

LONG TERMERS

Porsche 911 Carrera 4

After mentioning last month that the 911 had started to judder under heavy braking, I finally went and did something about getting it sorted out.

I had suspected worn pads and discs to be at the heart of the matter, and a quick call to Type 911 (020 8402 8424) both confirmed suspicions and sorted out a cure. I was expecting a massive bill for a full set of rotors and pads, but happily enough I got the whole lot for just £252. Bargain!

The reason they were so cheap is because instead of using OE Porsche parts, Porscheshop supply pattern items. They're exactly the same as their Porsche equivalents, but something like half the price. And they work too.

After a brief bedding in period, I went for a bit of a drive to test them out. Not only had the judder disappeared completely, but the brakes felt stronger than they ever have and offered more feel and feedback than before. Job done. If only I had got them replaced before I went on that track day.

While cleaning up the 911 at Eynsham Hall last month, I noticed a hairline scratch running down the front of the bonnet. After having the car blown over before the show, I was more than a little irritated to find a scratch on my freshly painted bonnet.

Once my boiling apoplectic rage had died down to a simmer, I decided that the scratch wasn't that bad and could probably be polished out. But instead of just making things worse by doing it for myself, I opted to give Chandler Stewart of Tonbridge (01892 539111) a call. Seeing they resprayed the car in the first place and are an Official Porsche Bodyshop, who better to polish out the scratch? And I'm pretty glad I did too. They took one look at the scratch, polished it out and sent me on my way.

But with the Carrera 4 returned to its former glory, I started to notice a really irritating whistle coming from the passenger door at speeds above 90mph or so. It could only be the rubbers at fault,



There's nothing as annoying as finding a scratch on newly resprayed paintwork. Luckily, the damage was light and quickly repaired.

so I called Porscheshop (0121 585 6088) and got a set for just £57. All I have to do now is fit them.

The last days of summer are dwindling quickly and it won't be long until winter is upon us. The days in which I'll be able to enjoy the car are definitely numbered. I know there's no reason not to use a 911 everyday, and it does seem a bit sad to store the car over the winter, but I can't see the point in driving in poor conditions. Porsches are drivers' cars, and made to be enjoyed, so I think I'll wait for the odd break in the weather before I drag

the C4 out of hibernation. That way I don't have to clean it every time it rains!

Ian Hunt

PORSCHE 911 CARRERA 4

Total Mileage: 124,852

Mileage this month: 561

Cost this month: £309



Juddering on the brakes can only mean one thing: worn pads and discs. A quick call to Type 911 saw new parts sourced and fitted, with the Carrera 4 returning to form after a brief bedding in period.