

Rory McEwen esq.
9 Tregunter Road
London SW10

24th June 1972

Dear Mr McEwen

We were delighted to have a letter from you & thank you also for your good wishes by telegram. We had a successful show with plenty of high quality blooms and lots of enthusiasm, especially among the newer members. We never expect to make a profit on the actual show & managed to break even this year but it is well worth the effort put into it.

We are still able to maintain the old tradition of having the show in a public house, but with managers who frequently change, rather than the old-style landlord who was more or less permanent it is difficult to get from them the same involvement.

We adopted you as our Patron about 1962 when you were the only person outside our immediate locality to take a positive interest in our Society & the old English Tulips. You were also our Ambassador to the USA & although the book of tulips which you planned did not materialise, we value your association with our Society very much.

Our other Patron, Mr J. M. Perkin is head of an old established firm of Wakefield jewellers. They gave us a silver rose bowl to commemorate 50 year association with our Society which we award for the best vase of 18 Darwin tulips, and give us an annual prize which we award for most points in the old English classes.

And now for something you can do for us. It was agreed at our last committee meeting that we should have a new heading for our note paper, with a tulip motif (Breeder, flamed & feathered) & that we would like you to design it for us. I have enclosed a transparency of a trio of Lord Stanley which was used for the front cover of the 1970 RHS Daffodil and Tulip Year Book, which incidentally is their final publication of this Year Book & contains an article about the English tulip & our Society.

Mr J.W.Bentley describes the perfect bloom in the enclosed booklet, this will help you to depict them as they should be & perhaps make a more realistic arrangement than my photograph. I personally like "old English" lettering if that could be incorporated in the design. I think our Patrons' names should also find a place, but that is up to you. Our local printer says he can have a block made of the complete letter head, reduced to the required size from a black & white drawing & type can be indented if necessary.

We are proposing to have a reprint made of the booklet enclosed, adding a little up to date information & a descriptive list of available varieties & perhaps a few illustrations. We are enquiring into the cost which we would hope to recover by sale of the booklet to members.

Thank you for the interesting programme of your recent show & congratulations on all your artistic achievements.

Here's wishing you every success in the future.

Yours sincerely

H V Calvert