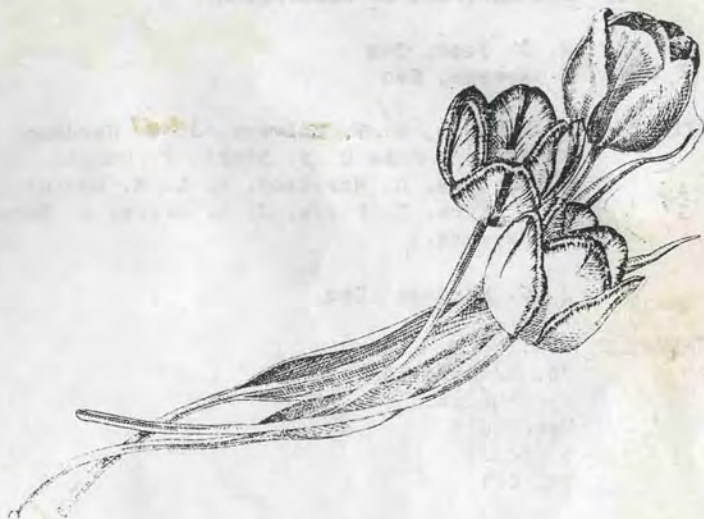


WAKEFIELD & NORTH OF ENGLAND

TULIP SOCIETY

(Established 1826)



NEWSLETTER

No. 4

SUMMER 1992

WAKEFIELD & NORTH OF ENGLAND TULIP SOCIETY
(Established 1836)

O F F I C E R S 1 9 9 1 - 1 9 9 2

- PRESIDENT: The Marquess of Hartington
- PATRONS: W. D. Tear, Esq
V. Roozen, Esq
- VICE - PRESIDENTS: N. H. Eyre, H. V. Calvert, J. G. Hardman,
J. Taylor, Miss D. B. Snape, P. Emmett,
S. Knowles, C. Harrison, A. L. R. Hunter,
K. N. Eyre, T. Mills, J. L. Akers, C. Marsh,
A. Hayward.
- CHAIRMAN: J. G. Hardman, Esq
- HON. SECRETARY: Mrs. W. M. Akers
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- HON. TREASURER: J. L. Akers
& Acting Editor
- COMMITTEE: J. G. Hardman, Mrs. W. M. Akers, J. L. Akers,
K. N. Eyre, M. Hainsworth, A. Hayward,
C. Marsh, W. D. Tear, Miss J. Eyre.

Annual Subscriptions

Members are reminded that subscriptions for 1992/1993 became due on the date of the Annual Show May 1992 and are for the sum of £3 per member or £4 for Family Membership.

CONTENTS

PAGE	TITLE
Inside Front	Officers of the Society
1	Contents
2	From the Chairman
3	Editorial
4	The Annual Show 1992
7	The Dutch Show 1992
9	The R. H. S. Show 1992
10	My Top 10 reasonably priced Dutch bulbs - By Billy Tear
11	A. G. M 1991
14	Visit to Dudmaston - By Wendy Akers
15	Previous Shows
17	Dr. G. W. Hardy - The man - By Trevor Mills
18	Dr. G. W. Hardy - The flower
19	On Shows and the Paucity of Exhibiting Members - By John Ollerenshaw
21	Florist Tulips in Hertfordshire - By Allan Hawkes
22	A Lancashire Florist's Viewpoint - By Jack Wemyss-Cooke
23	A Letter from a New Member - Sylvia Worsley
24	Dates for your Diary
Inside Rear	Statement of Accounts 1990-1991

GREETINGS FROM YOUR CHAIRMAN

Time passes quickly, it does not seem to be a year since our last newsletter.

It has been a mixed year for our tulip; the sun which should have been in Spain shone brightly on our flowers. The result of this was a very poorly-staged English Tulip show. The few exhibitors that managed to stage produced some excellent flowers, but alas too few. Many thanks to those who exhibited: some had travelled long distances with only a small amount of blooms.

The Dutch tulip show held at Wrenthorpe Community Centre a fortnight previously was a different situation. A large entry of excellent flowers, not a poor vase in the show. Congratulations to all who exhibited. Alas the saddening feature of this magnificent exhibition was the lack of public support. Very few of our local members came to see the flowers, most disappointing.

To the members who joined our society and received bulbs at our last A.G.M., a hearty welcome. I hope you enjoyed your Saturday afternoon in Yorkshire. Do not despair with the bulbs you received at the A.G.M. Owing to the unexpected number of people enrolling some of the bulbs were small. With the proper attention these will make excellent flowers: don't forget to lift and replant, and remember the old adage: "From tiny acorns mighty oak trees grow."

A personal thanks to all my faithful officers. These devoted persons did a tremendous amount of work in the past year, well done to all of you. And thank you to all members for your generous support.

J L Hardman
June 5th 1992

EDITORIAL

Although it is not a year since the Newsletter of 1991 was produced, so much has happened since then that it seems appropriate to publish now, particularly since we can save so much on postage by sending a number of communications in the same envelope.

First of all I would like to thank the many people who have contributed articles to this issue which I hope all will find interesting, but please keep sending them in. I haven't used all that were sent because of space but they are 'in the bank' for next year.

What a difference the number of new members has made to Wendy's work load, with two or three letters every day! If you haven't had a reply then please be patient for a couple of weeks as this time of the year is particularly busy with shows, digging up bulbs, and removing weeds which shouldn't have been allowed to grow in the first place.

It was particularly nice to receive so many letters about the bulbs that we sent out. Unfortunately some seem to have gone missing in the post and others have written to say that none of the bulbs came up. When there has been total disaster we will try to replace the bulbs and also send two or three bulbs to those new members who have joined since the A.G.M. and therefore have not received any previously. Unfortunately it seems unlikely that we will be able to have a general distribution this year although we hope to have a few bulbs at this year's A.G.M. on Saturday 3rd October 1992. If any of the long-standing members have any surplus bulbs could they please contact Wendy as soon as possible.

I would also like to pay tribute to Hubert Calvert who has decided, after many years of growing the Florist Tulip and raising new varieties, that his circumstances do not allow him to continue growing even the few seedlings he had kept after handing over his main collection to the Society a number of years ago. These have been passed to me and divided into two for safety's sake, the other half being grown by Keith Eyre. Any breeders which remain, together with any good broken varieties, will be distributed among showing members of the Society when stocks of a variety are large enough to justify its being named. Particularly during the period of Hubert's time as Secretary, he has been a great ambassador for the Society, and his ability to grow other traditional flowers certainly make him a Florist in the true meaning of the word.

It continues to amaze me, and other officials too, as to why so few of the local members manage to attend the Annual Show. Admittedly we haven't been too clever in recent years in getting the date of the Annual Show early enough for most potential exhibitors but even that shouldn't be a problem next year. The Committee have decided to recommend to the A.G.M. that the dates of both shows be fixed as the second and third Saturdays in May each year for the Dutch and English shows respectively. Therefore the shows in 1993 will be on the 8th and 15th May 1993 at venues to be notified later.

Please dig your English bulbs up as soon as the foliage shows signs of dying and replant about the 10th of November. Plant all the offsets however small and they will soon get to flowering size. If very small plant next to the mother bulb so that you won't miss it when digging up.

James L. Akers

THE 157th ANNUAL SHOW - 23 MAY 1992

There have been many occasions over the long history of the Society when the weather has caused havoc with the arrangements for the Annual Show. However the very long and hot spell experienced over the two weeks prior to the show left the officers of the Society more anxiously than ever watching the doors of the Unity Hall on the day of the show wondering if any exhibitors had managed to keep their flowers alive. Fortunately a handful had, although several had resorted to keeping their flowers in a refrigerator for the last week in order to keep them alive. Competitors came from far and wide, as the results show, and visitors from even further; London and Scotland from within these isles, but also visitors from Holland, Canada and Boston in the U.S.A. Among the flowers on display were many over one hundred years old, Royal Sovereign from around 1820, and the oldest Habit de Noce from pre 1790. Unfortunately a succession of warm springs, with the resulting infestation of greenfly, meant that breeder tulips were once again in very short supply and was the main cause of there being no entries at all in a number of classes. The Mayor of Wakefield, Councillor F. Hodgson in opening the Show for the second year in succession paid tribute to the skill and dedication of the members in preserving what is a unique flower and one which means that the name of Wakefield is known throughout the whole horticultural world.

The best bloom in the show was a fine example of Sir Joseph Paxton flamed, grown by Trevor Mills of Walsall, and the best feathered flower Habit de Noce, grown by Jack Wemyss - Cooke from Atherton, near Manchester. With the best bloom in the Novice Classes, Royal Sovereign feathered, grown by Harry Leighton from Houghton Le Springs and the best in the Extra Open Classes, Bessie flamed, grown by Beryl Royle from Wales, local growers for once did not have a monopoly on the best flowers but this should stimulate them for next year's show.

Other highlights were Jane Eyre, winning the best breeder in show award with Jane Eyre, a bybloemen raised by Hubert Calvert which he named after her, and Sarah Wainwright who for the first time won the engraved glassware awarded in memory of her Grandfather Jim Akers for the most points in the Open Classes. Richard Smales won the seedling cup with a bybloemen breeder from the first pods of seed that he set six years ago.

The other engraved glasses were won by Tim Nicholls from Chesterfield in the Novice Classes, Trevor Mills in the Extra Open and Fred Jackson, (a local man at last) for the Dutch.

Two new members exhibited for the first time, the afore-mentioned Harry Leighton and Mr T. J. McCrea from Deganwy, North Wales.

The full results were as follows:-

VASE CLASSES

1. Vase of 12 Tulips (Any variety or varieties not English Florist)
(2 Entries)
 1. F. R. Jackson (Wakefield) Burgundy Lace
 2. J. G. Hardman (Whitley Bridge) Burgundy Lace

2 Vase of 6 Tulips (Any variety or varieties not English Florist)

(4 Entries)

- | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------|
| 1. Mrs. W. M. Akers (Wrenthorpe) | Dreamland |
| 2. J. G. Hardman | Blue Parrot |
| 3. A. Hayward (Altofts) | Fireside |

3 Vase of 3 Tulips (Any variety or varieties not English Florist)

(6 Entries)

- | | |
|---------------------|---------------|
| 1. F. R. Jackson | Burgundy Lace |
| 2. Mrs. W. M. Akers | Dreamland |
| 3. J. G. Hardman | Blue Parrot |

4 Vase of 12 English Florist Tulips

1. Mrs. S. Wainwright (Huddersfield)
2. T. Mills (Walsall)
3. K. N. Eyre (South Cave)

5 Vase of 9 English Florist Tulips

1. & 2. & 3. Mrs. S. Wainwright

OPEN CLASSES

9 SILVER CHALLENGE CUP

For a stand of 6 rectified English Florist Tulips

(4 Entries)

Rose

Byb

Biz

- | | | | | |
|----------------------------|-----|---------------|-----------|-------------------|
| 1. Mrs. S. Wainwright | Fe. | Wakefield | Columbine | Sir J. Paxton |
| | Fl. | Wakefield | Columbine | James Wild |
| 2. T. Mills | Fe. | Julia Farnese | Adonis | Lord Stanley |
| | Fl. | Wakefield | Bessie | Sir. J. Paxton |
| 3. M. Hainsworth
(York) | Fe. | Julia Farnese | Columbine | Lord F. Cavendish |
| | Fl. | Akers Flame | Bessie | Royal Sovereign |

11 STAGES CUP

For a pan of 3 stages - One Breeder, one Feathered, one Flamed

(3 Entries)

Breeder

Feather

Flame

- | | | | |
|----------------------------|--------------|---------------|-------------------|
| 1. Miss J. Eyre (Stainsby) | Lord Stanley | James Wild | Lord F. Cavendish |
| 2. M. Hainsworth | Juliet | Julia Farnese | Julia Farnese |
| 3. R. Smales (Dodworth) | Juliet | Wakefield | Akers Flame |

13 Pair of Flamed

(10 Entries)

- | | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------|-----------|
| 1. T. Mills | Sir Joseph Paxton | Wakefield |
| 2. Mrs. S. Wainwright | James Wild | Columbine |
| 3. M. Hainsworth | James Wild | Columbine |

14 Pair of Feathered

(5 Entries)

- | | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------|---------------|
| 1. Mrs. S. Wainwright | Sir Joseph Paxton | Columbine |
| 2. M. Hainsworth | Royal Sovereign | Habit de Noce |
| 3. T. Mills | Julia Farnese | Adonis |

- 15 One Breeder
(6 Entries)
- | | |
|-----------------|-----------|
| 1. Miss J. Eyre | Jane Eyre |
| 2. K. M. Eyre | Seedling |
| 3. R. Smales | Seedling |
- 16 One Flamed
(18 Entries)
- | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Mrs. S. Vainwright | James Wild |
| 2. R. Smales | Sir Joseph Paxton |
| 3. T. Mills | Sam Barlow |
- 17 One Feathered
(14 Entries)
- | | |
|-------------------------------|---------------|
| 1. J. Wemyss-Cooke (Atherton) | Habit de Noce |
| 2. T. Mills | Wakefield |
| 3. Miss J. Eyre | James Wild |
- 18 SEEDLING CUP
One Seedling Breeder raised by the exhibitor
(3 Entries)
- | | |
|--------------|--------------------|
| 1. R. Smales | Bybloemen seedling |
|--------------|--------------------|

NOVICE CLASSES

- 21 One Flamed
(7 Entries)
- | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------|
| 1. F. Nicholls (Chesterfield) | Lord Stanley |
| 2. Not Awarded | |
| 3. Not Awarded | |
- 22 One Feathered
(4 Entries)
- | | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------|
| 1. H. Leighton (Houghton Le Spring) | Royal Sovereign |
| 2. T. Nicholls | Lord Stanley |
| 3. Not Awarded | |

EXTRA OPEN CLASSES

- 25 One Flamed
(11 Entries)
- | | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------|
| 1. Mrs. B. Royles (Deeside Clwyd) | Bessie |
| 2. T. Mills | Lord Stanley |
| 3. A. Hayward | Goldfinder |
- 26 One Feathered
(6 Entries)
- | | |
|-------------------|--------------|
| 1. T. Mills | Not recorded |
| 2. Mrs. B. Royles | Not recorded |
| 3. H. Leighton | Not recorded |

DUTCH TULIP SHOW

9th May 1992 Village Hall Wrenthorpe

The Dutch Tulip Show reintroduced by the Society just three years ago certainly goes from strength to strength. There probably has not been a better show of its type in the history of the Society with 17 exhibitors, and the judge Mr. Frank Smith certainly had his work cut out in placing the hundred or more vases in their correct order. Unfortunately no record of the winning varieties was kept however this will be remedied on future occasions. Anyone needing information on which varieties to grow and show should consult later pages of this newsletter.

- 1 THE PERKIN TROPHY and GOLD MEDAL - 13 Tulips - one variety
 1. A. Hayward (Altofts) 2. & 3. D. Brears (Worsborough) 4. Mrs. A. Smales (Dodworth)
- 2 12 Tulips - any variety or varieties
 1. W. D. Tear (Altofts) 2. J. G. Hardman (Whitley Bridge) 3. Mr. Keys (Barnsley)
- 3 9 Tulips - any variety or varieties
 1. W. D. Tear 2. J. G. Hardman 3. Mrs. A. Smales
- 4 5 Parrot Tulips
 1. Mrs. L. Payner (Leeds) 2. W. D. Tear 3. D. Brears
- 5 5 Lily Flowered Tulips
 1. Mrs. A. Smales 2. W. D. Tear 3. Mrs. J. Lodge (Wrenthorpe)
- 6 5 Fringed or Crispa Tulips
 1. D. Brears 2. & 3. W. D. Tear
- 7 5 Late Double Tulips
 1. & 2. W. D. Tear
- 8 5 Viridiflora Tulips
 1. & 2. W. D. Tear 3. Mrs. A. Smales
- 9 3 Yellow flowered Tulips one variety
 1. Mrs. A. Smales 2. J. G. Hardman 3. Mr. Keys
- 10 3 White flowered Tulips " "
 1. & 2. W. D. Tear 3. J. G. Hardman
- 11 3 Pink coloured Tulips " "
 1. & 2. & 3. W. D. Tear

- 12 3 Any other colour than " " "
 1. D. Brears 2. C. Bone (Barnsley) 3. W. D. Tear

- 12A Pot or Pan of Species Tulip
 1. Mrs. V. M. Akers (Wrenthorpe)

- 13 Bowl of English or Dutch tulips arranged for effect, any foliage allowed
 1. T. Mills (Walsall) 2. W. D. Tear 3. D. Brears

ENGLISH

- 14 1 Breeder tulip
 1. Mrs. L. Bone (Barnsley) 2. M. Hainsworth (York) 3. R. Smales (Dodworth)

- 15 A pair of Flamed (must be different types)
 1. R. Smales 2. M. Hainsworth

- 16 A pair of Feathered (")
 1. M. Hainsworth 2. R. Smales

- 17 1 Breeder, 1 Flamed, 1 Feathered
 1. W. D. Tear 2. R. Smales

THE GOLD MEDAL awarded to the winner of Class One was won by Mr. J. Hayward of Altofts.

THE MARY TEAR MEMORIAL TROPHY awarded to the exhibitor with most points in classes 1 - 8 was won by Mr. W. D. Tear of Altofts.

Tulip Competition

The R. H.S - Vincent Square London April 1992

It is only about five years since the R. H. S. re-introduced exhibition classes for tulips at the main Daffodil Show, and at this years show, the number of entries and particularly the quality of the flowers shown was the highest yet.

Although the number of competitors is still small, (and the most successful ones members of the W & N of E Tulip Soc.), there is no restriction on the number of entries allowed from each competitor in any class with the result that eight entries was not uncommon and even twelve vases were offered for judging in Class 3.

All the vase classes are for three blooms and there are no classes for English Florist Tulips because the show date is too early for growers in the North of England. However with our country wide membership there is no reason why as stocks build up among Southern members that we should not ask the R. H. S. if they would be prepared to include classes in the future. With the exception of two vases where the exhibitor had unfortunately forgotten to add the water the staging of blooms was very good with clean unmarked foliage and strong straight stems. Three vases would certainly have won in the past, for the vase award Garden Party in Class 3 which is Red with Cream/White shading up the centre of each petal, Ballade from Class 5, Lilac with white edging, and probably best of all Menon from Class 4. Pink with yellow/orange shading to the edge of the petal which senior judge Carlo Naef described as superb.

Once again the two most successful competitors were Billy Tait from Altofts in West Yorkshire, and Arthur Robinson from Enfield, North London.

Results - All Classes except Class 11 for a vase of three blooms.
Number of entries in brackets

Class 1: Single early cultivars (6).

1. W. D. Tear: Princess Irene.
2. W. D. Tear: Princess Irene
3. W. D. Tear: Christmas Gold

Class 2: Double early or double late cultivars (8).

1. W. D. Tear: Mount Ida
2. W. D. Tear: Mount Ida
3. R. P. Sampson: Miranda

Class 3: Triumph or mid-season cultivars (12).

1. W. D. Tear: Garden Party
2. A. Brand: Trendsetter
3. R. P. Sampson: Lucky Strike

Class 4: Single late cultivars (8).

1. W. D. Tear: Menton
2. A. E. Robinson: Renown
3. B. Williamson: Golden Appledorn

Class 5: Lily - flowered cultivars (9).

1. A. E. Robinson: Ballade
2. W. D. Tear: Ballade
3. R. P. Sampson: Unknown

Class 6: Fringed cultivars (6).

1. W. D. Tear: Fancy Frills
2. A. E. Robinson: Fringed Elegance
3. W. D. Tear: Maja

Class 7: Viridiflora cultivars (6).

1. A. E. Robinson: Spring Green
2. R. P. Sampson: Spring Green
3. A. E. Robinson: Dancing Show

Class 8: Parrot cultivars (4).

1. W. D. Tear: Red Parrot
2. W. D. Tear: Doorman
3. A. E. Robinson: Rococo

Class 9: Kaufmannia, greigii or fosteriana cultivars (5).

1. W. D. Tear: Red Riding Hood
2. W. D. Tear: Red Riding Hood
3. No award

Class 10: Darwin Hybrid Cultivars (8).

1. A. E. Robinson: Golden Parade
2. W. D. Tear: Elizabeth Arden
3. W. D. Tear: Queen Wilhelmina

Class 11: Any species tulip, one pot or pan of five bulbs in bloom.

1. A. E. Robinson: Linifolia
2. A. E. Robinson: Linifolia
3. W. D. Tear: Linifolia

My Top Ten Reasonably Priced Dutch Bulbs - Billy Tear

For those members who would like to try their hand at showing (or just growing) Dutch tulips, Billy has recommended the following varieties.

All are available from Parkers of Manchester or Bloms of Watford, telephone for catalogue 061-872 3517, 0923-672071 respectively.

MENTON	LATE COTTAGE
MAUREEN	LATE COTTAGE
MAJA	FRINGED CRISPA
BURGUNDY LACE	FRINGED CRISPA
RENOWN	LATE COTTAGE
ARISTOCRAT	LATE COTTAGE
RED PARROT	PARROT
ELIZABETH ARDEN	DARWIN HYBRID
GARDEN PARTY	MID - SEASON
ESPERANTO	VIRIDIFLORA

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 1991

Held on 5th October 1991 at Wrenthorpe Village Hall

Present: Chairman - Mr J. Hardman
 Hon. Secretary - Mrs W. M. Akers
 Treasurer - Mr J. L. Akers
 Committee: Messrs K. Eyre, M. Hainsworth, A. Hayward, C. Marsh, R. Perraudin and W. Tear.

Over 70 members and guests attended

Chairman's welcoming remarks.

Mr John Hardman warmly welcomed the large numbers of members and guests from all parts of the country. The distances travelled included places as far afield as Inveresk in Scotland, Sidmouth in Devon, Southampton, Wales, Bristol, Tyne and Wear, Lincolnshire and all points between. The huge increase in new members was largely a result of the publicity from the Gardeners World programme which featured the Florist Tulip. The two shows in May had gone well, the Annual show had been well attended but he was disappointed with the attendance at the Dutch show. This was a pity because the number and quality of the flowers had been tremendous. Nevertheless it was a new venture and we would persevere.

Apologies for absence.

The secretary stated that a large number of apologies for absence had been received, far too many to read, mainly from new members who lived too far away to travel to Yorkshire. She had decided to read one letter as representative of them all because it was such a charming and unusual reason given. This was from a gentleman who owned a very large tortoise which was booked for its annual check up at the vet's on that day. He had tried to get someone else to take it but for some reason no-one could be found.

The minutes of last years A.G.M. were read and signed as a true record.

Matters arising.

With respect to the item on "discussion of preservation of Breeder tulips" Mr Jack Wemyss-Cooke asked for information for new members as to how far apart to grow the breeders from the broken flowers. A short discussion ensued and various suggestions were put forward. The consensus was that it was still a debatable point, as far away as was feasible according to the amount of space available. Mr W. Tear reiterated the advice from his Newsletter article to grow the breeders strongly and healthily with plenty of muck and they'll resist breaking better.

Correspondence and Secretary's Report.

The secretary stated that she had taken on a small job which had overnight turned into a large one. She related the chain of events which had led to the Gardener's World programme which featured the English florist tulip, Timothy Clark, a member of the society

Living in Soham had written an article about Florist tulips which was intended to be published in "Plants and Gardens". Unfortunately this magazine folded but Ray Edwards, the ex-editor, thought the article deserved to be used somewhere so he showed it to Stephanie Silk, the producer of Gardener's World. She was very keen to include something about the tulips in the programme and asked Timothy when the flowers would be out. He gave her a date and they fixed a slot in the schedule. Of course, then the spring turned really grey and cold and the flowers hung in bud for a fortnight causing problems with the programme schedules. At one point they panicked and rang the society to see if we had any members further south who were likely to have flowers in bloom. In the end, the sun shone, the flowers came out and the programme went ahead. Stefan Buczacki who was presenting the item was so delighted when he saw the flowers that he decided to make an appeal for more people to grow them with the result that letters flooded in to the society, around 700 (enquiries are still coming in in October). The membership has gone in one leap from around 80 to 250 and the postman isn't speaking to the secretary any more. That wasn't quite the end of the story. EMAP who now owned the article are publishing it finally in "Period Living" the magazine, in the December issue.

The secretary said it had been pleasing to be on the receiving end of so much enthusiasm for keeping the florist tulip going but we had also to remember that the only reason they were still in existence to be preserved was due to the efforts of mainly local members who had doggedly persevered with growing them. Sometimes the number of people growing them had seriously dwindled to no more than a handful and their survival had been seriously threatened. Happily they are still around to delight us today in the 1990's and are hopefully on a more secure footing. The other main event during the year had been Lady Labouchere's invitation to visit her home at Dudmaston to see her collection of Dutch paintings of flower subjects, including tulips. This had been a truly memorable day. Sir George and Rachel, Lady Labouchere, had shown us round personally and invited us to take tea with them. A letter of thanks had been sent to Michael Chambers, administrator for the National Trust and to Sir George and his wife, along with a small selection of bulbs. Dr Kate Swift had arranged the visit and escorted us round the lovely estate and the Dingle.

Treasurer's Report.

Mr J. L. Akers tabled the statement of accounts for the year ending 30th September 1991, (see back page Ed.) and went through it in detail. The society is in good financial order and of course the support from new members' subscriptions was significant.

Election of Officers

Patrons - Mr Victor Roozen, Mr William D. Tear

Vice Presidents - Mr N. H. Eyre, Mr P. Emmett, Mr K. N. Eyre, Mr J. L. Akers, Mr H. V. Calvert, Mr J. G. Hardman, Mr G. W. Gray, Mr J. Taylor, Miss B. D. Snape, Mr S. Knowles, Mr C. Harrison, Mr T. Mills, Mr C. Marsh, Mr A. Hayward

Mr K. Eyre proposed and Mr T. Mills seconded that Mr Timothy Clark become a vice president to replace Lord Cochrane of Cults who has sadly passed away. This was carried unanimously.

Hon. Secretary - Mr A. Robinson proposed Mrs W. M. Akers to continue. Seconded by Mr Jack Wemyss-Cooke. Carried.

Treasurer - Mr C. Harrison proposed Mr J. L. Akers to continue. Seconded by Mr M. Hainsworth. Carried.

The Committee - Mr J. L. Akers proposed that the committee be re-elected en bloc, seconded by Mr T. Mills. Mr R. Perraudin stated that he wished to step down since commitments prevented him from carrying out his duties.

Mr J. L. Akers proposed Miss J. L. Eyre as replacement, seconded by Mr M. Hainsworth. Carried.

Mr Akers thanked Mr Perraudin for his interest and support in the past and also Mrs Perraudin.

Any other Business.

Mr W. Tear proposed that another crystal goblet be purchased for award for most points at the Dutch show. Seconded by Mr C. Marsh. Carried. Thanks were offered to Dr Kate Swift for her tremendous help with the visit to Dudmaston.

Thanks were also offered to Mr W. Tear for his support and gifts of Gold Medals. He responded and reminded members that although at present there were only a few English florist bulbs available they could show at the Dutch show.

New members present were encouraged to polish their law with four bulbs from the back of the nail. There was a short discussion on the best methods of combatting slugs which are very partial to tulip bulbs.

English Florist Tulips Grown Today.

Slides taken over the period 1987-1991 by Maurice Evans. This gave new members a comprehensive idea of the varieties of English florist tulip grown today.

Tea was then taken.

Discussion of the Aims of the Society.

A document setting out the seven primary aims of the society was tabled and discussed.

Growing tulips in the 60's.

Slides of tulips covering growing, showing and flower decoration from Bill Tear.

Flowers photographed by Maurice Evans.

These included several very unusual varieties including crocus and gentians.

The meeting closed at 5:30 pm.

DUDMASTON
By Wendy Akers

In 1991 Katherine Swift (who had joined the society the year before) mentioned that her friend Rachel, Lady Labouchere, had been delighted to hear that a society existed which had preserved the English florist tulip. Lady Labouchere has a collection of flower paintings at her home Dudmaston: some of these are 17 and 18th century Dutch paintings which include tulips along with other florist's flowers. She felt that the members of the society might like to visit Dudmaston and see the paintings and also the lovely rose gardens and the Dingle, which is in the process of being restored.

We eventually settled on a date in June, but before we could make our visit events took an unexpected turn. Lady Labouchere became ill and this coincided with the sudden admission to hospital of Katherine Swift. The visit was rescheduled for September and in the meantime I received a postcard from Katherine which showed one of the paintings, a Dutch 17th century portrait of two girls, obviously sisters, dressed identically in red dresses with lace cuffs and collars. The elder sister is holding tulips, and in the background are a tulip painting, a vase of tulips and, seen through the window, a formal garden planted with tulips in flower.

We keenly anticipated our visit and on arriving and parking inside the walls of the orchard we set off into the park. I was delighted to sample the fruit from a big old mulberry tree which tasted like a huge, pungently-flavoured blackberry. A path through the park and round the lake led eventually to the Dingle which is presently being restored by the National Trust and will eventually be one of the very few examples surviving of this style of English landscape design.

At 2:30 we gathered in the entrance hall and met Michael Chambers, the Administrator, to begin our tour of the house. For 850 years the Dudmaston estate has always passed by descent or devise and has never been offered for sale, and the overriding impression thus was of a visit to a private home full of a very personal collection of paintings. The Laboucheres kindly showed us their home; the flower paintings were wonderful, and of the family portraits my personal favourite is the portrait of Anne Miller Christy wearing a typical bonnet of Quaker book-muslin. We had the great pleasure of being shown Lady Labouchere's collection of botanical works including a set of 16 illustrations of 'The Auricula', given to Lady Labouchere by our late patron Rory McEwen. There was so much to see that the time flew by and all too soon it was time to take tea together, making a perfect ending to a truly memorable day.

PREVIOUS SHOWS

Again the facilities at Balne Lane Library served me in good stead in tracing reports of previous shows. Unfortunately I was unable to locate a report of the show for 1842 in the Wakefield Journal and West Riding Herald nor in any of the Leeds newspapers which also gave details of Wakefield events.

The 1892 show was held on Monday and Tuesday 5th/6th June 1892 and reported in the Wakefield Express on the following Saturday. Unfortunately the report is very short with no significant details and but one flower mentioned, Bridesmaid which no longer exists today. The quality of the microfilm prevents a copy being reproduced here, so once more you will have to rely on the accuracy of my typing. Hatfield House was badly damaged by fire several years ago and really is spelt that way.

100 years ago

SHOW OF TULIPS - On Monday and Tuesday the fifty-seventh annual show, promoted by the Wakefield Amateurs' Tulip Society, was held at Mr. Joseph Jacques', the Brunswick Hotel, Borough Market. Between 500 and 600 tulips were brought together with a number of hardy ferns. The following were the prize-takers: Messrs G. Gill, A. Moorhouse, W. Haspot, W. Calvert, W. Mellor, J. Hardwick, A. South and H. Brown. Best collection of three ferns: 1. G. Gill; 2. J. Hardwick. One fern: G. Gill; 2. W. Calvert; 3. J. Hardwick. The judges were Mr. Scholefield, of Lower Wortley, and Mr. Brown, gardener of Hatfield Hall. H. Haspot, Hardwick again acted as Hon. Secretary. The season has on the whole, been favorable and some of the blooms, especially the rectified ones were very good. There was a good contest for the first prize which fell to Mr. G. Gill, of Eastmoor. Mr. Moorhouse staged some fine breeders, and his "Bridesmaid" took the premier prize for bybloemen breeders.

In the next column appears the following item, and I would be grateful to any grower in the Manchester area who could supply me with a report of that show, from the Manchester Guardian or other local newspaper.

WAKEFIELD TULIP GROWERS AT MANCHESTER -

On Wednesday several Wakefield Tulip growers including Messrs George Gill, Alfred Moorhouse, and William Mellor, were again amongst the successful exhibitors at the National Tulip Society's Show held at the Botanical Gardens at Manchester. Mr. Mellor took the first prize given for maiden growers besides seven or eight other prizes. Mr. George Gill took 2nd, 4th, 6th, 7th, and 8th prizes in various classes and besides several other awards Mr. Moorhouse was 4th for stands of 12 and 6th for stands of 6 blooms.

50 years ago

Note among the exhibitors Norman Eyre our oldest surviving member, and father and grandfather respectively of Keith and Jane; Master Tear alias Billy (W. D.) Tear. But why oh why didn't they name the flowers?

THE WAKEFIELD EXPRESS, Saturday, June 6, 1942.

WAKEFIELD TULIP SOCIETY.

THE 100TH ANNUAL SHOW.

The 100th annual show of the Wakefield and North of England Tulip Society was opened at the Whinney Moor, Wakefield, on a Sunday evening. As the age of the show indicates, the Society was founded when William IV was on the throne, and its object was to encourage the cultivation of the old English, double tulips. From that time onwards, successive generations of tulip lovers have kept the flag flying, through all vicissitudes of fortune. Mr. E. E. Robinson (Green Lane, L. 1001) is the secretary.

During the fortnight preceding the show, rain and wind caused damage to many blooms, but notwithstanding this handicap the competitors put up a grand exhibition, both in quality and quantity. There were about a thousand blooms staged. There are three awards, known as "premiers," respectively for the best breeder, best named and best feathered exhibit. Mr. G. Hunt (Horbury) won the premier for breeder and feathered, and Mr. E. Robinson (Horbury), the premier for named.

Last year the proceeds of the show went for the Clayton Hospital, and the same procedure was followed on the present occasion.

The Mayor (Mr. C. Whitaker) was the opener, and the Mayoress (Miss M. Whitaker, J.P.) distributed the trophies to the winners.

One of the matters touched on by Mr. W. G. Robertson (the Parks Dept.intendent), who presided, was the fact that a large number of tulip growers taking great care of their bulbs, and planting the offsets and so propagating their stock.

The Mayor said that that evening he had learned that this was the only tulip show in England, a fact which made Wakefield stand out throughout the whole of the country. Another thing to be proud of was that for 100 years three shows had been held, and he hoped that notwithstanding the difficulties caused by the war, the members would carry on, so that there should be no break in the historical link with the past. In the course of his address the Mayor alluded to the fact that the beauty of the tulip was now enlisted in the cause of helping suffering humanity, the proceeds of the show going to the Clayton Hospital. "I do not know that you could do anything finer than that," he added.

The Mayoress having handed the cups and other trophies to the respective winners, she and the Mayor were accorded hearty thanks on the proposition of Mr. J. W. Bligham, seconded by Mr. W. Beddows.

The judges were Messrs. W. G. Robertson, R. Robinson (Horbury), J. W. Midgley (Halifax) and W. Beddows (Altrich), and the awards were as under—

PRIZE LIST.

Vase of 18 tulips, any variety other than English florist (Gold Medal)—1, E. H. Robinson (Horbury); 2, M. Downing (Normanton); 3, E. Walker (Altricham).

Vase of nine tulips, any variety other than English florist—1, A. Robshaw (Alythorpe); 2, E. Walker; 3, Mrs. Walker.

Vase of nine English florist tulips—1, A. Robshaw; 2, E. Walker; 3, Mrs. Walker.

Vase of 25 English florist tulips—1, Mrs. Walker; 2, A. Tear (Altofta); 3, W. Robinson (Horbury).

Silver Challenge Cup for stand of nine tulips, consisting of three bisarres, three byblomen and three roses, each trio comprising one breeder, one feathered, and one named—1, A. Akers (Altofta); 2, E. Robinson (Horbury); 3, E. Walker.

Pan of six feathered—1, E. Walker; 2, W. Beddows; 3, E. Robinson.

Pan of six breeders—1, E. Robinson; 2, A. Akers; 3, W. Beddows.

Pair of named—1, J. W. Midgley; 2, N. Eyre (Horbury); 3, E. Robinson.

Pair of feathered—1, G. Hunt (Horbury); 2, N. Eyre; 3, A. Akers.

Hermina Memorial Cup, for three bisarres, three byblomen, three roses, each trio consisting of one breeder, one feathered, one named—1, J. W. Midgley; 2, E. Walker.

Large bicolors (Silver Plate)—1, A. Robshaw; 2, A. Akers; 3, E. H. Robinson.

Stages Class (Silver Cup). One breeder, one feathered, one named, all of one colour, namely, either all bisarres, all byblomen or all roses—1, N. Eyre; 2, A. Robshaw; 3, J. W. Midgley.

Bizarre breeder—1, N. Eyre; 2, E. Robinson; 3, W. Beddows.

Bizarre named—1, J. W. Midgley; 2, W. Robinson; 3, E. Robinson.

Bizarre feathered—1, N. Eyre; 2, A. Akers; 3, W. Beddows.

Byblomen breeder—1, E. H. Robinson; 2, G. Hunt; 3, E. Beddows.

Byblomen named—1, R. Robinson; 2, J. W. Midgley; 3, A. Robshaw.

Byblomen feathered—1, N. Eyre; 2, E. Beddows; 3, A. Akers.

Rose breeder—1, E. H. Robinson; 2, J. W. Midgley; 3, N. Eyre.

Rose named—1, J. W. Midgley; 2, W. Robinson; 3, M. Downing.

Rose feathered—1, M. Downing; 2, E. Robinson; 3, W. Beddows.

Local Silver Challenge Cup for best stand of nine tulips, consisting of three bisarres, three byblomen, and three roses, each trio comprising one breeder, one feathered and one named—1, G. Hunt; 2, A. Akers; 3, E. H. Robinson.

NOVICES' CLASSES.

Pair of one breeder, one feathered, and one named—1, A. Akers; 2, A. Robshaw; 3, W. Bottomley (Horbury).

Breeder—1, A. Robshaw; 2, A. Akers; 3, W. Bottomley.

Feathered—1, A. Robshaw; 2, W. Bottomley; 3, A. Akers.

Flamed—1, A. Robshaw; 2, W. Bottomley; 3, B. Summers (Calder Grove).

In the above classes Mr. Robshaw gained most points and thereby became the holder of the Brook Silver Challenge Cup.

Best stand of three tulips, English florist—1, Master Tear; 2, B. Summers; 3, J. Mouter (Horbury).

Dr. George Wilmot Hardy
By Trevor Mills

The Warrington Guardian dated 13th November 1875 states that nothing is known of the birthplace and parentage of the above florist. However the International Genealogical Index gives his baptism at St. Stephen's Church Salford as 27th January 1801, just ten months after his parents' marriage.

He first went to school in Chesterfield and described to his friends the terrible journeys he had to make as a boy when riding by coach to spend his holidays at home during Christmas. His education was completed at Stockport Grammar School and he was articled to a surgeon in Manchester, where he very early distinguished himself in the practice of midwifery, in which he attained rare knowledge and skill.

Mr Hardy was passionately fond of music, and played the flute and double bass.

One tale is told of his returning from a septet practice, carrying home with a friend his double bass. On going through a dark passage, they encountered a party of men who were evidently believers in the resurrection stories so rife in those days, for just as they passed the doctor and his companion they exclaimed under their breath, "There's Doctor Hardy with a body."

The twin hobby to his passion for music was a love for flowers and their cultivation, so much so that his fame as a judge was known countrywide, and his rules of judgment became known as the "Hardy Standard".

For many years he had a garden, which he had to relinquish due to building developments. In the confined plot in Bewsey Street he continued to use his skills to good effect. One of his successes was the tulip "Talisman". He was fond of dahlias, but subsequently devoted himself to the growth of tulips which he produced in perfection, and preserved long in bloom, by sundry contrivances of awnings. On a sunny day he might be found sitting by his tulips, judging and taking notes from them. High prices were obtained for his bulbs, but in 1871 he sold his collection of tulips to Mr. Barlow of Liverpool. In his later years he constructed a greenhouse at the back of his residence.

He had the misfortune to lose his wife in 1834 and of their family of three children, two daughters and one son, only the eldest daughter was surviving at his death.

Mr Hardy identified himself during the whole of his public career with the Liberal Party, his services being recognised by his political friends when, in 1847, he was elected one of the aldermen of the borough.

During November 1873 subscriptions were received for the purpose of commissioning a portrait to be painted by a Mr Crozier, an artist of established reputation, which is still in the possession of the Warrington Museum and Art Gallery.

His death occurred on the 9th November 1875; when he was aged 74 years. A wreath of white chrysanthemums sent by his grandson was placed upon the pall and was buried in Warrington cemetery on the 13th November after a service at St. Paul's Church.

In such high esteem was he held that the cortege on that wet Saturday morning consisted of the Mayor and Corporation. The shutters of all shops were shut up and the blinds of the private houses closely drawn in token of respect to the deceased gentleman.

DR. G. W. HARDY - The Flower

Sir Daniel Hall in his book THE TULIP (1926) has this to say:-

"Dr. Hardy (Storer). First broke in 1862 so that it is becoming an old flower. Of more than medium height, it has stout petals and a short medium-sized cup that opens well and stands to the last. Practically only known as a flamed flower that is well marked with brown on a brilliant yellow ground and shows a wide glossy base. Though rarely shown now it is always a pleasure on the bed for its bright colour and good shape. Good as a garden tulip."

The breeder for this variety disappeared well before the last war. Albert Tear however found that one of his breaks seemed to be reverting to a breeder and built up a small stock in the fifties and sixties. Whether in fact it ever lost its break cannot be confirmed and certainly it would have been the only ever recorded case of such an happening, but this is only conjecture as this selected stock is no longer with us.

The flower is easy to recognise because when viewed from the side the bottom of the flower is very square and the top of the stalk for about half an inch before it joins the flower is a very much darker colour than the rest of the stalk. The flower is very late, about two weeks later than Lord Stanley and is therefore very useful for late shows along with Royal Sovereign which flowers at about the same time.

The flaming on the flower is not as good as Sir Joseph Paxton nor of a good Sam Barlow. It shares a similar fault to the latter in that the feathering almost disappears from the top of the petal and in addition it tends to have fewer flame markings joining the central beam to the outside feathering than that variety. The central beam is quite large and of quite a rich red rather than the brown described by Sir Daniel.

The bulb does not increase as well as most of the other bizarres, though the increase is reasonable, and the variety is well distributed among the long established members of the Society.

Dr. Hardy was the seed parent of Sam Barlow with the pollen being provided by Sir Joseph Paxton and is therefore also in the breeding line of Cyrano which was Sam Barlow x Sir Joseph Paxton.

On Shows and the Paucity of Exhibiting Members

John Ollerenshaw

Floral Preamble

Let us take a look at Florists Flowers in general. What do we see when we visit this, that, or the other Flower Show? The one thing which stands out above all others is the ability of exhibiting members to place on the stands all or any of the varieties currently in vogue of exhibition quality. Generally, anyone requiring stocks purchases them from trade supply nurserymen etc. In other words, what an exhibitor sees, he can purchase, and has at his disposal the wherewithal to compete. The only things which separate the winners from the losers are cultural management and "know-how"; again even these can be acquired in time.

Florists' Tulips

Sadly here we have a problem. The would-be exhibitor visits the Show and sees Tulips on display. As a member, the obtaining of varieties is fortunately nowadays not over difficult, bearing in mind that all supplies are donated by other members, anonymously for the most part.

But, and here is the rub. That which our would-be exhibitor saw, cannot be obtained save by name only. "Break" quality is not often imparted with acquired bulbs. So our errant (sic) friend rushes home, can't wait to get his bulbs interred; he frets and fumes until at last the flower buds appear, then what should be a beautiful experience often turns sour as he perceives the fruits of his seven months labour - badly marked, over marked or under marked blooms, insignificant shadows of what he saw on display.

Inevitable results

- a) The member goes out and jumps int cut (local canal - Ed), and drowns himself.
- b) He drops dead or out of membership.
- c) He remains a member but purchases a good quality begging bowl which he must perforce rattle well every time he attends meetings, shows etc.
- d) He, although still a member, is unable to exhibit at subsequent shows.

So we see why so few manage to place blooms on the table. Probably most of us have experienced these things and they are enervating.

Escape to Happiness.

A very different approach to the "paucity" question must be taken and taken quickly. Here is my personal opinion of the way to happiness.

- a) Let the distribution of the Tulip bulbs continue as before with it being fully understood at the relevant time that they are varietal bulbs of unknown quality. After all a lot of them are quite useful for some of the classes and are of course excellent for those who desire stocks from which to raise seedlings.

b) Let there be a new concept regarding tulip varieties which possess good "breaks". Those who have these should be encouraged to provide offsets or flowering size bulbs at a 'market price'; say from 50p up to £2.00 each (or even more) according to quality. (Yes I know that all the bulbs are common Society stock, but all the expertise in segregating good from bad and retaining the resultant strains deserves some form of pecuniary reward). To placate the purists maybe part of the selling price would be donated to Society funds.

If the above were to be followed then I am sure that there would be stimulation in the increased propagation of good "breaks" and also the demand for them from would-be exhibitors, maybe more so from admirers.

c) If something akin to the above were to be adopted, or even that as written, then I am sure that we would have happier members and an increased band of exhibitors. There would be no more wasted years of false hopes and everyone, all things being equal, would have the chance to exhibit, compete and win!

d) An eventual side product of these considerations would be the phasing out of all bad "breaks" thus purging our Society of its major drawback.

FLORIST TULIPS IN HERTFORDSHIRE

By Allan Hawkes

My culture of Florist Tulips would bring a severe frown (at least) to the brow of all true and traditional growers of these exquisite flowers. I grow them in pots and have done so for the last twenty years.

Although we have a half-acre garden, much of it is taken up by lawn, shrubs, trees, and pond, leaving only a small space for cultivation. Being primarily a grower of auriculas, a good part of this space is naturally reserved for Border auriculas (I also grow Show, Alpine and Stripes in the greenhouse). In my first year with the Florist Tulips - obtained through the generosity of Hubert Calvert - I went exactly by the book, planting them next to the Border auriculas in a sunny but sheltered position in carefully worked soil. Small squares of hardboard, buried in the soil separated the varieties which were of necessity closely spaced.

They bloomed very well indeed, to my great pleasure, but when July came and I tried to lift them and keep each variety separate from its very near neighbours, I quickly had to invent new swear words, having entirely exhausted all those I already knew. Never again!

By the following November I had bought a job-lot of flexible plastic pots, about seven-inch size, and planted the bulbs in these, roughly one or two largish bulbs to a pot plus sometimes a couple of tiny ones to grow on. Naturally, each variety had a separate pot. In those days, for this potting, I bought large bags of Arthur Bowers compost but in recent times I have switched to a non-peat type. The pots are sunk to their brims in the garden and each carries a distinguishing plastic label hooked on to a length of galvanised wire; another label or two are buried with the bulbs - just in case. Our garden birds are a malicious lot. From late winter onwards, the pots receive regular doses of whatever fertilizer I have to spare - Growmore often, with a high-potash type sometimes in early Spring.

How do they do? Not badly really, they always flower and although the bulbs rarely reach a large size (about 8 - 9 cm. seems typical) they reproduce themselves well and have been doing so over the years. Strangely, the bulbs only very rarely extend their roots through the bottom holes of the pots, although I use no crocks or drainage material, nor do worms seem keen to take up abode in the pots - just an occasional one or two.

I am sure that the traditional methods of growing are the best but there may well be others, perhaps among the influx of newer members, who just do not have the space to 'go by the book'. The foregoing is perhaps a reasonably good second best.

Over the years I have been able to supply spare bulbs to other would-be growers - mostly of the auricular fraternity. After all, auriculas and tulips were the twin loves of Florists of Victorian days and earlier. One day I may perhaps go to Wakefield and see the experts' results and how it should be done.

A LANCASHIRE FLORISTS VIEWPOINT
by Jack Wemyss-Cooke

Having had some success in the cultivation and exhibition of auriculas nevertheless the honourable appellation 'florist' was not, it seemed a title I could really lay claim to by right until I attained some proficiency in the cultivation of our English florist tulips as well. On Saturday the 23rd May 1992 at Wakefield show I almost felt a sort of 'coming of age' process vindicated my claim to the title when, for the first time, I won a red card with 'Habit de Noce' in the rarefied ethos surrounding the senior classes at our show.

The journey home from Wakefield was painfully slow; my impatience to tell Ann and the girls my news made it so. The news would, I hoped, justify once and for all the tulip take-over bid of the family refrigerator, particularly the salad tray, some ten days before the show. On the 13th May drastic action clearly had to be instituted to at least slow down the rush of bloom that accompanied the long, hot spell which seemed to signify disaster yet again for my show hopes.

My actions were the result of a conversation, some years previously, with a member of our tulip establishment when I expressed wonder at the vibrant, fresh display of Dutch tulips staged by Bill Tear. It seems that experienced growers have for many years practised holding back their blooms, in some cases by early cutting, thereafter standing the tulips in buckets or deep vases filled with cold water, subsequently placing their treasures (and hopes) in cold cellars and total darkness often for weeks at a time prior to the shows. In the absence of a cellar and given the modest proportions of Ann's refrigerator, some slight variation on the practice of the cognoscenti was undertaken. To say the least I really am delighted with my experiment and the outcome thereof.

On the morning of our show a frisson of delight always accompanies my first sight of the exhibition venue and our dear friends, followed by a reactive intake of breath at the fantastic quality of the exhibits being prepared with a view to vanquishing my own modest offerings on the day.

This year was no exception - annually I am besotted by the beauty of some individual blooms. However, in 1992 as in previous years my attention was drawn inexorably to view, again and again, a particular variety. A long-time admirer of that great florist Hubert Calvert, his bybloemen 'Jane Eyre' (breeder), exhibited by our own dear Jane, initiated sheer wonder and admiration. Such form and colour. I would dearly love to see a fine break of this variety on the show bench and sadly my own specimens appear to have broken poorly, in florist terms, but will not be discarded because of their exquisite colour and looks that will continue to grace another border not reserved for exhibition stock.

Since my first visit to Wakefield show with John Gibson I have often reflected on the generosity and friendship extended to us by our florist friends. Though 1992 was not a vintage year by any means for quality of bloom exhibited and the new venue for the show might take some getting used to after the hallowed environs of Holmfield House, I sensed that change will not detract from, or harm, the traditional continuity and mutual affection inherent in our florist brotherhood.

Friends from far and wide who could not make it to the show this year missed a good day. Why not try to make it an excellent day in May 1993 by bringing a bloom or two to Wakefield, even though it could conceivably cause a cooling of family relationships due to the temporary sequestration of space in the refrigerator for a short time prior to the event?

Letter from Sylvia Worsley - Sidmouth Devon - 31st March 1992

As one of the newcomers who bore off some of the precious tulips last October I wondered whether you would like to hear of their fate so far.

October 5th 1992 found us far from home in the pouring rain - it seemed madness to come 280 - odd miles for the sake of a flower, or to join such a distant Society in the first place. Yet the Wakefield and North of England Tulip Society has for years assumed a fey, elusive quality, appearing briefly and tantalisingly on gardening programmes, then vanishing into the Northern mists whence it came, bearing with it those enchanting blossoms; its contact address vanishing quicker than an unprepared Southerner could find a pencil. But nowadays, my friends, you are trapped in the web of Teletext, and I've gotcha.

So there was your Sidmouth correspondent, bemused husband in tow eagerly diving into my small cardboard box to unwrap the four - or five little bulbs; impatient to see what had fallen to my lot. So one Talisman - fine, I could do with some good luck. And a Bessie - shame, really, but the only two Bessies I have ever known have been burly and moustachioed. Then there was a Wakefield; couldn't be more appropriate. And, finally, two diminutive James Wild. You both look too young to leave your mother, lads. Never mind; the handbook says that Bizarres are the toughies of the Florist Tulip world. Let's hope so!

Just to give them an idea of what was expected of them I took the five orphans that evening to the Leeds City Variety show. Now that, chaps, is what we call a performance - see to it that you all do as well.

The next show of any importance is the Lord Mayor's Show - it's grey, mizzling and very November, but it's the magic day, lads, and I've got a nice rich piece of flowerbed just waiting for you. Marked canes go in first, then a good soft hole, and down you go. Just the thing for a nosy resident robin - "What 'ee got daïn thur, maid?" (a Devonshire robin, don't forget) and my little Yorkshire orphans are laid to rest for the winter. Quite early in the new year it occurs to me that I might never be able to "show" the results - here in the Sid valley we can be 3 - 7 days ahead of the rest of Devonshire, and it would be a miracle if we could keep in step with the West Riding - whoops! do you have Ridings any more? Nothing's what it was

Well, if we can't show we can at least propagate: we could try getting seedling as well as offsets, and concentrate on building up the Breeders. There must be some way of keeping the viral warfare kamikaze off the plants.

The year started off as glum as one would expect. Candlemas started bright but turned to rain, so perhaps "winter is gone and will not come again". And, lo and behold! Talisman broke cover on 14 February, before any other tulip in the garden. Talk about tough as old boots!

21 February - Bessie has made it. If only she didn't give me visions of Nora Batty: they should never have called her Bessie! And on 23 February what ho, Wakefield! Two bybs and a rose. But where are the runts of the litter? One finally struggled out of the ground on March 8th. No sign of the other one, though, and as days go by it is almost more than can do not to dig it up and have a look. And now Talisman has a bud, low down in the flute, and Bessie, Wakefield and the first James Wild are getting bigger - but come March the thirty-first, and still no sign of the other one. Is it slugs? Mice? the North/South culture shock? well, I shan't give up. Not just yet anyway.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- 8TH JULY 1992 Dutch Bulb Ordering meeting Unity Hall
Wakefield
- Or order your own direct see Page 10
- 3RD OCTOBER 1992 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING and SOCIAL
AFTERNOON Wrenthorpe Village Hall
- Don't forget to return your form
- 8TH MAY 1993 DUTCH FLOWER SHOW Venue to be notified
- See Pages 7 - 10 for schedules of classes
and to know what to order
- 15TH MAY 1993 158TH ANNUAL SHOW Venue to be notified
- Please come and see a unique event and if
possible bring a flower to show.

PROPOSED TRIP TO HOLLAND 1993

- TIME - Mid April 1993
- DURATION - 2 nights on ferry (out and return)
4 or 5 nights in Holland
- HOTEL - A good class bed/breakfast/evening meal in
Nunspeet area of Holland.
- DEPART - From Hull via North Sea Ferries. Night Crossing
with cabin facilities.
- VISITING - The Keukenhof - Franz Roozen Nurseries Bulb
growing area - Madurodam - The Hague - The
Airborne museum and Military cemetery Arnham
- The Cheese Market in the scenic town Alkmarr
All visits by Coach

If interested please send SAE to
Mr W. D. Tear, 48 Church Road, Altofts, Normanton, W. Yorks
WF6 2NN

Billy will send details and prices subject to there being
sufficient interest to fill a 40/50 seater coach.

**WAKEFIELD & NORTH OF ENGLAND
TULIP SOCIETY**
(Established 1836)

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDING 30th September 1991

Receipts		Payments	
Subscriptions/Donations	1001.78	Postage	132.09
Sale of Booklets	13.00	Insurance	56.02
Profit on Main Show	22.03	Loss on Dutch Show	63.57
Donation from BBC	75.00	Special Glassware	30.00
		Hall Hire	14.00
		Stationery	25.21
		Printing	21.48
		Cost of Newsletter	214.45
		Engraving	36.00
		Nett Expenses at A.G.M.	0.50
		Excess of Income/Expend.	518.49
Total	1111.81	Total	1111.81

Balance Sheet

Cash in Bank 30.09.90	1016.00	Cash in Bank 30.09.91	1260.45
Cash in Hand 30.09.90	-74.09	Cash in Hand 30.09.91	9.00
Owed for Parkers Bulbs	0.00	Owed for Parkers Bulbs	274.91
Interest received	83.96		
Excess of Income/Expend.	518.49		
Total	1544.36		1544.36

Show Accounts 1991

Dutch Show

Raffle	16.39	Prize Money	52.75
Door Money	1.13	Hire of Hall	35.00
Prize Money refunded	6.75	Refreshment Costs	8.82
Refreshments	8.82		
Loss on Show	63.57		
Total	96.57	Total	96.57

Main Show

Sale of Blooms	27.10	Stationery	14.42
Door Money/Raffle	141.30	Room Hire	50.00
Prize Money refunded	0.75	Prize Money	7.50
		Engraved Glasses	75.20
		Profit on Show	22.03
Total	159.15	Total	159.15

Cost of Newsletter 1991

Paper	22.34
Envelopes	13.92
Printer Ribbon	4.99
Printing	72.54
Postage	100.66
Total	214.45

A.G.M 1990

Raffle	22.00	Hire of hall	20.00
Refreshment receipts	31.00	Cost of food	33.50
		Deficit of Income/Expend	- 0.50
Total	53.00	Total	53.00

DR. G. W. HARDY

