

MyCarRules

What revs your motor? Take Amy Haydock for a spin [e rockymirror@capnews.com.au](mailto:rockymirror@capnews.com.au)



MOTORING

Chevy close to the heart of car lover

What is your name?

James Kavanagh.

What is your current job?

Plant operator/ truck driver.

When and where did your passion for cars start?

When I was six, riding around on the Chevy when it was made into a ute for working on the family cattle station, Vandyke at Springsure.

How many cars/vehicles do you own and how many have you owned?

The 32 Chevy is my only classic car on the road plus a 1984 Harley-Davidson Softtail motorcycle. My everyday vehicle is a 2006 Toyota Hilux ute and my wife Rhonda has a 2008 Subaru Forester wagon.

I've owned many cars over the years, an XW Falcon ute and a 1956 Custom Line (a project never completed) and others too embarrassing to mention.

What is your mechanical speciality?

I like to have a go at most things but I'm a master of nothing. I detest the electrical side of things (don't have the patience). Rhonda can vouch!

What was your first car and why did you choose it?

XR Falcon ute, a man has to have his ute.

Where is the best place to go in CQ for spin?

All over, no particular place. I just like driving around with other members of the All Classic Motor Club Central Queensland Inc. When we go further away, like Theodore and Bundaberg, we put the Chevy on a trailer and take it off and drive around and trailer it home again.

Otherwise it would take too long to get there and back. Its top speed is 80kmh, with no windows, seatbelts, radio or air-conditioning.

Tell me about your favourite car. What is it and why do you love it?

It's a 1932 Chevrolet BA Confederate Deluxe Roadster. I like it because my grandfather James Kavanagh and great uncle Gordon Kavanagh first purchased the car in 1958 and turned it into a ute so it could be used on the family cattle station.

It stayed in the Springsure area and had a couple of different owners until I came across the car. My father Michael Kavanagh bought it in 1995 and transported it to Brisbane, where most of the

restoration was carried out. So the car holds a lot of sentimental value, which you can't put a price on.

How many hours/weeks/years of work has gone into your featured car?

I had a small part in the restoration, going down to Brisbane on holidays to help. Restoration began January 1996 and was completed in March 1999. Estimated 2000 hours plus to bring it to present stage.

It was a total ground-up rebuild, body hand filed and lead wiped, two-pack paint, leather upholstery, new wood work, motor 0.002' re-bore, original crankshaft bearings remain, most items powder coated, new honeycomb radiator, number of hard to get items are ex USA.

I have been fortunate to have this car as my father handed it down to me in November 2011. He still lives in Brisbane and I am always phoning him to get his advice. It's to remain in the Kavanagh family. Rhonda and myself have a son, Christopher, 22, and daughter Haylea, 20, (tricky situation), but it will be a while before a decision has to be made (we hope!). We

are enjoying it too much!

Have you entered your car in any car shows?

Yes, in September 2012 we went to Bargara for the 36th National Chevrolet Festival and the Chevy won a trophy for Anniversary Year along with a trophy for Best Authentic 1911 to 1936.

Do you have a current project?

Yes a 1969 HT Premier.

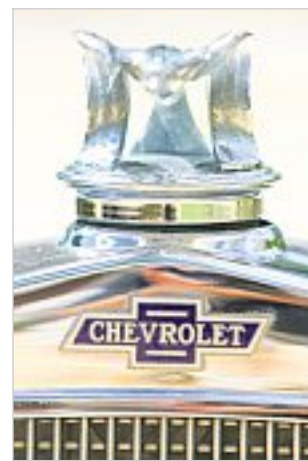
What has been the best thing about owning a classic car?

As I mentioned, we're members of the All Classic Motor Club Central Queensland Inc and we enjoy outings with fellow members, mainly because the diversity of cars, motorbikes and trucks in the club is interesting and everyone enjoys themselves.

The club is hosting the Classics by the Coast at Bell Park, Emu Park in May this year. Contact president Glen Hamilton on 4927 7181 or 0427 178 690 for more information.

Comment from Rhonda:

As you can tell, my husband is proud of his classic car (as he should be). He loves to dress in period costume and pretend to be a gangster! Boys and their toys!



James and Rhonda Kavanagh with their restored 1932 Chevrolet BA Confederate Deluxe Roadster.



SENTIMENTAL VALUE: The Kavanaghs' beautifully restored 1932 Chevrolet BA Confederate Deluxe Roadster.

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