

WAKEFIELD & NORTH OF ENGLAND

TULIP SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER

NO 30 AUTUMN 2018



Established 1836

WAKEFIELD & NORTH OF ENGLAND TULIP SOCIETY

OFFICERS 2018-2019

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HON LIFE MEMBERS Mrs A Turner, P Turner

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Malcolm Hainsworth, John Wainwright,
John Gibson, Terry Mitchell, Jan Pennings.

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HON SECRETARY Mrs T Clements

HON TREASURER Mr Jason Clements
details as above except email:

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Mr J Gibson, Mr C Gill, Mrs J Green, Mrs C Gude, Mr M Hainsworth, Mr N Tyers, Mr J Wainwright.

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Subscription Information: see inside back cover

SOCIETY WEBSITE www.tulipsociety.co.uk

Front Cover: A *Tulipa bifloriformis* growing in the mountains of Uzbekistan. Read more about the Society's journey there on page 46. Photo: Tonnvane Wiswell
Back cover: Blooms from the Small Show. Photo: Teresa Clements

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Chair's Report

Chris Gill

This year, nature dealt us a cruel hand, with the weather pattern harsher than we have experienced in recent times and sensationally named “the beast from the east”. In summary, a prolonged cold snap with a biting wind. This affected my emerging tulip leaves, the green leaf shoots that were about an inch through were burnt with the cold and remained marked all through the season as a reminder.

As a grower, I have found it challenging and I had to use a little ingenuity to overcome some of the problems, but nature has a marvellous way of correcting itself and things eventually came good.

The first show to exhibit at was the Ancient Society of York Florists. Unfortunately, I was unable to take any florists' flowers. Penelope Dawson-Brown was there to welcome us and it was the first time exhibitors have had a chance to compete for the Dawson-Brown Trophy. I encourage you to show here as it is not just tulips and daffodils, but primulas that count towards points for the trophy. The refreshments are also top notch.

On to our Annual Show, and I was pleasantly surprised by how many people exhibited. After all, we are a showing society and this is the highlight of our year. The judges commented quality was down a little on previous years, but this has to be expected after such poor weather in early 2018. Don't leave blooms at home, bring them to the show and get them on the bench. Somebody has to win. It was nice to see Penelope Dawson-Brown again, as she opened the show and presented the trophies.

It was especially nice to see our hardworking secretary, Teresa as the first recipient of the Dawson-Brown trophy. Well done! Also attending was Professor Jonathan Seville, here to witness the first presentation of the Turner Memorial Trophy for the best Sam Barlow in the show. This can be won by anybody, novice or experienced, with either a breeder, flame or feather Sam Barlow bloom, and guess what, Teresa also won this magnificent trophy.

A week later we held what is known as the Small Show at the Wrenthorpe Village Hall. We still need to look for a more appropriate name for the show. This is a smaller, less formal show, but still worth attending. The date of it is fixed by exhibitors reporting on how their blooms are that year. Numbers were lower than expected, and we lacked in the top end quality blooms. Most notice-

able was the Dutch section, low entries and lacking a little in quality. Holding back blooms is never as good as showing when they are at peak. If you have never grown Dutch, give them a go, there are so many varieties to try. They are magnificent.

The Committee discussed the poorly represented Dutch section and concluded it was a little late in the season for most of the sections. As a result it has been decided to alter the schedules. Please check both show schedules on pages 15-18 before exhibiting in the coming year.

Sadly, we have lost three members who were active in the Society, Christine Snocken, Ken Bacon and Keith Orrell. Our sympathies must go to their family members, and we can take comfort that they took pleasure from being around these beautiful flowers.

A day of discussion was held in August to try to resolve the enigma of the tulip breaking virus. Nothing definitive was concluded, but it is a step in the right direction. We still do not know for sure what the factors are, but the more people that get involved, the more information we can share. This will help us to ascertain the reason for the tulips breaking and put us in a position to deal with it.

What a fantastic Society we have. A lot of hard work goes on in the background. The society officers all have roles to play. We have a Committee that meets three times a year to ensure the society runs smoothly. The judges and recorders work tirelessly. The caterers at the show and at the AGM do a fantastic job and provide an excellent feast. The plant and bulb sales, the raffle organisers, general helpers, all are committed. A big thank you to you all.

We hold two shows and an interesting and informative AGM. You can request English florists' tulip bulbs and buy Dutch tulip bulbs. A garden visit is organised, a colourful newsletter, access to a wealth of library and unique archive material, the company of enthusiastic fellow members, all for £5. It reminds me of when my father used to recall going to the pictures, fish and chips and trolleybus ride home to Highroad Well (whatever a trolley bus was), all for 1s 6d. Fantastic value.

I hope you have received any bulbs you have requested. As a Society, we can only issue what has been returned to us. After all, we are the custodians of the bulbs and we try to share them fairly.

We look forward to seeing you at the forthcoming shows in 2019 with lots of blooms.

Secretary's Report

Teresa Clements

Looking back on another busy year the hot summer is uppermost in my memory, which makes it difficult to recall how cold it was through the winter and spring. On 10th March, Jason and I visited Marchmont, the childhood home of artist and musician Rory McEwen, on the Scottish borders. We took the scenic route, but the snow piled up at either side of the road and the freezing fog beyond completely obscured the view. The mid 18th century Palladian mansion at Marchmont has been restored and restocked with an impressive collection of art and antiques, amongst them two of Rory's paintings showing the English Florists' tulips 'Habit de Noce' and 'Talisman'.

Saturday 7th April was an important day; the Ancient Society of York Florists' (ASYF) Spring Show took place at Wiggington, on the outskirts of York. This year was the first year that our new trophy, the Dawson-Brown Silver Bowl, was awarded to the exhibitor with most points gained in any of the first four sections of this show and in the English classes at our Annual Show. There was a good display of daffodils but very few tulips as it had been so cold for so long. Unfortunately, entries in the primula and auricula classes were also hit by both the weather and a clash with another specialist show.

To avoid such a clash in 2019, the ASYF have moved their show on by a week, please see Dates for Your Diary on page 59 for more information. Do have a go at exhibiting in this friendly show, you can ensure you are in the running for the new trophy, will meet up with old friends, and the home-made refreshments are irresistible.

Only a few days after the ASYF show, 10th April was the start of a big adventure, Frazer Henderson, Tonnvane and I and our husbands, both called Jason, set out to look for wild tulips in Uzbekistan. A fellow-traveller from Germany became a firm friend to all of us and also joined the Tulip Society. It was a sensational trip, we did see some tulips, eventually, and so much more, the people, the culture, the food, the fantastic scenery, the terrible roads, what an experience! See page 46 to read more about how we fared.

We came home on Monday 23rd April and on Saturday 28th April we joined others from the Tulip Society and our friends from the Ancient Society of York Florists at Bedern Hall in York for lunch to celebrate the ASYF's 250th anniversary. At short notice, James Akers became our after dinner speaker, he talked of the history of our Society and what it had in common with the ASYF. These days,

both recognise the increasing age of most members and the difficulty in replacing retiring officers. Both Societies also have a wealth of archive material and with an account of some of his research, James finished on a more cheerful note and his talk was well received. The next day we met up with James again, this time to help clear up at the end of Harrogate Spring Flower Show. I note in my diary it was bitterly cold, also, that I brought home a big bundle of tulips so that by then, someone must have had some ready to show.



Then, at last, it was May and the sun shone. The weather for RHS Late Daffodil and Tulip Competition at Harlow Carr was warm and sunny, it was a good show and the garden was full of flowers. The Tulip Festival at Constable Burton Hall also benefited from the fine weather, although the first day was quiet as the Tour de Yorkshire (it's a bicycle race) passed by.

At the Ancient Society of York Florists' 250th Anniversary lunch at Bedern Hall, York, Valerie Hepworth of the Yorkshire Gardens Trust presented Teresa Clements with a book about Capability Brown for the Society's library. Photo: Jason Clements

The following weekend, on Saturday 12th May, it was the Tulip Society's 183rd Annual Show. This year we had a slight change to the rules and while there are always misgivings about change, especially in a traditional Society like ours, it was a relief to note that the change did not cause any problems and the results were not affected. See page 19 for the show reports. Any one attending the show will see we have a lot of trophies. It is always a thrill to win one. However, it seems to me that most of the exhibitors are there for their love of English tulips and show them to get that buzz from having the best flowers; the trophy comes as a bonus. Few of us are fiercely competitive and most are there to share our enthusiasm and enjoy helping others. This year it was a pleasure to see several new names on the trophy list; surely a good sign. If new exhibitors enter their flowers in the show, we can look forward to bigger and better shows and to rising standards.

If you have not exhibited your tulips before, remember that you only need one flower to become an exhibitor, come to the show, join in and have a go and see how well you can do.

On Sunday 20th May, only eight days after the Annual Show, was the Small Show. The fine sunny weather continued; the tulips were flagging in the heat and so were some of the exhibitors. We had a good show of English tulips but most of the Dutch were over. I struggled to hold on to the remnants of my Dutch flowers and was one of only four exhibitors of Dutch tulips. The flowers were past their best and earned second place in classes in which they were the only entry. I had no argument with the judges about that, to have given them first place would have been to compromise our standards.

After the Small Show the English blooms were gathered up and taken the following day to Askham Bryan College in York. The floristry students had stepped in to help us with a display at a flower festival in Holy Trinity Church, Micklegate, York. They made an arch decorated with tulips and a display that was beyond my imagination and capabilities. It was very impressive and those of who had faced this task were so grateful to the gallant students and their lecturer for taking on the job.

On Sunday 3rd June, Jason and I attended the 21st birthday celebrations of the Cambridgeshire Gardens Trust. We were invited by Marjorie and Janet Butlin, who thought we would like to hear the guest speaker, Anna Pavord, and they were right. Anna gave a super talk about tulips and we were very happy to be there and to give a little wave when the Wakefield and North of England Tulip Society was mentioned.

In June we lifted our bulbs from the baked earth of the allotment, cracking blocks of clay soil to release them. They had endured low and high temperatures and then drought. It was a relief to find them in remarkably good condition.

Sunday 15th July was the day of the Society's Garden visits, this year to both the Sheffield Botanical Gardens and Renishaw Hall. Many thanks to Carole Gude for organising those. The Committee set the date before booking a venue so potential visitors could put it in their diaries and keep the day clear. What could possibly go wrong? As the day approached we realised we had chosen the day of the Football World Cup Final and the Wimbledon Men's Tennis Final and we went to Sheffield Botanical Gardens on the day several roads through the city were closed for a cycling event. Oh dear. Someone spent a long time trying to obey the SatNav's instructions and made several circuits of the city before giving up and heading off for the second venue, the gardens of Renishaw Hall. Despite all that we had a good turn-out and two very enjoyable garden tours on a very hot day.

After the shows, James made a comment about some broken tulips looking different to the familiar flames and feathers we are used to seeing. This started

an exchange of emails with others reporting their observations and theories about recent changes. As there was sufficient interest to meet and discuss the matter, sixteen of us met at Easton Walled Garden on Monday 6th August for a Discussion Day about Tulip Breaking Virus. We raised our concerns about breeders breaking and what we might do to safeguard our stock in future. It was a new venture to meet in this way and we heard many interesting ideas. I hope we will be able to take those ideas and act on them to benefit all our members. See page 52 for a report on the preliminary findings we gathered.

As Secretary, I give my annual report to the AGM. This year the AGM started half an hour earlier than usual to allow us extra time to inform those attending about changes to the shows schedule. These are laid out in detail on page 15. When the committee met on Thurs 31 May, we reviewed the show season. For the last four years the Small Show has been held in Wrenthorpe a week, or sometimes two weeks, after the Annual Show. By this time, few people have any Dutch tulips left to bring to the Small Show. There is also an element of 'exhibitor fatigue' as this is the last show of the tulip season. However, the specialists amongst us who grow English florists' tulips but can't coax them into bloom on the day of the Annual Show are keen to show their English flowers and giving them the opportunity to do that was the intention when the Small Show was revived.

In years gone by the Society had a Dutch Show, ahead of the main, Annual Show, where Dutch tulips, and maybe a few early English tulips, would be exhibited. Eventually, the Dutch Show became part of the Harrogate Spring Flower Show. In 2014, our Society withdrew from Harrogate and the Northern Group of the Daffodil Society now runs the tulip classes there. So far, our Small Show has always followed the Annual Show, which means exhibitors have struggled to keep their Dutch tulips in good condition for the Dutch classes now held so late in the season. This led the Committee to shift the focus to showing only English Florists' tulips in the Small Show. An additional class for nine breeders has been added to the original ten English classes to make a schedule that gives plenty of opportunity to show both breeders and broken flowers.

As a society our main aim is to grow and show English Florists' tulips. We can be proud of the fact that we are the custodians of these rare and beautiful tulips. We show the flowers and propagate and redistribute the bulbs to maintain the highest standards; some of us also raise new cultivars. The recent changes to the show schedules have been made with the intention of enabling more people to show more English Florists' tulips. I hope you will agree that in this way we all can see more of our favourite flowers and help maintain the stock as well as the interest and enthusiasm of our members. Good luck with your tulips in the coming season, I look forward to seeing you at the Annual Show!

Treasurer's Report

Statement of Accounts Year ending 31st July 2018

Receipts	2018	2017	
Subs & Donations			
Subscriptions	1,014.00	1,054.65	
Donations	10.00	187.00	
Total	1,024.00	1,241.65	
Sales			
AGM	136.15	138.25	
Constable Burton	108.74	124.76	
Main Show	183.75	226.40	
RHS Harlow Carr	2.50	52.00	
Other events	56.75	153.75	
Postal	92.44	96.42	
Total	580.33	791.58	
Bulbs			
Hortus bulb sales	145.15	242.92	
Dutch bulb sales	527.95	548.50	
Total	673.10	791.42	
AGM & Shows			
Raffle	382.00	511.10	
Refreshments	390.91	390.83	
Plant sales	278.00	305.10	
Donations, blooms etc.	0.00	13.00	
Total	1,050.91	1,220.03	
Grand Total	3,328.34	4,044.68	
Statement of Assets	2018	2017	Change
Cash Assets			
Current Account	7,572.27	8,223.21	-650.94
Unpresented cheque	-160.00		-160.00
Cash in hand	86.90	129.37	-42.47
Total	7,499.17	8,352.58	-853.41
Other Assets			
Sales Table stock	903.43	1,276.03	-372.59
Office equipment	141.34	151.74	-10.40
Total:	1,044.78	1,427.77	-382.99

Payments	2018	2017
Administration		
Newsletter (print and post)	950.33	697.85
Insurance	240.00	230.00
Stationery, office kit, software	43.37	140.74
Postage	111.61	159.12
Internet site services	131.87	105.47
Deficit on garden visit	37.00	
Total	1,514.18	1333.18
Purchases		
Show vases from Paxton Society	250	
Library Books	0.00	0.00
Sales table	24.65	226.36
Other	32.00	83.61
Total	306.65	309.97
Bulbs		
Annual distribution	199.58	179.76
Breeders from Hortus	202.66	203.81
Dutch bulbs for AGM	416.34	336.34
Total	818.58	719.91
AGM & Shows		
Hall hire	334.50	315.00
Food, Table Hire etc	172.37	154.15
Trophies: Engraving & Purchase	886.00	249.30
Speakers' expenses	58.00	22.90
Other	91.47	21.00
Total	1,542.34	762.35
Operating surplus/deficit	-853.41	919.27
Grand Total	3,328.34	4,044.68

Treasurer's notes:

1. The Society's auditor (Mr R.Turpin) reports:

I can confirm that I have examined the Receipts, Payments & statement of assets relating to the year ending Aug 2018 and have found them to be in order.

2. Although the accounts show an overall deficit of over £850, this is almost entirely accounted for by extraordinary one-off costs: £590 for engraving and mounting of the two new trophies (the trophies themselves were gifts), and £250 for a large quantity of show vases to replace our somewhat shabby stock.

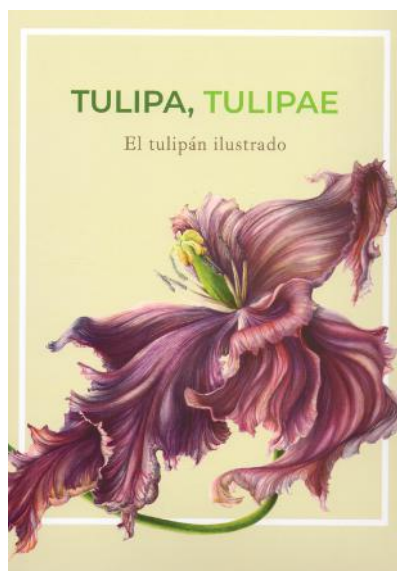
3. Newsletter costs increased markedly, as the 2017 newsletter was a bumper edition with far more pages than that of 2016.

4. Costs of Hortus bulbs were not recouped, as we bought a number of broken bulbs to assess their quality and not for resale.

Librarian's Report

Lynn Gill

T*ulipa, Tulipae* This is a wonderful addition to the Society library donated by Susan Christopher-Coulson, a botanical artist from Durham. It is a catalogue of the *Tulipa, Tulipae* exhibition held in Madrid early 2018 and contains many beautiful pictures of the paintings exhibited. Whilst the majority of the text is in Spanish, the pictures are a delight, and there is an English translation at the end of the book.



Included in the book are fantastic drawings of English florist tulips by Susan, done in coloured pencils on Bristol board. She has illustrated the three colours we grow to fine effect. There are works of art done in many types of media. My particular favourite is a watercolour by Billy Showell “Queen of Night” which has an iridescence that has to be seen to be believed. Billy is the current president of the Society of Botanical Artists.

This book is available for loan to society members along with many other interesting and informative resources.

Tulipa Tulipae
El tulipán ilustrado
ISBN: 978-84-00-10316-3

Penelope Dawson-Brown spotted this bust of Charles II at a recent exhibition of the art of the king's reign at the Queen's Gallery in London. The terracotta bust, made c.1675-80 possibly by Edward Pearce, shows the king in state robes decorated with tulip motifs. Charles II's reign coincided with the the Dutch Golden Age and he was very familiar with Dutch culture through family connections to the House of Orange and having spent time in the Low Countries during his exile courtesy of Oliver Cromwell.



Minutes of the AGM 6th October 2018

The meeting was held at Wrenthorpe Village Hall on the 6th of October 2018, starting at 11.30 am.

1. Chair's welcoming remarks: Chris Gill welcomed everyone attending. He thanked people who had travelled great distances to come to the AGM, and said Jan Pennings of Breezand, in The Netherlands, had probably made the longest journey. Chris reminded us of two members who died this year, Ken Bacon, on 7th June and Keith Orrell, on 7th July. Those present paid their respects by standing for a minute's silence.

James Akers said a few words about both Ken and Keith, reminding us before he began of the death this summer of Christine Snocken, wife of John Snocken, who is a long-standing member, a very successful exhibitor, and friend to many in the Society. John said his wife gardened so he could grow flowers. James offered the condolences of the Society.

Ken Bacon James said that in the past the Society had many shoemakers and miners amongst its members. Ken Bacon had been a miner; he came to gardening in his 40s. He grew carnations and gladioli and then turned his attention to daffodils and tulips. He became one of the best growers of Dutch tulips and liked them to be as big and substantial as possible. He didn't grow English Florists' tulips as in his eyes they were too small and fiddly. He also enjoyed classical music and was happy talking about it.

Keith Orrell James spoke about how Keith and his wife Jenny were an amazing gardening team. Keith was well-known in Wrenthorpe for his involvement with WRENS, the environmental group, and the Gardening Club, possibly drawing on his talents as a geography teacher. He was a great thinker, an 'ideas man', even though, as the family remarked with some humour at his funeral, he sometimes fell short of carrying out the ideas! When the Tulip Society was awarded Heritage Lottery Funding, Keith and his friend, Mike Young, conducted many interviews to make a sound archive that is a lasting record of the Society as it is now and will be of great interest and value to future generations.

The meeting continued with:

2. Apologies for absence: 26 members sent individual apologies before the AGM, the Chair made the list available for everyone to see. 65 members signed the attendance list, approximately 70 people were present.

3. Minutes of the previous AGM: The minutes of the previous AGM were published in the 2017 newsletter, which is sent to all members. That the minutes be accepted by the AGM. Proposed: Harriet Gash, Seconded: John Gibson. Agreed by the members' show of hands.

4. Matters Arising: None

5. Secretary's Report: See page 4

6. Treasurer's Report: See page 8

7. Election of Officers: The Chairman said no changes were proposed to the list of officers and Committee members as they stood. However, Tonnvane Wiswell, had given notice of her intention to stand down as Editor after this year's newsletter so a new Editor would be needed at the AGM in 2019. The Chair took this opportunity to thank Tonnvane for her work on the last three newsletters, which were of exceptional quality. He compared the appearance of copies from over 20 years ago with the modern versions. They showed a progression from typewritten, monochrome copies printed at home using basic machinery to glossy, colour copies that benefit from the latest software and commercial digital printing. These changes in production demand ever changing editorial skills. Tonnvane gave the newsletter a new look and the Society is very grateful to her. The members showed their gratitude with a round of applause.

8. Three members of the Committee are up for re-election each year and this year Keith Eyre, Carole Gude and Neil Tyers were willing to remain on the Committee as no other names had been put forward. The Chair read names of the committee members and each in turn made themselves known by standing or waving so that members could recognise them in future.

President: The Duke of Devonshire KCVO CBE DL

Patrons: Mr Keith Eyre, Mr James L Akers MBE

Vice Presidents: Mr P Emmett, Mr T Mills, Mr T Clark, Mr J Ollerenshaw, Dr A K Swift, Mrs C Gude, Mrs J Green, Mr R Bingham, Mrs A Pavord, Mrs A Smales, Ms S Akers, Mrs B Pickering, Mr J Wainwright, Mr M Hainsworth, Mr T Mitchell, Mr J Gibson, Mr J Pennings

Chair: Mr Chris Gill

Secretary: Mrs T Clements

Treasurer: Mr J Clements

Editor: Ms Tonnvane Wiswell

Auditor: Mr R Turpin

Committee: James Akers, Sarah Brooks, Jason Clements, Teresa Clements, Keith Eyre, John Gibson, Christopher Gill, Jane Green, Carole Gude, Malcolm Hainsworth, Neil Tyers, John Wainwright.

Since no changes were to be made, the Chairman asked if we could re-elect the officers and committee with one vote. That all officers be re-elected. Proposed: Trevor Myers, Seconded: Daniel Smith.

Agreed by the members' show of hands.

9. Show dates 2019:

The Secretary read out the list of show dates for 2019. (See dates for Your Diary, page 59.)

10. Any Other Business

I. Malcolm Hainsworth asked the Secretary to comment on her talks given on behalf of the Society. Teresa Clements replied that since the beginning of the Heritage Lottery Funded Archive Project, which ended in 2013, she has given 54 talks. These talks about the Society's history are made possible

through use of the equipment provided by HLF funding and fulfil the promise to tell local people of their heritage. Margaret Christian commented on the talks saying she joined the Society as a result of attending a talk. She said the talks raised awareness of the Tulip Society and were appreciated by listeners.

II. James Akers reminded the members that the old newsletters were available to view or download from the Society's Archive Website wnets.org.uk The Chair said the Society's library also has a complete set of newsletters that are available to borrow.



The Hortus Bulborum is one of several top Dutch tulip gardens that members will visit during our trip to The Netherlands in April 2019. Photo: Tonnvane Wiswell

III. Jan Pennings gave details of the Society's trip to The Netherlands in April 2019. Two years ago he was the speaker at the AGM and his topic was the Keukenhof Garden. Now, there is an opportunity to go with others from the Tulip Society and see it ourselves by taking WNETS to Holland.

IV. The planned itinerary is as follows. All travel from Friday morning to Sunday lunchtime will be by coach.

Day 1 Thursday 11th April 2019

Arrive at Fletcher Badhotel Callantssoog in the evening. Meet the other members of the group.

Day 2 Friday 12th April 2019

An early morning visit to the flower auction, Aalsmeer. Stop for coffee.

Visit the floats that are ready for the flower parade on Saturday.

Visit Hobaho to see the location for tulip micropropagation, stay for lunch .

Late afternoon through to early evening, visit to the Keukenhof Gardens to avoid the crowds.

Return to hotel. Evening free

Day 3 Saturday 13th April 2019

Morning visit to Floratuin, Breezand

Visit including lunch to Fluwel's Tulpenland

Afternoon visit to the Polder Garden, Anna Paulowna

Visit Jan and Ans Pennings, Breezand

Return to hotel. Evening free

Day 4 Sunday 14th April 2019

Morning visit to Hortus Bulborum

Lift to Schiphol Airport or return to hotel.

The trip had been mentioned in letters to members and so far 34 people had expressed an interest in taking part. It was not too late to join in and if anyone wanted further details they should contact the Secretary.

The Chair thanked Jan for his invitation to The Netherlands. He reminded the meeting of the talk from Professor Alastair Fitter starting at 2.00pm and closed the meeting for lunch at 12.45pm.

Show Schedule changes

Teresa Clements

As exhibitors have found it difficult to keep Dutch tulips in bloom for the Small Show, the Committee has removed those classes from the Small Show schedule and added three Dutch classes to the Annual Show instead. The Open, Novice and Extra Open classes at the Annual Show remain unchanged. Here are the changes at a glance:

The Annual Show

Class 1: The Tulip Championship of Great Britain, 3 Vases of 9 Tulips (Three different varieties) has been replaced by The John Hardman Memorial Vase, Vase of 18 Tulips (One variety). This is a return of the class that used to be Class 1 before it moved to the Small Show.

Class 2: Vase of 9 Tulips (One variety). This class remains unchanged. The Perkin trophy, formerly awarded to the Tulip Champion of Great Britain, will now be awarded to the winner of this class.

Classes 3, 4 and 5: These three classes, based on the colour of the tulips have been replaced by six classes based on different forms of tulip. This should give exhibitors plenty of opportunity to show Dutch tulips of any colour in smaller classes and at a time when more Dutch tulips will be in flower.

The F R Hunter Cup will be awarded for the most points in Classes 2 – 8 (formerly Classes 2 – 5).

The Peter Emmett Trophy will be awarded for the best exhibit in Classes 2 – 8 (formerly Classes 2 – 5).

All of the English Florists' Tulip Classes remain unchanged.

The Small Show

Class 1: Stand of 9 Breeders (different varieties) Three Bizarres - Three Bybloemens - Three Roses. This is a new class for the Small Show.

Classes 2 to 11: These are the original ten classes for English Florists' tulips in the Small Show, they remain unchanged.

There are no classes for Dutch tulips.

The Wakefield Vase will be awarded to the exhibitor gaining the most points in Classes 1 - 11.

Points will be allocated as follows, Classes 1 - 2 Points 6: 4: 2. Classes 3 - 11 Points 3: 2: 1.

Premier Blooms: the judges will select the best breeder, best flamed and best feathered flowers. From these they will choose the Premier Bloom.

The Billy Tear Cup will be awarded to the exhibitor of the overall Premier Bloom (formerly this was awarded for most points on the Dutch classes).

WAKEFIELD & NORTH OF ENGLAND TULIP SOCIETY

The Annual Show - 11th May 2019

VASE CLASSES (classes 1 to 8 not English Florists' tulips)

- 1 **The John Hardman Memorial Vase** Vase of 18 Tulips (One variety)
 - 2 **The Perkin Trophy Vase** of 9 Tulips (One variety)
 - 3 Vase of 3 tulips, Lily Flowered (One variety)
 - 4 Vase of 3 tulips, Parrot (One variety)
 - 5 Vase of 3 tulips, Fringed (One variety)
 - 6 Vase of 3 tulips, Double (One variety)
 - 7 Vase of 3 tulips, Multi-headed (One variety)
 - 8 Vase of 5 tulips (species or small-flowered)
- The F R Hunter Cup for the most points in Classes 2 – 8**
Peter Emmett Trophy for the best exhibit in Classes 2 – 8
- 9 Vase of 12 English Florist Tulips
 - 10 Vase of 6 English Florist Tulips

OPEN CLASSES

11 **THE EYRE FAMILY TROPHY**

Stand of 12 Breeders (different varieties)
Four Bizarres - Four Bybloemens - Four Roses

12 **NEEDHAM MEMORIAL CUP**

Stand of 12 rectified English Tulips (all dissimilar)
Four Bizarres i.e. Two Flamed and Two Feathered
Four Bybloemens i.e. Two Flamed and Two Feathered
Four Roses i.e. Two Flamed and Two Feathered
(Flamed and Feathered of one variety is accepted as dissimilar but preference will be given to 12 different varieties of the same quality)

13 **ROYLES JUBILEE CUP**

Stand of 9 Breeders (different varieties)
Three Bizarres - Three Bybloemens - Three Roses

14 **LOCAL SILVER CHALLENGE CUP**

Stand of 9 English Florists' Tulips (all dissimilar)
Three Bizarres, one Breeder, one Flamed, one Feathered
Three Bybloemens, one Breeder, one Flamed, one Feathered
Three Roses, one Breeder, one Flamed, one Feathered

15 **SILVER CHALLENGE CUP**

Stand of 6 rectified English Florist Tulips
Two Bizarres, one Flamed and one Feathered
Two Bybloemens, one Flamed and one Feathered
Two Roses, one Flamed and one Feathered

16 **THE G.S. HUNTER MEMORIAL CUP**

Stand of 6 Breeders (different varieties) Two Bizarres - Two Bybloemens - Two Roses
Must be named varieties, unnamed seedlings not allowed

17 **STAGES CUP**

Pan of 3 stages, one Breeder, one Flamed, one Feathered
Must be of one colour i.e. all Bizarres, Bybloemens or Roses
Preference given to blooms of the same variety and quality

18 **SILVER PLATE**

For a pan of 3 Breeders - One Bizarre - One Bybloemen - One Rose
19 Three Flamed one each of the three recognised colours - Bizarre, Bybloemen, and Rose

- 20 Three Feathered one each of the three recognised colours - Bizarre, Bybloemen, and Rose
21 Pair of Flamed a pair must consist of two of the three recognised colours - Bizarre, Bybloemen, and Rose
22 Pair of Feathered Bizarre, Bybloemen, and Rose
23 One Breeder
24 One Flamed
25 One Feathered
The **COCHRANE OF CULTS VASE** will be awarded to the best bloom in classes 23-25

THE JIM AKERS MEMORIAL GOBLET, awarded to the exhibitor with most points in Classes 11-25

SEEDLING CLASSES

- 26 **SEEDLING CUP** One Seedling Breeder or Rectified raised by the exhibitor
27 Three Seedling Breeders (one from each colour class)

NOVICE CLASSES - Open only to members who have not won the Novice Cup

- 28 Pan of Three, one Breeder, one Flamed, one Feathered
29 One Breeder
30 One Flamed
31 One Feathered
32 **THE GINA ROOZEN CUP** For a pan of 3 Breeders - One Bizarre - One Bybloemen - One Rose

THE BROOK SILVER CHALLENGE CUP and a glass goblet are awarded to the novice who has most points in classes 28 - 32

THE DUDMASTON PLATE is awarded for the Premier Bloom in the Novice Classes.

EXTRA OPEN CLASSES - Open only to members who have not won more than one first prize in the equivalent of classes 11 - 25 over the last two years, or gained the most points in the Extra Open Classes in the previous year.

- 33 One Breeder
34 One Flamed
35 One Feathered
36 Pan of 3 stages - one Breeder, one Flamed, one Feathered - Must be of one colour i.e. all Bizarres, Bybloemens or Roses. Preference given to blooms of the same variety and quality.

**The S. KNOWLES CUP is awarded for best bloom in classes 33 - 36
A glass goblet is awarded for the most points in classes 33 - 36**

PREMIER BLOOMS in the Show

For the best Breeder THE KEITH EYRE TROPHY

For the best Flamed THE WENDY AKERS TROPHY

For the best Feathered THE JAMES AKERS TROPHY

THE ALBERT TEAR MEMORIAL TROPHY to be given for the overall Premier Bloom.

THE TURNER MEMORIAL TROPHY for the best Tulipa 'Sam Barlow' in the show.

The Elizabeth Smith Silver medal, awarded to the youngest exhibitor under 18 years old on show day

Points are awarded as follows,

Open Classes 11 and 12 Points 6; 4; 2, Classes 10 - 22 Points 3; 2; 1.

Novice Class 28 Points 6; 4; 2, Classes 29- 32 Points 4; 2; 1.

Extra Classes 33 - 35 Points 3; 2; 1. Class 36 Points 6; 4; 2.

THE DAWSON-BROWN TROPHY will be awarded to the exhibitor with most points gained in the Ancient Society of York Florists' Spring Show (Sections A to D) and Classes 11 to 36 above.

Exhibitors may enter up to two blooms in single bloom classes. Exhibitors wishing to make up to two entries in other English Florists' tulips classes may do so providing they obtain a second exhibitor number for the additional entry or entries.

All exhibits should be named.

No decoration is allowed in any class but moss may be used as a packing material.

WAKEFIELD & NORTH OF ENGLAND TULIP SOCIETY

The Small Show, xx May 2019

ENGLISH FLORISTS' TULIPS CLASSES

1 Stand of 9 Breeders (different varieties)

Three Bizarres - Three Bybloemens - Three Roses

2 Stand of 9 English Florists' Tulips (all dissimilar)

Three Bizarres, one Breeder, one Flamed, one Feathered

Three Bybloemens, one Breeder, one Flamed, one Feathered

Three Roses, one Breeder, one Flamed, one Feathered

3 Stand of 6 Breeders (different varieties)

Two Bizarres - Two Bybloemens - Two Roses

4 Stand of 6 rectified English Florists' Tulips

Two Bizarres, one Flamed and one Feathered

Two Bybloemens, one Flamed and one Feathered

Two Roses, one Flamed and one Feathered

5 Pan of 3 Breeders - One Bizarre - One Bybloemen - One Rose

6 Pan of 3 stages, one Breeder, one Flamed, one Feathered

Must be of one colour i.e. all Bizarres, Bybloemens or Roses

Preference given to blooms of the same variety and quality.

7 Pair of Flamed - a pair must consist of two of the three colours; Bizarre, Bybloemen and Rose.

8 Pair of Feathered - a pair must consist of two of the three colours; Bizarre, Bybloemen and Rose.

9 One Breeder

10 One Flamed

11 One Feathered

All exhibits should be named.

No decoration is allowed in any class but moss may be used as a packing material.

Classes 1 - 2 Points 6: 4: 2.

Classes 3 - 11 Points 3: 2: 1.

The WAKEFIELD VASE to be awarded to the exhibitor gaining the most points in Classes 1 - 11.

PREMIER BLOOMS in the Show

* Best Breeder

* Best Flamed

* Best Feathered

*Overall Premier Bloom

The BILLY TEAR CUP to be awarded to the exhibitor of the overall Premier Bloom

Exhibitors may enter up to two blooms in single bloom classes. Exhibitors wishing to make up to two entries in other English Florists' tulips classes may do so providing they obtain a second exhibitor number for the additional entry or entries.

2018: The Shows

Teresa Clements

Extremely challenging weather conditions in the early part of 2018 meant that growers had to use all their skill - and luck - to produce good blooms for this year's shows. Despite this, visitors to Harrogate, York, Harlow Carr and the Society's own pair of shows found much to admire among the displays.

Ancient Society of York Florists, 7th April 2018

The Ancient Society of York Florists held their Spring Flower Show on Saturday 7th April at Wiggington community Centre. This is an early date for exhibition tulips and after the cold Spring weather there were few tulips for the judges, Keith Eyre and Jane Green, to examine.

There was a good show of daffodils, possibly as a result of the demise of the Wakefield Paxton Society, whose show used to clash with the ASYF show. It was hoped that there would also be a good turnout of exhibitors to showing Auriculas, Primulas and Polyanthus but bringing forward the ASYF show to Saturday created a clash with another show for these flowers, so there were only a few to see.

As this is the inaugural year of the new Dawson-Brown Trophy, there was an additional interest in gaining points in sections A to D of the show. Section A is for daffodils, B for tulips, C for Auriculas and D for Primula and Polyanthus. Exhibitors who gained points in these sections and went on to gain points in classes 8 to 33 of the WNETS Annual Show, those being the English Florists' tulips classes, were eligible for the new award, the person with the most points being the winner. All the scores were carefully noted, thanks to Chris and Lynn Gill for their help with that.

Flowers adorned a photograph of Jeff Scruton, which stood in a prominent position. Jeff died only a few days before the show. He was a long-standing member of the ASYF and was friend and mentor to many. As a tribute, Simon Wilson's exhibits appeared with Jeff named as joint exhibitor to acknowledge the help, advice and companionship Jeff had provided over the years.

Harrogate Spring Flower Show, 26th to 29th April 2018

The Northern Group of the Daffodil Society put on a Tulip Competition as part of their show at the Harrogate Spring Flower Show. The display of tulips is usually far smaller than the show of daffodils but the tulips are crowd-pleasers and attract a lot of interest from visitors.



Above: *Bath of Tulips*, a floral installation by Leafy Couture at Harrogate. Right: blooms after judging at Harrogate. Photos: Teresa Clements

Keith Eyre and Jane Green judged and selected a vase of nine *T. 'World Peace'*, exhibited by Robert Taylor to be Best Vase. This vase was one of a group of three vases of nine tulips in Class 1, the Tulip Championship of the North of England Horticultural Society, which was also won by Robert Taylor. In 2019 this class will revert to being the Tulip Championship of Great Britain as a result of schedule changes within the Wakefield and North of England Tulip Society.

The RHS Tulip Competition 28th to 29th April 2018

This competition is held at RHS Harlow Carr Gardens in Harrogate at the early May Bank Holiday weekend. The schedule had changed slightly this year with two new classes, each for three tulips of a single cultivar, one for purple or 'black' tulips and one for bicoloured tulips. This was intended to spread the entries that make up the 'any other colour' class and it worked well. Exhibitor numbers were down slightly, probably as a result of the poor Spring weather.

John and Jean Gibson won Class 1 and the Walter Blom trophy with their vase of nine *T. 'Maureen'*. This is the third year running that they were awarded



the top prize and they were successful in other classes too. In addition to the quality of their flowers, their meticulous attention to detail in presenting them definitely contributes to their success. Another successful exhibitor was Barbara Pickering, who won first prize in five classes and also takes great care to present her flowers so they look their very best.

RHS Harlow Carr Gardens looked lovely in the warm Spring sunshine, the gardeners had planted tulips in pots and in the open ground, as drifts of single colours and in interesting colour combinations with other tulips and bedding plants. For specialists, enthusiasts and general gardeners it was a good show and there were plenty of new ideas and inspiration.

The Wakefield and North of England Tulip Society's 183 Annual Show 12th May 2018

It is nothing new to have growers complaining about the weather and this year was no exception. First the cold wind, 'the beast from the East', then cool, damp, overcast days with little light and finally, just before the Annual Show, a mini heatwave. It was an unusual succession of conditions that led to somewhat battered flowers appearing at the Annual Show. If you did well, it was because your flowers had fewest faults rather than them being the nearest to perfection.

The poor conditions were localised; some growers said their flowers were over well before the show, others that their flowers were not ready. Many Northern growers, me included, looked at the immature buds with no expectation of their flowers being ready to show but a few days of intense heat made the stems suddenly lengthen and green buds rapidly coloured up. We had small flowers on long stems. The flowers were improved by cutting them a couple of days earlier than usual, four or five days before the show rather than two or three days, this allowed the petals to expand so the flowers came a little closer to show quality.

Despite the weather, the number of exhibitors remained consistent at 47 (46 in 2017, 52 in 2016), the number of English Florists' tulips was down to 485 (574 in 2017, 538 in 2016), a drop of 16%. Chris Gill won the coveted Needham Memorial Cup (12 broken tulips, four of each colour, all dissimilar), which must be the most difficult class to enter. My twelve breeders won the Eyre family trophy and Ulf Hansson won the Royles Jubilee Cup for nine breeders, a fantastic achievement as he brought his flowers without water as hand-luggage from Halmstad, Sweden. Trevor Myers did particularly well with several prizes

A sea of tulips in the beds at Harlow Carr this Spring. Photo: Teresa Clements



and repeated his success of last year as his *T.* 'Lord Stanley' won Best Flame and Premier Bloom. Trevor's *T.* 'James Wild' won Best Feather.

A new name on the trophy list was Daniel Smith, his *T.* 'Lord Stanley', exhibited in the Novice Classes, was judged to be Best Breeder. Well done Dan! Other new names were Jackie Kendall, who won the Tulip Championship of Great Britain for her three vases of nine Dutch tulips, and Mrs Shortland who won the Cochrane of Cults vase. Christine Brooks won the Stan Knowles Cup and Graham Winton won the F R Hunter Cup. Very well done to all these winners.

Dave Bonser won the Brook Silver Challenge Cup, the Novice Cup, he is another Northerner who, like me, expected to have no tulips ready in time for the show. It was such a relief to see those flowers colour up with only a few days to go before the big day. Surprise as well as delight was a common feeling among many of this year's trophy winners.

Penelope Dawson-Brown, President of the Ancient Society of York Florists, presented the trophies. We were honoured to have Penelope join us to make the inaugural presentation of the magnificent Dawson-Brown Silver Bowl, which she had kindly donated to our Society to mark the friendship between our traditional Florists' societies in the ASYF's 250th anniversary year.

The Wakefield and North of England Tulip Society's Small Show 20th May 2018

The Small Show was held at Wrenthorpe Village Hall eight days after the Annual Show. As the name suggests this show has a shorter schedule and is a far less elaborate event than the Annual Show. However, there was some serious competition with an excellent show of English Florists' tulips that have flowered too late to exhibit at the Annual Show. The splendid Wakefield Vase is awarded for most points in the English classes and this year it was won by Chris



Dan Smith won the Keith Eyre Trophy with his *T.* 'Lord Stanley', which was judged Best Breeder at the Annual Show. Photo: Teresa Clements



The prize winners at this year's Annual Show. Photo: Jason Ingram

Gill. His fine set of tulips included a seedling he had raised from a *T.* 'Talisman' x *T.* 'Columbine' cross. The rounded petals were lilac with strong, even colour and a clear white base. It was much admired and we hope Chris will be able to keep it and propagate it as a breeder before it breaks.

The John Hardman Vase for a vase of 18 Dutch tulips was not awarded this year as no one could muster 18 Dutch tulips, all alike, so late in the season. The Billy Tear trophy for most points in the Dutch classes came back to me but as one of only four exhibitors of Dutch tulips in the end it seemed to come down to quantity rather than quality.

Opportunities to see English Florists' Tulips

The Committee's attempt to shift the focus of the Small Show to English Florists' tulips will add to the general intention that our two shows should complement each other. The grand tradition of the Annual Show gives us and our visitors a special day to see tulips at their best. We have Dutch tulips grown to the highest standard and English Florists' tulips, so rarely seen, are exhibited in profusion by enthusiasts who show their best flowers in peak condition. It is a day to renew friendships made over many years and great distances, to get



out the silverware, both old and new, and to enjoy a good day out with tea and home-made cakes and sandwiches.

The Small Show is a much quieter event; a smaller schedule, a smaller venue and fewer exhibitors. However, the same judges apply the same high standards to the flowers. The absence of crowds means everyone has greater opportunity to have a close look at the tulips. We are able to look and learn and have friendly conversations when we can exchange ideas, advice and stories about the practicalities of growing tulips. Both shows are excellent, important and very different. I can recommend both of them to Tulip Society members and other visitors.

A footnote. At the 183rd Annual Show this year, a professional photographer, Jason Ingram, spent the day with us and took some beautiful photographs. His intention was to provide images for an article that will appear in 2019 in the magazine *Gardens Illustrated*. At the time of writing it is not known when it will be published but members may wish to look out for it. Our thanks to Jason, who has generously allowed us to use some of his many lovely photographs to accompany our show reporting.

The 183rd Annual Show Results

12th May 2018

Vase Classes

Class 1 Tulip Championship of Great Britain, 3 Vases of 9 Tulips (Three different varieties) (2): 1. Jackie Kendall (Heckmondike): Menton, La Courtine, Yellow Angel. 2. Teresa Clements (Harrogate): Angel's Wish, Orange Surprise, Clearwater.

Class 2 Vase of 9 Tulips (One variety) (9): 1. S John Gibson (Kettering): Maureen. 2. Colin Cochrane (Gateshead): Dordogne. 3. Teresa Clements: Toyota.

Class 3 Vase of 3 Tulips (One variety, red, pink or orange) (8): 1. Jenny Cochrane (Gateshead): Dordogne. 2. Teresa Clements: Toyota. 3. John Gibson (Kirkburton): Menton.

Class 4 Vase of 3 Tulips (One variety, white, cream or yellow) (6): 1. Terry Mitchell (Ossett): North Pole. 2. Gill Starkey (Craster): Maureen. 3. Jackie Kendall: North Pole.

Class 5 Vase of 3 Tulips (One variety, any other colour) (19): 1. Graham Winton (Ludlow): Carousel. 2. Colin Cochrane: Green Spirit. 3. Graham Winton: Black Parrot.

Class 6 Vase of 12 English Florist Tulips (2): 1. Malcolm Hainsworth (York): 2. Teresa Clements:

Class 7 Vase of 6 English Florist Tulips (4): 1. Malcolm Hainsworth: 2. Trevor Myers (Wilmslow): 3. Teresa Clements:

Open Classes

Class 8 The Eyre Family Trophy, Stand of 12 Breeders (different varieties) (2): 1. Teresa Clements: Aonius, Gloria, Hubert Calvert, Juliet, Music, Argyre, Albert Tear, Trefoil Guild, Goldfinder, Airy, Sam Barlow. 2. Judy Baker (Hitcham): Mabel, Casius, Rosie Wainwright, Gloria, Trefoil Guild, Bessie, Columbine, Talisman, James Wild, Lemuria, Jack Taylor, Nectar.

Class 9 Needham Memorial Cup, Stand of 12 rectified English Tulips (all dissimilar) (4): 1. Chris Gill (Southowram): Wakefield, Wakefield, Mabel, Mabel, Adonis, Agbrigg, Bessie, Talisman, Lord Stanley, Lord Stanley, James Wild, Royal Sovereign. 2. Malcolm Hainsworth: Wakefield, Julia Farnese, Akers, Mabel, Columbine, Columbine, Adonis, Talisman, James Wild, Lord Stanley, Lord Stanley, Sam Barlow. 3. Trevor Myers: Akers, Wakefield, Wakefield, Akers, Frances I Calvert, Albert Tear, Albert Tear, Norman Eyre, Lord Frederick Cavendish, Lord Stanley, James Wild, Sir Joseph Paxton.



Grown by Trevor Myers, this T. 'James Wild' won the James Akers Trophy for the Best Feather in Show. Photo: Michael Chapman

Class 10 Royles Jubilee Cup, Stand of 9 Breeders (different varieties) (3):

1. Ulf Hansson (Halmstad): Juliet, Casius, Mabel, Music, Albert Tear, Argyre, Deryn Roberts, Jack Taylor, James Akers. 2. Teresa Clements: Hubert Calvert, Juliet, Aonius, Talisman, Argyre, Trefoil Guild, Airy, Lord Stanley, Sam Barlow. 3. Judy Baker: Casius, Solis, Mabel, Talisman, Trefoil Guild, Bessie, Lemuria, Nectar, James Wild.

Class 11 Local Silver Challenge Cup, Stand of 9 English Florist Tulips (all dissimilar) (3):

1. Chris Gill: Columbine, Hubert Calvert, Airy, Talisman, Wakefield, Lord Stanley, Sir Joseph Paxton, Casius, Aonius. 2. Natasha McEwen (Northumberland): Albert Tear, Aonius, James Wild, Habit de Noce, Julia Farnese, James Wild, Habit de Noce, Akers, Royal Sovereign. 3. Ulf Hansson: Albert Tear, Mabel, Sam Barlow, Jane Eyre, Akers fl, Sam Barlow fl, Adonis fe, Wakefield fe, Royal Sovereign fe.

Class 12 Silver Challenge Cup, Stand of 6 rectified English Florist Tulips



Prize-winning blooms: 'James Wild', breeder, flame and feather grown by S John Gibson. Photo: Jason Ingram

(3): 1. Trevor Myers: Akers, Wakefield, Wendy Akers, Norman Eyre, Lord Frederick Cavendish, James Wild. 2. Malcolm Hainsworth: Mabel, Wakefield, Talisman, Aonius, James Wild, Lord Stanley. 3. Chris Gill: Lord Frederick Cavendish, Lord Frederick Cavendish, James Wainwright, Talisman, Casius, Solis.

Class 13 The G.S.Hunter Memorial Cup, Stand of 6 Breeders (different varieties) (6): 1. Ulf Hansson: Juliet, Solis, Argyre, Talisman, Goldfinder, James Akers. 2. Teresa Clements: Mercury, Lemuria, Talisman, Trefoil Guild, Juliet, Hubert Calvert. 3. S John Gibson: Rosie Wainwright, Casius, Bessie, Albert Tear, Gleam, James Wild.

Class 14 Stages Cup, Pan of 3 stages: one Breeder, one Flamed, one Feathered (7): 1. Chris Gill: Airy, James Wild, Lord Stanley. 2. S John Gibson: James Wild x 3. 3. Trevor Myers: Lord Stanley, James Wild x 2.

Class 15 Silver Plate, Pan of 3 Breeders: one Bizarre, one Bybloemen, one Rose (10): 1. John Gibson: Aonius, Talisman, Goldfinder. 2. David Day (Ackworth): Juliet, Albert Tear, James Wild. 3. Judy Baker: Nectar, Talisman, Ma-

bel.

Class 16 Three Flamed (7): 1. Malcolm Hainsworth: Wakefield, Talisman, Lord Stanley. 2. Trevor Myers: Wakefield, Adonis, James Wild. 3. Sarah Brooks (Sheffield): Julia Farnese, Trefoil Guild, Lord Stanley.

Class 17 Three Feathered (2): 1. Malcolm Hainsworth: Mabel, Aonius, Royal Sovereign. 2. Trevor Myers: Wakefield, Albert Tear, Lord Stanley.

Class 18 Pair of Flamed (11): 1. Malcolm Hainsworth: James Wild, Norman Eyre. 2. Keith Eyre (South Cave): Columbine, Sam Barlow. 3. Natasha McEwen: Sir Joseph Paxton, Akers.

Class 19 Pair of Feathered (4): 2. Malcolm Hainsworth: Royal Sovereign, Wakefield. 3. John Wainwright (Wrenthorpe): Sam Barlow, Constable Burton.

Class 20 One Breeder (14): 1. M Shortland (Spalding): Airy. 2. Chris Gill: Airy. 3. S John Gibson: Juliet.

Class 21 One Flamed (17): 2. James Akers (Wrenthorpe): Rosie Wainwright. 3. Trevor Myers: Sir Joseph Paxton.

Class 22 One Feathered (12): 2. John Wainwright: Columbine. 3. John Wainwright: Sam Barlow.

Seedling Classes

Class 23 Seedling Cup, One Seedling Breeder or Rectified raised by the exhibitor (30): 2. S John Gibson: G807. 3. Chris Gill: Seedling.

Class 24 Three Seedling Breeders (one from each colour class) (1): 2. S John Gibson: G805, G801, G802.

Novice Classes

Class 25 Pan of Three One Breeder, one Flamed, one Feathered (4): 1. David Bonser (Craster): Juliet, James Wild fl, Columbine fe. 2. Eeva Rumpunen (Halmstad): Sam Barlow, Lord Stanley fl, Lord Stanley fe. 3. Michael Chapman (Pickering): Mabel, Akers fl, Akers fe.

Class 26 One Breeder (26): 1. Daniel Smith (Bollington): Lord Stanley. 2. David Bonser: Juliet. 3. Eeva Rumpunen: Mabel.

Class 27 One Flamed (23): 1. Gill Starkey: Wakefield. 2. Michael Chapman: Lord Stanley. 3. Don Palmer (Ashford): Wakefield.

Class 28 One Feathered (9): 1. Michael Chapman: Lord Stanley. 2. David Bonser: James Wild. 3. Lynn Griffiths (Doncaster): Adonis.

Class 29 The Gina Roozen Cup, Pan of 3 Breeders: one Bizarre, one Bybloemen, one Rose (6): 1. David Bonser: Goldfinder, Wendy Akers, Juliet. 2. Carolle Doyle (Meiford): Albert Tear, Mabel, Sam Barlow. 3. Eeva Rumpunen: Juliet, Talisman, Goldfinder.

Extra Open Classes

Class 30 One Breeder (15): 1. David Day: Juliet. 2. Tracey Portway (Colchester): Trefoil Guild. 3. Roy Mitchell (Wrenthorpe): Argyre.

Class 31 One Flamed (11): 1. Natasha McEwen: Julia Farnese. 2. Michael Chapman: Dr Hardy. 3. Natasha McEwen: James Wild.

Class 32 One Feathered (4): 1. Michael Chapman: Julia Farnese. 2. Roy Mitchell: Columbine. 3. Natasha McEwen: Akers.

Class 33 Pan of Three One Breeder, one Flamed, one Feathered (1): 1. Christine Brooks (Belper): Lemuria, Sir Joseph Paxton fl, Lord Frederick Cavendish fe.

Points Classes

F R Hunter Cup, Most points in Vase classes (2 - 5): 1. Graham Winton: **Jim Akers Memorial Goblet, Most points in Open classes (8 - 22):** 1. Malcolm Hainsworth: **Brook Silver Challenge Cup & Glass Goblet, Most points in Novice classes (25 -29):** 1. David Bonser: **Glass Goblet, Most points in Extra Open Classes (30 - 33):** 1. Christine Brooks: **The Dawson-Brown Trophy, Most points in English classes + ASYF:** 1. Teresa Clements:

Bloom Classes

Elizabeth Smith Silver Medal, Youngest Exhibitor under 18 years of age: Alice Green (North Ferriby):

The James Akers Trophy, Best Feather in Show: Trevor Myers: James Wild.

The Wendy Akers Trophy, Best Flame in Show: Trevor Myers: Lord Stanley.

The Keith Eyre Trophy, Best Breeder Tulip in Show: Daniel Smith: Lord Stanley.

Peter Emmett Trophy, Best Exhibit Classes 2-5: S John Gibson: Maureen.

Cochrane of Cults Vase, Best Bloom Classes 20-22: M Shortland: Airy.

The Dudmaston Plate, Best Bloom in Novice Classes 25-29: Daniel Smith: Lord Stanley.

S Knowles Cup, Best Bloom in Extra Open Classes 30-33: Christine Brooks: Sir Joseph Paxton.

Turner Memorial Trophy, Best Sam Barlow: Teresa Clements: Sam Barlow.

Albert Tear Memorial Trophy, Overall Premier Bloom: Trevor Myers: Lord Stanley.

Visitors examine the benches at the Annual Show. Photo: Jason Ingram



The Small Show Results

20th May 2018

Vase Classes

Class 1 The John Hardman Memorial Vase, Vase of 18 Tulips (One variety)

(1): 2. Teresa Clements (Harrogate): Survivor.

Class 2 Vase of 9 Tulips (One variety) (1): 2. Teresa Clements: Toyota.

Class 3 Vase of 3 Tulips, Darwin hybrid or Single late (One variety) (2): 1.

John Gibson (Kirkburton): Maureen. 2. Teresa Clements: Renown.

Class 4 Vase of 3 Tulips, Lily flowered (One variety) (1): 2. Teresa Clements: West Point.

Class 5 Vase of 3 Tulips, Parrot (One variety) (1): 2. Teresa Clements: Fantasy.

Class 6 Vase of 3 Tulips, Fringed (One variety) (1): 1. Teresa Clements: Huis-ten van Bosch.

Class 7 Vase of 3 Tulips, Double (One variety) (No entries).

Class 8 Vase of 3 Tulips, Multi-headed (One variety) (No entries).

Class 9 Vase of 5 Tulips (species or small-flowered) (3): 1. Barbara Pickering

(Newmillerdam): *T. sprengeri*. 2. Malcolm Hainsworth (York): *T. sprengeri*. 3.

Teresa Clements: 'Red Hunter'.

Class 10 A pot or pan of species or small-flowered tulips (1): 1. Teresa Clements: *T. batalini* 'Bright Gem'.

Florists' Tulips Classes

Class 11 Stand of 9 English Florist Tulips (all dissimilar) (4): 1. James

Akers (Wrenthorpe): Parisii, Sam Barlow, Talisman, Rosie Wainwright fl, Lord Stanley fl, Bessie fl, Judy Baker fe, Royal Sovereign fe, Adonis fe. 2. Chris Gill (Southowram): Hubert Calvert, Airy, Seedling, Julia Farnese fl, Sir Joseph Paxton fl, Talisman fl, Mabel fe, James Wild fe, Habit de Noce fe. 3. Teresa Clements: Utopia, James Wild, Halmstad, Rosie Wainwright fl, James Akers fl, Trefoil Guild fl, Juliet fe, Lord Stanley fe, Wendy Akers fe.

Class 12 Stand of 6 rectified English Florist Tulips (2): 1. Chris Gill: Royal Sovereign fe, Adonis fe, Mabel fe, James Wild fl, Talisman fl, Casius fl. 2. Teresa Clements: Lord Stanley fe, Adonis fe, Rosie Wainwright fe, Lord Stanley fl, James Wainwright fl, Solis fl.

Class 13 Stand of 6 Breeders (different varieties) (3): 1. Teresa Clements: Goldfinder, Lemuria, Argyre, Bessie, Juliet, Solis. 2. Sarah Brooks (Sheffield): James Wild, Sam Barlow, James Wainwright, Bessie, Gloria, Mabel. 3. Faye



English Florists' tulips from the Small Show. They have been carefully packed so they can go to be displayed at Holy Trinity Church, York. Photo: Teresa Clements

Tuffrey (Chatsworth): Lord Stanley, Airy, Music, Talisman, Juliet, Aonius.

Class 14 Pan of 3 stages: one Breeder, one Flamed, one Feathered (6): 1. Chris Gill: Seedling, Columbine fl, Agbrigg fe. 2. Trevor Myers (Wilmslow): Lord Stanley, Lord Stanley fl, James Wild fe. 3. Teresa Clements: Sam Barlow, Sam Barlow fl, Sam Barlow fe.

Class 15 Pan of 3 Breeders: one Bizarre, one Bybloemen, one Rose (5): 1. Faye Tuffrey: Juliet, Music, Airy. 2. Gill Starkey (Craster): James Wild, Talisman, Casius. 3. David Bonser (Craster): James Wild, Argyre, Mabel.

Class 16 Pair of Flamed (8): 1. David Bonser: James Wild, Wakefield. 2. Chris Gill 2 (Southwram): Casius, Talisman. 3. Trevor Myers 2 (Wilmslow): Wakefield, Sir Joseph Paxton.

Class 17 Pair of Feathered (4): 3. Christine Brooks (Belper): Lord Frederick Cavendish, Habit de Noce.

Class 18 One Breeder (30): 1. Chris Gill: Seedling. 2. Faye Tuffrey: Juliet. 3. Gill Starkey: Solis.

Class 19 One Flamed (19): 1. Chris Gill: Sir Joseph Paxton. 2. Sarah Brooks: Sir Joseph Paxton. 3. David Bonser: Wakefield.

Class 20 One Feathered (9): 3. Chris Gill: James Wild.

Points Classes

The Wakefield Vase, Most points in Florists' Tulips classes (11 - 20): Chris Gill.

Exhibition Visit: *Tulipa, Tulipae*

Susan Christopher-Coulson

The UK was not alone in its exceptional weather patterns this year as a few members of The Society of Botanical Artists (SBA) discovered when we travelled to Madrid for the opening of *Tulipa, Tulipae*, a collaborative exhibition held by the Society and the Real Jardin Botánico (Royal Botanical Garden) in Madrid from 20th March to 20th May 2018.

The day of the opening dawned auspiciously sunny but bitterly cold and with unanticipated snow flurries first thing - surely not this was Madrid - in Spring! Even the locals expressed surprise.

On arrival, as we walked through the gardens we could see that many of the beds and containers had been filled with tulips - about 20,000 bulbs including many popular varieties had been planted. However, even the early varieties were only just coming into bud, and despite how much further south we were, they seemed just as reluctant to show any colour as the ones I had left at home in northern England. Happily, as the season drew on we had reports that the displays did not disappoint. These annual displays of tulips at the gardens draw large crowds – about 40,000 visitors in 2017.

There are two linked galleries - spacious, airy and light - within the gardens with a beautifully appointed shop between. This suited the concept of the exhibition perfectly. The historical and botanical explanations along with archival depictions as well as some contemporary illustrations by SBA members of historic and species tulips were displayed in one gallery, whilst the illustrations by SBA members of contemporary tulip varieties were shown in the other gallery.

These had been arranged in groups following the succession of flowering times. Since the English Florists' tulips keep alive the historic interest in broken tulips these were also included in the historic display. In accordance with conservation needs, the gallery with

The gallery walls were decorated with blown-up versions of some of the paintings on show. Photo: Susan Christopher-Coulson



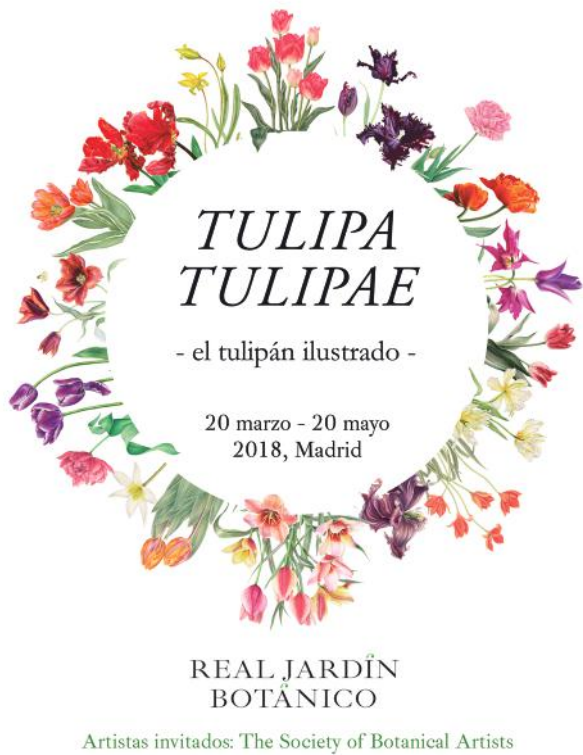
archival displays had lower lighting but there were blinds that could regulate strong light when required in the other gallery too.

Eighty works were submitted by 47 UK and overseas members of the SBA. Artists had committed to painting specific subjects at the start of the process so that there would be minimal duplication of varieties but the actual realisations were a mystery until the framed works were all unwrapped at the gallery - quite a moment! The hanging, by a team from the gardens, including an SBA member from Madrid, was a visual treat with well-designed graphics and displays, punctuated by carefully placed stunning enlargements of some of the tulip illustrations.

Not only was there variety amongst the artists' styles of work but there was also a wide range of media on display including watercolour - some worked on vellum - as well as oil on paper, gouache painting, graphite drawing, coloured pencil works, some mixed media as well as a revived tradition of paper collage. The exhibition also included an area where members demonstrated their methods of working either as live or recorded demonstrations, or as illustrated step-by-step boards, which proved very popular with visitors.

Altogether an exhibition we were delighted and proud to participate in, especially in a city renowned for its art appreciation. If you would like to see more of the exhibits (and in sharper detail than in my hurried photos!) the WNETS library has a copy of the catalogue, which includes an English translation of the interesting contextual articles on historical and botanical backgrounds.

To learn more about the SBA please visit www.soc-botanical-artists.org Their next UK exhibition: *Plantae* takes place at the Mall Galleries, London from the 4th-9th June 2019.



Artistas invitados: The Society of Botanical Artists



The exhibition poster showed the diversity of the tulip. Photo: Susan Christopher-Coulson

Garden Visit: Sheffield Botanical Gardens

Sarah Brooks

Our busy day in and around Sheffield began with a morning visit to the Sheffield Botanical Gardens located to the west of the city centre. Although parking is very restricted it can usually be found on side roads near the main northern entrance to the gardens off Clarkehouse Road and the southern entrance off Ecclesall Road followed by a steady climb up through the landscaped grounds. Our group of Society members gathered on another hot sunny 2018 summer day to be shown around the gardens by a local volunteer and member of the Friends of the Botanical Gardens.

In response to concerns over the lack of ‘public’ open space as the city grew quickly on the back of the early industrial revolution the gardens opened in 1836 to shareholders and paying subscribers of the Sheffield Botanical and Horticultural Society who had raised sufficient funds over three years to purchase and develop 18 acres (7.2ha) of farmland. A competition to seek a design for the site was won by Robert Marnock (formerly a gardener at Bretton Hall near Wakefield - now the Yorkshire Sculpture Park) who went on to oversee the laying out of the gardens (with advice from Joseph Paxton, then head gardener at Chatsworth) and to become the Botanical Gardens’ first curator.

Marnock’s design was based on the fashionable Gardenesque style (recently introduced by John Claudius Loudon at the Birmingham Botanical Gardens which opened in 1832) in which specimen, generally non-native, plants were scattered individually or placed in groups in island beds and on mounds so that sufficient space was provided to allow the plants to reach their full potential. Today there is greater use of native plants too but the Sheffield Botanical





Gardens are still considered to be one of the finest remaining example of the Gardenesque style and Marnock was considered one of the most successful of the style's exponents.

The glass of the Pavilion roof was hand-blown. It is a Grade II* Listed Building. Photo: Sarah Brooks

The many beautiful mature deciduous and coniferous trees, including the statuesque and rare Caucasian Wing-Nut Tree, are a particular legacy of the style and perfect in their setting, complemented by herbaceous underplanting, water features, rockeries and lawns, and the gardens are designated as a Grade II site on English Heritage's Register of Historic Parks and Gardens of special historic interest. The gateway, railings and lodge (now a tea-room) (all Grade II



listed buildings) at the Clarkehouse Road entrance, and nearby Pavilion (Grade II* listed), were designed by architect Benjamin Broomhead Taylor and the distinctive ‘ridge and furrow’ and hand-blown curvilinear glazing of the Pavilion roof are key features.

The Gardens’ turbulent financial history during the 19th century culminated in the purchase of the Society’s shares and the gardens in 1898 by the Sheffield Town Trust and the introduction of free admission to the public. Mixed fortunes throughout the 20th century saw the gardens badly damaged during WWII followed by their repair by the Sheffield Corporation which leased the grounds from the Trust in 1951, including the installation of an aviary and aquarium in the Pavilion. The later decline of the gardens and buildings in the wake of financial cuts during the economic recession of the 1980s was slowed only by the involvement of the Friends of the Botanical Gardens and volunteer help throughout the 1990s.

A Heritage Lottery Fund grant of over £5 million in the late 1990s and eight years of work to restore the gardens and Pavilion, this time to house frost-sensi-



The Sheffield Botanical Gardens are one of the best surviving examples of the Gardenesque Style. Photo: Sarah Brooks

more traditional Rose Garden. The gardens are still evolving to reflect modern theories of planting design and research such as the Prairie Garden planting developed by Nigel Dunnett and James Hitchmough from Sheffield University and recent creations such as the Mediterranean Areas Garden (where dried seed heads of *Tulipa sprengeri* were seen) and the Himalayan Garden, the latter created from seed collected at source by plant collector Chris Chadwell.

Having experienced the high enclosed stone walls of the Bear Pit (also Grade II listed) and heard its thankfully not so gruesome history we concluded our guided tour back in front of the Pavilion and were able to spend a little more time exploring the double herbaceous borders and specimen trees in the lawns either side and enjoying the view from the tea-room before leaving for our afternoon visit to Renishaw Hall (see overleaf).

tive plants from around the world, have saved the site and allowed it to evolve further as a centre of botanical excellence and learning, partnering with various organisations on a range of initiatives including Sheffield University with which it has close ties. A new purpose-built education centre opened in 2017 and throughout the year the gardens host a range of activities from outdoor theatre and music events to lectures and workshops and plant sales. For local people it remains a much-loved green space and calm oasis in what is now a busy part of the city.

Our tour wandered down through the gardens and we viewed most of the 18 different areas which are based on distinct botanical and geographical themes. These include the Rock and Water Garden with mostly native plants from the Pennines, the National Plant Collections of Weigela, Diervilla and Sarcococca, the AGM Border with a selection of plants which have been awarded the RHS Award of Garden Merit, the Evolution Garden with specimen Ginkgo, Redwood and a 300 million year old fossilised tree trunk, and the

Garden Visit: Renishaw Hall

Christine Brooks

Fresh from exploring Sheffield's Botanical Gardens before lunch, the afternoon of 15th July took us to Eckington, Derbyshire, to visit the gardens of Renishaw Hall. In 2015 the gardens were awarded the HHA/Christie's Garden of the Year Award, so we knew there was a treat in store.

Built around 1625, Renishaw Hall is a castellated Jacobean mansion set in a 300 acre (121.4ha) estate. The founder was the early industrialist and High Sheriff of Derbyshire, George Sitwell. Later generations of Sitwells made their own contributions, especially in the years around 1800, to create the magnificent house. In the 20th century, the Hall was probably best known for being the home of the literary members of the dynasty, Edith, Osbert and Sacheverell Sitwell. Today Renishaw remains in the ownership of the Sitwells, with Alexandra Sitwell, now Hayward, and her family being the current generation.

The framework of the gardens as we see them now was designed and created by Sir George Sitwell, between 1886 and 1936, in the terraced Italianate style he admired and much of his design remains. He wanted distant views through symmetrically laid lawned gardens, past fountains towards the lakes below.



Sir George is said to have consulted both Gertrude Jekyll and Sir Edwin Lutyens, top designers of their day, when planning his garden. However, the designs that Gertrude Jekyll submitted were rejected and Sir George did not always accept Lutyens' advice for example regarding the the 'Swimming pool' garden, which he thought would be 'better round'.

Several garden 'rooms' are bounded by box and yew hedging and distinctive yew pyramids. Two of these gardens, the 'First Candle' with predominantly roses, and the 'Second Candle', a white garden, have at their centres fountains made of pink marble from Verona.



Left: a *Magnolia Macrophylla* growing in the Hall gardens. Above: Italianate vistas were a key feature of Sir George Sitwell's garden designs at Renishaw. Photos: Sarah Brooks

Subsequent members of the family, Sir Reresby Sitwell and more recently his daughter Alexandra, working with the talented head gardener David Kesteven, have introduced more colour with attractive herbaceous borders.

The four borders around the Middle Lawn were designed in 2017 by Arne Maynard and are recognisable as his work by the palette of pale pink and mauves, white, deep purple, bronze, silver and grey with the occasional pale yellow/cream. Statuesque *Macleaya cordata*, *Althaea cannabina* and Giant Cotton Thistles, *Onopordum acanthium*, are complemented by choice plants such as *Gladiolus papilio* 'Ruby', deep purple Dahlias eg 'Admiral Rawlings', the black Opium Poppy, South African Foxglove, *Ceratotheca triloba* and the rare *Dahlia excelsior* 'Penelope Sky'.



Left: blue timber pyramids are found in many of the beds, serving as trellises for climbing plants. Right: large yew and box hedges divide some parts of the garden into 'rooms' with different themes. Photos: Sarah Brooks

The blue pyramids, which were there before, give height and are clothed with Clematis and Sweet Peas. They have been described as 'Lutyens' blue' though this colour is now achieved by using Dulux 'Orion'!

Other borders have distinctive planting such as the bottom terrace which has a more vibrant 'hot' colour scheme with orange *Tithonia* 'Torch' predominant, the red flowers of Castor Oil plant *Ricinus communis* 'Carmencita', yellow flowers of *Hedychium*, a ginger plant and deep red Love Lies Bleeding or *Amaranthus cordata* next to deep pink lilies and pale yellow sunflowers.

The Buttress Border is full of brilliant Delphiniums and the small garden designed by Lee Bestall for the RHS Chatsworth 2017 show has been re-sited at the back of the 'Yuccary' which holds the National Collection of Yuccas.



Adjacent to the formal gardens are areas of woodland, some more formal such as the Lime Avenue and others such as the Woodside and the Wilderness which time did not permit us to visit. Many specimen trees can be seen, including the 'Waterloo' oak planted in 1815 by Mr Frank Eliot a long serving gardener. At only 200 years old it is regarded as a 'young' tree !

We enjoyed a very welcome cup of tea in the shade outside the restaurant.

We concluded our tour still with a substantial area of the grounds unseen but I may not be alone in planning to return in the spring and early summer, for the bulbs, Camellias, Magnolias and cooler weather! Arne's tulip display will include the peony flowered *T. 'Renown Unique'*, the viridiflora tulips 'Florosa', 'Spring Green' and 'Evergreen' and the black tulips, 'Black Hero', 'Ronaldo' and 'Queen of the Night', under planted with Forget-Me-Nots, so definitely worth another visit.

Many thanks to Carole Gude for organising a most enjoyable day.

A Tulip Festival in York

Teresa Clements

In March the Tulip Society was invited to take part in a Flower Festival at Holy Trinity Church, Micklegate, in York. The theme was 'In a Monastery Garden', inspired by the history of Holy Trinity as a priory of Benedictine monks in the middle ages. There were no exact requirements, perhaps we would be able help by providing some English Florists' tulips to add to an arrangement like those in the Dutch Old Master paintings? We agreed to take part.

In successive emails a plan was taking shape and participants were allocated themes; ours was 'The Liturgy of the Word'. It seemed more than just a few flowers would be needed. Malcolm Hainsworth lives in York and he and I went to find out what we had let ourselves in for. Would my hasty idea of an open prayer book, some paper tulips and a vase of real tulips be enough? We were rather taken aback when we saw the area we had to fill. However, help was at hand; the floristry students of Askham Bryan College, York, had finished their

end of year exams and had a couple of weeks of term-time to take on a project. Would we like some help? Yes please! They joined us to discuss what we might do.

The final display was impressive; a spray of paper tulips emerged from the pages of a large old bible and led to a profusion of silk and real tulips. English Florists' tulips and Dutch tulips covered several stands and an arch over the aisle. The students had constructed the arch and fastened hundreds of test-tube flower-holders on to it, supplementing them with spent cartridge cases when they ran out of tubes.

The finished effect was lovely, so pretty and delicate and colourful. We are very grateful to the whole team and their lecturer, Kate Pepper, who came to our aid and did such a great job.

Left: the Society's theme was the 'Liturgy of the Word'. Right: Askham Bryan students created a tulip arch. Photos: Teresa Clements





Tulip Hunting in Uzbekistan and beyond

Tonnvane Wiswell

After listening to Frazer Henderson's wonderful talk on Kyrgyzstan at the AGM in 2015, I was all fired up to look for tulips in exotic places. Soaring mountains, alpine lakes, and beautiful, beautiful flowers growing wild in the rocks - I wanted to see them myself. Sure, there were a few challenges - transport, housing, and blood sucking fauna - but it all seemed to fade in the background when I remembered his photos of cobalt blue lakes beneath snow capped peaks. It also seemed very affordable, provided you didn't mind the occasional meal of horse meat. When I received an email asking if I were interested in joining a small group of enthusiasts on a trek to Uzbekistan, I leaped at the opportunity. I, too, would become a species spotter - a true tulipomane!

We started our trip in Istanbul, which was off the official itinerary but a wonderful place to begin, as the annual tulip festival was in full swing, with the Emirgan Korusu park covered with acres and acres of late Dutch tulips in gorgeous displays. Our group of five - Frazer, myself, my husband, and WNETS committee members Teresa and Jason Clements

- took some time to visit the tulip museum in the park and then to stroll around admiring the densely planted gardens. Entry was free (although distant from public transport - a taxi would be helpful), and families were everywhere: picnicking, taking photos, and enjoying the perfect weather. From this hilltop perch, we dashed to a field between the Hagia Sophia museum and the Sultan Ahmet mosque, where a giant carpet of tulip blossoms had been made as a part of the festival. I was surprised that I hadn't heard more about this festival in the UK - in richness of displays, it seemed more than equal to Keukenhof, but with the added fun of Istanbul and its treasures surrounding it (and no entry fee).





We explore a pasture of tulips beside a mountain lake. Among the crags and ravines beyond many rare tulip varieties lurk. Would we get to them before the mountain goats (who consider tulips a delicacy)? Photo: Tonnvane Wiswell

After our busy day, we had several hours of free time to dine and repack, for all of us were on the same flight to Tashkent - at midnight. Uff!

Our Uzbekistan adventure began properly the morning of April 13th, where we were met at the tiny Tashkent airport by Yuri, our Uzbeki tour guide, and transferred to our hotel in a residential district of Tashkent. There we found



Karsten, a German anesthesiologist, who would round out the tour group to six. As we headed into our vans the next morning, we met Ivan Maltseva, who would accompany us as our botanist. The next morning we undertook a lengthy drive to the farming villages of the Nurata mountains, where, on our very first hike, we found a few examples of *Tulipa Korolkovii* on the shale slopes. This stubby pinky white/red wonder (it had two forms) had the most gorgeous curlicue foliage. As a bonus, we saw a chamoix in the distance - all this just a half hour walk from our guesthouse. It was a promising start!

From then, our days alternated with long drives between tulip biomes, sightseeing in ancient cities, and hikes in remote landscapes that varied between twinkling alpine meadows, scrub desert, and the kind of sandstone canyons that made you think Indiana Jones was just around the corner. It quickly became clear that while



Above: an Uzbeki family near Nurata having a Sunday picnic of lamb stew, flatbread, and tea. Left: the pilgrimage site of the Shah-i-Zinda mausoleum includes the resting place of Qusam, a cousin of the Prophet Mohammed, as well as numerous members of Tamerlane's family. Photos: Tonnvane Wiswell

it might seem that our enemy was the weather - fog, freezing sleet and accompanying mud - the true villain of this trip was the goat, which time and again seemed to have beat us to the tulips, leaving behind close cropped stems and a few leaves. We had arrived in time for blooming season, but could not beat the hungry hordes!

Our best days of tulip spotting were spent in mountain preserves too remote for grazing herbivores. In the foggy, freezing Takhtakaracha mountains near Samarkand, we saw *Tulipa ingens* and *Tulipa Fosterianii* amid the grass, moss, boulders, and clag; within the gorgeous Kitab State Geological Reserve (where we were as interesting to the park rangers as the tulips were to us) we found *Tulipa ingens* and *Tulipa Fosteriana* hiding between patches of snow; and in Boison we enjoyed central Asia curving away from us after we took our pictures of *Tulipa Korolkovii* and *Tulipa lanata*.

A *Tulipa ingens* nestling in the snow at the Kitab State Geological Reserve. Photo: Tonnvane Wiswell

We also enjoyed some outstanding architecture and enjoyed the pleasures of a country where civilization has flourished since before the rise of Christianity. You can hardly escape learning about Emir Timur, called Tamerlane in the West, the national hero of Uzbekistan. His tomb, the madrasahs surrounding the imposing Registan square (the oldest built by his grandson in 1417), the turquoise Shah-i-Zinda necropolis (filled with Timur's relatives), and the greatly restored Bibi-Khanym mosque (built for his wife) gave us a very rich time sight-seeing in our short time in Samarkand - with people from all over Asia queuing up beside us. While the tourism infrastructure is still a bit thin, the hospitality we were shown was genuine and joyful, including an exciting moment where we were invited to join an Uzbeki family for their Sunday picnic in the foothills near the city of Nurata (founded by Alexander the Great). Getting from place to place involved long hours in vans, but we took the opportunity to visit with each other, enjoy the scenery, and nap.





Left: *Tulipa biflorifomis* produces tiny double blooms in cream and white.

Right: *Tulipa Tchimganica* is found widely in the Beldersay mountains. Photos: Tonnvane Wiswell

The highlight of the tour, however, was the final Sunday, when we drove from Tashkent to the Beldersay mountains, a well developed tourist area on the border with Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan. We had a gorgeous drive into the mountains where we went to the station for a ski lift which continues running after the end of the snow for the benefit of day trippers who want to enjoy the magnificent views at the top. Our gondolas floated us over fields of yellow tulips - a huge change from the single stems we'd struggled to find in the deserts below! At the top, below occasional spots of melting snow, were endless clusters of tiny flowers - the endemic *Tulipa Tchimganica* - yellow and red flowers with pointed petals - and knots of the cream and yellow *Tulipa biflorifomis*, with its baroque foliage and endearing multi-headed blooms. All of this and snow capped peaks as far as the eye could see and the most gorgeous sunny weather



A *Tulipa Korolkovii* forces its way out from the rocks in the foothills of the mountains near Nurata. Photo: Tonnvane Wiswell

- it was almost enough to make you forget that a misstep in the mud could send you quite a way down in a bit of a hurry.

Then, after lunch, we made it to our residence, an off season ski resort, where our naturalist took us on a walk down the hillside into a fenced off field - where, miracle of miracle, endless clusters of fat, red *Tulipa greigii* all but filled the horizon with their cheerful scarlet. We lost ourselves in an ecstasy of photography, nearly giddy after so many days struggling to see even one flower amid the destruction caused by the ungulate population. There was one day left to the trip but nothing could top this day of seeing some of the world's rarest tulips in their native environment, with the sunshine beaming down on us; and the joy of a grassy meadow shouting, "Welcome Spring!"

Tulip Breaking Virus Symposium

Teresa Clements

Broken tulips have been of great interest to Florists and artists for centuries, they can be seen in the paintings of the Dutch Old Masters and are the focus of our Society's activities today. Some members of the WNETS have noticed a change in the way English Florists' Tulips (EFT) 'break' over recent years with both a higher incidence of breaking and a lowering in quality of the broken (or rectified) flowers reported. On Monday 6th August 2018, sixteen Tulip Society members gathered at Easton Walled Garden for a day of discussion and learning about Tulip Breaking Virus (TBV). The purpose of this gathering was to share experiences of tulip breaking within stocks of EFT breeder bulbs with the aim of exploring how stocks of breeder bulbs can be maintained and protected from the effects of TBV, and whether anything can be done to improve the quality of broken flowers.

Many aspects of TBV infection were considered; When does a bulb acquire TBV and at what point does TBV exert an effect on the flowering characteristics of the bulb? Are all breaks initiated in the previous season or do some start in the current season, possibly as a consequence of the growers' techniques? First breaks often appear as a small area at the edge of a petal, which might suggest infection during the current season. Can the virus survive away from the host tulip bulb? Viruses can only reproduce within a living cell but they may persist outside of living cells, it is not known for how long or how resilient they are to varying conditions such as temperature and moisture levels. The virus may persist in the soil and on dead plant material. TBV also infects other plants that may act as hosts, e.g. lilies. Some dark red cultivars, such as *T.* 'Hubert Calvert', are thought to be infected with TBV although none of the flowers exhibit breaking. If these are planted alongside breeders of other cultivars, are they a source of TBV infection causing stocks of breeders to break?

There are five known types of TBV - Tulip breaking virus (TBV), tulip top-breaking virus (TTBV), tulip bandbreaking virus (TBBV), Rembrandt tulip-breaking virus (ReTBV), and lily mottle virus (LMoV). The latter is a potyvirus within the group of potato Y viruses and it can affect both tulips and other members of the lily family. What are the effects of these viruses?

Infection with TBV 'breaks' the uniformity of the petal colour so that the base colour (white or yellow) appears to spread and push aside the petal colour (pink, red or purple - colours derived from the pigment anthocyanin found



A basket containing a mixture of breeders and broken tulips. Some of the flowers show evidence of 'black-break'. Photo: Teresa Clements

within the epidermal cells of the petal) resulting in an intensification of colour into bands (feathers and flames)

TBV exists in both severe and mild strains, with severe TBV resulting in a 'full-break' (anthocyanins fail to form) (also known as 'clear break') and mild TBV causing 'self-break' (the colour is intensified due to excessive anthocyanin production). A further type of self-break known as 'black-break' exists where areas of intensified darker colour are seen. The effects of TBV can often be seen when the flower is still a green bud. Yellow and white tulips may be 'carriers' of TBV, they do not show the characteristic broken petals as their cells do not contain anthocyanins.

How does the virus get into the tulip? As tulips have been breaking for centuries has the virus, or viruses, remained stable? Do different viruses have different effects? Over recent years the incidence of good feathered breaks has declined, so are there other factors which influence the effects of TBV?

How is TBV transmitted? Dorothy Cayley's 1927 research suggested that aphids were the likely vectors for TBV transmission and in particular the Green Peach Aphid, which is now known to transmit many other types of virus too.

Other organisms such as slugs, bacteria and small invertebrates in the soil and in the air could also act as vectors. There is mixed opinion about soil fungi as another potential route. TBV is not transmitted through seed and in recent years new breeder varieties have been derived from crossing broken flowers.

Mass breaking in EFT breeder stocks could be related to higher aphid populations due to climatic changes that affect aphid numbers. TBV is spread very efficiently by aphids, which can acquire the virus in 2-5 minutes. Tulips infected during the growing season do not show symptoms until the following year. Published studies suggest aphids are most likely to spread TBV when there is soft leafy growth (before flowering), but spread could occur at other times from shoot emergence onwards. Spread by aphids can also occur in stored bulbs before planting. Avoiding TBV infection by aphids is difficult; insecticides are unlikely to work quickly enough to prevent transmission of the virus. The use of deterrents such as garlic extract (e.g. 'Garshield') may deter aphids and it is known that old growers used soft soap to protect plants too.

Potviruses are known to synergistic and there is potential for TBVs to act in combination. Could this be the mechanism behind black-break? Robinson (an earlier grower) suggested that all his EFTs eventually reverted back to Darwin tulips, i.e. single colour. Current growers report stocks of Wakefield tending to become single coloured. Could this 'reversion' be due to deterioration in the vigour of the TBV or are particular cultivars becoming stronger and more resistant? Is this due to adaptation or climatic conditions or growing techniques? The bulbs of some EFT cultivars that produce poor flowers are less likely to be cultivated and passed around, better cultivars survive longer as they are more highly valued and sought after.

Certain specific traits are known to persist from parent bulb to offset, e.g. nicks in the edges of petals. Breeders that have a distinct central beam seem to produce good breaks. Could the quality of the tulip flower be due to the particular strain of the tulip clone or another effect of TBV? It is also observed that through successive generations of the same tulip clone feathered flowers can gradually become flames, but flamed flowers very rarely progress to become feathered. Could the extent of marking be influenced by the weather, mild winter / cold winter? How vulnerable is TBV to temperature? In different temperature and soil conditions clones from the same parent can produce different results.

Further research into the transmission of TBV would be of great interest to the WNETS, but this standard of scientific research is beyond our capabilities. It would require virus-free clean stock and tightly controlled laboratory conditions. However, this shouldn't deter us from conducting our own

investigations and sharing our findings. James Akers has compiled a questionnaire that could be circulated so that growers could compare their approaches to growing EFTs, including methods of planting bulbs, cultivation, cutting, lifting, cleaning and storing bulbs.

Basic advice on best practice for cultivation and guidance on the control of TBV would be useful to all our members. The discussion group agreed it would be good to draw out the basics of growing EFTs and provide this information in a concise format, such as a FAQ sheet accompanying a set of bulbs including requirements for specific varieties (e.g. *T. 'Hubert Calvert'* should be grown away from other breeders). Good husbandry advice specifically to maintain breeder stocks and what to do if breeders break. If anyone would like to be involved in contributing to this, with either questions or answers, please contact the Secretary.



***T. Bessie flame* showing the dramatic patterns the disease can produce on the petals. Photo: Teresa Clements**

My own resolution at the end of the day was to keep careful and detailed notes in future; to photograph all stages of tulip growth and aspects of cultivation. Keeping a detailed record will provide reference data for me and for others to use in years to come. If I can photograph both good and bad flowers, when questions arise we can look back and have reliable evidence and examples to share and illustrate a point. I urge everyone to give it a try so that together we can create a useful and valuable resource.

The discussion day gave us a chance to review our current situation with respect to TBV and breeder tulips and raised many more questions still to be answered. It was a new venture to hold this kind of event and I hope it will lead to new ways to share information with all our members. Thank you to everyone who attended and especially to Sarah Brooks, who took minutes, and to Peter Gladders and Jennie Corrigan who made further comments after the event. This article is a summary of their contributions.

The RHS Daffodil, Snowdrop and Tulip Yearbook, 2018

In the 2018 edition of the RHS *Daffodil, Snowdrop and Tulip Yearbook* the first article following the Editorial is a tribute to Wendy Akers, much loved and missed by members of our Society. Wendy, together with her husband James, one of our Patrons, contributed a great deal to the production of this publication over many years. In addition to a photograph of Wendy, the article is illustrated with a beautiful watercolour of *Tulipa* 'Wendy Akers', in breeder and flamed forms, painted by her friend Anne Wright. Anne is also an accomplished plants-woman, renowned for raising and propagating daffodils, snowdrops and other genera.

Among the many writers who contribute to this *Yearbook*, several will be well known to Wakefield and North of England Tulip Society members. The tulip section has an article featuring the range of cultivars of the species tulip, *Tulipa clusiana*, as well as science, art and design. The sections dealing with snowdrops and daffodils contain excellent photographs and have much to interest the general reader together with the show reports, book reviews and news of awards that will bring enthusiasts up to date with this year's most notable events.

Daffodil,
Snowdrop
and Tulip
Yearbook
2018



If you wish to obtain a copy of the 2018 RHS *Yearbook*, please send a cheque for the discounted price of £10.00 (made payable to RHS) to John Gibson, 14 Waverley Road, Kettering, Northamptonshire. NN15 6NT. Do not forget to include your own name and address when making your request. If you prefer to order it online, you can pay by PayPal, to John's email address, gibbo.john@ntlworld.com. which overseas readers in particular may find is more convenient. PayPal payments are £10 for delivery to UK Addresses. To EU addresses it costs £14.70 and to the rest of the world the price is £17.30.

Daffodil, Snowdrop and Tulip Yearbook
ISBN 9781907057915.

Obituary: Kenneth Bacon

The membership of this tulip society is always said to have been from the 'working classes' from its foundation when many of the early members were manual workers, particularly cordwainers. Ken Bacon who died on 7th June 2018 at the age of 83 was probably the last remaining member who had worked as a coal miner down the pit.

Ken's interest in things horticultural came relatively late in his life but extended to a range, mainly of bulbs, which included Gladioli, Daffodils and Tulips in addition to other old florists' flowers Carnations and Pinks, all of which he exhibited with great success. Ken was a very good grower, however he drew the line when it became necessary to manipulate and titivate the flowers to be shown for success. This may be one of the reasons why he enjoyed showing tulips where there is the minimum amount of additional effort required to make a good exhibit.

He never exhibited English Florists' Tulips but over several years was a principal prize-winner in the Dutch classes winning all the trophies offered in this section.

Ken was a member of Royal Horticultural Society Committees involved with Gladioli and was a great enthusiast of classical music, reflected in the choice of Handel's *Largo* for the Entrance Music and *We'll Gather Lilacs* sung by Lesley Garrett as the Music for Reflection during his funeral service.

James Akers



Obituary: Keith Orrell

The front-page photograph of Keith Orrell on the Order of Service for his funeral hints at much that is important. The lush background suggests a future contextualised by his concern as a geographer about matters of ecology, his expression is amused and shrewd, he is neatly turned out as if for an important occasion and his maroon blazer is slung over his shoulder, the University College, Durham badge being clearly displayed.

Though still then an undergraduate, his identity is already firmly in place. Indeed, by comparison with most of us in his year, he was very much in possession of his life. Hence, the vitality and diversity of his social life (no one danced a meaner eightsome reel), and his unequivocal academic, sporting and musical successes. For example, he sang lead roles in the College's light opera productions, and in a college where rowing was almost an essential entrance requirement, he was Captain of Boats. Nor was it a surprise to learn that when, post-graduation, he did not wish to part company with the College that he loved, he worked for a time as a supervisor in the Durham University geography department.

Beyond university, the pattern of achievement established found further realisation in his life as a teacher and College lecturer, his authoritative performances in prime league hockey and his creatively forceful involvement in myriad Wrenthorpe and district activities. Keith always made things go, especially if they were communally important. In fact, his was a life that increasingly accrued unselfish dutiful emphases. Hence, the aptness of the MBE later awarded to him.

As a genial, always interested, and perceptive member of the Society, he eagerly took on the role of interviewer for recordings now lodged in the York University archive. This was a process that engaged his academic expertise, and, although he did not show tulips, he dug and delved for his wife Jennie (wisely chosen at Durham) during the time when her entries won prizes. Keith's garden, I shall always remember. It is like him, interestingly diverse, congenial, integrated and firmly planned. Even his lazy carp will not forget him.



David Day

Dates for Your Diary

The Ancient Society of York Florists' Spring Show:

Saturday 13th April 2019.

Recreation Hall, The Village, Wigginton, York. YO32 2LL, with 13 tulip classes.

Points won in any of the Sections A, B, C and D of this show will count towards winning the Dawson-Brown Trophy when added to points won in the English Florists' tulip classes at the WNETS Annual Tulip Show.

Staging Friday, 5-10pm, Saturday, 8-10am. Viewing, Saturday, 11am -3pm.

For more details: <http://www.ancientsocietyofyorkflorists.co.uk/>

The WNETS Visit to the Netherlands:

Thursday 11th April 2019 to Sunday 14th April 2019.

A three day tour with the focus on tulips.

Further info: secretary@tulipsociety.co.uk

Alnwick Spring Show:

Saturday 13th April 2019.

Willowburn Sports and Leisure Centre NE66 2JH (just off the A1).

Further info: Gill Starkey, email: gm.starkey@virgin.net

Harrogate Spring Flower Show:

Thursday 25th to Sunday 28th April 2019.

The Wakefield and North of England Tulip Society no longer participates in this event, but the Northern Group of the Daffodil Society has several classes for tulips as part of the daffodil show.

Further info: Chris Bone; email: cbone70@btinternet.com

The RHS Tulip Competition:

Saturday and Sunday 4th & 5th May 2019.

RHS Harlow Carr Garden. Harrogate. Crag Lane, Harrogate, North Yorkshire HG3 1UE

At the Bramall Learning Centre. Staging; Friday evening, judging; Saturday morning, access to public; Saturday afternoon and Sunday. The RHS encourages exhibitors to take part in this competition; to do so, please register in advance. This can be done online or by post; if you need further details about registration please contact secretary@tulipsociety.co.uk

Constable Burton Hall Tulip Festival:

Saturday 4th to Monday 6th May 2019.

Constable Burton Hall, Leyburn, North Yorkshire. DL8 5LJ.

The Society will have a stand at the hall for all three days.

Burnby Hall Gardens Tulip Festival:

Late-April to Mid-May 2019

Burnby Hall Gardens Pocklington. YO42 2QF Tel. 01759 307125

Check the website for exact dates nearer the time,

<http://www.burnbyhallgardens.com>

**The Wakefield and North of England Tulip Society's
184th Annual Tulip Show:**

Saturday 11th May 2019.

Primrose Hall, Green Park Avenue, Horbury, Wakefield. WF4 6EG.

Staging 10am to 12noon. The classes will be called at 12 noon prompt and will be followed immediately by judging. Open to the public 2.30pm to 4.30pm.

Further info: secretary@tulipsociety.co.uk

The Wakefield and North of England Tulip Society's Small Show:

Date and location to be confirmed nearer the time.

Please remember to let the Secretary know if your tulips look likely to flower much earlier than the date of the 184th Annual Show or if they are going to be late to flower. This information is essential to help the committee decide on the date and location of the Small Show.

Further info: secretary@tulipsociety.co.uk

Keukenhof:

Dates for 2019 from 21 March to 19 May.

Further details: <https://keukenhof.nl/en/>

The AGM:

Saturday 5th October 2019.

Wrenthorpe Village Hall, Wakefield. WF2 0NE.

Speaker to be announced.

Further info: secretary@tulipsociety.co.uk

Further Information: Contact the Secretary for schedules or further information about the society's shows secretary@tulipsociety.co.uk

A note about subscriptions...

Newer (and some older) members are sometimes unsure when and how to renew their membership of the Society. Traditionally, subscriptions are paid at the Annual Show in May, but the Treasurer is happy to accept them at any time. If not paying in cash, cheques should be made out to 'Wakefield & North of England Tulip Society'. For those abreast of 21st-Century technology, payments by online bank transfer are very welcome, as they reduce paper work and save postage. The Society's account details follow, but don't forget to include your name as reference:

Bank: Yorkshire Bank (Northgate, Wakefield)

Sort Code: 05-09-64

Account Number: 12273858

Account Name: Wakefield & North of England Tulip Society

To avoid having to remember to pay each year, you can set up a Standing Order with your bank to make an annual payment, giving the same details as above. May 1st is a good date for this.

We are sometimes asked if we can take payment by Direct Debit; alas, the answer is no.

The annual subscription remains, as it has for many years, £5 - remarkably good value, we hope you agree! (There is an additional one-off joining fee of £5 for new members.)

Call for submissions

The annual WNETS newsletter is dependent on the members of the Society for content. If you have a tulip-related article - whether about history, cultivation, WNETS, other tulip societies, or art - that you would like to share, please send it to editor@tulipsociety.co.uk for consideration for next year's issue. We request that all photos be high resolution (at least 300 dpi) to ensure they reproduce correctly in the magazine.

The deadline for contributions is 18th October 2019, shortly after the AGM.

