

t's a Porsche and it's not a 911, or even a Boxster. The unlikely hero from the Porsche camp is the 944 Turbo. Not with quite the same heritage as the 911, but a star in its own right. This particular 944 Turbo has big boots to fill to overcome the 'Oh-it'snot-a-911' woes and instead has become something much bigger and tougher than it once was. It's actually turned into a whole other beast. If you were at or saw coverage of the 2013 World Time Attack Challenge, you might have spotted this mean creation by Evolution Motorsport and you would know how awesome it actually is.

No hero is without a genesis story.

Not born from a falling meteorite or radioactive spider bite, owner Patrick Garvan discovered this from a well-known auction website. He recalls, "Always wanted a Porsche but Bruce Buchanan of Buchanan Automotive in Balgowlah convinced me that I could achieve much greater results bang for buck vs an older naturally aspirated 911. I bought the car back in 2009 off eBay.

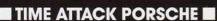
It was sort of a backup car to another Porsche 944 Turbo that I had already modified. Unfortunately that car was written off so all the good bits went into the current car."

"Then over the next 4 years it was transformed from a quick club car into a fully stripped out track car which while still road registered, it wasn't an option. Then that car was involved in an altercation with the outside tyre wall at 11 of Eastern Creek at pretty high speed. So the latest version was 'hatched' and here we are."

so like an understudy when it's time to shine, the current version gives it its best performance yet. At the front, the dry-sumped 2.5L 4-cylinder block has been pushed out to 3.1L, the increase in torque very welcome. With the Garrett GTX3582 turbocharger pushing 22psi of compressed air into the combustion chambers, the numbers generated are exceptional. 505whp at the rear wheels to be exact, with a torque figure of 465ft-lb. It definitely deserves a standing ovation!



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Porsche engine at the front? It works. So well.

## EVOLUTION custom ind

The exterior features a wide-body treatment with a kit from IFD, an addition that turns up the lines and styling on the Porsche all the way to eleven. Even the normally very wide 18x11.5in Fiske Mach V wheels can barely keep up with how wide the kit is. You can tell that this car was made for one purpose and one purpose only when you see the large carbon splitter at the front. It's not your everyday street-spec carbon lip. In conjunction with the canards, louvres and gargantuan rear wing, it screams race car. Even the flip-up lights have been replaced with static items to keep the bias towards function and not form.

The interior continues the same theme. The Cobra Evo seats inside the stripped interior remind you where the driver's real focus should be: outside. A full cage adds peace-of-mind and the suede dash draws us back to the fact that when it's all said and done, this is still a Porsche. Everything on the car has been done with taste and class while still

keeping with the time attack theme. With the gloss black finish, it's like wearing a tuxedo with Nikes.

If you thought doing all this to a
Porsche 944 was the only surprise,
you'd be wrong. Even the team were
surprised with how well the car
performed. Patrick tells us, "We only just
got it back in time for World Time Attack
2013 and were able to do a few test
days at Wakefield Park beforehand which
showed the car to be very promising
with times in the 61 second region
straight out of the box."

"Suddenly we realised that the car was showing potential earlier than we'd hoped for and we were re assessing where we might finish in Open class for WTAC this year. We were going quite well there on the first day even though our best laps were balked and we lost a good second due to this. This was a bit frustrating as we had been chasing some issues for a few days due to fuelling issues with E85."

It's too obvious to say this car is quite Darth Vader-ish. But it is.

