# WAKEFIELD & NORTH OF ENGLAND TULIP SOCIETY

**ESTABLISHED 1836** 

NEWSLETTER
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## Chairman's Message - 1994

#### John Hardman

How soon the year passes by, it doesn't seem a year since I wrote the last message. So my thanks to old and new members for your generous support throughout the year; a year that revolves around three events, the two shows and the A.G.M, then we all go to sleep again it appears.

However, the small committee works on in the background. Several happenings have occurred since the last A.G.M., sadly we lost two valuable members who passed on, namely Norman Eyre the oldest member and Kathleen Akers who both gave lengthy and valuable service to the Society.

On the brighter side we had two of the best shows for some years. Unfortunately I was in hospital for the Wrenthorpe Dutch Show which I understand to have been excellent. The main show at Normanton was the best for years with a record of over 40 exhibitors.

The highlight of this show was the filming by the BBC for Gardener's World and the reporting by Popular Gardening.

For the first time refreshments were laid on at the Normanton show and proved a great success thanks to the hard work of three ladies, Ms Crabtree, Hayward, and Hardman. Thank you ladies very much indeed. We also found a winner in our new treasurer Carole Gude, an intelligent lady of many talents. Carole has done great work in transforming our financial structure this year and also did excellent work as show secretary.

The society also owes a debt of gratitude to Kate Swift and James and Wendy Akers for transporting all the English blooms from Normanton at the end of the show to Dudmaston where they were restaged the next day. I understand that this exhibition was well attended so thank you to all those members who helped in the restaging.

I look forward to seeing you all at the Annual General Meeting in October.

# Editor's Remarks James Akers

When I offered to help produce a newletter six years ago I had no idea what changes would take place in the Society in the subsequent years nor the changes in the technology which I would have available in order to produce it. The original 100 copies has grown to approximately 300 because of our growth in membership, and the number of pages has increased by almost 50%, which since I print or copy it all myself has very significantly increased the work load. The improved wordprocessing packages, (I have used Wordperfect for Windows Version 6.0 for this edition), has certainly improved the readability. I am able to produce both the pages which appear on one side of a printed sheet using the newspaper column feature and adjust the size of the print accordingly so that I no longer have to reduce the print size in the copying process. Add to that the wonderful response I get from articles provided by you the members of the Society and you can understand why I was happy to continue as editor this year although giving up the role of Treasurer because of the work load of my job. However even I hadn't allowed for the possibility that I wouldn't even be living in the country when the work had to be done.

I moved to to America three weeks after the Annual Show for a period of six months, with only two brief visits back to England planned. The first in July was spent digging up my breeders and was a joy in itself because of the tremendous growth that they had all made. Alas the breaks are still in the ground and when I return again for the AGM in October it will be too late so I am hoping that Sarah and John will do the honours in my absence. That still leaves the job of replanting but hopefully I will be back for good just before Christmas and that is when they were planted last year. One of the problems of being here in America is that I no longer have easy access to printing and copying and also the paper size, letter instead of A4, is significantly different so if this has caused any problems when you get this newsletter please accept my apologies.

I hope that everyone was able to see the Gardeners World programme on BBC. I thought that they did an excellent in editing the large volume of film that they took, and certainly captured the atmosphere of the show. There has also been a significant increase in interest in tulips reflected in the number of articles which have been printed in magazines. The oustanding feature of most of these has been the quality of the photographs, a far cry from the days when we dreaded to read some articles because of the dreadful breaks that were often used to illustrate them.

However the highlight of the year as far as myself and many of the older members were concerned was the queue which formed at the end of the table when Keith Eyre called for entries in the Novices and Extra Open Classes. If we can get these newer members some better bulbs and they continue to grow them with the enthusiasm they have shown so far then the future of the Society and the English Florist Tulip is certainly ensured.

## ANNUAL SHOW - 14th MAY 1994

The 159th Annual Show which was held for the second succesive year at Normanton Community Centre had 41 exhibitors, the largest number in its very long history, and from all parts of the country as the results show. It also attracted the cameras from BBC Television's Gardeners World which featured a "fly on the wall" view of the society on the Friday evenings programme after the show.

Although it was a later season than in recent years the day of the show probably suited the majority of exhibitors so that the number of flowers shown was almost double the number of last year. The quality of the markings on the flowers was not exceptional, again because of the late season, but there were still many beautiful flowers which impressed the large number of visitors to the show, and in particular those who had never seen the Florist Tulip before. Another encouraging feature was the large number of breeders shown thanks we assume to the provision of bulbs from our patron Victor Roozen in Holland.

The Mayor of Normanton kindly presented the trophies from this and also the previous week's show held at Wrenthorpe.

#### VASE CLASSES

Class 1. Vase of 12 Tulips (any variety not English Florist) - (16 entries)

1st. Mr. P. Turner (Swanwick) Menton

2nd. Mrs. W. M. Akers (Wrenthorpe) Sweet Harmony

3rd. Mr. P. Turner Maureen

Class 2. Vase of 6 Tulips (any variety not English Florist) - (24 entries)

1st. Mr. P. Turner Menton

2nd. Mr. J. Ingamells (Ardsley) Couleur Cardinale 3rd. Mrs W. M Akers Garden Party

Class 3. Vase of 3 Tulips (any variety not English Florist) - (27 entries)

1st. Mr. R. Crabtree Menton
2nd. Mr. P. Turner Menton
3rd. Mr. F. Jackson (Horbury) Blue Parrot

Class 4. Vase of 12 English Florist Tulips - (1 entry)

1st. Mrs. S. Wainwright (Shafton)

Class 5. Vase of 9 English Florist Tulips - (3 entries)

1st. Mrs. S. Wainwright

2nd. Miss J.L. Eyre (South Cave) 3rd. Mr. G. Marsh (Southampton)

Class 6. Vase of 6 English Florist Tulips - (5 entries)

1st. Mrs. S. Wainwright

2nd. Mr. J. Ollerenshaw (Hyde)

3rd. Mrs. S. Wainwright

#### OPEN CLASSES

Class 7. Stand of 12 breeders - 12 Different varieties (4 Biz 4 Rose 4 Byb) - (1)

1st. Mr. J. L. Akers (Wrenthorpe)

Biz Gleam Rose Hubert Calvert Byb Bessie
James Wild Sarah Akers Music

Sam Barlow Juliet Hubert's No IV

Seedling Seedling Seedling

Class 8. Needham Memorial Cup - 12 Rectified English Tulips - (1 entry)

1st. Not awarded

2nd. Mrs. S. Wainwright

Biz Fl Lord Stanley Rose Fl Mabel Byb Fl Columbine
Biz Fl Dr. Hardy Rose Fl Akers Flame Byb Fl Bessie
Biz Fe Lord F. Cavendish Rose Fe Seedling Byb Fe Columbine
Biz Fe James Wild Rose Fe Wakefield Byb Fe Adonis

Class 9. Local Silver Challenge Cup - 9 English Florist Tulips (Breeder, Flame and Feather from each colour) (1 entry)

1st. Mrs. S. Wainwright

Biz Br Sam Barlow Biz Fl Lord Stanley Biz Fe James Wild Rose Br Juliet Rose Fl Akers Flame Rose Fe Wakefield Byb Br Talisman Byb Fl Columbine Byb Fe Habit de Noce

Class 10. Silver Challenge Cup - 6 Rectified English Florist Tulips (Flame and Feather from each colour) (4 entries)

1st. Mrs. S. Wainwright Biz Fl Lord Stanley Biz Fe James Wild

Rose Fl Akers Flame

Byb Fl Bessie

Byb Fe Columbine

2nd. Mr. R. Smales (Dodworth) Biz Fl Lord Stanley Biz Fe James Wild Rose Fl Mabel Rose Fe Mabel Byb Fl Columbine Byb Fe Adonis

3rd. Miss J. L. Eyre

Biz Fl James Wild

Rose Fl Mabel

Rose Fe Wakefield

Byb Fl Jane Eyre

Biz Fe Agbrigg

Class 11. The G. S. Hunter Memorial Cup (Stand of 6 Breeders) - (6 entries)

1st. Mr. T. Mills (Walsall) Biz Goldfinder Rose Gloria Byb Bessie Biz Sam Barlow Rose Juliet Byb Music

2nd. Mrs. S. Wainwright Biz Sam Barlow Rose Juliet Byb Talisman
Biz Lord Stanley Rose Mabel Byb Columbine

3rd. Mr. J. J. Wemyss Cooke Biz Sam Barlow Rose Juliet Byb Bessie Biz Lord Stanley Rose Mabel Byb Music

Class 12. Stages Cup (Breeder, Flame and Feather - One Colour) - (7 entries)

1st. Mr. R. Smales Br Seedling Fl Mabel Fe Mabel
2nd. Mrs. S. Wainwright Br James Wild Fl James Wild Fe James Wild
3rd. Mr. J. L. Akers Br Hubert Calvert Fl Mabel Fe Wakefield

Class 13. Silver Plate (3 Breeders) - (9 entries)

1st. Miss J. L. Eyre Biz Lord Stanley Rose Mabel Byb Talisman 2nd. Mr. T. Mills Biz Gleam Rose Juliet Byb Bessie 3rd. Mr. D. Bromley Biz Lord Stanley Rose Mabel Byb Music (Wellington)

Class 14. Pair of Flamed - (19 entries)

1st.Mr. M. Hainsworth (York)ColumbineLord Stanley2nd.Miss J. L. EyreWakefieldSir J. Paxton3rd.Mrs. S. WainwrightBessieLord F. Cavendish

Class 15. Pair of Feathered - (5 entries)

1st. Mr. J. L. Akers Wakefield Sam Barlow

 2rd.
 Miss. J. L. Eyre
 Royal Sovereign Agbrigg

 3rd.
 Mrs. S. Wainwright
 Columbine Lord Stanley

Class 16. One Breeder - (22 entries)

1st.Miss J. L. EyreGoldfinder2nd.Mr T. MillsGleam3rd.Mr. D. BromleyMusic

Class 17. One Flamed - (16 entries)

1st. Mrs. S. Wainwright Dr. Hardy

2nd. Mr. R. Smales Lord F. Cavendish

3rd. Miss J. L. Eyre Mabel

Class 18. One Feathered - (13 entries)

1st. Mr. R. Smales Lord F. Cavendish

2nd. Mr. M. Hainsworth Agbrigg 3rd. Mr. D. Bromley James Wild

Class 19. Seedling Cup (One Breeder raised by the exhibitor) - (4 entries)

1st. Mr. R. Smales Seedling (Byb)
2nd. Mrs. B. Royles (Clwyd) Seedling (Rose)

#### NOVICE CLASSES

Class 20. Pan of 3 Stages (1 Breeder, 1 Flamed and 1 Feather) - (4 entries)

1st. Mrs. B. Royles Br James Wild Fl Columbine Fe Columbine

2nd. Dr. A. K. Swift Br James Wild Fl Lord Stanley Fe Lord F. Cavendish (Bridgnorth)

3rd. Mr. F. R. Jackson Br Lord Stanley Fl Lord Stanley Fe Lord Stanley

Class 21. One Breeder - (21 entries)

1st. Mr. J. F. Ranson (Skegness) Juliet 2nd. Mr. F. R. Jackson Juliet 3rd. Mr. G. Rayner (Leeds) Juliet

Class 22. One Flamed - (41 entries)

1st. Mr. A. James (Warrington) James Wild 2nd Mr. R. Cotton (Royston) Wakefield 3rd. Mr. G. Marsh

James Wild

Class 23. One Feathered - (18 entries)

1st. Dr. A. K. Swift Wakefield 2nd. Mrs. L. Bone (Holmfirth) James Wild

3rd. Mrs. B. Royles Lord F. Cavendish

Class 24. The GINA ROOZEN Cup (3 Breeders) - (1 entry)

1st. Mr. F. R. Jackson Biz Goldfinder Rose Mabel Byb Music

#### EXTRA OPEN CLASSES

Class 25. One Breeder - (10 entries)

1st. Mr. D. Bromley Bessie
2nd. Dr. A. K. Swift Juliet
3rd. Mr. G. Rayner Mabel

Class 26. One Flamed - (35 entries)

1st.Miss V. KneeboneLord Stanley2nd.Mr. T. MitchellSeedling3rd.Mr. V. ClementsSeedling

Class 27. One Feathered - (12 entries)

1st. Mrs. B. Royles James Wild 2nd Mr. T. Mitchell James Wild

3rd. Not Recorded

Class 28. Pan of 3 Stages (1 Breeder, 1 Flamed and 1 Feather) - (1 entry)

1st. Not awarded

2nd. Mr. F. R. Jackson Br Music Fl Columbine Fe Columbine

Best Bloom in Show & Best Breeder Mr T. Mills Gleam
Best Flamed Mr. M. Hainsworth Columbine

Best Feathered Mr. R. Smales Lord F. Cavendish
Best Bloom in Novice Classes Mr. F. R. Jackson Goldfinder Br

The Jim Akers Memorial Prize for most points in the Open Classes was won by Mrs. Sarah Wainwright

The Brook Silver Challenge Cup for most points in the Novice Section was won by Mr. Fred Jackson.

The S. Knowles Cup for most points in the Extra Open Classes was won by Mr. Terry Mitchell.

The Cochrane of Cults Vase for best bloom in Classes 16-18 was won by Miss Jane Eyre with a Goldfinder breeder.

The Peter Emmett trophy for the best vase in Classes 1-3 was won by Mr. Ron Crabtree with a vase of Menton.

#### **DUTCH TULIP SHOW**

## Wrenthorpe Village Hall 7th May 1994

This show goes from strength to strength with sixteen exhibitors and a total of 103 entries.

Peter Turner surprised us all and perhaps even himself by taking over the mantle of Billy Tear and showing with great quality in all the classes. Even then he didn't have everything his own way because another relative newcomer Ron Crabtree ran him close in the main class for eighteen blooms and won the class for twelve blooms. In addition to doing well in the Dutch Classes, Sarah Wainwright had a clean sweep in the English Classes where arguably the best bloom was Malcolm Hainsworth's Lord Stanley Feather, the best example of this flower seen for many a year.

#### **Dutch Classes**

1. The Perkin Trophy (18 Tulips, one variety)

1st Mr. P. Turner Menton
2nd Mr. R. Crabtree Menton
3rd Mrs. S. Wainwright Mona Lisa
4th Mr. D. Brears China Pink

2. 12 Tulips, any variety or varieties

1st Mr. R. Crabtree Menton
2nd Mrs. W. Akers Merry Widow
3rd Mr. R. Crabtree Queen of Night

3. 9 Tulips, any variety or varieties 1st Mrs. S. Wainwright Maureen 2nd Mr. P. Turner Unknown 3rd Mr. R. Crabtree Unknown 5 Parrot Tulips 1st Mr. F. R. Jackson Red Parrot 2nd Mrs. W. Akers Flaming Parrot 5. 5 Lily Flowered Tulips 1st Mr. P. Turner White Triumphator 2nd Mr. A. Harper China Pink 3rd Mr. F. R. Jackson White Triumphator 6. 5 Fringed or Crispa Tulips 1st Mr. A. Harper Fancy Frills 2nd Mrs. S. Wainwright Maja 3rd Mr. A. Hayward Madison Garden 5 Late Double Tulips Mrs. S. Wainwright Angelique 2nd Angelique Mr. M. Hainsworth 3rd Mrs. S. Wainwright Mount Tacoma 8. 5 Viridiflora Tulips 1st Mrs. S. Wainwright Spring Green Mr. A. Hayward 2nd Spring Green 3rd Mrs. W. Akers **Humming Bird** 9. 3 Yellow Flowered Tulips, one variety Mrs. J. T. Scheepers 1st Mrs. S. Wainwright 2nd Mrs. V. Young Unknown 3rd Mrs. W. Akers West Point 10. 3 White Flowered Tulips, one variety

Mrs. S. Wainwright

Maureen

11. 3 Pink Flowered Tulips, one variety

1st Mr. F. R. Jackson Menton 2nd Mr. P. Turner Unknown 3rd Mrs. V. Young Unknown

12. 3 Any other colour

1st Mr. D. Brears Gordon Cooper 2nd Mr. P. Turner Unknown 3rd Mr. A. Harper Shirley

- 5 Kaufmanniana, Greigi, or Fosteriana Cultivars No entries
- 14. Any species tulip, one pot or pan of 5 bulbs in bloom

  1st Mr. D. Brears Red Riding Hood

  2nd Mrs. B. Pickering Hageri Splendens

  3rd Mrs. B. Pickering T. Batalinii Bright Gem
- Bowl of English or Dutch Tulips arranged for effect, any foliage allowed.

1st Mrs. S. Wainwright 2nd Mrs. S. Wainwright 3rd Mrs. W. Akers

## **English Florist Tulips**

16. 1 Breeder tulip

1st Mrs. S. Wainwright Goldfinder 2nd Mr. R. Smales Seedling 3rd Mr. R. Crabtree Lord Stanley

17. A Pair of Flamed (From different colour classes)

1st Mrs. S. Wainwright Wakefield Lord Stanley 2nd Mr. M. Hainsworth Bessie Lord Stanley

18. A Pair of Feathered (From different colour classes)

1st Mrs. S. Wainwright James Wild Wakefield
2nd Mr. M. Hainsworth Lord Stanley Julia Farnese
3rd Mr. M. Hainsworth Wakefield Habit de Noce

19. 1 Breeder, 1Flamed, 1 Feathered
 1st Mrs. S. Wainwright James Wild Lord Stanley James Wild
 2nd Mr. F. R. Jackson Goldfinder Wakefield Wakefield

## **Trophy Winners**

The Perkin Trophy and Engraved Glass for Class 1 Mr. P. Turner (Swanwick)

Mary Tear Memorial Trophy (Most Points Classes 1-8) Mrs. S. Wainwright

Billy Tear Trophy (Best exhibit Classes 2 - 15) Mrs. S. Wainwright (Shafton)

#### The Midland Florist

#### Peter Turner

In the above magazine in 1846 a number of articles appeared with reference to the standards by which the Florist Tulip should be judged. The main article was written by G. W. Hardy of Warrington, Lancashire after whom the Bizarre variety Dr. Hardy was named that still produces a good flame today particularly in an early season. His main concern was with the shape of the Florist Tulip and although the language is a little technical even by today's standards it gives a good insight as to the formation of the rules by which they are judged today.

'In the Florist's Journal, for 1840, Mr. Groom states that he "considers the shape of the cup of the greatest importance;" and says "when fully expanded, it should be a semi-oblate spheroid:" by which he means, in plain English, a form about one fifteenth part less than half of a sphere, or hollow globe. He, however, assigns no reason why this form should be preferred to any other; and, singularly enough annexes other conditions which entirely destroy the beauty of the outline he recommends........

'The next authority we shall consult is Mr. Glenny. In a long article, "On the Properties of the Tulip", in the Gardeners Gazette, for 1841, he gives the following as a rule laid down by Mr. Heming, in 1832, and adopted by the Metropolitan Society, some time afterwards:- " the cup should form, when quite expanded, one-third of a hollow ball".......'

'Before closing my observations, it may, perhaps, be desirable to reduce the principles we have been discussing to the form of rule, for our future guidance;...

1. Every tulip when in its greatest perfection, should be circular in its outline throughout; its depth being equal to half its width across from the tip, or highest point, of one petal to the tip of the other immediately opposite....'

## **OBITUARIES**

### Norman H. Eyre

I was eleven years of age when I first met Norman at the Whinney Moor Tulip Show at Lupset, Wakefield in 1941. Norman won the Novice Cup and I remember a First Prize with a vase of 9 Darwin Tulips. I remember a breeder the size of a pint pot and also his strain of Habit de Noce, nearly black, some bulbs of which Norman gave to Dad later.

Mary and Norman Eyre made friends with my Mother and Dad, and for many years visited Altofts and Horbury for both Tulip and Flower Shows. If ever I wanted information and help with my gardening, I could always rely on Norman because he had great knowledge on all aspects of gardening both flowers and vegetables.

Norman had a great sense of humour, and when I visited the Grange at Altofts where he lived in his later years, we had many laughs together. He had a terrific memory and could look back over 85 years. He will be greatly missed by his family and all who had the pleasure to meet him.

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A great gardener. (Bill Tear)

#### Kathleen Akers

With some personal sadness I write about a life-long friend who passed away in late December 1993. An elegant lady of many talents and a hostess for many years to the members of our society.

Always in the background, but always there when needed; flower arranger of great repute and a renowned dressmaker who in her lifetime made more bridal gowns than can be counted; at catering could not be beaten and always a warm welcome at the Akers household where I had the pleasure of many such welcomes. Always in the backroom at the shows using her expertise, she will be sadly missed by our Society. (John Hardman)

## Frank Keys

Although coming late to English Florist Tulip growing, (he won the Novice Cup as late as 1993), this was only the extension of a success with other flowers which led the local newspaper to describe him as 'One of Barnsley's top gardeners and flower growers'.

He attended this year's Dutch Show where he was obviously very ill, but was unable to make the English Show. He will be sorely missed by his wife Vanessa, his family, and all his friends. (James Akers)

## HORNER: DOYEN OF 19th CENTURY FLORISTS 1837 - 1912

# J. J. Wemyss-Cooke

There never yet was flower fair in vain.

Let classic poets rhyme it as they will:

The seasons toil that it may blow again.

And summer's heart doth feel its every ill:

Nor is a true soul ever born for nought:

Where any such have lived and died.

There has been something for true freedom wrought.

Some bulwark levelled on the evil side:

Toil on then Greatness! thou art in the right.

However narrow souls may call thee wrong:

Be as thou would be in thine own dear sight.

And so thou wilt in all the worlds ere long:

For wordlings cannot struggle as they may.

From man's great soul one great thought hide away.

LOWELL

Strange to relate, on rising to my feet I sensed the presence of not just an audience that late summer evening, so many years ago, in the village hall of Burton-in-Lonsdale. Apprehension gripped me; here was I, a mere pupil in the fancy, presuming to advance the cause of our flowers where once a veritable prince held sway. Fear was replaced almost simultaneously by a euphoric missionary zeal that was totally out of keeping with my personality and modus operandi in a normally mundane situation.

A memorable evening to be sure: subsequent and inexplicable events left my daughter Victoria and myself wondering to what extent the residual influence, psyche, shade, call it what you will, of that most remarkable man, still persisted in the hall where once he sat as Chairman of the Parish Council. However I digress - that is another story, not for the ears or eyes of the scoffer or the more scientifically trained member of the florist brotherhood of 1994.

Clearly it was inevitable that young Francis Daltry Horner should inherit a love of flowers. Born in Hull in 1837 he was the son of Dr. F. R. Horner, M.D., F.R.S, a well known florist and writer in gardening publications of the

day. Educated at Ripon and Trinity College, Dublin, he read for holy orders, eventually becoming the incumbent of Kirkby Malzeard, where the clerical residence sported a large garden. Horner's early interest in flowers became a passion that soon was to earn him renown for the quality of his tulips, auriculas and literary skill that endeared him to gardeners and florists throughout the kingdom.

My research into the life and work of Horner has made me all too aware that this gifted Victorian was no ordinary man. This minor essay cannot do justice to his achievements or his impact on his peers. However, I have been fortunate in the past in having been able to interview both men and women who knew the family. Hopefully I will at some time in the future be able to pen a more extensive and meaningful resume of his life and times...

## WHO'D BE A GARDENER?

## **Eveline Hartley**

During past years I have enjoyed concentrating on growing lilies, paeonies and irises, but, prodded by Anna Pavord, I have broadened my horizons to try to grow more tulips. Last year I joined the Society, in the hope of learning more about them and how to nurture them.

When my tulip bulbs arrived last autumn, I was hectically busy so I put them aside with my usual bulb order instead of planting them at once. The next hindrance was the rain. One kept telling oneself it was bound to stop soon and there would be a dry spell; but it didn't, and there wasn't, and our ground was waterlogged. Then my husband and I were smitten by 'flu. We both developed chest infections, so both of us felt rather like pieces of bedraggled twine for a couple of months. Finally, lost time had to be made up somehow and eventually tulips were planted, but all in pots and weeks too late. Our ground remained saturated until the middle of March.

Needless to say, this has not been a good year for my tulips and all those that did bloom had flowers of the same colour, whatever variety was in the pot!

I am pleased to say that my lilies show signs of being better, and I hope that next year's tulips will make me forget this year's.

# EARLY FLOWERING OF ENGLISH FLORISTS TULIPS PART 2 (THE DISASTER)

#### Rae Beckwith

Flushed with near success of my 1992/3 effort I set about Plan 'B' to gain the two weeks I needed in order to have the bulbs in flower for 9th & 10th April.

After checking the planting date used the previous season I decided to bring the planting date forward by three weeks to allow additional time for the adjustment of the 'bring-in' date, (that should do it I thought). So on 15th September 1993 the bulbs were potted up as the previous year in 3 litre pots, one bulb per pot using soil based compost.

The pots were then placed in a standing area and watered-in with Benlate. Thirteen weeks before the required flowering date the pots were lifted into the greenhouse, cleaned, and as in the previous year maxi-crop was watered-in. The temperature was set at 6C in order to start things off slowly. After three weeks good steady growth was observed and all looked well and on target, the growth just through the surface and in good condition. At this stage the temperature was turned up to 10C and additional growth was observed but still in a steady manner.

At this stage, unknown to me, disaster was just around the corner. The sun came out stayed there for six days, and up went the temperature. At this point in the proceedings there were other plants and bulbs in the greenhouse needing the heat that was being provided so reducing it by any great degree was out of the question.

The best option was to reduce the temperature to a level that would be acceptable to all plant material within the greenhouse and hope.

Unfortunately the new bulb growth shot up and tried to flower all in one week. The damage was done, the bulbs were over. Shading had also been provided but it was not until the sun left us that the tulips returned to anything like normality.

As time passed I became aware that the bulbs had suffered a total breakdown. On knocking the bulbs from the pot in July nothing remained but a few pieces of dried out bulb tissue. The experiment was a total failure and one not to be repeated. In future I shall grow my tulips in the orthodox manner but then I find it hard to resist a challenge. Maybe someday there will be one more try.

#### **Previous Shows**

#### James Akers

See centre pages. 150 Years Ago

Unfortunately there are no copies in the Wakefield Library for any newspaper printed in the year 1844.

### 100 Years Ago

The quality of the copy for the show in 1894 is also not good but just about readable. On the same page of the Wakefield Express for that year however I was fortunate to spot a report of the show which the Royal National Tulip Society held that year in York at which several of the members exhibited and seemed to perform quite well. Again as so often in the past no varieties are given although the majority of those which we are showing today were already in existence and no doubt featured among the winners.

## 50 Years Ago

Varieties are also absent from the report for 1944 but not familiar names. Norman Eyre who died only this year features among the prizewinners as does a certain Master W. Tear from Altofts still going strong.

Note also other members mentioned in articles by Hubert Calvert and Keith Eyre

## Summary of Annual General Meeting held 1st October 1993 Wendy Akers

Over 70 members gathered for the AGM at Wrenthorpe and were welcomed by the Chairman. The formal part of the afternoon commenced with a request for a silence to commemorate the passing of three ladies, two members, Mrs Ruth Duthie, Mrs Audrey Robinson and Mrs Eva Roozen, the wife of our patron Mr Victor Roozen. His further remarks concerned the two well supported shows and the excellence of the large hall at Normanton plus his pleasure at seeing so many breeder tulips shown, through our fortunate liaison with the Hortus Bulborum and the good offices of Mr Victor Roozen. The three garden visits in Shropshire had been extremely enjoyable and the display at Shugborough with the wonderful flower arrangements of members' flowers from the Dutch show. His thanks to all those involved in arranging these events. His further thanks to Mr Maurice Evans for his continued work in cataloguing photograpically the society's current cultivars. Finally his thanks to the officers and helpers who work so hard.

The Secretary's report followed, she said it had been a year of ups and downs, with a good showing of our members'tulips at the RHS show in London. She explained the background to the changes that had been made at that show to the tulip names.

1894 Show

resided flowers his let was disqualified by the jedge, because in their spinfon two of the blooms erre albe, an opinion which was not shared by several pacasons comprism? for express an opinion. The de-errol broomp secrotary were satisfactorily performed by Mr Jesos Bacdwick.

## 1894 National Tulip Society Show York

Buorsis or Lorat Trust Gnowahs AT THE NATIONAL RHOW. - On Transley the exhibition of the Royal Rational Telly Boolets was held at York. The competitors compulsed well-knows growers from Laucashire and Yorkshire, and other note dietast counties. The abow was an average out. Owing to the absonce of sufficient sumshine at the time when must required, and the vary low temperature which has provided during the last three weeks, the flowers were very much more backward than would others led have been the case. A great many of them were stated yellow at the base time when which has prevailed during the last three weeks, the flowers were say much more back, earl than would otherwise have been the case. A great many of them were stated yellow at the base owing to the absence of sunshine, and in many cases the frathers were specially soliceable for their rish colouring. Another reason which may be rish colouring. Another reason which may be read that lites derived a flowers were, however, very flas, and the liresders were specially soliceable for their rish colouring. Another reason which may be read that in the Wakefield district for the culture of tolips, sections disease broke out during the best month or two. This has so materially, affected one of the principal growers (Mr. William Calvert, of Potovens), who in previous years had taken a premiet position at the show, that this year he was not represented at all. In the maidour classes, the premiet position at the show, that this year he was not represented at all. In the maidour classes, the position of the estimate of the maidour classes, the principal growers with a tolips; covering. Mr. Alfred Moorhouse, of Westgate, Wakefield, took the first prize or fixing of covering the stands of three flamed tolips; 2nd and 3rd for feathered and flamed tilips; 2nd soft for six stands of three leasthered tulips and flamed bizarres, and cight stands of dissimilar feathered and flamed bizarres; 4th for flamed byblomens. Mr Windelborne; and she for flamed byblomens. Mr Windelborne; and she for flamed byblomens; 5th for six stands of three flamed tolips; 2nd. 3rd. and 6th, for foathered flamed tolips; 2nd.

#### 1944 Show

# A TULIP DISPLAY

109th ANNUAL SHOW

The 10sth annual show of the Wakefield and North of England Telip Society took place at the Whinney Moor Hotel at Lupset, tast Saturday and Souday. The thousand, were fewer than those arbibited at the previous show, but the standard of quality was wall maintained, All blooms exhibited became the property of the Society, and at the end were sold for the benefit of the Clayton Hepital. The judges were Mesers Relifows, Midgley, Robert Robin-son and Robertson. The secretary is Mr C. Hunt (Horbury) and the treasurer Mr Reg Robinson (Horbury).

The opening ceremony was on Salurday evening, the opener being the Mayor of Wakefield Cr C. Hopkinson), who was accom-pabled by the Mayoress (Mrs Hopkinson) and the Deputy Mayoress (Mrs W. J. Luford), Mr F. R. Hunter, as President of the

Society, was in the chair, The Mayoress having distributed the trophies won, she and the behaty Mayoress were the respients of Louquets, presented to them by a girl, Miss Joyce

My W. G. Robertson (Superint tendent of Wakefield Parks) pro-posed a vote of thanks to the Mayor and Mayoress. The proposi-tion was seconded by Mr W. Reddows, and the Mayor replied and declared the show open.

#### PRIZE LIST.

Premier" awards for best of kied in show were gained by Me (i. Downing (Normanton) for breeder, by Mr N. Eyre (Horbury) for flamed, and by Mr J. Akers ( Atofts) for feathered.

OPEN CLANSES.

Vase of 19 tulips, decoration allowed, any variety other than Kuylish florian; and gold medal, A. Robshaw (Alveft Leeper) 2, E. H. Robinson (Hobbury); it. W. Beddows (Altofte). Vase of 9 tulips, decoration silved, any variety other that English floriat; I. Restar Tea. (Altoftes); A. Robshaw S. W. Beddows. (Altoftes). A. Robshaw S. W. Beddows. Vase of 25 English floriat tulips, only one folips, ellowed for decoration; I. W. Robinson; 2. M. Robinson; 2. Respective (Horbury); 3. Master Teat. Nilver challenge cup for stand of 12 realised (Lips, consisting of four bisarres, four bibliomen and four roses, seat Nilver challenge cup for stand of 12 realised (Lips, Nacham Memorial Cep for stand of 0 tulips thomorary), varsely their districts, which was the four consisting of one breader, one frachered and one famed; 1. G. Huntilfalbury); 2. A. Meens (Wakafield); M. Theore and Charles and Consisting of the Morning Kills breaters, all bibliomen, or all roses; 1. Reg. Robinson; 2. J. Akers; 2. W. Peddows; 5. A. Robanson; 4. Meens, 1. Meens, or all roses; 1. Reg. Robinson; 2. J. Akers; 1. M. Peres (Horbury); Two flamed, dissimilar; 1. Reg. Robinson; 6. O. Hunt, Two feathered; 1. Akers; 3. A. Meens; 3. O. Hunt, Two feathered; 1. J. Akers; 3. A. Meens; 3. O. Hunt, Two feathered; 1. J. Akers; 3. A. Meens; 3. O. Hunt, Two feathered; 1. J. Akers; 3. A. Meens; 4. O. Hunt, J. Akers; 3. A. Meens; 4.

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#### LOCAL CLARSES.

LOCAL CLASSES.

Hilver challenge cup for stand of 9
English tullpas, dissimitar, consisting of
three bizarcas, three bibliome and there
to bizarcas, three bibliome and there
rosks, such strio having one file of the
son; 2. W. Heidews; 2. N. J. Yes, Naarre
bredeer 1. J. Akver; 2. S. J. Yes, 8. W.
Beddows, Harres, 1. S. J. Yes, 8. W.
Beddows, Harres, 2. J. Hersel, 1. S. W.
Beddows, Harres, 2. A. Hechan; 2.
W. Heidews, 1. Hildman, Besset,
W. Heidews, 1. Hildman, breeder; 1. J.
W. Heidews, 1. Hildman breeder; 1. J.
W. Hildman, 1. J. A. J. Leckar; 2.
W. Hutti, 9. W. Beddows, Hildman,
finited 1, A. Roskhawi 2, E. H. Hildman,
flatted; 1, A. Roskhawi 2, E. H. Hildman,
flatted; 1, A. Roskhawi 2, E. H. Roskhawi
2, J. Akver, R. Beg Brobleson
Leaterrati, 1. W. Beddows, Hildman,
son; 3, J. Akvil, R. Rosk favore; 1, Ros. Roski
son; 3, J. Akvil, Hars favored 1, O.
Hill; 2, J. Akvil, Hars favored 1, O.
Hill; 2, J. Akvil, Master Text.
NOVICE CLASSES.

#### NOVICE CLASSES.

NUVICE CLASSES.

One breeder, one feathered and eventured: I. R. Rollinson (Horbury); 7
Medier Tear; 8. Master Prest (Horbury); 7
Prejder; 1. J. Buttersonth; 2. G. Hongshire; 8. Master Ivar. Flamed; 1. J.
Modrey (Horbury); Feathered; 1. J.
Modrey (Horbury); Feathered; 2. J.
Modrey (Horbury); Feathered; 3. J.
Modrey (J. J. Modrey; 2. Master Ivar.
Pen of three Fischish florid buly; all
his shires; all frathered an above, in
more was all frathered an above, in
more was a price of members with the
frathered; 3. Master (Modrey); 3. Modrey; 4. J.
Holdmann; 8. Master (Modrey); 5. J.
Holdmann; 8. Master (Modrey); 5. J.
Stiffer (Holdmann); 6. J.
Stiffer (Holdmann); 6

The retail and wholesale bulb trade needed to improve their reliability in this respect. A down had been the severe outbreak of "fire" following heavy rain. Miss Anna Pavord's article in the "Independent" had encouraged many to visit the two shows. She commended the members for generously allowing their flowers to go to Shugborough and Mr Trevor Mills and his wife for their hard work to set this up, along with the local flower arrangers. The article which came out of this event had unfortunately caused problems through wrong information. She endorsed the Chairman's remarks about the garden visits in June. The society had now received the 50 bulbs of Sweet Harmony which we had given to the Laboucheres as a Golden Wedding present.

The treasurer, having tabled a statement of accounts gave a detailed breakdown of these. Our main expenses were the two shows and the Newsletter. Our finances were in good order and no rise in subscriptions was contemplated. He had already discussed with the committee his decision to step down after 17 years due to pressure of work. His final suggestion to the new treasurer was to put £1000 in a high interest account and the balance of around £600 in a cheque account.

The officers of the Society were re-elected with the exception of the Treasurer. Mrs. Carole Gude was proposed by Mrs V. Young, seconded by Mrs. R. Robertson and carried unanimously. The Committee lost two members in Mr. W. Tear who was moving to Suffolk, and Mr. A. Hayward. The positions were filled by Messrs J. Akers and J. Wemyss-Cooke. The Chairman thanked Mr. Tear and Mr. Hayward for their service. To lighten the load at show-time a Show Secretary was elected; Mr. R. Crabtree assisted by his wife Mrs. B. Crabtree. Show arrangements for 1994 were discussed and the dates and venues put to the meeting for approval. These were 7th May 1994 for the Dutch Show at Wrenthorpe, and 14th July 1994 for the Main Show at Normanton.

The Dudmaston display on Sunday 15th May was discussed and Dr. K. Swift informed members of plans in hand between the National Trust and the Laboucheres for four flower Sundays in 1994.

The aims of the Society were reviewed and discussed.

Suggestions for Garden Visits in 1994 were requested.

The News Letter would be published soon after this meeting.

## Any Other Business -

Mr M. Evans discussed prints he was making available to members.

Mr. T. Mills initiated a discussion about our President, the Marquess of Hartington.

Mr. P. Royles requested additional classes at the Dutch Show for a Feather and a Flame. This was agreed.

This concluded the formal part of the meeting.

The rest of the afternoon was an enjoyable slide show by members, including the latest slides of Florist Tulips taken by Mr. M. Evans, and a fine Yorkshire tea.

## NICHOLAS BLUNDELL, HIS TULOPS David Tarver

On August 2nd 1702, at the age of 32, Nicholas Blundell succeeded to the Lordship of the Manor of Little Crosby in South West Lancashire. Just a week before this he had begun to keep a Diary which he was to continue for over 25 years, during which time he missed only one day. In this 'Great Diurnal', as he called it, he noted every possible event that came to his notice. He was intelligent, observant and, in all but spelling, the ideal diarist, although the variety which he brought to the most simple words often adds an extra dimension to the most commonplace statements. In his later years he suffered eye problems which may, in part, explain why the diary ends suddenly, nine years before his death. His curious spelling of flower names was not unusual for the period. Tulips often appear as 'Tulops', and Auriculas as 'Riclasses', a term which has survived in some areas until the present day.

His description of his garden and its flowers are centred on the Knot Garden which he began to construct on a site "before the Dining Roome window" on 20th September 1705. Early in the next month he was busy planting it, mainly with what we today would classify as 'florists flowers', though he did on occasions plant seeds of "common flowers". He lists "Anemonyes, Pilianthes, Geliflowers, Arenunulases, Riclasses and Tulops", all of which had their own "Propper beds" within the Knot; the tulips occupying at least two. Of all the flowers that he grew the Tulops would seem to have been his favourites, many of them acquired through exchanges and as gifts, but some brought from abroad. Apart from "Ordinary Tulops" he mentions "Forrain and York" tulops, the latter presumably coming from a supplier in the York area. (1) The best Tulops would either be planted in the "Flower Knot" or in his daughter's garden.

Anyone who has delved into the history of 'florists flowers' will be familiar with the long standing tradition that auriculas, ranunculus and other flowers were originally introduced into England by Protestants from the Continent who came seeking refuge from religious persecution. This interpretation is now considered unlikely, but that the immigrants brought plants and seeds at a later date remains an obvious possibility. Catholics living in England were also subject to persecution, sometimes of an extreme nature, and for this reason kept close contacts with the Continent. It was common for the sons of better-off Catholic families to receive their education in Flanders, and thus it was that Nicholas attended the English Jesuit College at St. Omer. He and his family made subsequent visits to Flanders, on his return from which he would bring bulbs and other "roots".

In the wake of the Jacobite rebellion and under suspicion of being a collaborator he fled to Flanders in 1716. Among the places he visited were a number of the towns associated with the growing of 'florists flowers', Ghent, Bruges, Brussels, Liege etc. His "Forrain" tulops received good treatment in their new English home, those in the Knot being given "good old muck" (28.7.20). In 1723 he and his wife again journeyed to Flanders, this time to fetch their daughters, who had been staying at convents there since 1717. On October 21st that year, shortly after their return he set Anemonys, Renunculas & Tulops "which I brought out of Flanders". A note of his Flanders expenses for May to October 1723 includes an item of Seven shillings and twopence for flower roots, unfortunately these are not identified.

Varieties - On April 28, 1720 he says "I gathered the leaves (presumably meaning petals) from I think 33 different sorts of Tulops as I have already in Bloome".

Lifting -He normally took up bulbs during the last week of May and first week of June, otherwise as early as 6th May (1710) and as late as 3rd July (1721), when he "took up Forrane Tulops and seedlings". Seedlings of "York and Forrain Tulops" were taken up as late as Aug 13 in 1722.

Dressing roots - On 27th July (1721) he notes "dressed the roots and put into bags for keeping".

Seeds - On August 11th 1714 he "dressed seeds".

On May 6th 1715 he mentions lifting 64 seedlings which he planted in the Flower Knot on August 28th in the previous year. Of these 52 had come from "Pods with four edges or divisions". Planting seeds seems to have been the most variable activity of all, being recorded in March, April, August, September and November when "I sowed some Tulop seed .... most of them were from right Breeding Tulops" (29.11.26)

Planting - The second half of August and through September was his normal time for setting his bulbs, otherwise as late as 12th December (1727) when he "set some Tulop roots in the Knot that were but newly taken up", and on one occasion as early as July 22nd (1715), "set two beds in the Knot .... tis too early by some months". Immature bulbs were usually set later than the others. On July 28th 1720 he set 1500 roots and chives in the "Nursery of Flowers", and on 16th September 1718 he set "in all of Tulops and their chives 3123, besides some I gave away and some as were not worth setting". On September 14th 1721 he set some "ordinary Tulops" on the borders of the back courts, and "severall Chives of very good ones". On August 13th 1725 he set the "four Hearts", (presumably heart-shaped beds) with his best Tulops and Chives of good Tulops and set the Breeding Tulops by the Brick Wall".

Again on October 30th 1727 he set Tulops in the four hearts "& in the New Flower Pots at the Side of the Canall". In the following month he was setting more Tulops and on December 12th 1727 he "set severall Chives of Tulops upon the Cop at the side of the Bleaching Yord". This was his last reference to his tulops in the diary (2) in which the final entry was made on "Aprill 4th. 1728".

#### NOTES

- (1) Nicholas and his family occasionally went to stay with his wife's sister at York where, among other entertainments, he enjoyed watching the horse racing. On January 7th 1721 he set "15 roots of very good Renunculas as I bought at York". These could possibly have come from the nursery which was being run in 1730 by Samuel Smith c1695 1757 and who at that time was advertising Auriculas, Animonies, Renunculos and Tulops for sale. (See 'Early Gardening Catalogues', John Harvey. Phillimore & Co Ltd. 1972.)
- (2) 'The Great Diurnal of Nicholas Blundell of Little Crosby, Lancashire'. Publishers: The record Society of Lancashire & Cheshire. The majority of the Blundell of Crosby papers are in the Lancashire and Cheshire Record Office, Preston, Lancs.

## REMEMBRANCE

## Keith Eyre

In 1939 my father first came upon the English Florist Tulip whilst visiting the cinema at Lupset, Wakefield. The Annual Show was being held next door at the Whinney Moor Hotel and he wandered in out of curiosity.

A native of Derby and fresh to the Wakefield area, he found to his surprise these magnificent blooms were being grown by some of his fellow workers from Charles Roberts & Co. Ltd. Thus he joined the Society in 1940 and was encouraged by the Robinson family who at that time dominated the tulip growing. His endeavour was rewarded the following year by winning the Novice Cup.

About this time the Society received a parcel of bulbs from a grower in the South of England which were entrusted to my father to grow on. I can just remember the bed of tulips and the members coming to view them. The results were not very favourable, the bases of the blooms were stained and the markings were bad. However, the good blooms were noted and at the end of the season, the bulbs were distributed to members.

My father increased his stock by purchasing bulbs from Messrs. Barr and Son each year (as his funds would allow), and during the 1940's and 50's his name is recorded on most of the trophies.

Show weekend was a very exciting time starting on Friday night and finishing on Sunday evening. In the mid 40's the Annual Show was held over two days. I have vivid memories of my father supervising me in the very slow process of filling the old stone vases and glass bottles with holes of only 3/8" across, and an even worse task on the Sunday evening of trying to empty them again. The Darwin tulips which played only a small part in the Annual Show were put on tiers, staged at one end of the room and shown in buckets. (This is where the term 'bucket classes' originated).

Another strong memory is of Audit night. My father audited the tulip books over a period of 20 years along with Albert Tear and the treasurer, who at that time was Jack Prest. They would all come to our home and pore over the accounts, then go away satisfied. The Tulip Society broadened our circle of friends, with trips to Altofts and tea at the Tears' and on occasions when the shows were held in Horbury and district, my mother and father played host to the Tears', Akers', and Hardmans'; not forgetting Jack Midgley who came by train from Halifax and would have lunch before going on to the show.

About 1960 my father lost most of his bulbs due to mice getting into the store and eating them. From then on, with so few blooms to show, his services were called upon to judge the Show each year. The 'Little Show' as it was called, was usually held at the Horse and Jockey Public House in Altofts. The Annual Show which moved around was held at Thornes Working Men's Club, Horbury Conservative Club, St. Johns' Working Men's Club at Normanton, and the Duke of York Public House at Agbrigg to name but a few.

Over the years, my father was a great believer in encouraging new members to bring their blooms to the show bench and he would help them to get the best results.

# WHAT'S IN A NAME

Trevor Mills

On winning with a scarlet breeder at the Main Show I was informed the flower should be called Gleam, and not Goldfinder as labelled on the bottle.

Seeing that I had received this bulb from a reliable source I found this hard to come to terms with, but on enquiry I found that both varieties are similar in colour and form but differ in respect to the stigma, Gleam being straight, Goldfinder twisted. What a science we are involved with, no wonder that due to the thoroughness of the

judges a queue formed waiting to enter the show after lunch.

Having bred tulips with qualities in some respects, but not as good in other quarters I have delayed in bringing them to the show. We all feel that our ducklings are swans but the showbench is the only yardstick. But then what should we call our new flower, should it be named after an eminent celebrity, a personal friend, or just a description that brings it to mind. Maybe it should just be numbered in order to keep a check. Certainly care should be taken, for a pink tulip and a masculine name don't go together or am I old-fashioned in my thoughts.

When I picked the flower on Friday before the show I felt it had potential to do well but thanks to the judges for not down-pointing it for wrong identification. It was well worth the effort, giving me great satisfaction and inspiration, hoping that I will be able to give my bed of tulips the attention needed in my retirement.

[It had been known for a number of years that there were two different 'Goldfinders' grown in the Society, flowering at slightly different times, but with different stigmas. Two years ago Billy Tear showed a slide of Gleam taken many years previously which enabled us to identify one of the 'Goldfinders' as that variety. This also strengthened our resolve to obtain accurate slide photographs of all the varieties shown - Ed]

# HELP THE POOR STRUGGLER John Ollerenshaw

upon us

Sooner than we think the question of bulb distribution at our next A.G.M will be

I would like to make a plea to all those who so generously give of their stocks to make a resolve only to donate bulbs which have the capacity to produce reasonably good blooms fit for exhibition. Let us all be selective in this matter; surely one bulb fit to stage is worth a thousand duds. Co-incidental with the generous mode of giving let the would-be donors be mean and downright nasty with any dud bulbs they may possess. Root them out and destroy them.

After all, each worthless bulb takes just as much room, time and effort to grow on as the very best. We all know that our favourite flower is inconsistent and year by year delights or confounds us, but the good bulbs are never so bad as to be useless, whilst the bad ones never become good enough to be useful. If we follow in this train of thoughtfulness then the spectacle of new member exhibitors arriving with two or three woeful looking specimens can be banished even in one year!

Now to the new member exhibitors themselves. How can they get hold of either good or reasonably good bulbs? Well of course they should attend every A.G.M and each of our shows. Usually there are some bulbs to be had, or at least the offer of some. These bulbs will be mixed and some will be good, some not so good. Perseverance will be needed. Grow them on and when they bloom comparisons should be made with those which have been seen at the shows. The very poor ones should be rejected and destroyed. Gradually the little collections will be enlarged, but most of all during this time they will have the absolute pleasure of being able to admire our beautiful Tulips.

Apart from visual pleasure; the pleasure at taking-up times of the increase in stock and the pleasure in anticipation of next year's blooms; above all this we have the supreme pleasure, that of belonging to such a friendly and happy society.

# PHOTOGRAPHING ENGLISH TULIPS AND OTHER FLOWERS

#### Maurice Evans

The advice below on suitable camera, lens, and lens attachments is based upon:-

Experience of using only manual focusing cameras.

Taking photographs on 35mm film giving a frame size 1 1/2 inches wide by 1 inch deep.

Taking photographs of English Tulips and other similar sized flowers at ratios between one half and one quarter life size on film and of smaller flowers or parts of flowers at up to life size or greater.

## 1. Camera

- 1.1 For close-up (or macro) photographs at these ratios it is essential to use a Single Lens Reflex (SLR) camera, ie a camera where the picture is both viewed and taken through the same lens.
- 1.2 All modern SLR cameras have:-
- 1.2.1 Interchangeable lenses with viewing at maximum aperture which stop down automatically on exposure to the taking aperture set by the user.

- 1.2.2 The film speed (ASA/ISO) set on loading either by the user or by the markings on the film cassette.
- 1.2.3 A built-in exposure meter which measures the light reflected from the picture at the time of exposure, in the better cameras direct from the film plane itself. Because in the photographs of English Tulips I take, much of the frame is filled by the flower an accurate centre-weighted meter is adequate and a spot meter would likely be required infrequently.
- 1.2.4 An exposure adjustment facility for the user to take account of any unusual feature in the picture e.g. the extra pale or dark shade of the flower.

From the above facilities the camera calculates and sets the shutter speed.

- 1.3 In close-up photography the depth of the field, i.e. the zone of the picture which is in sharp or acceptable focus, is shallow or very shallow. The maximum depth of field, which may be only a few millimetres, is obtained by taking the photograph at the smallest available aperture (f16 or f22). As explained in 1.2.1 viewing is always at maximum aperture. This is in order to see the picture clearly enough and with enough light for accurate focussing. On many occasions however, it is useful to be able to check the point of focus at the 'taking' aperture before exposure. Some SLRs have a 'stop down' facility to enable this to be done.
- 1.4 Using small 'taking' apertures as above and 'Daylight' as the means of lighting the subject usually requires exposure times of between 1/8th second and 1 second. For shutter speeds this slow the camera must be mounted on a sturdy tripod and the shutter released by a 15 to 18 inches cable release, preferably one made by the camera's manufacturer. The SLR must therefore have a tripod mounting socket and a cable release socket; not all SLRs do.
- 1.5 The ideal 'Daylight' for taking record photographs of flowers is a bright cloudy sky without direct sunshine which creates shadows. Similar light conditions can be created on some sunny days by diffusing the light falling on the flower with a screen made from two or three layers of white butter-muslin stretched lightly across a wooden screen some 24 inches square. Fold-up circular screens or reflectors can be purchased; they must be pure white.
- 1.6 Focussing aids built into viewfinder screens, such as split image or microprism devices, are unhelpful or tend to black-out at close-up distances. An SLR with interchangeable viewing screens is therefore an advantage. The most useful screen for viewing and focussing fine detail in all matt. An all matt screen

are also members of our Tulip Society, for exchange of information and seeds as early as 1973. (The photo on the book jacket is one from the strain of seedlings I named the Allanbert strain which is a combination of our two names, Allan and Hubert, and was taken about 1980.) I have not been able recently to give much time or attention to my gardening but I am pleased to say that Terence Mitchell, a true Florist, who is a new member of the Tulip Society has taken over the cultivation and exhibition of the Gold Laced Polyanthus with enthusiasm and great success. So I say of all Florists, BLESS 'EM ALL.

## **BOOKS AND MAGAZINES**

Peter Turner has drawn our attention to a novel "The Lady Tree" by Christine Dickason which he enjoyed very much and for which the Author's Note is:-

"Between 1634 and 1637 a part of the Dutch economy surged out of control. Mad speculation pushed the market above rational limits. Special stock exchanges were needed to deal solely in the single commodity involved. Investment syndicates were set up in inns and taverns. Ditchdiggers nd washer women gambled as wildly as merchants and aristocrats. The crash in 1637 was as spectacular as the Wall Street Crash of 1929. And in the aftermath, as many men were said to have committed suicide.

The commodity which ruined so many lives was not silk or gold or spices, or even opium, but the tulip bulb."

The September 1994 issue of *House & Garden* contains a well written article "A mania for tulips" written by Eluned Price with excellent photographs of Dutch varieties and old prints of broken tulips. This issue also includes "Natural masterpiece" a visit to the garden of Sir Charles and Lady Fraser's garden at Inveresk in Scotland. Lady Fraser is a member of the Society and has produced some wonderful paintings of Florist Tulips.

An excellent article covering this year's show written by Tom Montgomery appeared in Amateur Gardening during June 1994.

Gardening from Which in August 1994 published a long article on Tulips by Liz Dobbs after spending a whole day in two of our members' gardens. The photographs accompanying the article are outstanding.

# THE DUDMASTON SHOW May 15 1994

#### Katherine Swift

It was James' idea. Casually expressed over tea at Dudmaston in June 1993 when the Society visited the three Shropshire gardens of Moortown, Morville and Dudmaston, it dropped into our consciousness like a grain of sand into an oyster shell. "Why don't we bring the tulips down to Dudmaston after the 1994 Wakefield show and re-stage the show here?"

Of course we said "Yes please!", but as the year ticked by the logistics began to look frankly appalling. We had assumed that we would simply put all the tulips in their beer bottles into a van and drive it down to Shropshire. But I would need to hire a big van (who should pay?). And - worse - drive it all the way to Wakefield and back. I'm not the luckiest driver in the world: what if someone crashes into me? Think of the responsibility! The injunctions came thick and fast: don't drive too fast; don't brake suddenly; watch the car in front. Suddenly the advantages of using flower boxes, stacked three or four high, began to seem more and more appealing: there would be no need to hire a van - the whole consignment would fit into one estate car - and no glass to break or water to spill. The local florist promised to bring a dozen long flower boxes back from his next trip to Wolverhampton Flower Market. But (Murphy's law) on the day of the Flower Market, there weren't any boxes to spare. A panic call to Wendy Akers revealed that iceberg lettuce boxes were the next best thing: they were rigid and stackable. Another phone call to Sainsbury's in Telford, and we were assured that they would have 30 iceberg lettuce boxes ready for us the day before the show what with the weather they were selling 30 boxes a day, no problem. But (Murphy's law again) there was a change in the weather and the price of lettuces went up. Would the population of Telford have eaten enough lettuces by our deadline? A related problem was finding enough beer bottles in Shropshire to stage the tulips at this end. Northerners may not know it, but around here no-one drinks bottled beer. After several increasingly desperate phone calls to local breweries, I had my beer bottles but I had to fetch them (two round trips of 40 miles each) and wash them out. At least I didn't have to drink the foreign lagers and exotic beers they had contained ... .

The day before the show, I collected the beer bottles, collected the lettuce crates (wheeling a trolley round corners in a crowded supermarket with 25 lettuce boxes stacked 8 high is quite an experience), washed the bottles (the garden water butt smelt like a brewery afterwards - it kept fermenting for days), delivered them to

are also members of our Tulip Society, for exchange of information and seeds as early as 1973. (The photo on the book jacket is one from the strain of seedlings I named the Allanbert strain which is a combination of our two names, Allan and Hubert, and was taken about 1980.) I have not been able recently to give much time or attention to my gardening but I am pleased to say that Terence Mitchell, a true Florist, who is a new member of the Tulip Society has taken over the cultivation and exhibition of the Gold Laced Polyanthus with enthusiasm and great success. So I say of all Florists, BLESS 'EM ALL.

### **BOOKS AND MAGAZINES**

Peter Turner has drawn our attention to a novel "The Lady Tree" by Christine Dickason which he enjoyed very much and for which the Author's Note is:-

"Between 1634 and 1637 a part of the Dutch economy surged out of control. Mad speculation pushed the market above rational limits. Special stock exchanges were needed to deal solely in the single commodity involved. Investment syndicates were set up in inns and taverns. Ditchdiggers nd washer women gambled as wildly as merchants and aristocrats. The crash in 1637 was as spectacular as the Wall Street Crash of 1929. And in the aftermath, as many men were said to have committed suicide.

The commodity which ruined so many lives was not silk or gold or spices, or even opium, but the tulip bulb."

The September 1994 issue of *House & Garden* contains a well written article "A mania for tulips" written by Eluned Price with excellent photographs of Dutch varieties and old prints of broken tulips. This issue also includes "Natural masterpiece" a visit to the garden of Sir Charles and Lady Fraser's garden at Inveresk in Scotland. Lady Fraser is a member of the Society and has produced some wonderful paintings of Florist Tulips.

An excellent article covering this year's show written by Tom Montgomery appeared in Amateur Gardening during June 1994.

Gardening from Which in August 1994 published a long article on Tulips by Liz Dobbs after spending a whole day in two of our members' gardens. The photographs accompanying the article are outstanding.

# THE DUDMASTON SHOW May 15 1994

#### Katherine Swift

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The day before the show, I collected the beer bottles, collected the lettuce crates (wheeling a trolley round corners in a crowded supermarket with 25 lettuce boxes stacked 8 high is quite an experience), washed the bottles (the garden water butt smelt like a brewery afterwards - it kept fermenting for days), delivered them to

Dudmaston, and arranged for Bob the gardener to fill them all with water in anticipation of our arrival the next night.

Finally, my Shropshire neighbour David Bromley of Moortown brought his tulips for me to take to the show with my own (no room for him, with the Citroen packed to the roof with iceberg lettuce boxes). As for our chances at the show we had no great expectation of winning anything: being quite a long way south of Wakefield, our tulips are always some weeks ahead, and I had been desperately trying to hold mine back for the previous two weeks, by shading them with calico blinds.

The morning of the show dawned, and I set off, anxiously adjusting the side mirrors (the rear mirror only afforded a close-up view of 25 cardboard boxes), our tulips sloshing in buckets of water in the well of the front passenger seat. This was a new car, and one I had not driven more than a handful of times, and certainly not as far as Wakefield. It took me three hours. I arrived with only 15 minutes to stage both my and David's tulips, but Malcolm Hainsworth gallantly saved the day by giving me a helping hand. Once the flowers were all staged, we could see that Wendy's plea for everyone to bring some blooms had borne fruit with a total of 400 blooms, submitted by no fewer than 41 exhibitors - a record. This was wonderful: but we could see that packing the tulips in flower boxes would take all night, and with the drive still ahead of us that seemed a less than appealing option. And then, having arrived, we would have to unpack them all and get them into water.

Back to the beer crates! We would simply load the crates into two cars - mine, and the Akers'. A quick calculation proved that the 17 crates would just fit in the back of the two cars. But there was one little problem: the crates were all in Shropshire, having been left behind in favour of the lettuce boxes. So Wendy and I set off around the Normanton pubs in search of crates. To our growing dismay we found that, with the Saturday night's drinking ahead, none of the publicans was willing to give up their beer crates for such a hair-brained scheme. Then at last one kindly landlady gave us 18 redundant crates belonging to some brew or brewery now persona non grata in her establishment. That left us with 25 stacking iceberg lettuce boxes to dispose of, but that's another story ....

When the show closed at 6pm, it was all hands to the wheel, and the tulips were packed in a surprisingly short length of time. We set off in a convoy of three cars at 7.45, driving at a steady 60mph, ears pricked for the sound of clinking bottles and sloshing water, sunroof and ventilators wide open to keep the flowers cool. As we joined the motorway in the dusk, I realised that I didn't know how to operate the headlights (the dip-switch remained a mystery until the following day). We temporarily lost one another crossing Wolverhampton, but half an hour later James and Wendy miraculously reappeared behind me. At 10.15 pm the convoy was crossing the park at Dudmaston in darkness and pouring rain, still with the sunroof and ventilators open.

We had transported more than 400 blooms with the loss of only one. The whole thing had gone amazingly easily. (we didn't actually get to bed until 1 am, but that was thanks to a bottle of whisky produced form James's overnight bag.)

The show itself was a great success, We were joined at Dudmaston by willing helpers Richard and Anne Smales who had driven down from Barnsley, Malcolm Hainsworth and his son Christopher who had driven from York, and Peter and Beryl Royles who had made the journey from Deeside. The Open Classses were arranged in order around the great refectory table in the Entrance hall where James held court, repeating the litany of "Bizarre, Bybloemen, Rose - Breeder, Feather, Flame" to more than 600 astonished and delighted southerners who had never seen anything quite like it. When he grew hoarse, he was replaced by Malcolm, Peter and Beryl. Wendy, Anne and Richard ran things in the Old Kitchen where the Novice Classes were displayed and where the Society's publications stand was set up. A huge vase of Bizarres had pride of place in the Library, while a stunning arrangement of Roses and Bybloemens was the centrepiece in the Modern Art Gallery. Jack Wemyss-Cooke recorded the event for posterity (I hope his photographs will be on show at the AGM in October). The deep glow of the Breeders reflected in the dark polished wood of the Jacobean refectory table, the combination of polished marquetry and walnut with the mahogany and brown of the Bizarres, the smooth black surface of the grand piano surmounted by the purple and white of the Roses and Bybloemens - these were sights to remember.

And as for the Shropshire contingent? We didn't do too badly at Wakefield after all, notching up 2 Firsts, 2 Seconds, 4 thirds and the S. Knowles Cup. As novices and outsiders, not bad!. But as an achievement it pales into insignificance compared with transporting 400 tulips 144 miles from Wakefield to Dudmaston.

# R. H. S Show London May 3rd/4th 1994

For the past few years Society members have done well at this recently revived tulip show. However with Billy Tear taking a short, (we hope), break from competition and Arthur Robinson unable to plant his bulbs because of his accident it was left to three ladies from the Society to make the long trip to London. The results are overleaf. Didn't they do well?

Class 1 SINGLE EARLY CULTIVARS (4 exhibits)

1st. Mrs. S. Wainwright (Barnsley)
2nd. Mrs. W. M. Akers (Wakefield)
3rd. Mr. R. A. Brand (Enfield)
4th. Mrs. S. Wainwright
Apricot Beauty

Class 2 DOUBLE EARLY OR DOUBLE LATE CULTIVARS (5 exhibits)

1st. Mr. R. A. Brand Mount Tacoma
2nd. Mr. R. A. Brand Angelique
3rd. Mrs. S. Wainwright Angelique

Class 3 TRIUMPH OR MID-SEASON CULTIVARS (2 exhibits)

1st. Mrs. S. Wainwright Negrita
Class 4 SINGLE LATE CULTIVARS (7 exhibits)

1st. Mr. R. A. Brand Landseadel's Supreme

2nd. Mrs. W. M. Akers

3rd. Mr. R. A. Brand

Class 5 LILY FLOWERED CULTIVARS (6 exhibits)

1st. Mrs W. M. Akers

2nd. Mr. R. A. Brand

3rd. Mr. R. A. Brand

Ballade

Ballerina

Class 6 FRINGED CULTIVARS (2 exhibits)
1st. Mr. R. A. Brand Maja

2nd. Mrs. S. Wainwright Fringed Beauty

Class 7 VIRIDIFLORA CULTIVARS (2 exhibits)

1st. Mr. R. A. Brand Spring Green 2nd. Mrs. S. Wainwright Spring Green

Class 8 PARROT CULTIVARS (3 exhibits)

1st. Mrs. W. M. Akers Flaming Parrot
2nd. Mr. R. A. Brand White Parrot
3rd. Mrs. S. Wainwright Doorman's Record

Class 9 KAUFMANNIA, GREIGI OR FOSTERIANA CULTIVARS (1 exhibit)

2nd. Mr. R. A. Brand Corsage Class 10 DARWIN HYBRID CULTIVARS (6 exhibits)

1st. Mrs. A. Smales (Barnsley) Vivex
2nd. Mrs. S. Wainwright Elisabeth Arden
3rd. Mrs. W. M. Akers Olympic Flame

Class 11 ANY SPECIES TULIP One pot or pan of 5 bulbs (1 exhibit)

3rd. Mr. R. A. Brand

## Three Gardens in Yorkshire John Wainwright

The triple garden visit on Saturday 25th June was a wonderful way to follow the Annual Show. More than twenty members came along, and the contrast between the three gardens made the visit memorable.

The first visit was to Roger Brook's churchyard garden in the pretty village of Bolton Percy. The garden has evolved over the years from an overgrown jungle and is a green oasis among the graves and headstones. A heavy iron gate leads into the churchyard and informal paths ramble between herbs, ferns, and ivies. The garden is maintained in just one hour each week by a combination of herbicide spraying and weed-pulling, and it is inspiring to see what can be created with a little regular attention.

The effect in the garden is of a low carpet of plants in the dappled shade of mature trees. At the time of our visit, dicentras (bleeding hearts) were flowering and martagon lilies were very effective as high points in areas of lower plants. Species roses were starting into flower, and primulas were just finishing their season along the stream.

From this garden, we rambled through the village, past the allotment where Roger Brook starts many of his plants, going to our next visit.

Windy Ridge is Vanessa Cook's garden at Stillingfleet. Although the garden is sunny, it is exposed to strong winds across the valley. She met us on the gravelled drive and led us around to the garden, recently created from a paddock. The land slopes steeply down to the river and the lower part floods in many years leaving behind silt, leaves and rubbish. Thus the garden has to be adapted during the year as parts are destroyed and recreated. The garden is built around several mature thorn trees, with paths and small lawns creating 'rooms'. The variety of shrubs and herbaceous plants within the garden is mind boggling. There are many old roses and pinks, and some lovely tree paeonies, as well as more exotic plants seen in Mediterranean gardens. We rested on the terrace, surrounded by herbs and french lavender. The combination of textures and colours made the garden seem rich, but in fact plants have to be carefully chosen to tolerate exposure to strong wind, and the possibility of flood. A photographic record of the development of the garden showed just what had been achieved from an unpromising site.

After picnic lunches (some of them in pubs) we met up again at George Smith's Manor House in Heslington outside York. With other groups, we made up about eighty guests at a kind of garden party. We were formally introduced to George Smith and he addressed us on the lawn from the terrace. We then leisurely wandered around the gardens and the eighteenth - century Manor House, which Mr. Smith had decorated with superb floral arrangements drawing on his own garden flowers. He and his companions have developed the gardens over 25 years and many of the plants are chosen for their foliage effect such as hostas, or for unusual colour. One plant

which caught my eye was a terracotta-red single bush rose (Rosa Hillieri?). The garden is divided into themed compartments, and has pools (and ducks), fountains and terraces. The walled terrace garden had pink and white roses with cottage garden plants, while a sheltered terrace near the kitchen had Mediterranean plants and potted lilies and pomegranates. After tea, many visitors obeyed the call of the hand-bell and went to view a selection of slides of arrangements and his travels, but I preferred to laze on the terrace and watch the ducks waddle from pool to pool.

Many thanks to Carole and friends for organising such an enjoyable day out (and sunny weather).

### Through the Viewfider

#### Jean Lewis

Has anyone noticed how many cameras there are about? When I started work a new cassette cine film was appearing - it was known as "Super 8" and was easier to use than the turn over variety "Standard 8" colour print film that was available. I started with a box camera - it took 620 roll film and I got 8 prints on film. Now there is a trend towards making your own videos.

That was nearly 30 years ago but my love for photography is as strong as ever.

Last year I visited Fountains Abbey, which is a beautiful place with grounds to wander in. As I wandered through the ruins I found a view through an arch. The view was "obstructed" by tourists, so I waited and got a superb picture. Some pictures simply beg to be taken. Opal the shire horse with her foal Officier happily grazing on sweet grass on a warm sunny day. Grown up daughter Jennifer sound asleep with a gently snoring Ginger (the cat) at her side. On Christmas morning 1993, we woke to a sprinkling of snow. John did not appreciate me opening the bedroom window at 8am to film the view.

Gardens are wonderful places. Borders full of colour. Plants being visited by a bee - I've had more than one close encounter with a bee who has resented my intrusion. A line of trees in their autumn colours and where can you find so many shades of green.

In the Brecon Beacons National Park there is a sign which says...

"Kill nothing but time Leave nothing but footprints Take nothing but photographs"

There is so much beauty around. Go and capture some for yourself - before it is too late.

## STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDING 1st. July 1994

RECEIPTS	1994	1993	PAYMENTS	1994	1993
Subs. etc.	710.42	718.50	In Memorium	55.00	
Donation Shug.		50.00	Bulbs	17.30	
Donation Dudm.	40.00		Show Cl Hld		37.05
Donation GW.	40.00		Hall Hire		6.00
Evans Prze fnd	19.57		Slide Film	29.97	
Booklets etc	64.00	24.00	Books		45.00
Insurance Claim	72.00		Insurance	110.42	88.88
New Sales Items	10.88		Engraving	78.50	
Nett Profit AGM	71.80	69.30	Bulb Dist.	33.96	22.74
Prof. Main Show	2.96		Loss Main Show		76.17
			Loss Dutch Show	60.11	65.60
			Postage	183.62	303.29
			Newsletter	109.35	
			Print, etc	71.42	151.69
			Excess ofIncome	281.98	65.38
TOTAL	1031.63	861.80	TOTAL	1031.63	861.80
BALANCE SHEET	1994	1993		1994	1993
Cash in Bank	1653.70	1512.75	Current Acc	436.40	1653.70
Bank Interest	7.77	25.34	Saving Acc	473.77	1400110
Build, Soc Int.	9.78	2010	B. Soc	1009.78	
Cash in Hand	40.00	4.55	Cash in Hand	3.41	40.00
Owed (Parkers)	127.81	95.46	Parkers		127.81
Outstanding Debts	-197.68	-79.64	Outstanding Debts		-197.68
Excess oflincome	281.98	65.38	Culturality 20010		157.00
TOTAL	1923.36	1623.84	TOTAL	1923.36	1623.84
New Sales Items	1994	1993		1994	1993
Cards Sales			Cards (1)	217.61	2770
Total	264.80		Cards (2)	60.27	
Book Sales	133.00		Small Book	109.04	
- Sunda	155.00		Profit	10.88	
TOTAL	397.80		TOTAL	397.80	
Photographs	1994	1993		1994	1993
Income	120.05		Cost	80.91	2000
	120.00		Donation to Soc	19.57	
			Prize Fund	19.57	
TOTAL	120.05		TOTAL	120.05	
AGM 1993	1993	1992		1993	1992
Raffle	67.50	52.00	Hall Hire	24.00	36.00
Refreshments	62.50	58.00	Food Cost	74.85	62.74
Item Sales	54.40	72.16	Crockery	13.75	10.58
MARCHANIA			Agenda Print		3.54
			Profit	71.80	69.30
TOTAL	184.40	182.16	TOTAL	184.40	182.16
		the same of the same of		-	

Dutch Show A Receipts	ccounts		Payments		
receipts	1994	1993		1994	1993
Raffle	43.00	27.00	Hall Hire	42.00	42.00
Prizes Donated	20.00		Prize Money	69.25	42.25
Door/Entries	15.70	8.40	Engr. Glass	45.60	16.75
Tea receipts	10.54		Tea Expense	5.00	
Plant Sales	12.50				
Loss on Show	60.11	65,60			
TOTAL	161.85	101.00	TOTAL	161.85	101.00
Main Show Ac	counts				
Receipts		Paymo	ents		
	1994	1993		1994	1993
Raffle/Door	57.50	67.18	Hall Hire	124.00	123.60
Sale of Bloom	36.50	20.50	Glass	68.40	16.75
Prizes Donated	5.00		Prize Money	7.50	
Refreshments	82.01		Food Cost	43.90	
Plant Sale	43.00	10.00			
Door Money	22.75				
Loss on Show		76.17	Show profit	2.96	
TOTAL	246.76	73.85	TOTAL	246.76	173.85