

Pete and Rose's 1954 Chev.

Another of our iconic classic cars which makes frequent appearances at club events is Peter and Rose's black Chevrolet.



**Chevrolet**, colloquially referred to as **Chevy**, is an American automobile division of the manufacturer General Motors (GM).

Chevrolet was founded by 2 brothers, Louis Chevrolet, a Swiss racing car driver (1878–1941) and Arthur Chevrolet, an automotive engineer (1884–1946) who ousted General Motors founder William C. Durant (1861–1947) in 1910. The company was started on November 3, 1911, as the Chevrolet Motor Car Company, with the first production car rolling off the line in 1913!



Alfred Sloan who took over the reins in 1919, with his maxim "a car for every purse and purpose", picked the Chevrolet brand to become the volume leader in the General Motors family, selling mainstream vehicles to compete with Henry Ford's Model T in 1919 and overtook Ford as the best-selling car in the United States by 1929.

And the rest is history.

Our car in question is an original 1954 Chev.



Its previous owner was a young chap from Baulkham Hills, with one too many cars for his adoring mother's liking....an ultimatum had been issued by said mother.... "you can stay but one car has to go".... luckily for Rose and Peter it was this low mileage 1954 Chev! It was purchased by said owners in 1993...and it is a totally original example.

Fortunately this car has been serviced by local mechanics with few hiccups so far!

It is a 6 cylinder, single carburetor motor, 235 cubic inch in capacity (3.851 litres) and is powered by a blue flame motor with matching Chev numbers!

Interestingly these engines were to become the first Corvette's, nevertheless with many performance variations!





The Chev is black in colour and has never been resprayed!



It is a 4 door sedan with a manual 'three on the tree' column gearbox... no synchro on first of course!

Petrol consumption...16 to 22 mpg (miles per gallon)...approximately 15l/100km and has a speed of about 90 mph (about 145 km/h) if you're game! Still, it has a very comfortable ride for its era.

Fuel of choice is 91 unleaded with a little bit of proma treatment plus flash lube.

Currently the Chev shares space with a well known yellow Morris Minor 1000 (Marvin) which was featured as our very first article in members' cars!



The Chev is a 6 seater with bench seats front and rear and of course both are in very good condition indeed....and a good size boot into the bargain!

Current speedo reading is 69,657miles.



Naturally being an old car there are not too many parts available locally but so far everything is ok as parts can be readily accessed from America.

The Chev has been registered in 2 clubs, and is currently with CHACA (Classic and Historic Automobile Club of Australia Inc.)....obviously the vehicle is on club registration.

The car has been on many of our club events, such as the Ebenezer Church event, the Ornamental Turners Group of Australia at Luddenham run, et alia ...too many to mention, and all completed without a glitch.

The car's longest run has been to Tasmania where once again the Chev performed faultlessly!

The vehicle has obviously picked up a few awards in its time...oldest car, originality etc. to name but a few...and it has never been fitted with seat belts! Reason: Pete is not happy with the current seat belt regulations as people have been booked driving club registered cars even though pre '64 cars don't have to comply with modern regulations!



Rose and Pete Mills. (owners)

Phil Gordon.