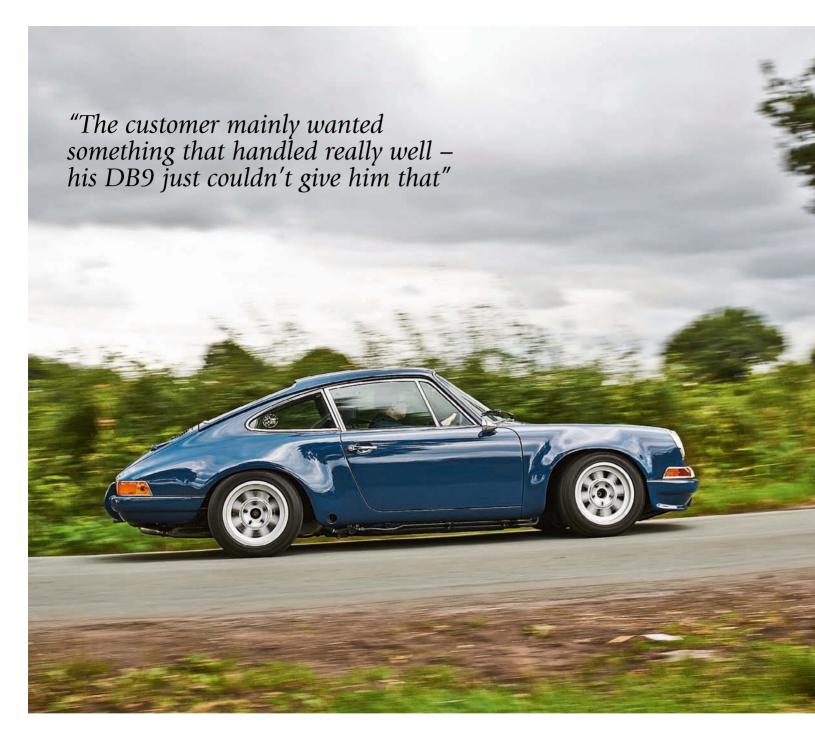
Story: Simon Jackson Photography: Gus Gregory

n a roundabout sort of way we can thank a Porsche OPC and Aston Martin for the custom creation you see here. How so? Clearly it is not the work of the Porsche factory. Neither was it built and buffed by anyone employed by the firm. Likewise, it was not faithfully offered for sale at an Aston Martin dealership. Nor does it take any form of inspiration from the British brand's automotive offerings. However, had its owner not deemed the level of service he received from one particular Porsche Centre as unacceptable, he may never have walked across the street in disgust to spend his money on a brand-new Aston Martin DB9 instead of a new 911 as planned. Subsequently the said owner (who wishes to retain some anonymity so we'll not mention him by name) suffered eye-watering sixfigure depreciation on his DB9 over just a handful of years. This led him in search of a car slightly more immune to such financially disastrous behaviour...

Fingers burnt from his Porsche main dealer experience, the chap had a pretty clear picture in his mind about what he wanted from his next car, and it wasn't something he could preview via any online model configurator hosted by either Porsche or Aston. The order of the day was a 'retro' 911 but with all the convenience of a contemporary car; read ABS, PAS, and a useable torquey modern engine. Naturally Singer's reimagined Porsche-based creations were on his radar but he did not have the budget to travel down that path. Rather his answer was to turn to Warrington-based Porsche specialist, Ninemeister, who he charged with the construction of a bespoke 911 unique to him. Ninemeister's MD







Colin Belton picks up the story: "The customer's daily car is an Aston Martin DB9, and he only bought it because Porsche was being a bit funny with him about the trade-in value of his 997. But he realised that over the time he's owned the car it has depreciated something like £100,000. When it came to his next 911 he had a budget of around £120,000-£150,000."

The customer initiated the process of working closely with Ninemeister to develop and finesse his concept for a 911 that tipped a hat to Porsche history, determining the correct plan of attack. It quickly became apparent that his wishes precluded a 'run-of-the-mill' backdate project and outlawed Ninemeister from starting with a truly classic 911 as a basis for the project. In fact, the modern

advents that the customer required were already fitted to a classically styled 911 from the factory.

"We had to start with a 964," Colin recalls. "He wanted a standard car that he could get in and drive. He wanted it to look and feel like an early car. He wanted a six-speed gearbox, so we bought a 993 gearbox from America – an easy solution – and we converted the donor car he supplied to us, a 1991 964 Carrera 4, to Carrera 2 specification, which is also very easy."

Colin's definition of 'easy' might differ from yours or mine but one thing is certain: this man knows his Porsches inside-out and back-to-front. Hailing from an engineering background, Colin sees the world as an exploded diagram, taking an analytical approach to each and every situation in

his life. We had a 30-minute conversation with him about O-rings – it was more interesting and enlightening than it sounds. When it comes to working with a customer to build their dream machine Colin likes to take what he calls a 'top down' approach. This means looking at the project as a whole and working backwards in detail to end up with a complete end-to-end solution, turning the customer's concept into a reality with his vision and guidance. If it is possible to be the 'architect' of a car build then Colin most certainly comes RIBA endorsed.

Each and every Ninemeister car is unique but despite having various elements altered, the focus of this one is its bodywork. This car is so much more than a backdate and has a few tricks up its





The engine and interior, though refreshed, remain largely standard 964 issue. They really are, however, the only parts of the car not to have been touched with Ninemeister's custom hand



sleeve which you may or may not have noticed. "The beauty of the early 911s is the delicacy and balance of their design," Colin explains. "Singer changes the look of its 911s by running 17-inch wheels with arches that are a little bigger than you'd expect. It deepens the sills and bumpers so that everything is in proportion. With all the other cars around people seem to cheat by fitting a bigger front bumper and it all looks out of proportion – that's where Singer has got it so right."

Far from creating copycat cars paying homage to the Californian specialist, though, Ninemeister does its own thing. And it does it very well without resorting to the almost cartoon aesthetics some backdates tend to sport. "The key with this car is its subtle front end," Colin continues.

"The front bumper is actually the correct depth for an early car. You can't usually do that on a 964 because the front panel is a lot deeper; it isn't on this one. We've actually raised the boot floor and refabricated the entire front end to fit the correct front panel. It was a labour of love."

This all-steel affair is more than just a labour of love, actually, it's a rolling piece of artistry. A sunroof delete, steel bonnet and new early steel rear quarter panels might be enough for some, but Ninemeister has gone further with flared steel arches grafted onto each corner, too. Fitting enlarged arches was always the plan with this car; quite which ones was the real question. The owner was undecided about which way to go, so Ninemesiter mocked the car up with three

different options to physically show him how it would look. The customer was shown RS, 2.3 and 2.4 ST arches taped to the car's body and he opted for the 2.3-litre versions. "We ended up with the 2.3 ST arches because the customer didn't want to go bonkers on it in terms of width. But despite being good quality single pressing items they didn't really fit the car," Colin says. "The hardest job we've ever done in terms of bodywork is making those arches fit this car. Typically if we build an RS-style 911, seam welded with a sunroof delete, the fabrication time might be in the order of 100 hours. If we do a Clubsport 911, with a full weld-in roll-cage, you might be looking at 150 hours. This car took 300 hours..."

Of course, getting the car to look

# 9m64ST

**ENGINE:** 3.6-litre engine rebuilt with: new pistons, cylinders, valves, springs, retainers, camshafts, timing chains, new tinware, powdercoated, detailed fan, housing, shroud, replated fasteners, brackets, fixings, rebuilt distributor, new leads, caps, rotors, 9m Live remap, '88 930 Turbo front oil cooler, fan assisted

**TRANSMISSION:** 993 G50/20 six-speed gearbox, RS lightweight flywheel and clutch assembly, 964RS driveshafts

**BRAKES:** 993 front brake callipers and discs, 993 rear callipers with 964 RS discs

**CHASSIS:** 7x15 and 8x15-inch Group4 Campagnolo wheels with 205/55 and 225/50 Toyo Proxes tyres

**SUSPENSION:** 993 front uprights, steering arms, lower ball joints, KW Variant 3 coilovers, 9mRS front wishbone and rear trailing arm bushes, 964 Carrera 2 anti-roll bars. Seam welded and reinforced

**EXTERIOR:** Ninemeister all-steel body, sunroof delete, SC quarter panels, '73 front wings, 2.3 ST steel arches, '73 long bonnet, '73 front boot panel (964 chassis legs extended, boot floor raised, battery relocated), 2.3 ST Epoxy bumpers front and rear, 1972-1989 spec rear lights, '73 chrome headlights and front indicators, polished and anodised 964 door frames, '73 windscreen and rear screen, anodised trim, chrome door handles, chrome Talbot mirror.

INTERIOR: 993-style Southbound black carpet set, '73 perforated vinyl cream headlining, full black leather retrim, RS lightweight door panels, 1973-style 964 instruments, Momo Prototipo steering wheel





proportionally correct was not just reliant on its bodywork; the relationship between its body and the rolling stock was also critical.

Ninemeister always knew the car would sit on 15-inch wheels, which helped shape its thinking, but the style and width of those wheels was open to debate. "Wheel choice was always going to be a bit of a problem because the customer wanted retro-style wheels," Colin says. "With it being a 964 it runs a hub offset 33mm wider than that of an early 911, both front and rear. So if you fit a Fuchs wheel to a 964 immediately it sits 33mm further out than a standard rim."

Fortunately previous experience with a Turbobodied 964 project and a set of period Fuchs wheels meant Ninemeister had a good idea of what would work on its customer's car. It shopped around for a set of aftermarket wheels that would fit over the standard brake callipers. The team ended up purchasing the beautiful 15-inch Group4 Campagnolo wheels you see here in varying widths (six, seven, eight and nine inches) to enable some experimentation in the workshop. It proved a fruitful approach.

But Ninemeister had another trick up its sleeve: fitting 993 front uprights, steering arms and lower ball joints to the car. "Converting the front hubs from 964 to 993 items is relatively easy as they're an aluminium hub with a radial bolt calliper rather than an axial bolt calliper. They have a larger calliper with similar sized discs [to the originals] so it's a nice upgrade for a 964," Colin explains. As well as ensuring great feel on turn-in, the modification has the added bonus of providing a nice braking upgrade package for a 964. The customer had always worked on the assumption that he didn't want any more than 300hp, so the swap provided suitable braking performance.

The rest of the chassis work was tailored to fit with the customer's wish for a car with good steering feel yet one that also wasn't too stiff. Colin describes what Ninemeister did to achieve this as being a little counter intuitive. The entire car was seam welded to stiffen its shell even beyond the level typical of an RS 911. This allowed the team to run a softer suspension setup in the form of fully adjustable KW coilovers. In combination with those 15-inch single piece wheels with high profile tyres, the design was intended to ensure a sharp steering response without compromising the overall driveability of the car. "The customer wanted a compliant car but mainly he wanted something that handled really well - his DB9 just couldn't give him that," Colin says.

In order to exploit the reworked chassis you might presume that this car has come in for extensive engine work. You'd be wrong. While everything under the rear decklid has been renewed, it remains largely standard, and we really don't see a problem with that. Fully rebuilt pistons, cylinders, bearings, chains, guides, valves, springs, and cams all feature. Plus, of

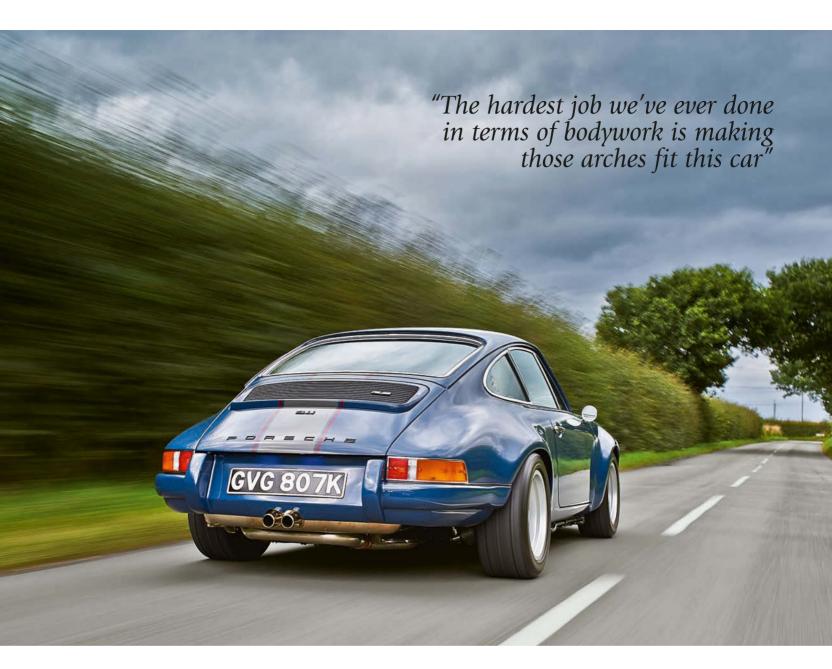


course, there's that new 993 six-speed 'box grafted in with an RS gear lever set. Otherwise it's all pretty tame – just as the customer wanted.

What it is not, however, is quiet. We can thank the custom exhaust setup for that. "We wanted to achieve the look of a banana box across the back of the car," Colin explains, "but with that engine there wasn't enough room so the silencer is half the width it should be." The exhaust and silencer custom fabrication work cost £1500 alone and Colin admits he and the car's owner are still in the process of finessing the system; quietening its throaty roar currently remains on the 'to do' list.

Last, but by no means least, we have to mention the paintwork, for it is an incredible job and showcases the standard of work that Ninemesiter's in-house paint shop can produce. For the colour the customer rattled through

hoards of Porsche and VW shades to find the right overall blue hue to shoot the car with. He performed the same process to track down a suitable contrasting grey and burgundy combination for the car's stripes, which are painted on, not created using vinyl as you might assume: "We did spray-out after spray-out and played with various tints to try and find the right colour combination," Colin recalls. "What's more, typically we would put two coats of primer on a car, bake it and then leave it for a month to fully harden off to allow for any shrinkage. Then we flat that off. This car had a third coat of primer and it was all blocked-out by hand each time." A labour intensive layering process was employed to build depth around the stripes allowing room for Ninemesiter's talented paint professionals to flat it all back, eliminating the high spots for a



deep yet fully flush finish. Run your finger across the stripe on this car and it feels like one fluid layer of paint, like highly polished glass. It's simply stunning workmanship.

All that was left to do after this were the electrics which for the most part are standard issue save for work to upgrade the 964's traditionally feeble headlight system and a few tweaks to the interior, which the customer looked after himself. Again, inside it's predominantly standard 964 fare as the customer wanted to use this car, chucking his kids in the back on weekends without a care and ensuring maximum levels of ease and comfort – so why change it? "The customer wasn't looking for the ultimate 911," Colin explains. "He wanted something that was nice to drive." There is, therefore, only question remaining: how does it drive?

We're always grateful when people allow us to drive their Porsches, it lends a feature a welcome

extra dimension. We're even more appreciative when those cars are entirely bespoke creations. So it's with a certain level of trepidation and excitement that we set off into the Cheshire countryside to test this 911 that Ninemeister calls a '9m64ST'. Our first impression is that it's impossible to escape the noise it makes; we can see why its owner is working with Colin to dampen the roar it creates from upwards of 2500rpm. But that aside, the overwhelming impression is just how easy this car is to drive. While its 964 roots remain apparent, moving through that slick six-speed 993 G50 gearbox is a delight, aiding positive and reassuring shifts. The acceleration from the rebuilt 3.6-litre motor out back feels far brisker than 300hp; in fact, we suspect Ninemeister's 'live remap' process delivers more power than its official dyno figures suggest. But the chassis setup is the real plus point here. It's exactly as Colin described: stable

with great turn-in feel and grip. While you're undoubtedly aware that the car is running coilovers, there's none of that crashing and banging you sometimes get on bump and rebound. The rest of the car's chassis, shell and rolling stock is clearly taking some of the strain and it promotes a smooth and enjoyable driving experience. You really feel like you could make some impressive progress in this car, and all the while you'd be doing so in a 911 that is entirely unique. It should not depreciate like a modern Aston Martin, either.

Typically we might be loath to report someone's bad experience with a Porsche main dealer as it's relative to them and therefore open to interpretation. In this instance, though, we're glad this car's owner was disgruntled by his OPC, as that set in motion a sequence of events that gave birth to this latest Ninemeister creation. Let's face it, how can that be a bad thing?





# Self Improvement

The 944 remains an affordable Porsche and of the transaxle era cars it is one of the most receptive to performance-enhancing upgrades, too. Jamie Slee's uprated 1989 S2 shows what is possible. Story: Simon Jackson Photography: Matt Woods



We're talking, of course, about the 944 - a car that can be purchased for as little as £3000 which can also be readily uprated without spoiling its original characteristics. There might be those who'll tell you that altering a Porsche from its original specification is unwise in this day and age, but let's not forget that in many respects the 944 was all but an uprated 924, albeit a car evolved by Porsche itself.

In simple terms, Porsche based the majority of the 944's makeup around the architecture of the 924. The 944's 2.5-litre engine might have been all-new but its chassis setup was lifted directly from the 924 Turbo, which at its heart ran the 924's familiar Audi-sourced transaxle arrangement. This comprised a rigid tube between the engine mounted up front, and the gearbox located at the back. Admittedly it was the 924's 2.0-litre four-cylinder power unit itself that had forced Porsche to consider the development of a new engine for its front-engined coupé. The deal struck with VW and Audi when Porsche inherited the 924 was good only for 100,000 engine units. Realistically Porsche knew it would need a greater number during the car's life cycle, and an all-new option would be possible under the terms of its agreement once that initial quota had been exhausted. The criteria for this new engine was pretty simple; it should be of a larger capacity than the 924's existing mill, plus it should provide more power and better economy. Importantly it should also fit into the car's existing framework without requiring drastic alterations, lastly it should provide the option for easily achievable performance updates going forward. At this stage Porsche was considering this work as an upgrade to the 924 model, not necessarily as the basis of a new standalone car with an



Jamie has mildly uprated the engine of his 944 to improve its performance and driveability. The chassis has also been touched with a full coilover setup

entirely fresh designation. Every engine option was given consideration, from six-cylinder to inline vee. Indeed the 928's V8 lump was on the table at one point, but although the 944 and 928 shared some commonalities at a manufacturing level, Porsche decided it best to differentiate the two cars as much as possible when it came to their powertrains. What Porsche ended up with was the 2.5-litre four-cylinder 163hp motor we now know, which dropped straight into the nose of the 924 as it stood. After several twists and turns Porsche also decided that this new engine should be available in a freshly revised bodystyle to highlight the changes made to the original 924 prospect – the 944 was born. Boasting its new, more powerful engine, a revised chassis and wider aesthetics, the 944 was a hit both when it was first unveiled at the Frankfurt motor show in September 1981, and the following month during its first press road tests. Porsche would run the car alongside the 924 in its model line-up, but in many respects the 944 was the car the 924 should have always been.

As you'd expect, the 944 evolved from its early specification as time passed but in 1985 it received its first set of major updates. These predominantly included new interior, exterior and chassis parts. Porsche also introduced a Turbo model that same year too, but that's a story for another day. In 1987 the 944S (S standing for 'Super') entered the range. This new version of the car boasted a performance-orientated 2.5-litre, 16-valve, twin-cam engine producing 190hp and borrowing its gearbox and driveshafts from the aforementioned Turbo. Its 170lb ft torque was also a hike compared with the 151lb ft of old, playing its part in shaving half a second off the 944's 0-60mph time, which now stood at 7.9 seconds down from 8.4 seconds. Just prior to the launch of a significantly revised 944, the S2, Porsche gave the entry-level 944 a 2.7-litre engine with 165hp and 166lb ft torque achieved via a larger bore and a new block. But really this was a precursor to the arrival of the S2 in 1989, a car that would be produced until 1991, yet which boasted a larger 2990cc engine capable of producing 211hp and 207lb ft torque, dispatching 0-60mph in just 6.9 seconds.

The single-cam 944 engine had done much for the entry-level Porsche, but for some the arrival of the twin-cam, 16-valve engine in the 944 S2 marked a real departure point in terms of performance; for many this was the right engine for this car. The 3.0-litre, four-cylinder was an improvement as far as numbers went, and while some road testers in period criticised its driveability, no-one contested its improved handling characteristics. In a way this last set of changes for the 944, as they would become, gave birth to the quintessence of the model – for after this point the 944 would evolve no more. In much the same way as the 924 had become the 944, the 944 became the 968 when Porsche's planned '944 S3' was deemed to be so far removed from its predecessor that it should benefit from a new name. The 968, a crowning achievement of the transaxle era was, however, a model not long for this world.





### "This is my version of an iconic, old-skool sports car with a few modern twists"

Today the 944 in all of its guises is a realistically affordable option for virtually anyone seeking to enter into Porsche ownership. There are those who prefer what it has to offer in comparison with a 911, but for anyone on a budget it might just be the ticket if a 911 is out of reach. Where the 944 wins out, however, is that it is eminently tuneable, and those wishing to improve one, be it a 2.5, 2.7- or 3.0-litre example, have options and aftermarket support at their disposal. All of this is not news to Ipswich-based Jamie Slee, whose passion for this particular model goes back a way: "My love affair with the 944 started in 1989 when I got my first a black 2.5-litre car," Jamie explained. "Over the years I have also had a Baltic blue 2.5 S, a Guards red 2.7, and now I have this 1989 Guards red S2."

Like many 944 owners, Jamie has seen fit to uprate various aspects of his car, a route well-travelled over the years by a group of owners who seem receptive to improving the capabilities of their cars, and less hung up on originality and provenance. "My car is not standard and I drive it like it should be driven," Jamie boldly told us. "I have updated it with some modern technology to make it a bit more fun to drive, even though these cars are engineered to a very high standard. Personally I think 944s are very underrated cars, I love the way they handle and drive."

Jamie's appreciation of Porsche's original recipe has, refreshingly, not stopped him from adding his own twist: "Overall this is my version of an iconic, old-skool sports car with a few modern twists to my tastes, it is still always a pleasure to drive. I also have all the original parts to put this back to a standard car."

Jamie's alterations are pretty comprehensive, and he hasn't been afraid to experiment with its makeup even when it comes to elements he holds in high regard. Jamie's day job with a long established motor trader means he's been entirely hands-on with tweaking this car, but he's also enlisted the help of local Porsche specialist, Pie Performance from time-to-time, too. A full adjustable coilover suspension setup has been fitted to each corner, complemented by polybushes and a front



strut brace to firm up the ride and responsiveness. The chassis setup has been further tweaked with a set of genuine 18-inch Porsche Anniversary wheels, driven by an engine which itself now breathes easier. Jamie has offered a ProMAX Performance Chip into the car as it is said to alleviate flat spots in the rev range and provide a five-to-ten percent gain in overall power, which translates in numbers to a potential rise of 16hp and 18lb ft torque over standard. In conjunction with these, Jamie's car runs Magnacor leads, performance spark plugs, a K&N panel filter plus a de-cat exhaust system with a 944 Turbo rear silencer. But Jamie's changes are not limited to the engine bay or suspension turrets. Aiding his ability to hustle this car is a short shifter gear change kit and a Momo steering wheel, ensuring his actions in the cockpit are translated in a decisive and swift fashion.

Jamie's touch has reached further still with this car, in fact it has been the subject of a full bare metal body restoration, not due to rust issues but rather because of a couple of panels displaying unsatisfactory shades of red – Jamie wanted them to match perfectly. You might also spot a set of clear indicators and bespoke rear lights, all of which were hand-made in Germany, and yet despite this car having been pampered and preened, Jamie is philosophical about using it. We'd go so far as to saying that Jamie is down right relaxed about his approach to driving this car with gusto in fact – and we admire that utterly: "I believe in driving a car like this rather than just having it sit there like an ornament," he confirms. "Over the last 28 years I have been working for a sports car dealership and have been lucky enough to drive a lot of fantastic sports cars, but overall my favourite is still Porsche."

Look back through the history of the 944 and it quickly becomes apparent that the model was systematically and gradually uprated throughout its evolutionary life cycle by Porsche. In a way what Jamie has undertaken with his car has continued that theme. His 944 S2 is a cut above the factory offerings for it boasts a bunch of upgrades that make it better to drive than the car he started out with. Jamie's approach has not been one of spoiling Porsche's original intentions, for if that were the case he would not have ensured that all of his modifications were reversible. Rather he has taken an affordable Porsche and dragged it into the modern era, tailoring it to his tastes and yet retaining everything about it served to make these cars so popular. With the way Porsche prices have been accelerating of late, there are not many models left that allow a freedom of experimentation to this level without a fear of severely devaluing an investment. Thankfully the 944 remains an affordable older Porsche which you can put a subtle personal mark on without your conscience crying foul  $\bigcirc$ 

A full respray in its original Guards red ensures the S2 looks like new. Fresher lighting and those large 18-inch wheels aesthetically modernise the car too...







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# BIG BUSINESS

Andrew Frankel drives the all-new Panamera to see how Porsche has equipped its executive express for the future...

Story: Andrew Frankel Photography: James Lipman



his is odd. The most remarkable thing about driving the new Porsche Panamera Turbo at 165mph is not the fact that you're driving at 165mph. Do that in anything else and you're so aware of the sheer speed at which you're travelling it blocks or at least suppresses everything else. In fact, in the Panamera, the thought uppermost in your mind is how quiet and comfortable life remains inside the Panamera Turbo at 165mph. The distinction may be subtle, but so too is it important.

Indeed all cars have a natural gait, a speed at which they're happiest. It occurs when they're humming along but not being strained, doing their thing. In my 1958 Citroën 2CV with its 12hp engine, that speed is precisely 42mph. In a 2016 Porsche Panamera Turbo, that speed is

165mph. Given the space, the roads and a suitably enlightened legal system, it's a speed it would maintain without apparent effort all day long or at least until the tank ran dry.

I mention this now because this ability to make the unusual seem so very normal is one of the most revealing aspects of Porsche's all-new super saloon.

Saloon? I've never known quite what to call the Panamera. It's not a coupé because it has four doors and a hatchback, but I can't call it a hatchback because it's so clearly not. 'Saloon' seems the term that best fits what turns out to be a quite dramatically reformed character.

Then again, after seven years of actually quite modest sales (Porsche shifted more SUVs last year alone than all the Panameras it has ever built), perhaps we should not be too surprised that Porsche has taken the opportunity presented by this genuinely all-new car to vary the script a little. Think of the original as the pilot: good enough to be picked up for a second series but not without dramatic change. Think of the first series of *Blackadder* compared to the second.

Most of all, however, think about how different this Panamera is to its predecessor, how much more different it is even than that suggested by its new 911-mimicking silhouette.

Underneath you'll find a brand-new platform, built up around a hybrid aluminium and steel architecture. Regardless of which Panamera you buy it will have a new engine under its bonnet, either a 2.9-litre twin-turbo V6 (which I am assured has nothing to do with the similarly



### Rarely has any car put so wide a space between real and perceived speed

sized and configured engine in the Macan S), a 4.0-litre V8 diesel sourced from Audi or, as in the case of this Turbo, a 4.0-litre twin-turbo V8 unrelated to the 4.8-litre, eight-cylinder motor from the old Panamera. This engine places its turbos inside the vee, where they heat up and respond faster. The new engine is not merely lighter than the old one, it's more powerful to the tune of 30hp, with 542hp now to its name, not to mention more torque lower down the range. This is all achieved with better fuel consumption, though that might also have something to do with the similarly new eight- speed gearbox that'll feature in every Panamera.

Being both a Turbo and a press car, the example I drove came with the full arsenal of technological wizardry: four-wheel drive, four-wheel steering, active suspension, anti-roll control, torque vectoring, carbon ceramic brakes and, judging by the rate at which it acquires speed, a warp drive under the bonnet.

But none of this is initially obvious, because your first few moments in the Panamera are going to be spent goggling at its interior, for this is not just a new level for Porsche, but any rival manufacturer. Your eye is drawn first to the jet black facia, devoid of almost all buttons courtesy of its touch-sensitive surfaces. Some of you will have seen this approach before because you own a 918 Spyder, but even you may not be prepared for the clarity in which information is imparted via three ultra high definition screens. It's a stunning interior, and one with just enough confidence to retain a big central tachometer as its only analogue dial. It is a lovely touch.

Even so, we can't sit here all day, looking at a cabin sufficiently spacious and sumptuous to accommodate four adults of over six foot and carry their luggage. There is much to find out and we need the open road to do it.

Perhaps fittingly for a car like this, a stretch of unrestricted autobahn is what hoves first into sight. As is usually the case, the dream of such roads fail to live up to the reality and there is too much traffic to find out how conservative Porsche is being with its claimed 190mph top speed, but there was space to rocket up to 165mph and the idea it has a mere 25mph to go was frankly laughable. Even at this speed the car was hauling hard with gears and power in hand: on the right day and right stretch of track I'd bet plenty it would get closer to 200mph.

This is important only insofar as it shines a light on to how understated this new Panamera is. The old car in general and the Turbo in particular was quite vocal and immediate in its actions and interactions. This car is not like that at all. The engine is quiet and while it makes a nice noise, it's not going to stir any souls. The ride on the air suspension that's standard on the Turbo but optional on all other Panameras coming to market, is very grown up, mature and sophisticated and one symptom of this is that rarely has any car put so wide a space between real and perceived speed. You could even escape with the idea that the Turbo is not that quick, and might have difficulty believing it has performance commensurate with its claimed 3.6sec sprint to 60mph until, that is, you look at the rate at which the numbers on the digital speedometer change. I know it shouldn't amount to a defence, but 100mph in here feels like 80mph in almost anything else. Or less.

A picture is beginning to emerge of a different kind of Panamera, a car whose priorities appear to be comfort, space and ease of use. For all its undoubted speed, it's not a very Porsche manifesto. But it doesn't take long on a fast open road for









the Panamera to make you modify your view quite considerably if not change it altogether. For all its new found sense of sophistication, and despite a kerb weight that is worryingly just 5kg short of two tonnes, here you will find it still able to do things no other true luxury car could even imagine, let alone emulate.

Give it the space it needs its point-to-point speed nigh on beggars belief. Ultimately the speed of any car through a corner is limited by the amount of adhesion its tyres can develop, but the way Porsche has marshalled all its support systems to ensure every last ounce of performance is wrung out of its enormous Pirellis seems to defy logic. We found a quiet corner suitable for photography and on my first pass I went through at what seemed to be a quick but sensible speed. The car didn't flinch. So every time thereafter I went a little quicker, and I was still getting quicker when the photographer called time, images safely in the bag.

Later that day I did discover it would eventually concede front end grip and allow some gentle understeer to creep in but believe this: if you want a two tonne car that corners faster than this, you'll need to buy a Bugatti Veyron. You cannot fail to be impressed by such pace, such poise and such precision. In a less than obvious way, Porsche is breaking new ground with the Panamera's chassis by bringing Porsche levels of composure to a class traditionally populated by cars that either fall over or want to run away at the first sign of a quick corner.

But all this comes at a price: you will admire to your boots the way the Panamera devours a fast open road, but you may find it rather harder to fall in love with the way it handles. For a start the car is big – bigger in every direction than the hardly compact original Panamera. Indeed this car is styled like a coupé and is, in fact, just less than 5cm shorter than a BMW 7 Series limo and almost 4cm wider. And the tighter and twistier the road, the more you feel that width, so I would expect it to be even more noticeable in leafy English lanes than the wide open spaces of southern Germany.

It may be that with greater time in the car it will do that trick of shrinking around you, allowing you that confidence to go for gaps barely wider than the car. But the second issue that militates against that is the Panamera's steering which, while ideally weighted, geared and faultlessly accurate, lacks the feel of even cars like the Cayenne and Macan, let alone Porsche's more pure bred sports cars.

Even so, we need to put this in the correct perspective and judge the Panamera on the job it set out to do, the brief for which went far beyond doing the same as the old Panamera to a higher standard. Indeed, Porsche appears to have repositioned the car even further away from its traditional turf and closer than ever to the jealously guarded territories of Audi, Mercedes-Benz and BMW's luxury flagships.

In many ways it shows how confident Porsche now is of its brand, that it can withstand being stretched so far in this direction, and I am sure such courage will be rewarded with sales that will make the Panamera a mainstream operator in the Porsche line-up rather than a niche player. Why? Because just as the Cayenne and Macan's runaway success was rooted in fact that those who bought them needed a SUV but wanted a Porsche, so the Panamera will attract the attention of all those in the luxury end of the market who'd be only too pleased to drive, be driven and host their clients in a car with the shield of Stuttgart on its prow. And they won't be fussed at all by the fact it's not as engaging to drive as a 911 or a Cayman, because there's a very strong change they'll have one of those too  $\odot$ 

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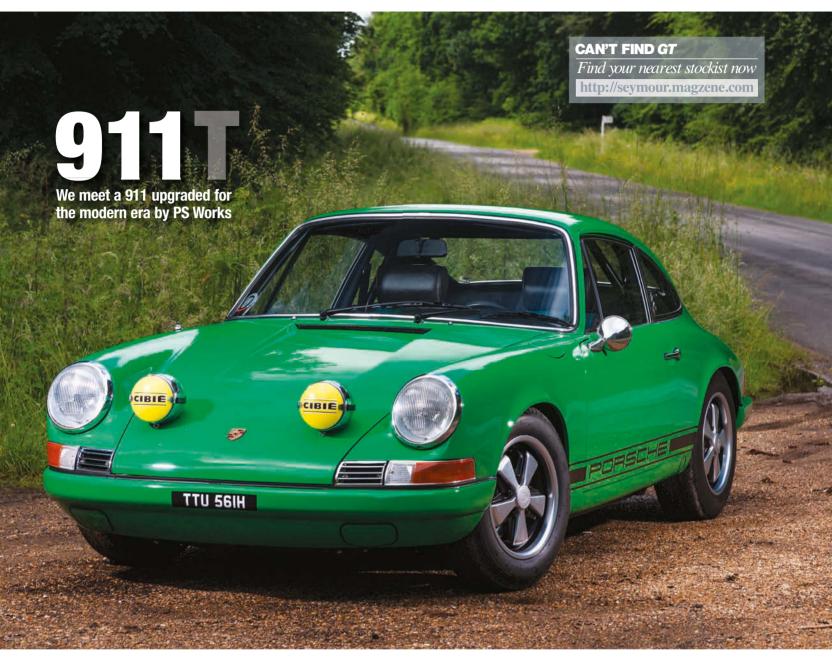




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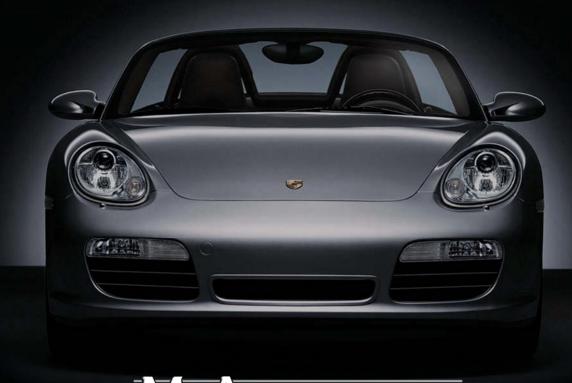
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### FAMOUS FIVE

Thrusting into Group 5 in 1976 with a super turbo, Porsche created one of the most exciting racing cars in its history. It was the result of a commitment by company chief Ernst Fuhrmann to rely on 911-based cars for competition success.

Story: Karl Ludvigsen Photography: Porsche

orsche thrust a three-pronged turbocharged fork into the racing world after a year of preparation in 1975. One tine was the 934, which qualified for Group 4, Grand Touring, by virtue of the production level achieved by the Type 930 Turbo. The other two tines were the Types 935 and 936, each number indicating the FIA Group in which it competed.

Group 5 was the Special Production Car category, open to cars from Groups 1 through 4 that could be further modified, within limits. In

this Group a more extreme version of the basic Type 930 coupé was entered: the Type 935.

The Type 936 was altogether different. An open roadster with a mid-placed engine and tubular space frame, it raced in Group 6 for two-seater racing cars. Only the latter two models, the 935 and 936, were raced by the Martini-backed Porsche factory team.

As Porsche was quick to point out, the racing 934 Turbo was not all that different from the production model. The same statement could not be made about Porsche's 1976 Group 5

racer, the Type 935. This was as much a Weissach 'funny car' as the racing coupé that had set the pattern for it: the Carrera RSR Turbo 2.1 of 1974.

The 935 was based on the production 930 Turbo, to be sure, but heavily modified in every aspect that would add speed. Although Porsche built only two 935s for the 1976 season, the factory made kits of parts available that allowed the conversion of the 934 into a 934/5, known to some of its users as a '9341/2'. By the end of 1976 three cars of this type were racing.

Racing experience with the silver Martini RSR





Above: The 935 at the Nürburgring 1000km in 1976, drivers Rolf Stommelen and Manfred Schurti retired after nine laps

coupés in 1974 contributed directly to the design of the Type 935. Its suspension, completely converted to coil springs instead of torsion bars, was the same as that of the 1974 car. The only difference was that the new one had the production aluminium rear-suspension arms instead of the welded-aluminium parts of two years earlier.

A subtle improvement on the 935 was the addition of a cockpit control for the stiffness of its rear anti-roll bar. A large range of stiffness was made available through the use of blade-section lever arms at both ends of the anti-roll bar. This arrangement was similar to that used on the 917/30 Can-Am car at the end of 1973. To vary their inherent stiffness these lever arms were rotated by Bowden cables connected to a control lever on the floor on the driver's right.

The 935 used the same basic brakes as the 934, although they were better cooled by the addition of flexible ducts taking air directly to the surfaces of the cross-drilled discs. "In February 1976," Norbert Singer related, "I pulled off quite a coup when I persuaded four tyre companies to test with us at Paul Ricard: Michelin, Goodyear, Dunlop and Pirelli. The testing was quite tricky. No one tyre company wanted the others to know what they had, so there were a lot of cloaks and a lot of daggers. Dunlop and Goodyear had crossply tyres while Michelin and Pirelli had radials, which were not up to speed in terms of laps times but better in terms of safety."

After six days of testing the cross-plies prevailed over the radials, which were two to four seconds slower. Dunlop was the chosen tyre supplier for the 935. To meet the tyre-width limitations imposed by Group 5, Dunlop produced a new tyre of extremely low profile that required the use of a 19-inch wheel. This radical design presented a flatter face to the road and cooled well enough to allow the use of softer tread compounds with a better road grip. With rims 15 inches wide, the new tyres were adopted at the rear just after the beginning of the 1976 season.

Front tyres were more conventional, on 16-inch rims that were 10.5-inches wide. Both BBS and Porsche wheels were used during 1976. Midway through the year front-brake cooling was improved by the addition to the front wheels of air-centrifuging inserts, like those used on the 917/30 and the Peter Gregg Carrera RSR.

Drive to the rear wheels was through titanium halfshafts fitted with both Hooke-type universal joints and shock-dissipating rubber couplings. For the 935, the transaxle (the weak link in the 1974 racing coupé) was replaced by the much more rugged Type 930 unit with full competition kit, normally with a solid titanium spool in place of a differential. Overcoming the limitation of only four speeds forward was a new high ratio for first gear that was as fast as second gear in the Type 915 transaxle.

That the gearbox was stronger was fortunate





because the 935 carried by far the most powerful engine yet installed in the basic 911. "Everybody at the factory loved the 935," said Manfred Jantke, "because it's an incredible car. It's enormously powerful."

Porsche had to consult the Group 5 rules to determine just how powerful it could be. A sliding scale between capacity and minimum weight placed limits on the equivalent engine displacement that could prudently be used. A 4.0-litre size was chosen, requiring a minimum weight of 970kg (2139lb). With the application of the FIA's supercharging factor this meant that the basic engine could be no larger than 2857cc.

Porsche chose the normal 70.4mm stroke and fitted cylinders with a 92mm bore to give 2808cc. This engine was fully equipped for racing without the limitations of Group 4. It had titanium connecting rods, a flat cooling fan, dual ignition and Bosch plunger-type timed fuel injection. Pressure and scavenge pumps from the 908 took care of lubrication.

The compression ratio remained moderate at 6.5:1 but the boost pressure that could be used consistently was stepped up slightly to 21psi from the KKK turbocharger. The official Porsche power rating was 590hp at 7800rpm; in tests at Weissach figures in excess of 600hp were consistently obtained. At a boost pressure of 23psi, usable only for short periods, output was 630hp.

Naturally the compressed air entering the engine was lowered in temperature by an intercooler. How this was done, however, differed throughout the 1976 season, often much against the wishes of the Porsche engineers. Another part of the 935 was forced to change during 1976 in a manner linked with its intercooler alterations. This was the body.

When the first experimental Type 935 went to Paul Ricard for two weeks of tests in December 1975, its white body shell clearly showed its derivation from the winged wonder of 1974. It was built much more lightly than the 934. Side and back windows

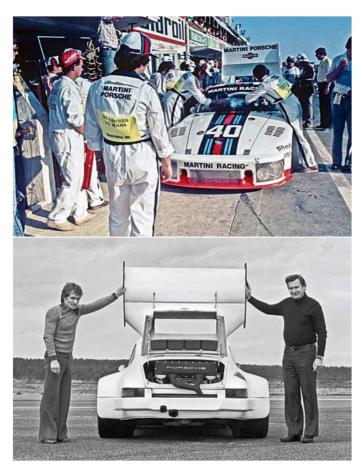
were Plexiglas and fibreglass was used for every visible surface of the car except its roof. At the front both fenders and the spoiler-nosepiece were combined in a single body part that lifted

off for total and unimpeded access to the suspension, tanks and oil cooler.

Integral with the tail was a glorious wing, an aerofoil even bigger than the one used in 1974. It was mounted on a box above the engine that contained the intercooler. Like the one used in 1974, this was an air-to-air heat exchanger.

"Everybody at the factory loved the 935 because it's an incredible car. It's enormously powerful"

Right: Schurti and Stommelen finished fourth overall (first in Group 5) in a 935 at Le Mans in 1976 Below: Norbert Singer on the right





Extending across the back of the car, its wide core was open at the top to the cooling air that flowed down through it. It was beautifully made with a light alloy rear cover into which the traditional Porsche lettering was cast. It was also effective as it was larger than the one used two years before. But it was destined to be short-lived.

In its December tests at Paul Ricard the white Porsche with the number five on its flanks showed breathtaking speed. Jacky Ickx and Jochen Mass, who had been signed to drive for Porsche in 1976, were stunned by its power. In side-by-side tests it proved to have a higher top speed than the six-wheeled Grand Prix Tyrrell that was being run there at the same time. On Paul Ricard's mile-long Mistral Straight the 935 reached an incredible 194mph.

The car's design had to be changed, though, when final rules for the new Group 5 were promulgated. They made clear that while rear spoiler and wing design was relatively free, those items had to fit within the outline of the basic car as it was viewed from the front. That ruled out the use of the wing originally developed.

In January Norbert Singer, in charge of the 935's development, sent his men back to the wind tunnel. They returned with a narrower but higher empennage that consisted of an adjustable wing mounted on stabilising side fins above a flat base that was described as serving a spoiler-like function.

Their reading of the Group 5 rules showed Singer and company that they might improve their car in another way. Although one part of the rule book said, "the original outside shape of the bodywork should be retained," another part said, "the material and shape of the wings should be free."

The Porsche engineers seized on the specific permission granted in the second sentence to cut off the tops of the front fenders completely, headlamps and all. This reduced aerodynamic drag slightly while also improving stability by reducing the area of the front of the car in profile. Vents in the fender surfaces relieved upward pressure in the wheel wells. Headlamps hid behind transparent covers in the front spoiler of the new nose, which cut 0.4 of a second from the best lap time at Paul Ricard.

This was the basic trim of the Type 935 as it opened its 1976 season in a six-hour race at Mugello in Italy on 21 March. Porsche made the basic car so light that it had to be ballasted to bring it up to the minimum weight. The ballast took the form of 150lb of lead in the nose, to help steady the car, and 20lb on the right-hand floor to counterbalance against the driver.

The 935's track widths were 59.1 inches in front and 61.3 inches in the rear on a wheelbase of 89.4 inches. It was 15.4 inches longer than the production Turbo, at 184.3 inches, and 77.6 inches wide. Its nose-mounted fuel tank held 42.2 US gallons.

At Mugello and in the next race at Vallelunga, near Rome, the Ickx/Mass 935 was



all-conquering. Thus it drew the immediate attention of the officials of the CSI. At first they objected to the reshaping of its front fenders. Only after the team threatened complete withdrawal was the Works Porsche allowed to start at Mugello. Ultimately Singer's interpretation of the fender rule was accepted.

Next the CSI officials turned their attention to the shape of the rear of the car. There, they decided, the rules meant that the original rear decklid and spoiler, that of the 930 Turbo, should be able to be mounted on the 935.

"At the Nürburgring the engine, which was not completely developed, vibrated sharply in part-load operation"

Rejecting
Porsche's
argument that the
box over the
intercooler was
part of the
aerodynamic
equipment which
they had only
taken advantage
of to house the

intercooler, they decreed on 9 April that by the race at the Nürburgring on 30 May Porsche would have to meet that criterion. And there was no way in the world that the production Turbo's rear deck could be made to fit over the 935's bulky intercooler.

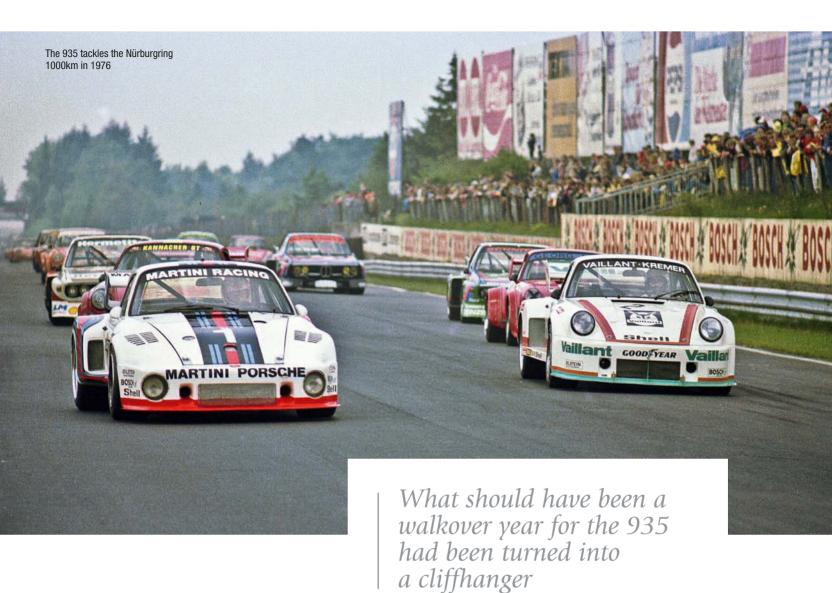
The engineers had one possible solution at hand: the water-cooled heat exchangers that

were part of the 934 specification. They had to be adapted to a completely different inlet system and airflow level, however. The two water-cooled cores were installed above the inlet ram tubes and the system's cooling radiators placed behind openings in the front surfaces of the rear fenders. Water flowed through them in series from the left cooler to the right.

With completely different flow characteristics, the new system's cooling cores demanded the complete retuning of the induction and injection systems. This work began when the revised turbo began dyno testing in mid-May, only two weeks before the all-important race on the Nürburgring. While this was being done the lone 935 entry in the Silverstone race lost all chance of victory when Ickx fried its clutch on the starting line. Although it was restored to life it could only place tenth after setting a new lap record in the hands of Jochen Mass.

BMW won at Silverstone and the next two races also while Porsche struggled with its revised engine. "At the Nürburgring," said Helmuth Bott, "the engine, which was not completely developed, vibrated sharply in partload operation." Under acceleration it shuddered or stuttered, almost as if it were missing. This, said Bott, "led to wear of the distributor drive, of the distributor arms, and finally to retirement."

Causing this behaviour was a space cam



controlling the fuel injection's response to speed and power demands. It had not yet been adapted to the new intercooling system because the task of obtaining the necessary data and transferring it to the three-dimensional cam was a lengthy and exacting operation that couldn't be completed in time.

For the race on the Österreichring at Zeltweg on 27 June Porsche prepared a new intercooling manifold that was the same in principle as the one used at the 'Ring but larger in every dimension. Its water-cooled cores were much bigger. Each was fed from a huge cylindrical plenum chamber, a portion of which was trimmed away at the rear so it would fit under the rear deck.

These plenum chambers were fed by huge circular ducts that displaced twice the previous volume and were linked by a substantial crossover pipe. Porsche's distinctive throttle-operated pressure-relief valves were mounted at

the front ends of the plenum chambers on these engines, not on the pipe feeding them as was the case with the 930 and 934 engines.

Three such engines, one for a Works car and two for customer 934/5s, were prepared for Zeltweg. "Because of the short time available," Bott reported later, "the throttle-linkage components had to be makeshift and were installed without testing. At Zeltweg the provisional throttle-valve shafts broke." The coup de grâce was delivered by a spate of rocker-arm failures that led to the retirement of all the cars. BMW won a third race and took the lead in the championship standings. What should have been a walkover year for the 935 had been turned into a cliffhanger by the CSI's indecision over the wings and intercoolers.

Only an all-out effort would give Porsche a chance to win the World Manufacturers' Championship. For Watkins Glen on 11 July the factory prepared both its 935s. Rolf Stommelen

and Manfred Schurti piloted the extra car. A reworked throttle linkage was installed on a modified 934 and thrashed at Weissach for more than 1100 miles in a test that was still under way while the two cars were being flown to America.

In spite of an intensified attack by BMW with a steadily improving turbocharged car of its own, the extra push by Porsche produced the desired results. Both 935s were entered at Watkins Glen and in the championship-deciding final race at Dijon in September. In both events they placed first and third.

This brought the World Manufacturers' Cup to Porsche for the fourth time. The 935's success also marked the first time this championship had been won by a forced-induction car. Porsche made good use of the lead it established in turbocharging technology to succeed with the 935, a fabulous car that in various guises would go on winning for Porsche and its customers well into the 1980s ○



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### ot porsche retrospective

### ONE YEAR AGO OCT 2015



e celebrated 30-years of the iconic 959 this time last year. "Even now it seems complex: 30 years ago it was the stuff of science fiction," we concluded. Also in this issue we pitched the 996 GT3 RS against its 997 counterpart, spoke with Porsche motorsport legend Olaf Manthey, and put two Autofarm 911s, a 2.2S and 2.4S, head-to-head. RPM Technik's 996 CSR Retro also impressed us. "It's a refined package that performs admirably, transforming the 3.4-litre 996 into a firecracker," we wrote. We also took a GT4 to Gmünd, testing it on the alpine passes used for the development of the 356, and we met Aussie Carrera Cup driver Steve Richards to see what Porsche racing is like Down Under.

FIVE YEARS AGO OCT 2011



e met the 991 for the first time in our October 2011 issue; naturally the new 911 graced our cover as a result. We took a detailed look at Porsche's original pin-up, the 930 Turbo, and delved into the makeup of the 964 and 993 Turbos. We guided you through buying a 996 Turbo and drove the 997 Turbo, saying: "The 911 Turbo isn't about Nürburgring lap times. It has more strings to its bow than that."

Further into the issue we got up close and personal with the Porsche 961, a project borne out of a 959 road car. Andrew Frankel reported: "The idea of driving it for hour after hour... well it's one more illustration of the fact that those who did were just different from us mere mortals."





decade ago we celebrated the tenth birthday of the Boxster, uniting a trio of 2.5-, 2.7- and 3.2-litre cars representing the model's evolution. "Its unrivalled pedigree, unimpeachable dynamics and relative accessibility have made it the best sports car in the world," we wrote. We also drove Parr Motorsport's track-focused 996 GT3 RS, let Chris Harris loose in the new 911 Turbo, and spent 24hours at Spa as Porsche debuted the new 997 GT3 RSRs. Two 911 Carrera 4s also took our fancy, we pitted the 996 version against its 997 contemporary. "It comes down to this: driving a 911 Carrera 4 not once do you find yourself wishing you had foregone the propshaft and front axle," we concluded.





Le Mans 961

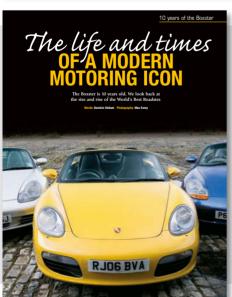
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### long-term fleet

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### long-term fleet



#### 2007 987 CAYMAN S

here are only so many UK mountain passes and track events you can attend before the mind wanders further afield, and there is only one place it will end up... the Nürburgring. Anyone with a passing interest in cars will recognise the 'N' word. No other race track is steeped in as much history and for a Porsche enthusiast it's a very special place indeed. Without question the Nürburgring is one of the most challenging circuits on earth and even the greatest drivers pay the price

for mistakes. Niki Lauda's fiery accident at the 1979 German grand prix is perhaps the most famous but the internet is brimming with crash videos and stories of Nürburgring woe. But car enthusiasts from around the world still flock to the place to put both their own driving skills and vehicles to the test.

Sadly, the dream of piecing together a perfect lap on the Nordschleife is seldom possible. As its popularity grows so does the frequency of accidents and closures. The Nürburgring is technically a public toll road so anyone can come and drive on it after paying a fee. This means you can encounter coaches, motorbikes, transit vans or whatever else fancies a drive on there. These normal days are referred to as 'tourist days' and are intended as just that, a scenic drive around a famous race circuit, not an all-out attack at lap times. In addition to this you must enter and exit the circuit before completing a lap; frustrating for the enthusiastic driver. Being that I have

never experienced the huge occasion of driving the 'Ring for the first time, I was determined for it not to be spoiled

Thankfully Destination Nürburgring allows you to avoid all of this. On a DN day the tourist barriers are removed and drivers are able to complete flying laps with little traffic on the circuit as only registered DN drivers are able to drive on the circuit. These events have become popular with UK Nürburgring veterans who crave the full race experience and the well organised 'DN' days regularly sell out well in advance.







Reading up online I knew this was the perfect way to experience the famous circuit first time round. Since its inception there have been 15 successful DN events, all of which have been proudly supported by Bilstein suspension. "It's a great way for Bilstein customers to explore the capabilities of their new suspension," explains Aaron Quilter, aftermarket manager of Bilstein UK. "Our performance dampers are developed at the Nürburgring so it's a perfect opportunity."

Arriving for my DM day, I couldn't

### long-term fleet

believe there were so many different UK cars in attendance it really shows how serious people are about enjoying their cars on circuit. The paddock area spans three separate car parks, which were all packed to the brim with specialist machinery of all types and ages, and there was a genuine 'anyone is welcome' vibe with a huge camaraderie between DN attendees.

But Porsche models reigned supreme. I've never seen so many 991 GT3 RS in one place at the same time in so many different colours. Aside from road cars and specialist track machines, Bilstein suspension had the Black Falcon race team along to offer passenger rides at DN15. I was lucky enough to have the opportunity to strap myself into a VLNspec 981 Cayman and I don't think I have quite recovered. The speed at which these VLN veterans can commit to corners coupled with the capability of the Bilstein-equipped race car are enough to scramble your circuits. Jumping back into my own 987 felt like slow motion in comparison.

The standard of driving at the event

is very high, to the point I wasn't sure if I had bitten off more than I would chew during my first few tentative laps. However as the day drew on I found solace in drivers with a similar pace and experience level, it's honestly the best fun I've ever had behind the wheel of the Cayman. I can see why people come back year-on-year.

Many people that I spoke to during breathers between laps sometimes do two or three DN events every year. The entire experience was certainly memorable, without a single hiccup all day. I'm raring to make another trip out, so much so that I'm already booked on DN16 – watch out Green Hell, I'm coming back!









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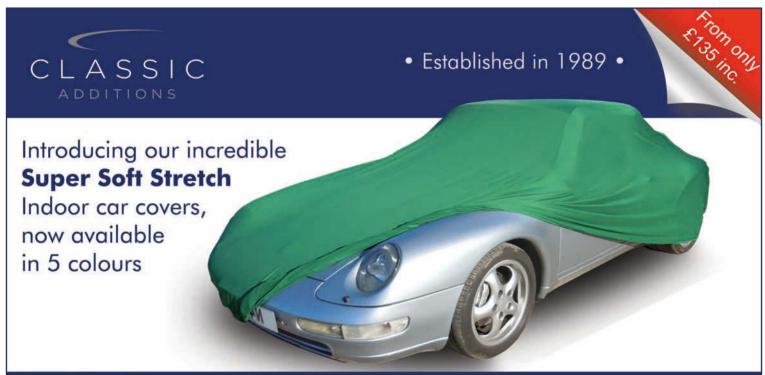
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### long-term fleet

#### 1981 911 SC

Il be upfront, this month I have been experimenting with snake oil.

At least, I figure if I call it snake oil from the start it should take the wind from the sails of anyone that might potentially get a little excited by what I am about to report.

Having started with that, I feel I should take a step back and tell you exactly what I am referring to; the problem that let me down this path. When the SC is up to full operating temperature, or possibly even running on the hot side, there is a problem with the engine. It's nothing dramatic, just a slight stutter at full throttle, something I originally noticed on a track day last year. Under part acceleration the engine works perfectly and it is also well behaved when cold, although I cannot be entirely sure of that as a gentleman does not give his automobile the full beans until such time as the oil is sufficiently warmed...

My initial thought was that the cause of the stutter lay somewhere in the electrical system, the HT leads or rotor arm rev limiter; inside the rotor arm on the SC there is a spring that compresses and breaks contact at a certain rpm and cuts the fuel momentarily. I replaced the rotor for good measure but that yielded no benefit. I was beginning to worry about a bent, damage exhaust valve. I didn't have too much reason to think that, but I might get the engine in somewhere for a strip down and overhaul as it's going to need doing at some point, anyway. Regardless, it was not the time for anything so dramatic as I had other expenses. Besides, the car is still driveable.

Now, whenever I am researching my mechanical tasks, be they repairs

or upgrades, I often end up on the American forums, typically Pelican Parts or Rennlist. On these forums, if there is ever a report of an engine fault, short of something being thrown through the side of the engine, you can almost guarantee that someone on the board will recommend something called Sea Foam, an engine treatment. Yep, the snake oil. Having heard so much about it I decided to get some ordered online as it is not something that you can buy from part outlets.

There are a number of ways that you can use Sea Foam; add to oil, add to fuel, or feed in to the engine through a vacuum line. With an oil change planned, I thought the car was about due one so I decided it would be as good an idea as any to put the cleaner into the engine oil. I used a little over half a bottle, ordinarily you would use half, but with the 911 being air-cooled there is a whole load of extra oil in there. Added to the oil it is meant to hush up noisy lifters, remove any engine oil sludge and de-varnish the insides. I will be running this for a few hundred miles, up to 500 before changing the oil, to give it the best chance of working.

As something of a late spring clean I also decided to clean out the fuel lines and injectors while I was at it. Not with Sea Foam, though, I had a bottle of Redex Petrol Injector Cleaner that I added to the fuel tank the last time I filled up; to make the portions easier I put in 55 litres as a dose is designed to treat a full tank and I couldn't be bothered to work out what was needed for the SC's capacious 80 litres from empty. I made sure I took a slight detour to the Shell station for some V-Power as I know that the car prefers it over regular petrol, but I am often in

the wrong place when it's time to refuel. Better planning is needed.

No sooner was I pulling out of the petrol station than I could feel the benefit to the engine. Over the next 200 miles or so, before I went back for some more V-Power, there was a noted improvement in the drive from the engine at full throttle.

It did take a little while (at least 100 miles) before there was a demonstrable improvement though; there is a hill on the way home from work, a dual carriageway that's a prime overtaking spot and I was able to go harder for longer before the lumpiness came in. It is not entirely cured, yet, but it's a massive improvement.

There is a problem with all of this, though. Which product improved performance and which, if any, wins the Snake Oil Wooden Spoon Award? I have an idea, but running the two products at once makes it impossible to say for sure. If I had to put money on it, I think it is Redex that's done the work, giving better fuel flow. I'll see what state the oil is when it's removed and report back.

A final note, if you are inclined to use any of these internal cleaners, especially on modern catted cars, check to make sure there will be no negative side effects as they can cause problems. Then again, a new car should be clean on the inside I'd hope.



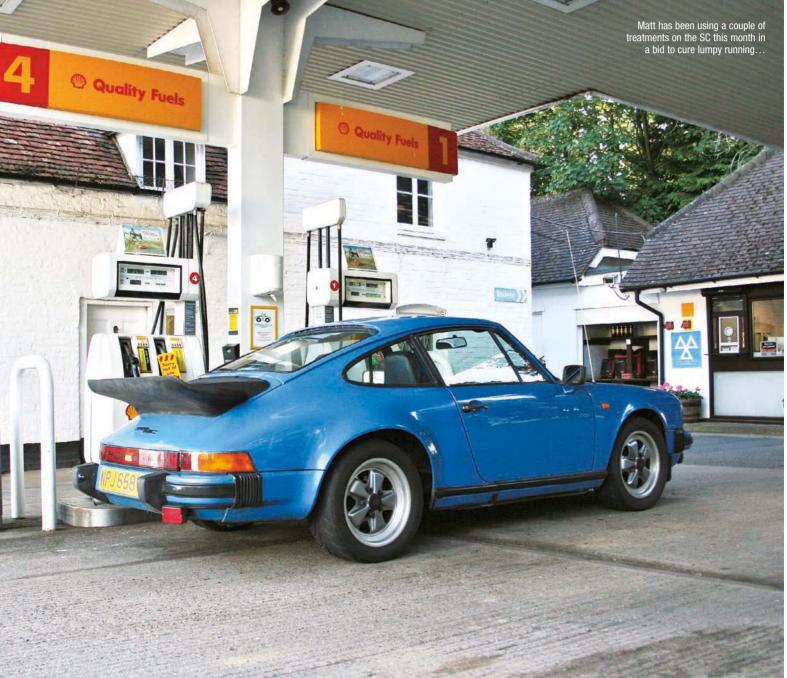
















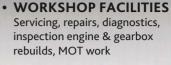
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#### 2005 987 BOXSTER S

fter a roaringly good trip up through the highlands the Boxster and I are now firm friends, despite the problem with the parking brake. The trip did leave me more convinced that the rear shocks were in need of replacement, though. They were by no means as bad as the fronts were the previous year, but there was definitely a feeling of not quite settling in some of the lumpy corners. So I duly booked

the car in with Northway.

Betwixt my booking the car in and the actual appointment I saw a carefully choreographed light show; the temperature gauge dropped (a gentle feint to the left), a red light flashed (danger) and a beeping noise chimed. But then the melodrama passed and everything went back to normal. It did this a few times, not every trip, but it seemed to happen when the temperature hit 50°. The fans were

cutting in and the temperature wasn't rising, I checked with Northway and was told that if everything was working fine then it would just be a sender, but to keep an eye on it.

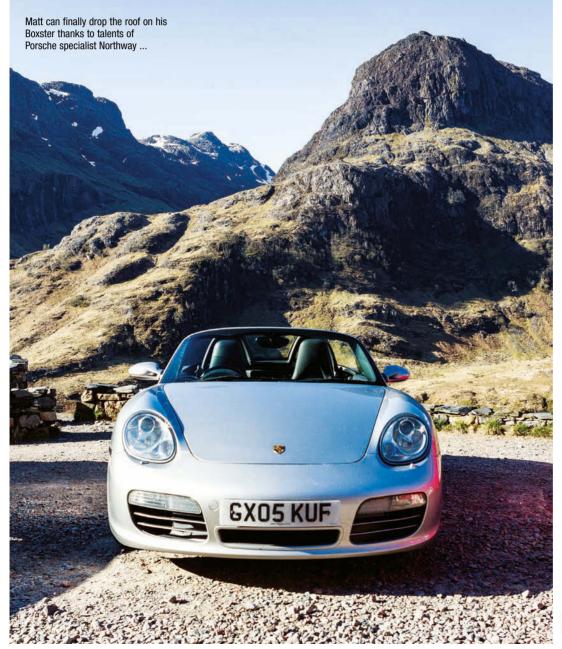
The other outstanding problem was the roof still not working. It had been broken for a little while following water ingress. The problem left the roof stuck in the closed position, which in turn meant that there was going to be a problem when it came to Northway fixing the other bits with the car that necessitated the roof being lowered to the service position.

It transpired that the problem with the roof was the rear control module. This is good, in one way, as it is simply a plug and play job, and therefore not hugely labour-intensive. The easy fix also meant the roof, and more importantly, the clamshell could open, allowing access to change the rear shock absorbers. The problem with the temperature gauge warning system was a faulty sender.

The other minor problem I asked them to look at was a noise from the front left. However, it is something that only I seem to notice, Mike, who was working on my car, wasn't able to replicate it. I think it is safe to say that it's just one of those rogue noises.

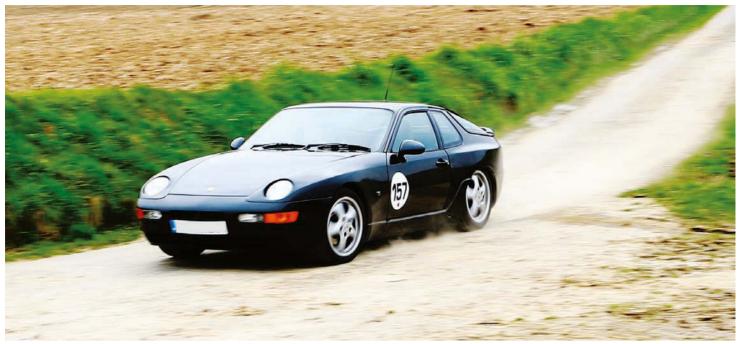
Despite having been forced to drive the SC while the Boxster was with Northway I have to say there was a certain pleasure in firing up the roadster's water-cooled 3.2 as I really do like it. The noise too. A lot of people tell me to fit a sports exhaust, but, for me, it's quiet when pootling and wonderfully sonorous when I get right on it. Of course I wasn't able to put the roof down as it was very drab out. Typical!

The car reached and passed the 50° mark without the dramatic remonstrations. I had to wait a while longer before the engine reached a point where I could really start pressing on and test the new shocks. Along an unsettling stretch of fast B-road the car was very composed through the sweeping bends and felt hunkered down again. If you have a car that's approaching the 100k miles mark I would recommend a shock refresh if you have the funds available, assuming that you are as sensitive to these things as I am.





## long-term fleet



Photos: Claudia Duisberg, Rich Duisberg

## 1994 968 SPORT

t's an educational trip," I explained, when my wife asked why I was "buggering off abroad again" in the 968 for the Rallye de Jonquilles with my youngest daughter as codriver. Junior's French and maths are good, but would be even better after a weekend of rallying in France. All the rally notes are in written in French and distances are expressed in metres, not miles. French and maths, see?

The 'rally of the daffodils' starts in the main square of the pretty town of Béthune in Northern France. There are three groups, my car being one of the newer ones there was lumped with its late '80s to early '90s Coupé contemporaries, like the Alpine A610, Ferrari 328 and Audi Quattro. There was also a large group of TVRs. The rally is three-stage navigational event over 75 miles in distance with a few '1 spy' type challenges thrown in to prevent cheating. Participants range from experienced MGB owners to amateurs wanting to give their modern classic a bit of a weekend workout, like me. The language barrier wasn't an issue, entrants and the crowd mingled enthusiastically in the spring sunshine as 160 cars made ready.

My preparations consisted of applying our allotted number on to magnetic roundels for the doors, checking the 'best before' date on my can of tyre weld and packing a DMF relay.

Béthune is a busy town and there was quite a crowd to greet us. Setting off at intervals I was given a rude reminder of how little grip wet cobbles offer, and a further rude reminder from my co-driver that I was already going the wrong way. Tacking our way out of town we found that the route took us along narrow, sandy B-roads and open fields where it was possible to bomb along at quite a speed. Some maths was needed to spot the right turn, at the right time. The biggest challenges lay in the many hamlets where tight turns through gateways and farm yards meant junior needed to calculate with great accuracy. We quickly established a system of shouting and gesticulating and were happy to be one of the first at the end of stage one at a beautiful manor house where we got our papers stamped.

Over a quick refreshment we had time to look at some of the other Porsches that had joined us. Most were French or Belgian registered. The quickest of which was a white 997 GT3 and it's easy to imagine his front splitter needing repairs after skimming the weeds growing through the broken Tarmac we'd traversed. A pair of 993s had come from Belgium, and I spent a few miles tucked behind a tidy 964 and wishing my water-cooled four was its air-cooled six. It's my only bugbear,











really, because as accomplished as the 968 is, that engine sounds a bit humdrum. As a tourer, and track car, it really excels, but I wouldn't want to throw it around a French farm yard too often. Drivers of transaxle cars will be familiar with the sensation of feeling as if you are almost sitting on the rear axle, having to turn in early and neatly because, although the car is 10cm shorter than a contemporary 911, from behind the wheel it seems like that gorgeous snout goes on forever. The busy Parc fermé was brightened by a Sunflower yellow 914 and a French lad and dad team in a 924S. No 944s here, surprisingly, but nearly every other sporting Porsche, new and old, was represented. So, refreshed, we hit stage two. And a problem.

After barely a kilometre into stage two I noticed my co-driver had nodded off. This surprised me. The 968 on this suspension gives a rock-hard ride and the road surface was scabby at best. Driving, reading notes and marking off way points was more than I could comfortably multi-task, so sat nav found the end of stage two, which was a great restaurant called Catherinette.

Only on an event like this would you find such diverse classics being driven so enthusiastically; an Alfa-Romeo Montreal, looking tall on its suspension. Fulvias, GT Juniors and every kind of Alpine. A Lamborghini Espada was popular, a car where the individual lines all swoop the wrong way, yet manage to combine to make the most elegant silhouette.

The third and final stage was a 25-mile zig-zag back to Béthune. Thankfully we'd filled up before departure as 75 miles of hard-driving soon drains the tank. Much of the stage was spent in second or third gear and we really focused on our performance. We squeezed past a befuddled Elise driver, briefly held up a very enthusiastic Alpine A110, and had great fun trying to accurately stay on the pace. Smiles all round as we returned. What a day! We didn't win, but junior now knows a 997 from a 996 and that a 924 is a sort of skinny old 968. She's broadened her French vocabulary with important phrases as 'ralentissez' and 'Parc fermé'. She also learned that navigators should avoid mid-morning champagne, especially when they have school in the morning. It really was an educational trip.





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### 2004 996 GT3

/ ell, the time has come. 3FAB has gone to a new home... Don't panic though. The new home is just a result of the Wood family having relocated a whole 0.8 miles to a house that has an actual garage and 3FAB has been brought home to live under the same roof as its owner.

This is the first time I've ever used a garage for the purpose it was designed for and it's great to be able to step out of the house, pull up to the admittedly very rusty door, and see the GT3 just sat there, hunkered down, with its cover pulled over it. In fact in the few short weeks since we moved here I've had the GT3 out more times than I had in the previous six months!

Of course though, when it comes to 3FAB nothing is as straightforward as it should be. The plot that the new house stands on is billiard table flat. The road outside has been resurfaced and

wouldn't look out of place on an F1 circuit. But trust me, that does not mean 3FAB is free and clear of imminent de-splitterment. In fact turning into the drive for the first time the imperceptible dip barely more than a divot on a golf course caused the nose to dip just enough to ensure the splitter hit the drive, dug in, tore itself free and the front wheels rolled over it. After a barrage of expletives I performed the ritual penitence to the mighty splitter gods and extricated the deformed piece of plastic from under the car and took the skin off my knuckles for the umpteenth time trying to force the plastic clips back into place.

Having learnt my lesson I've taken to reversing on to the drive now which seems to do the trick. And now having broken that psychological 50,000-mile barrier I feel slightly less precious about putting miles on the clock. That the values of 996 GT3s seem to have softened slightly due to an influx of

cars on the market is also helping. It certainly looks like the GT4 has had an influence on the market. One can only assume that all those 996 owners had been waiting for something like the GT4 to come along.

And being able to just hop into 3FAB whenever I feel like it is just great. Okay so the car still feels like a real handful after driving anything else and it still takes a fair few miles to feel at ease with the way it moves around and how physical it is to drive. But once the fluids are warmed through and you can open up that engine all those memories of amazing times throwing it round a circuit somewhere in Europe come piling back. It really does feel like such a special motor and the GT4 doesn't come close in terms of character. Yes the GT4 makes a lovely noise, but it feels very contrived next to the GT3. But it's the top end of the Mezger engine that stands out as the jewel in the crown. It makes the

engine feel so vibrant. Almost alive. A piece of engineering perfection.

So what next for 3FAB? Well it's the garage that is going to need some work first. There are a few leaks that need attending to to get the thing 100% waterproof, and it definitely needs some new doors. And then it will be MoT and service time creeping up on us again. A trip down to Sports and Classic again for that. And maybe a swap back on to the OEM wheels? I'm not sure about that one though as the Oz wheels do look very nice. Decisions decisions...









## long-term fleet

### 2015 CAYMAN GT4

ell that didn't take long! Considering 4FAB is the third (or fourth, even) car for myself and its co-owner James it's taken barely eight months to rack up enough miles to bring us up to the annual mileage limit of the Classic Line insurance policy. So compelling is the draw of the GT4 that it's been hard to resist its call. A few weeks using it for commuting, a trip to Spa Francorchamp, several track days and the annual Highland Hoon up the west coast of Scotland has seen us clock up the full 7500 miles that the policy provides cover for.

A call to Classic Line confirmed that it's not as simple as increasing the annual mileage to allow us to continue using the car until the end of the year when the policy is renewed. And unlike most insurance policies, it's not possible to cancel the policy and get a prorate refund on the premium for the remaining months. Unfortunately our only option is take out a new policy when we are ready to roll over the 7500 limit. The company has confirmed that there will be no change in premium or conditions of the policy when we do renew, so that's one thing. And at least it doesn't mean that we have to lock the car away for several months without being able to use it. That would be a travesty. I can't understand how people can own cars like this and just have them languishing in a garage month after month barely running them for long enough to get the fluids warm. Both James and I have really enjoyed using this car. Exploring its talents and comparing its performance and balance to our GT3s both on road and track has been fascinating.

It's been a highly enjoyable few months and I have to say that the shared ownership thing has worked a treat. Okay, so having a brand-new car does tend to limit the day-to-day running costs somewhat, but still, a set of rear tyres after five and a half thousand miles seemed almost reasonable once the bill was split down the middle. When the fronts need doing in a couple of months it





will seem equally as painless.

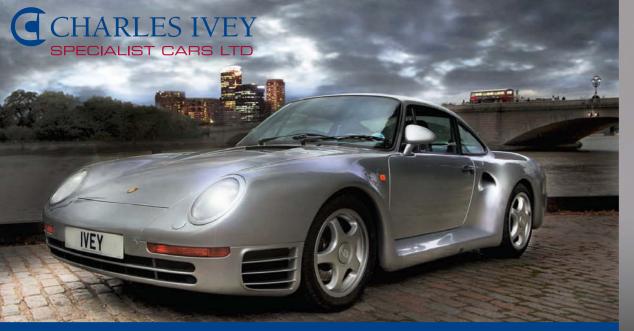
It also makes it an easy decision to spend some time and money keeping the car in A1 cosmetic condition. The 7500 miles 4FAB has covered haven't been entirely without incident and we do have a couple of areas to attend to. Fortunately it looks like the Paint Protection Film seems to be earning its keep so far and all the marks we have accumulated appear to just be in the film. A trip to Steve Walsh at Invisifilm in a few weeks will hopefully confirm that. We plan on treating the old girl to a bit of TLC while it's there

and have Steve's tame detailers give it the once over.

There's only one spot that might be questionable but it's well out of sight under one of the sills. We aren't sure who did it or how it happened, but there is a nasty scrape that looks to have cut right through the PPF. The sills are only plastic on the GT4 (are all 987.2 Caymans like this?) so even if it's gone through the PPF and paint it's not the end of the world as we don't have to worry about rust etc. More of an annoyance than anything. Then the front has the usual tell-tail

signs of miles spent in the company of other cars and on track. The usual rubber marks up the bonnet and wings. But again, they're superficial marks on the PPF that will come out very easily with a bit of elbow grease.





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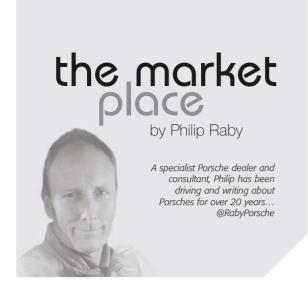
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# Cayenne (Gen 2)

The second-generation 92A Cayenne, made from 2010 to 2014, is slowly becoming an affordable and tempting option in favour of the original 9PA version.

ike a lot of petrolheads,
no sooner have I bought
a car than I'm thinking
about its replacement.
As regular readers will
know, I have a 2009 Cayenne,
which I'm delighted with. It's the

face-lift version of the original 9PA car, also known, rather confusingly, as the 957.

Just a year after my Cayenne was built, Porsche brought out an all-new version with the internal model number 92A. This is a larger car but, bizarrely, looks smaller thanks to sleeker styling which makes it appear less bulky and imposing. More appealing, from my point of view, is the fact that the newer Cayenne has a much better interior finish, with



# the market place



nicer switchgear and a much-needed more modern information display. What's more, the use of aluminium in the bodywork makes the new Cayenne substantially lighter than the outgoing model which, combined with more refined engines, ensures it is noticeably more economical across the range. Speaking of economy, the 92A car introduced a hybrid into the family; more of which later. In this feature, we're looking at cars built from 2010 to 2014 when the Cayenne received another face-lift.

All-in-all, then, the 92A Cayenne is a tempting upgrade for anyone with a previous generation 9PA, of whatever flavour. However, there is a downside — you will pay substantially more for one of the newer cars, even an early example. The last of the 9PA Cayennes from 2010 can be picked up for as little as £20,000 — maybe a tad less if you're lucky — for a reasonable example with sensible mileage. However, the first of the new model from the same year will cost

you around £7000 more, for a car with similar mileage and condition, but just a few months younger.

From that price up to £30,000 you can have your pick of 2010 to 2011 diesels, V6 petrols, and even Hybrids, which sold at a premium when new. It's perhaps telling that the majority of Cayennes for sale are either diesels or Hybrids. Bear in mind, though, the Hybrid only really offers an economy advantage when you're doing a lot of city driving, when the electric system kicks in. On longer drives it reverts to the V6 petrol engine which isn't desperately economical. The Hybrid does benefit from zero Vehicle Excise Duty, though, and is exempt from the London Congestion Charge, neither of which seems particularly fair, but there you go.

If you're not into saving fuel or the planet, you'll be wanting a Cayenne Turbo, which is an absolute beast of a car with astonishing performance. What it won't save you, though, is money, with the cheapest on sale at

the time of writing priced at £35,000 for a 2010 car with a reasonable 56,000 miles on the clock. The next up is one of the same age but it has 9000 fewer miles for £5000 more.

So why do they cost so much when, traditionally, thirsty cars like this are unloved on the second-hand market? Well, they were much more expensive cars when new at almost twice the price of an entry level version and there are surprisingly few on the market. Indeed, I found just six Cayenne Turbos from 2010 to 2014 on sale, compared to 22 of the first-generation model, so it's a rare beast.

Also rare — surprisingly so — is the 4.8-litre V8 Cayenne S which was the mainstay of the original range. The cheapest of the handful I found was a 2012 car with an attractive 28,000 miles and a high specification at £35,000, which seems like a very reasonable deal. The majority of nonturbo V8s on the market, though, are the GTS variants. The Cayenne GTS in 92A form debuted in 2012 and is a





# the market place\_\_\_



tempting prospect. As well as the badge on the rump, the GTS can be distinguished by its Turbo-style bodywork and lower ride height, while an extra 20hp from the V8 is useful, as is the lowered and uprated suspension. It's a winning combination and used examples start at £44,000 for a 2012 model but brace yourself to pay closer to £50,000 for a GTS.

Moving back to the mainstream diesel versions, from £30,000 upwards you can get the pick of 2011 onwards cars, topping out at £40,000 for a really low mileage 2012

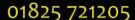
example, a more typical 2013 or, if you are lucky, a 2014 car. If you really want one of the last of this generation Cayenne, before its midlife face-lift came along, you can pay over £50,000 for a late and low mileage diesel. However, at this level you're probably better holding out for one of the newer cars which boast revised front and rear ends, and better fuel economy (in these respects, consider it as being similar to the 2007 face-lift of the original 9PA car).

History has shown us that, longer term, Cayennes don't hold their value

well; you can pick up a tidy 2003 example for £7000 or less (not that you'd want to, as it would be rubbish). Therefore it's safe to assume that, in a year or two, we'll start to see 92A Cayennes for about £20,000. The problem is, though, we'll also start to find tired examples which, at the moment thankfully, are still few and far between.

In the meantime, I'll continue to enjoy my 2009 Cayenne while at the same time keeping a close eye on the classifieds, just in case a newer one takes my fancy at the right price  $\bigcirc$ 









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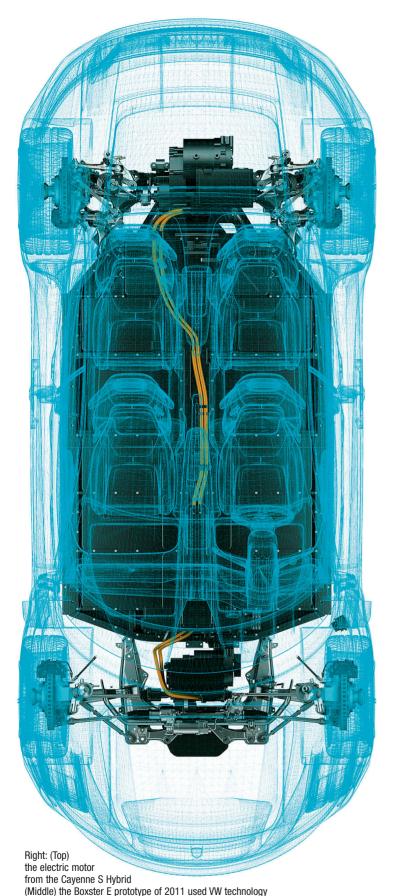
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## all you need to know...



# The Electric Porsche

Jesse Crosse looks at the technical challenges Porsche is facing to deliver a performance EV by 2020.

hen Porsche revealed the Mission E all-electric concept at last year's Frankfurt Show it begged one question: how could a Porsche be a true Porsche with the absence of an internal combustion engine? Porsche has confirmed a production EV in 2020 but despite the figures published for the Mission E, Porsche engineers will still be trying to figure out what can be achieved when that time comes. The Mission E performance figures will be based on engineering targets at best and likely conservative ones.

The headlines look promising so far. Porsche is stating a range of 300 miles, acceleration from 0-124mph in 12 seconds, 0-62mph in 3.5 seconds and a top speed of 155mph. The combined power from two AC synchronous motors is 590hp and the battery can be charged to 80 percent capacity in 15 minutes. Enough juice to drive 60 miles can be taken on board in four minutes thanks to an 800-volt, rather than 400-volt. electrical system.

So why will these numbers be so much harder to achieve than the more modest figures returned by a Nissan Leaf or Renault Zoë? The answer to that lies in the limitations of battery technology and the characteristics of high performance electric motors.

The car industry is still on a steep learning curve where electric cars are

concerned. Draw a parallel between the evolution of the automobile from day one and the modern electric car today and on a relative timeline, we're probably back in the 19th century. There's some irony in this because the first powertrain Ferdinand Porsche ever designed was an electric one in 1898 called the System Lohner-Porsche.

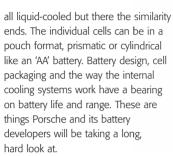
What hindered the evolution of electric cars then, has remained a barrier to their world domination today and that is the energy density of the battery compared to petrol or diesel. Energy density effectively means 'power-to-weight' ratio and 'volume-toweight' ratio and it presents a catch 22 situation. The only way to increase the range (short of coming up with a steep change in battery technology) is to make the battery bigger. As things stand, a battery with the same energy density as a tankful of petrol or diesel would still occupy roughly the same space as the car itself, hence the relatively poor range of EVs compared to petrol or diesel.

That said, battery technology is progressing but in an evolutionary way rather than revolutionary way and nobody really knows exactly how fast. There are lots of different types of lithium-ion batteries with different chemistries. They all comprise many single cells arranged into modules with a number of modules grouped together to form a pack. The packs are

developed for the Golf blue-e-motion with a range of 106 miles

(Bottom) the electrically-powered front axle of the 919 Hybrid





Lithium-ion traction batteries are complex with electronic management systems to make them work efficiently and safely. Individual cells charge at different rates but become damaged if overcharged so the management of them during charging is crucial and there are more or less efficient ways of doing this.

Lithium-ion battery chemistries are prone to 'thermal runaway' which means if a cell overheats and catches fire, the fire cannot be put out so safety is always a priority with EVs. The electronic management systems monitor the temperature of every cell and shut the battery down if any cell shows signs of overheating. Like cell packaging, the sophistication of a battery management system also plays an important part in achieving the best trade-off between range, performance and battery life. Again, this is an aspect that Porsche will be focusing on and the challenges will be greater given the performance aspirations it has for the car.

Drive motor or 'electric machine' technology is more established. Porsche describes the Mission E technology as a "permanently excited synchronous machine" variety, also known as "permanent magnet synchronous electric machine". Essentially these are AC motorgenerators produced by suppliers like Siemens, and are variations that most EV manufacturers are using.

Engineers call them machines and not motors because they double as generators to recover or 'harvest' kinetic energy through regenerative braking. The more electrical energy that's recovered and stored during a period of deceleration the greater the braking force. Porsche will be maximising regenerative braking, blending the conventional hydraulic system with the regenerative system using the latest complex electronics in a way that is transparent to the driver. When the Porsche EV becomes a reality, the maximum braking effort using the electric machines alone will be close to that of an emergency stop.

Electric drive motors temporarily lose efficiency and performance with repeated demands for high power (like hard acceleration). Apart from being undesirable, it also makes it difficult to get repeatable performance figures and Porsche will be working hard to overcome this with its electric motor supplier. It has already hinted that the Mission E motor design is resistant to a loss of performance from repeated maximum acceleration runs.

The third crucial technical aspect for a performance EV is weight, which has a direct correlation to performance, range and load on the drive system. If there's more weight than is desirable in a conventional car, it can be worked around but not in a performance EV where every gram has to be scrutinised. Porsche has already made it clear it won't go for "indiscriminate use of carbon fibre", but a blend of aluminium, lightweight steel alloys, and carbon fibre. Pretty much what it does today in other words. Having said that it will be using a carbon fibre monocoque for the passenger compartment which means the use of carbon fibre will be far greater than in its current production cars.

So there are a few mountains
Porsche has to climb to deliver an EV
worthy of the badge by 2020. They
are arguably some of the highest
mountains yet climbed by any EV
manufacturer and only time will tell if
it will succeed. That said, this is
Porsche we're talking about

Battery technology is progressing but in an evolutionary way rather than revolutionary way









## The Budget SC - Part One

In part one of a look back at his tired 1982 911, Jesse Crosse guides us through the common issues those running a budget SC might expect to find...

he value of air-cooled Porsches has gone through the roof in the last three years, and more people are probably looking for projects as a result. If you're handy with the spanners and like the idea of finding a rough example there's a lot of basic stuff you can tackle yourself. Although be warned, the older they get, the riskier that becomes in terms of the engine in particular.

Sixteen years ago I found myself in a similar position, looking for an old 911 to fit my budget. Although that's a long time ago now, the criteria are universal in terms of aged and worn-out parts. If anything, some things may have been worse on my car than something you would find today simply because some 911s weren't quite as highly prized as they are now.

At the time, the one to go for was probably the 3.2-litre Carrera which followed the SC in 1984, but the 3.0-litre SC was a cheaper entry point. The progression of European SCs went from 180hp in 1978 to 188hp in 1980 then 204hp in 1981. The 3.2 took that still further to 231hp. That was a natural evolution for good

reasons and the 3.2 was arguably a more rounded and flexible car to drive with its slightly bigger engine. My 1982 SC cost the princely sum of £9000 back then with around 65-70,000 miles on the clock and at the time, that seemed like high mileage. Today it would be the opposite.

The SC was Guards red with a Burgundy interior, the original Berber cloth trim on the seats and original carpets. It was bog standard and well used but ran fine. I bought it as a daily driver but it was tatty. The seats had rips in them, there were rusty bits and the large, tea-tray spoiler rubber was starting to bulge where it bolted to the spoiler due to the internal steel fixing inserts rusting. The Fuchs were present and correct but needed a refinish, and the alloy bumpers had some corrosion around the over riders where the paint was coming off. But everything worked, including the electric sunroof.

The plan was to improve it while using it, bearing in mind there was no other means of transport in the garage at that point. The heat exchangers on the exhaust system were typically shot through with rust, so that would need

doing. A plug change wouldn't hurt either - although access isn't the easiest on a 911 it's still a fairly straightforward job. The ride height looked a bit low on the back and a quick look at the Havnes manual showed that the fix was to reset the position of the trailing arms on the torsion bars. As that was likely to be a hassle I left it alone, it wasn't too bad and I didn't want to end up with it going the other way.

The pneumatic telescopic struts on the engine cover weren't working and getting into the engine bay involved propping open the cover with a piece of wood. This was fine until you slipped with a spanner and knocked the wood away - those rear lids and spoilers are heavy! My job at the time meant fairly frequent trips to the airport and I soon got to trust the SC; it was rough around the edges but reliable and fun to drive with a raw quality that later, more refined cars lack.

The rust was in the usual places. There was a small but nasty bit on the driver's side B-pillar closing panel, high up and adjacent to the window, and another down at the bottom. There

was also some bubbling going on around one of the headlamps but nothing to cause major alarm. The short steel brake pipes on the front struts linking the flexible hose to the calipers earned an advisory at MoT for corrosion so needed changing, but the tyres were okay when I got it and would do for a while.

On the plus side, the engine sounded sweet and ran perfectly, the brakes worked well and didn't pull and there were no handling foibles either. My nearest parts supplier was the Porsche Shop in Halesowen which had a handy tyre fitter next door with a proper rig for checking geometry. The rig stored the correct settings in memory for many cars including the SC and amazingly, it checked out perfectly with everything pointing straight and true. So with an apparently sound engine, strong if agricultural gearbox and a straight chassis, I reckoned I was on to a good thing which wouldn't let me down. Next month, I'll tell you what I did over a two-year period to address all those points and end up with a stunning, well-sorted little car



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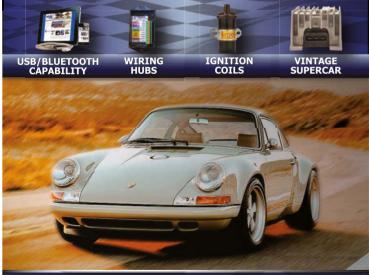




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## 2.7 CARRERA PANEL FILTER



How much? £37.99 Where from? www.thepipercrossshop.co.uk

Pipercross has released a panel filter for the 2.7 Carrera (1973-1976). The Pipercross filter is designed to be an exact replacement for the factory paper element, using multiple foam layers to allow up to 30 percent more airflow through to the engine. This improves power, torque and drivability over the original setup. Pipercross filters come with a lifetime warranty and can be easily cleaned for re-use.

## 2-IN-1 CAR CHARGER

How much? £31.99 Where from? www.firebox.com

The RoadTrip Car Charger and Battery is designed to prevent you suffering from an expired phone battery while on the move. It plugs into a 12V power slot and features two charging ports; a standard USB Type A port and a new style Type C port for charging the very latest gadgets. It also houses a rechargeable 3000mAh battery, so you can take it with you and use it like a regular power bank on the go. Cleverly it charges up your phone first before moving on to its own internal battery.



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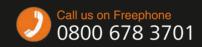
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Watch as motoring expert, Quentin Willson, explains the benefits of a used car warranty.

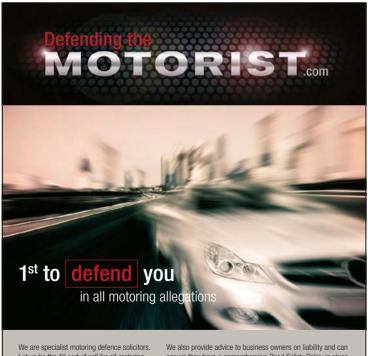
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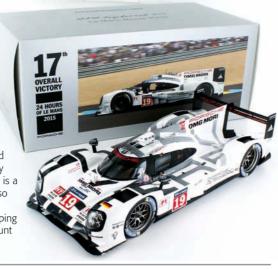


# porsche shop\_

## 1:18 SPARK 919 HYBRID (2015)

How much? £115 Where from? www.racingmodels.com

This Spark model faithfully replicates the 919 Hybrid as famously driven to victory at Le Mans in 2015 by Earl Bamber, Nick Tandy and Nico Hulkenberg. This is a genuine Porsche dealer diecast 1:18 scale model, so it's sure to look fantastic as the centre piece of any model collection. Add code 'POR010' to your shopping cart during checkout to receive a ten percent discount exclusive to GT Porsche readers.





## 356, 911 & 912 HEADRESTS How much? £300

Where from? www.karmannkonnection.com

These headrests will fit all Porsche 356s, 911s and 912s up to the 1967 model year. Exclusive to Karmann Konnection and made in-house, they come ready to upholster to match your car's interior. The kit includes two headrests, four brackets and eight screws, and Karmann Konnection can supply them upholstered at extra cost. Postage is free within the UK mainland on all orders, and customers will receive a free Karmann Konnection T-shirt too.



## PORSCHE COLLECTOR'S

How much? £15 Where from? www.porsche.com

Porsche racing collection. The limited edition items (limited to 10,000 units) feature a unique serial number and are dishwasher safe. The version pictured here, No.17, depicts the iconic Porsche 917. A prefect accompaniment for the coffeedrinking Porsche aficionado, surely?





Auto Art version of your car in miniature. Failing that if you've always hankered after such a car, this would not be a bad way to celebrate that fact. Add code 'POR010' to your shopping cart during checkout to receive a ten percent discount exclusive to GT Porsche readers.





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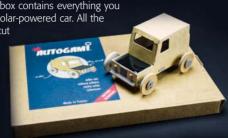
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cardboard components are pre-cut and pre-folded, primed and ready to be assembled without glue or scissors. Once complete place it on a sunny window sill and after five hours it'll be ready to drive for 20 minutes, reaching speeds of 2km/h.





Here's an apt model given our 935 historical feature this month. This 1:43 scale Minichamps model depicts the Martini Racing 935 as it looked when it won the Dijon six-hour race in 1976 driven by Jackie Ickx and Jochen Mass. It is limited to just 504 pieces worldwide. Add code 'POR010' to your shopping cart during checkout to receive a ten percent discount exclusive to GT Porsche readers.





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## RAID DRIVING SIMULATOR

How much? From £27,000 Where from? www.scan.co.uk or www.simdustry.co.uk

RAID Simulators, working in partnership with 3XS Systems, has created something that is about as close to driving real cars on real tracks as you can get without actually doing it. Using a hydraulically actuated spaceframe chassis, surrounded by high-definition televisions driven by state-of-the-art software, it also boasts a force feedback steering wheel and hydraulic pedals to add to the realism. The spaceframe looks like an Aerial Atom and indeed that's where the inspiration for it came from. A Sparco race seat adds to the drama, as does a pedal box that looks like something straight out of a racing car.

Those 1.5-inch hydraulic actuators also shake, vibrate and dip under braking, and throw you around. The force feedback steering is capable of delivering shouldertroubling resistance, and you can 'feel' the car underneath you. Pedals are weighted nicely, with brakes akin to a non-servo assisted setup in that they need a firm left foot to get them going. Similarly, off the line the car is very 'green' and needs a few laps to get everything up to temperature and working.



who's driven a 911 will know its unique characteristics, the way it reacts to bumps and through corners, and this machine re-creates that with real honesty. The atypical front-end bobble, the transition between under and

> oversteer - even the howl from the 3.8-litre engine and whine from the gearbox is true- to-life. This really is as close as you can get to driving one without actually doing so. We were able to test the virtual reality headset with the simulator and that too was remarkable, enabling you to look around through 360-degrees. In fact, with the VR headset on, you feel like you can reach down and toggle switches on the car. Almost everything about the RAID Simulator is adjustable – from the ferocity of the hydraulics to the weight of the steering and the feel of the pedals. You can even buy a reproduction F1 wheel with all of the controls that the drivers have to contend with in real life. The setup itself is

could simply buy the chassis, a small monitor and a headset, removing the need for large screens. Alternatively you could go all-out and specify larger screens and three-inch hydraulics for more drama; with this system it's up to you.

Cost-wise, the setup we tried came in at £27,000. Now that sounds like a lot of money, but you have to recalibrate your brain with things like this. The sheer level of technology involved is one thing, but moreover, you need to think about it like this: £27,000 buys you a very capable track car, but it doesn't pay to run it, insure it or repair it. If you bin it on this simulator, you simply hit reset

and get going again!









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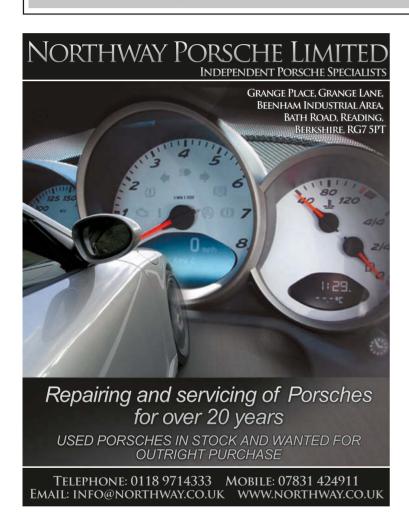
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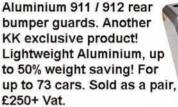




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## JUNE 2016

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Inside: Restored 911 2.7 Carrera RS, Cayenne Turbo S vs 911S, 968 Clubsport, 993 backdate, 996 4S vs 996 50 Year Edition, Below Zero ice driving, forged Porsche IDs



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A motoring journalist for over 25 years, Colin has contributed to GT Porsche for a decade

## Colin Goodwin looks at what was going on in the world of Porsche during the year of his birth.

he excellent Motor Sport magazine had a brainwave last month by starting a tweet that allowed people to select the magazine cover from the month of their birth. I don't know if it went viral but it was certainly contagious. I and lots of pals posted the covers that were on the shelf when the stork landed. I was quite happy with my birthday's cover shot of the amazing Napier Railton taking part in a hillclimb at what looks like Prescott. Some were surprised that the cover photograph was in colour. GT Porsche is still a little young to do the same but within a few years there will be readers who were born after the magazine was launched in 2001. In the meantime, let's see what was on the cover of *Christophorus* when I was born back in August 1962.

Unfortunately Christophorus was published every other month and there wasn't an issue that August, so we'll skip ahead to September when I was still only a couple of weeks old. As discussed a few months ago, Porsche did some great magazine covers in the Sixties, as well as its famous racing posters. September '62

Porsche did some great magazine covers in the Sixties, as well as its famous racing posters...



is a bit dull with a selection of wheels on the cover, from wooden veteran car wheels to what looks like a 356 wheel. A peek at the contents page explains the image: in 1962 Porsche fitted disc brakes to the 356 Carrera for the first time as a response to press complaints about brake fade. The 356 had got heavier and drums couldn't cope.

On page 8 there's a feature about motorists taking more pills than one would think. We hadn't quite reached the hippy period by then but neither did we have Red Bull and the pick me up of choice were benzedrine tablets for long road trips. A few pages on the editor writes about the four 'big lines' of Porsche. These, he says, are air cooling, rear engine, streamlining and

a direct connection to sport. The passage of 54 years hasn't seen Porsche veer too far from those big lines with only air-cooling getting the chop. It's looking promising for the next few years at least.

By far the biggest story in the magazine was about Dan Gurney's win in the 1962 French Grand Prix on July 8 (pictured above). Porsche had entered F1 the year before but its fourcylinder 718 wasn't successful. For 1962 the factory came up with the 804, powered by a 1.5-litre flat-eight engine that produced 180hp at 9200rpm. Gurney's Rouen victory turned out to be Porsche's one and only victory in F1 with a car that was 100 per cent Porsche. Porsche wouldn't have known when it penned

that jubilant piece in *Christophorus* that it would soon pull the pin on F1 and use the money saved to concentrate on sports car racing.

Further down the contents list there's a feature titled 'do you fasten your safety belt?' written by a doctor. This was only three years after Volvo fitted seatbelts as standard to its cars. I don't remember wearing a seat belt in a car until the '70s when Jimmy Saville started suggesting that we clunk-clicked before every trip. In Germany in the early '60s the seat belt was referred to as a 'feigheitsgurtel' which translates into 'chicken belt'. Different days.

So that's the pill popping, Grand Prixwinning summer of 1962 at Porsche. I wonder what was going on at Zuffenhausen the year you were born?

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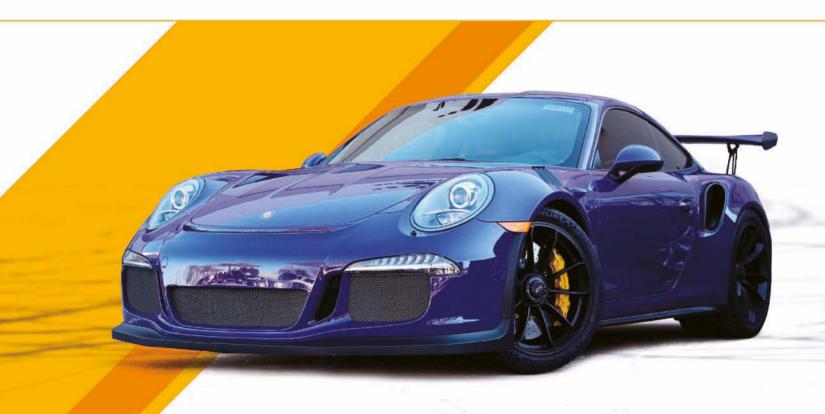
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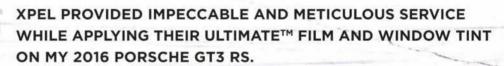
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