

Geoffrey Shannon - 1948 Jaguar Mark IV

I am originally from Melbourne and moved to Burra, SA, when I retired in February this year after working in a general engineering and gear cutting workshop for 51 years.

My first Jaguar was a 1966 S Type. But the usual happened and I got married and had two kids and a mortgage. My wife was using the Jaguar as her daily driver but got stopped a few times by someone offering to buy it. We continued to say no but they eventually made an offer we could not refuse. At the time the money was very handy but of course we now wished we had kept it.

I have always messed around with cars and was on the lookout for a future project. In 2011 a 1948 Mark IV came up for auction that had been in storage since 1968 and thought it would be a good retirement project so I bid on it and was successful.

At the time all I did was remove the engine and gearbox as I wanted to restore those while I had access to the workshop I was working in. The car was put back into storage until this year when I removed the seats to be re-upholstered in leather.



The engine and gearbox both had full rebuilds and I had to make many parts. The motor now has Mark VII domed pistons and the crankshaft modern oil seals.

I am now about to remove the body from the chassis and finish restoring everything else.

I joined the Victorian Jaguar club when I bought the Mark IV and are still a member. I am very grateful for the help I got from the members, especially Ian Mullins who helped with parts and his immense knowledge.

I joined the South Australian club in June this year. As we have been busy these last eight months settling into our new house, I have not had time to attend any meetings or events here with the SA club but hopefully this is about to change.

The photo of the car was taken in 2011 when I first purchased it. I still haven't washed it and it is still covered in the same dust. The photo of the motor was taken last year when I finished the rebuild.

Geoffrey Shannon.

Editor: Thank you very much for your story. You will find a lot of knowledge and help here in SA through our SS, Mk IV, MkV Register.

