

Celebrating 80 Years of the Austin 8

22-23 June 2019, Worcestershire, UK.

Invitation from Robin Wilson

The Austin 8 was launched in February 1939, so in 2019 we are celebrating 80 years with a gathering of at 20 or more of these cars and their owners for a social get-together over the week-end of June 22-23. The event is being organised jointly by Hermann Egges, who runs the Austin 8 Register, and me, in association with the Austin Counties Car Club. All owners of Austin 8's are welcome to attend this event, preferably with their car. A £20 entry fee (per car) is being charged to cover essential costs and the production of a Commemorative Brochure.

Amongst the cars attending will be my 1939 Tourer, which has not been on the road since 1972 and at time of writing is still in the process of a 45-year long restoration, is that a record? The event is my very publicised incentive to finally finish this project! We aim to have at least 20 Austin 8s coming, including a number of 4-light and 6-light saloons and several from overseas, plus an unrestored pre-war van in its original motor trade livery, and, we hope, the only known Austin 8 "Woody", coming all the way from Germany. This will be the first time in a generation that such a large and indeed international gathering of Austin 8s is taking place, a one-off event for owners of these characterful little cars and something not to be missed.

We sincerely hope that you are able to accept this invitation.

Here is a summary of what is planned and what it costs.
The last page is the Entry Form for you to print and complete.

Venues:

Saturday: based at my house in Elmbridge near Droitwich, Worcs.WR9 0DA.

Saturday evening dinner: St Andrews Hotel, Droitwich WR9 8DS

Sunday: rally at Avoncroft Museum of Buildings, Bromsgrove, B60 4JR

Further details of the above will be sent nearer the time once your entry is received.

Accommodation:

Recommended: St Andrews Hotel, Droitwich WR9 8DS.

An older-style hotel set in private grounds away from the road with a good parking area, this is also our venue for the Saturday evening Rally Dinner. You are invited!

Room rates: Classic double £79 per night inc breakfast, single room £69.

Please book your accommodation directly with the hotel, quote Austin 8 Register.

Book early to ensure availability; we can only hold rooms for a limited period.

St. Andrews Town Hotel, Droitwich, Worcestershire, WR9 8DS

TEL: 01905 779677 www.st-andrewshotel.com

Alternatively, Express Holiday Inn, Wychbold (by M5 Junct5), if preferred.

Other hotels and B&Bs in the area are also available.

Itinerary:

The anniversary celebration is a week-end programme of social activities to celebrate 80 years of the Austin 8. For those travelling long distances and those from abroad, the itinerary includes some optional hospitality arrangements on Friday and Monday.

Friday 21st June (pm):

Option for early arrivals to meet/ unload trailers at Elmbridge.

Optional pub supper at Robin Hood, Rashwood (by M5 J5) WR9 0BS

Saturday 22nd:

From 10am, Elmbridge (in our field, or yard / barn area if bad weather).

Meet & greet, bring & buy Austin 8 spares “garage sale”.

Option to visit the unique 16th century Harvington Hall (6 miles away).

Buffet lunch provided at Elmbridge (cost is included in your rally fee)

From 2pm: gentle road run through beautiful countryside, including visit to what remains of the Austin Car Factory at Longbridge on the outskirts of Birmingham, for a photo-shoot of our Austins lined up at their birth-place.

Return to Elmbridge and/or hotels by 5.30pm.

Rally Dinner 7 for 7.30pm at St Andrews Hotel, Droitwich.

Please contact Robin if you wish to avoid using your car at night, we can easily arrange lifts or taxis depending on who needs what.

Sunday 23rd:

9.30am: Rally area opens at Avoncroft Museum, Bromsgrove.

Admission charges: £9 for adults, £8 for seniors, please pay on the day.

Note: Only Austin 8s (and maybe one or two other Austins by prior arrangement) will be allowed into the Museum area, all other cars to use the Museum’s public car park. **For safety reasons, car movements in and out of the museum area are not allowed between 10.30am (when it opens to the public) and 5pm (when it closes).** For late-comers with Austin 8s and anyone needing to leave early, we can arrange one “guided entry by convoy” into the rally area at around 11.15 am, and one for early leavers at around 4pm. Please contact Robin if you think you might need to make use of this arrangement.

From 10.30am: enjoy the cars and the unique collection of old buildings.

Noon-2pm: lunch available to buy at the Museum’s catering facilities.

From 3pm: Austin 8 Showtime: parade and prize-giving.

5pm: Rally closes.

Monday 24th (am):

Option for those staying Sunday night to meet/re-load trailers at Elmbridge.

Rally Costs:

Entry Fee:

For the entry fee of £20 per car you will get:

- Rally Programme for the week-end event
- Details of venues for Saturday and Sunday activities
- Rally field parking place for your Austin on both days
- Buffet lunch on Saturday
- Rally plaque and route maps
- A place for your Austin 8 in the group photo at the Longbridge factory
- Invitation to Anniversary Dinner on Saturday (£25 pp payable with entry fee)
- Commemorative brochure celebrating the Austin Eight's 80th Anniversary

If you can't bring your Austin 8, we ask that you still pay the rally fee "per car".
If you are bringing your Austin 8 on a trailer, there's no charge for tow car or trailer.
A reasonably secure storage area is available at Elmbridge for trailers and modern cars, so that you can enjoy living with your Austin for the whole week-end.

Saturday Dinner:

Saturday evening dinner: £25pp, menu & choices to be advised nearer the time.

We have a room to ourselves at St Andrews Hotel, but it is limited to 40 places, so please make your dinner reservations by paying the full cost up-front (£25 per person) when you send in your entry form together with the £20 Rally Entry fee.

Additional Costs to be paid by you directly:

1. Overnight accommodation: Please book direct with the hotel of your choice.
Recommended: St Andrews Hotel, Droitwich, details given above.
2. If you are not interested in the Austins and the garage sale of spares on Saturday morning, the unique 16th century Harvington Hall is 6 miles away and admission charge around £9. Or there's Webbs Garden centre even nearer.
3. Avoncroft admission charge (Sunday): £9 for adults, £8 for seniors, pay on the day. Lunch and refreshments available to buy here as required. We've hired The Long Room from 12 noon - 2pm for your comfort and refreshments.

Entering the rally

Just fill in the form, write a cheque and post them to me!

Please send in your entry form and payment as soon as possible, preferably by end of April. **Entries received BEFORE 10th May** will ensure that your car and the entrant's name will be listed in the Rally Programme and the Commemorative Brochure. You may also be invited to provide more information about your car and a photo, as we are planning to include profiles of a selection of the surviving Austin 8 cars (and vans) as a main feature of the Commemorative Brochure.

The Austin Counties Car Club is kindly making a modest contribution to the costs of our event and this will enable us to provide some facilities on each day and to create this special Commemorative Brochure, which will have a limited print run and be given only to those people who have entered and paid the rally fee.

For entries received after 10th May we will, unfortunately, be unable to list your car in the programme or brochure.

People wishing to attend only on the Sunday are encouraged to pay the Rally Fee and receive the brochure and get rally field parking etc, but if you don't want to pay the Rally Fee, you are welcome to just pay the Avoncroft Museum admission fee and attend, but you won't be able to bring your Austin into the museum grounds to park on the rally field.

Monies received for the rally and dinner will be paid into the Austin Counties Car Club bank account. The ACCC request that entrants to pay by cheque, made payable to Austin Counties Car Club Ltd. One cheque for your combined entry fee and dinner cost is all that's required. For entrants based overseas and not able to write a cheque in £ (GBP), Hermann Egges will take your Entry Form and Payment through the Austin 8 Register Website, and forward the money to the ACCC.

For UK residents

Please print and complete the Entry Form.

Cheque for payment of the rally entry fee and Saturday evening dinners as required, payable to **Austin Counties Car Club Ltd** and posted with your entry form to:

Robin Wilson
Radnall Cottage
Elmbridge, Droitwich
Worcs WR9 0DA

Non-UK residents (unable to send a £ GBP cheque)

Please contact Herman Egges to arrange completion of entry form and payment via website using PayPal or similar method.

The entry form is overleaf.

AUSTIN EIGHT 80th ANNIVERSARY RALLY BOOKING FORM

22-23 June 2019, Worcestershire

Note: UK residents and others able to pay by cheque (£ GBP) please print this form and complete manually.

Non-UK residents (if unable to pay by GBP cheque) please use Austin 8 Register Website.

Your details and names of others coming with you

Name(s)	Address	Phone	Email
Entrant		(mobile preferred)	

Others in your party

Dietary requirements, access needs or any other things you need us to know.

Are you and your car on the Austin 8 Register?	yes/no	
Are you a member of the Austin Counties Car Club?	yes/no	Memb. No:

Details of your Austin 8 (put n/a if you don't currently own one)

Model	Year	Registration	Condition
Will you be bringing your Austin 8 to the rally?	yes/no		
If yes, will you drive it to the rally or use a trailer?	Drive it to rally	Trailer it to rally	

Details of other car if not bringing Austin 8, or using a tow car.

Make	Model	Registration

Which days of the rally do you plan to attend?		Do you plan to stay in the area overnight?	
Day/activity	How many people?	Night of:	How many people?
Friday (arrivals)		Friday June 21st	
Saturday rally			
Saturday dinner		Saturday June 22nd	
Sunday rally		Sunday June 23rd	
Monday (departures)			

Payment etc

Please pay your Rally Entry Fee and Saturday dinner cost asap and by 1st June latest.

Places at the dinner are limited and will be allocated when your payment is received.

	Rally Entry Fee	at £20 per Austin 8	£
	Saturday dinner	at £25 per person	£
		TOTAL	£

UK residents please pay by cheque, payable to Austin Counties Car Club Ltd and post it with your entry form to: Robin Wilson, Radnall Cottage, Elmbridge, Droitwich, Worcs WR9 0DA

Overseas residents please see Austin 8 Register Website for how to pay your entry fee and dinner cost.