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LINCOLNSHIRE ENGLAND

SPRINGFIELDS & FLOWER PARADE CELEBRATION GUIDE 1972

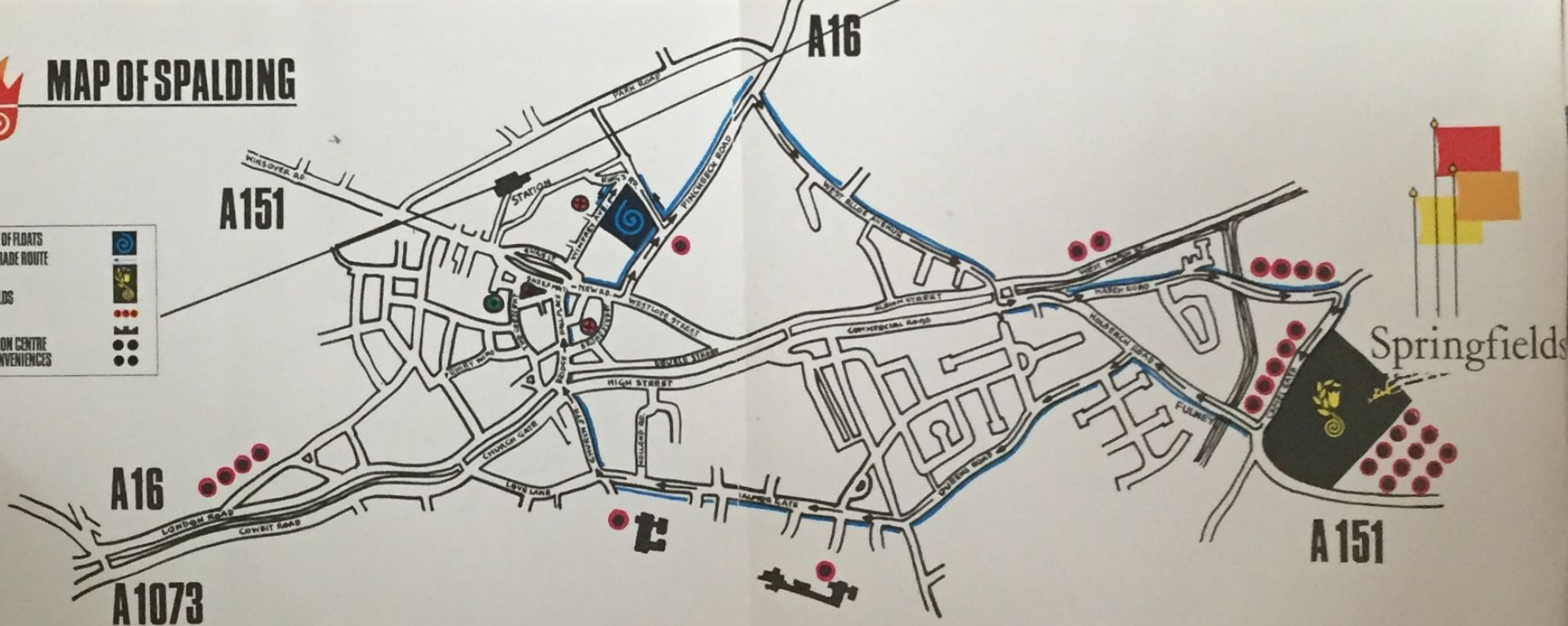


MAP OF SPALDING

EXHIBITION OF FLOATS
FLOWER PARADE ROUTE



SPRINGFIELDS
PARKING
SCHOOLS
INFORMATION CENTRE
PUBLIC CONVENIENCES



and **S**pringfields



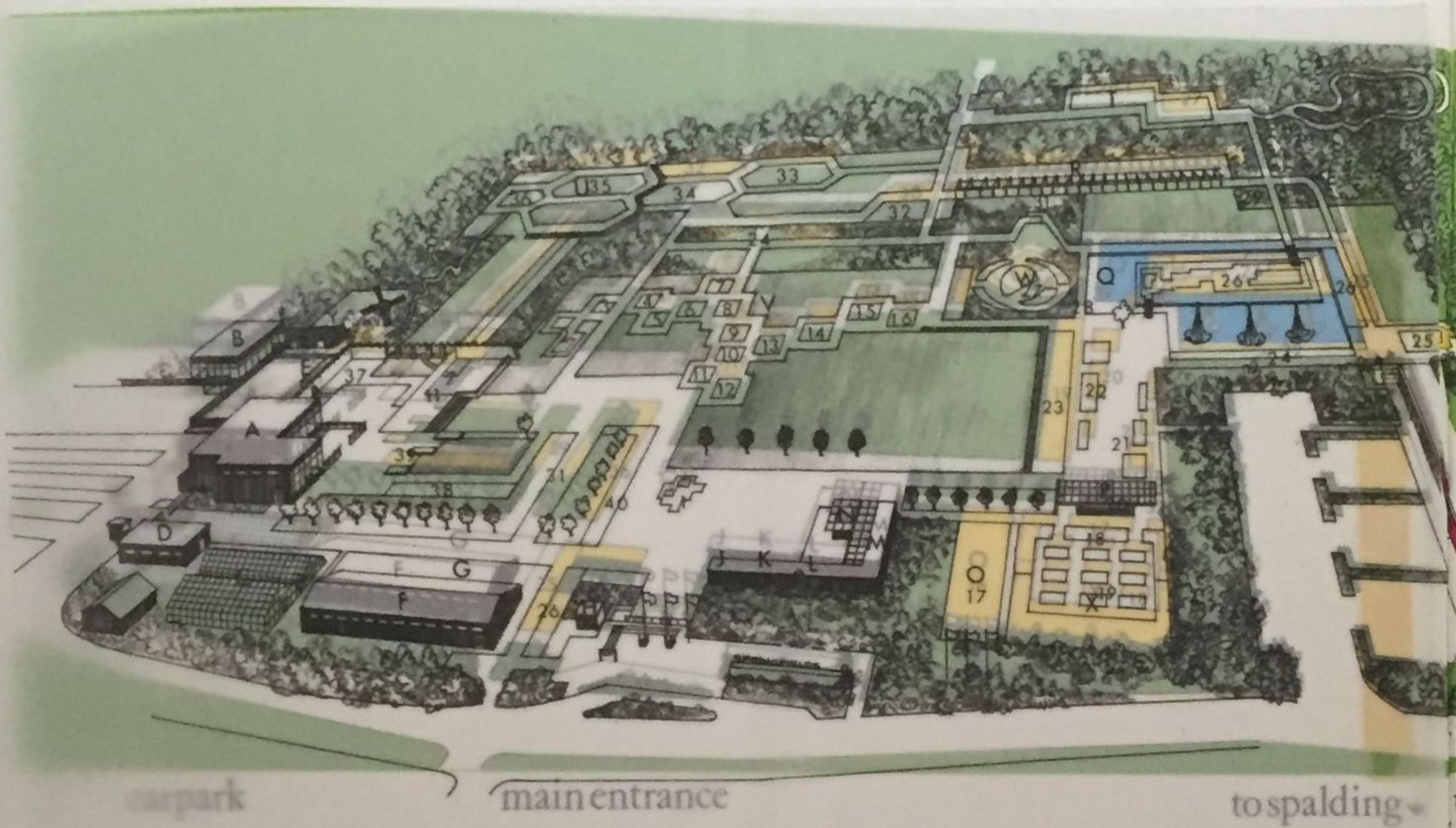
at Springfields



Tulipan the Tulipman
and the 400th anniversary
celebration of the intro-
duction of the tulip to
Europe.

Photograph by John Bird

Map of Springfields



**PLEASE IGNORE NUMBERS ON MAP AND USE
TRACING TO FIND NUMBER OF EXHIBITOR'S PLOT.**

Exhibitors

W.O. — Wholesale only

R. — Retail

1. Associated British Bulbs Ltd. W.O.
2. J. and L. K. Braybrooks Ltd. W.O.
3. E. J. Gotobed & Sons. W.O.
4. William Dekker Ltd. W.O.
5. F. F. Goose and Sons Ltd. W.O.
6. M. K. and B. Chappell. W.O.
7. Gee Tee Bulb Co. W.O.
8. H. H. C. Rigby. W.O.
9. The South Holland Growers Club.
10. O. A. Taylor & Sons Ltd. W.O.
11. S. F. Spridgen. W.O.
12. C. Slooten Ltd. W.O.
13. S. L. Culy Ltd. W.O.
14. G. Darley & Sons. W.O.
15. R. Silberrad & Sons Ltd. W.O.
16. Boston College of Further Education.
17. Elsoms (Spalding) Ltd. R.
18. Pennygate Bulb Co. Ltd. W.O.
19. Broadleigh Gardens. R.
20. Holland County Federation of Young Farmers Clubs.
21. Lingarden. W.O.
22. Groom Bros. Ltd. R.
23. J. Parker (D.B.) Ltd. R. & W.O.
24. Lowland Bulb Co. Ltd. R.
25. H. K. Braybrooks (Cowbit) Ltd. W.O.
26. The Spalding Bulb Co. Ltd. R.
27. Walter Blom & Son Ltd. R.
28. M. Dearnley & Sons Ltd. W.O.
29. Isle of Ely College & Horticultural Institute.
30. The Daffodil Society, also Mrs. Abel Smith and Mrs. J. L. Richardson.
31. F. B. Secrett (Truro) Ltd. & Tomlin Bros. Ltd., Cornwall. W.O.
32. Stassen Ltd. R.
33. H. Prins Ltd. W.O.
34. Matth. Verdegaal (Peterborough) Ltd. W.O.
35. British Horticultural Co. Ltd. W.O.
36. Wallace and Barr Ltd. R.
37. Hortico Ltd. R.
38. Groom Bros. Ltd. R.
39. May Flower Gardens. W.O.
40. Grampian Growers.
41. H. Houghton. W.O.



- A RESTAURANT
- B CAFETERIA
- C GLASSHOUSE
- D TOILETS AND FIRST AID
- E AVIARIES
- F GARDEN SHOP AND GARDEN CENTRE
- G FLOWER KIOSK
- H TICKET OFFICE
- J INFORMATION BUREAU
- K SPRINGFIELDS ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES
- L TUCK SHOP
- M SOUVENIR SHOP
- N PHOTOGRAPHIC KIOSK
- O MODEL GARDEN
- P PERGOLA
- Q LAKE
- R COLONNADE
- S WOODLAND WALK
- T WOODLAND GARDEN
- U SUNKEN GARDEN
- V FLOWER MEADOW
- W FLOWER VALLEY
- X SPECIES BULBS
- Y GARDEN GLASSHOUSE
- Z MILL WALK

Springfields



the unique

The Flowers that Bloom in the Spring (Tra-la) have everything to do with the case.

Springfields, the unique 20 acre Spring flower spectacle just outside the tulip town of Spalding was created just for them.

To show the gardeners and beauty lovers of Britain and overseas that these Spring flowers are unrivalled in colour, variety and type, and to bring pleasure and inspiration to visitors by showing the flowers off in a superb setting.

This spectacle of lakes and lawns, trees, flowering shrubs and wooded walks was built up around the basic idea of beds of bulbs such as any gardener might plan for his own home. So as you tiptoe through the tulips, daffodils, hyacinths, muscari, scillas, chionodoxa, anemones, iris and other spring bulbs set for your delight, you may care to note a name here and there for future choosing... and also obtain the help and advice available to plan your own garden as a mini-Springfields.

The Queen of Spring, the Tulip reigns supreme through April and May, its

spring flower spectacle



jewel colours spreading promise of better things to come after winter-dark gardens, parks and city streets.

'Age cannot wither her, nor custom stale her infinite variety' – Shakespeare said that of Cleopatra, another Queen out of the East, but he might have been talking of our Queen Tulip.

She's been around a long time. One of the earliest illustrations of the flower is on a vase found in the palace of Minos at Knossos Crete, and dated around 1,000 B.C. . . . and as for her 'infinite variety', no other flower offers such a wealth of shape and colour, evidence of the flattering attentions of generations of gardeners and horticulturists.

In Persia the tulip was a love symbol, in Turkey they beat us to the flower parade by at least 400 years, by holding famous tulip festivals every spring in the palace gardens . . . when the highlight of the evening was to see the low light tortoises crawling among the blooms with lit candles fixed to their shells.

After the bulb was introduced into Western Europe from Turkey exactly 400 years ago tulipmania really took over.



Tulipan the Tulipman

1572 ~ The 400th Anniversary of the int



roduction of the Tulip into Europe ~1972

400 years is something to shout about. Ask Tulipan, the Tulipman. He's the fellow in turban and baggy pants who is guiding you through this booklet. It's his anniversary we're celebrating. Kees van Driel, who brought him to life thinks he stole away from Turkey exactly 400 years ago in the diplomatic bag of one Ogier Chiselin de Busbecq, Ambassador of the Austrian Emperor Frederick I to the Court of Suleiman the Magnificent, Sultan of the Turkish Empire.

In the Sultan's empire the Ambassador found 'those flowers which the Turks call Tulipan'. He paid 'a great price' for a few of them which he planted in his Viennese Garden.

It is our belief that Tulipan came to England when the first bulbs were introduced to this country by botanist Carolus Clusius. They soon became the rage – Charles I had fifty varieties planted in his pleasure gardens.

Tulipan was delighted and positively got a new lease of life when Springfields – planned on the grand scale like the gardens of his old boss Suleiman – came into being seven years ago.

Now he's tickled pink and full of Turkish delight at our plans to celebrate the 400th anniversary of his flower's arrival in Europe with as much fun and fiesta as we can.



SPALDING FLOWER PARADE...

This is the 14th Flower Parade organised by the Spalding Branch of the N.F.U.

As great oaks from little acorns grow it had a small beginning. From 1959 we have had a Tulip Queen. In the early days she used to tour the 40 mile or so tulip route by car on each of the three Tulip Sundays . . . then someone suggested that a Tulip Queen should at least have her car decorated with tulips.

The wreath-trimmed car later gave way to a specially made float and so the Spalding Flower Parade was born. It grew year by year aided by the fantastic creations of the famous Dutch father and son design team of Adrianus and Kees van Driel, between them responsible for the leading flower parades held all over Europe.

The blacksmith interprets the designs into the graceful but sturdy metalwork which is the float framework. Next comes the straw matting, for hands expert in covering the metalwork with the solid straw base on which the tulip heads are pinned with outsize versions of ladies' hairpins.



"TULIP VARIETY SHOW"



It has been described as 'The greatest free show on earth'. Not by us, modesty forbids.

It was a visitor from Australia who said this about Spalding Flower Parade – the annual burst of colour and carnival that marks the height of Spring.

The Parade is a magnet to many who come from all over the country and we welcome more overseas friends every year. The colour slides they take in Spalding are making our town a familiar name in many parts of the world.

Every year on Parade Day the normal population of around 16,000 swells to over a quarter of a million.

It is a truly unique spectacle. Nowhere else in Britain could you find the raw material, the eight million or so tulip heads of many hues.

We hope you enjoy our 1972 parade.



As the floats pass by they do so in a blaze of colour and fun and pretty girls waving their hands. It is difficult to fully appreciate the skill of design, the artistry of the flower arrangements that add so much to the effect and the painstaking workmanship as one succeeds the other. Which is why the static exhibition of the floats in the Sir Halley Stewart Field is so very popular and is an instant magnet to thousands of the spectators who have just seen the show pass by.

The exhibition is open as soon as the last float has drawn safely in and remains open throughout the day until late on Tuesday.

Here you can practically count the six to eight million tulip heads that go into floats every year – in the 1971 parade half a million were used on one float alone – and appreciate that it takes something like a hundred blooms (and ten sore fingers) to cover a square foot of surface.

Photographers can choose their camera angles with all the time in the world and there are many other Exhibitions including country crafts to visit.

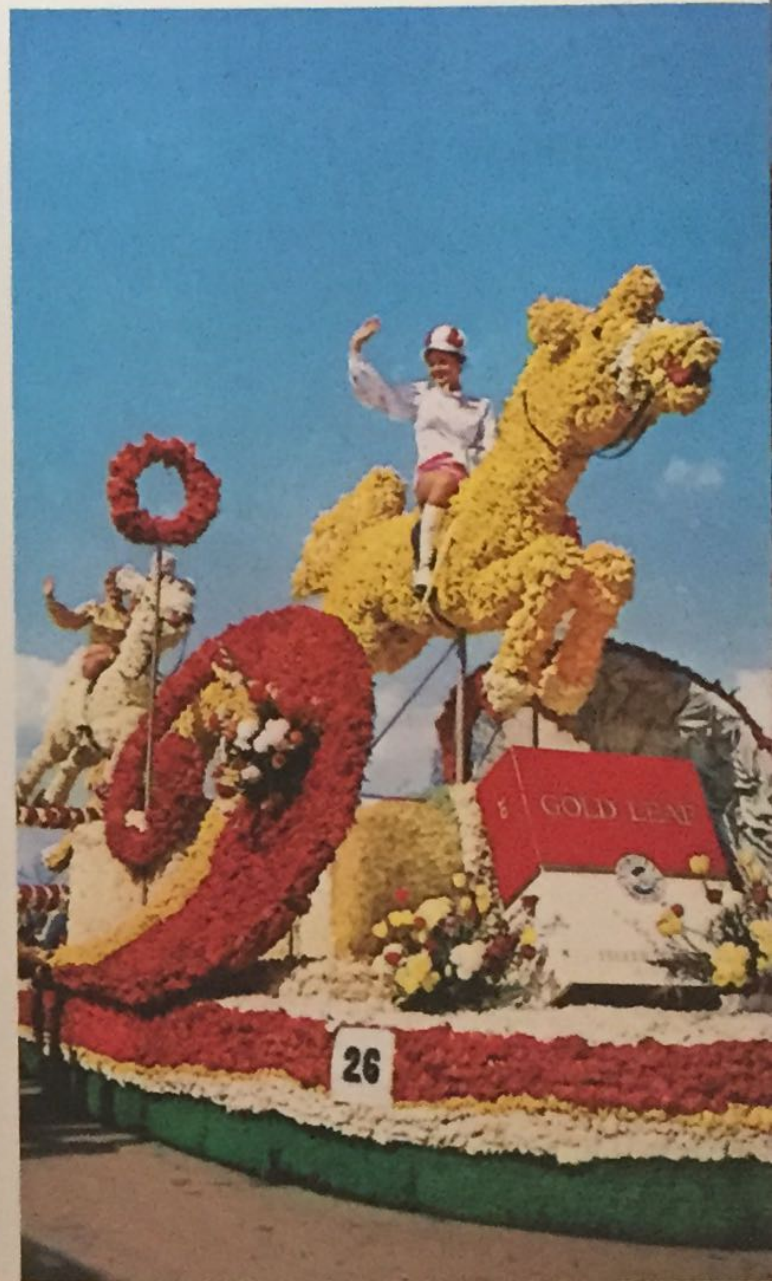


[illegible]



The Lake





Did you know...



It's a rush job. Though the designing metalwork and even the drawing of the floats can be done well ahead of Parade Day, it's a 48 hours to D Day campaign to get the floats decorated in time.

It's a campaign in which growers plan their cropping to supply the needed quantities of a given colour . . . and it's no secret that telephone lines crackle with frantic SOS for the scarcer colours.

If the floats are to remain fresh enough to give pleasure to visitors right through to Tuesday, the decoration cannot start until Thursday morning.

Then the giant Bulb Auction Hall in Winfrey Avenue becomes the scene of a frantic 48 hours of activity as paid and unpaid helpers and organisations labour to pin in those multi-million heads, while the skilled fingers of the flower arrangers await the chance to slip in and do their work.

It's a marvel how it all gets done in time. If you want to see the Dunkirk spirit, the Bulb Auction Hall on Parade Day Eve is the place to find it.



Springfields —What there is to see



Spalding has one natural asset — almost as good as gold.

She lies at the centre of some of the richest, most fertile growing land in the country.

The South Lincolnshire soil is ideal for the growing of high quality bulbs, sharing this heritage with Holland over the water, also the happy possessors of light land.

Here on broad flatlands are grown bulbs of every sort to later spread their beauty throughout millions of gardens in the British Isles and overseas.

Spalding's town motto 'She nourishes the neighbouring cities' is an appropriate one.

The Variety Glasshouse



This is one of the tip-top attractions, a Springfields spectacular, particularly for those of our visitors who come early in the season.

Knowing that our six week season can be early or late according to the whims of British weather, we wanted a sure sight of Spring for every visitor, though outside only the more hardy, daffodils, crocus, and snowdrops might be braving the March winds.

Inside, Spring busts out all over as 300 different varieties bloom to perfection.

In addition to the best and most beautiful of readily available varieties the glasshouse shows you newly bred and rare species – some of which will be destined to be exhibition or collector's 'pieces'.

The house is a-dazzle with colour and the wide paths make it easy to examine blooms in detail.

Exhibitors

Visitors may be interested in a technical experiment which is being carried out by the Agricultural Development Advisory Service of Cambridge.

W.O. — Wholesale only R. — Retail

Lingarden W.O.

Geest Industries Ltd. W.O.

The Spalding Bulb Co Ltd., R.

May Flower Gardens W.O.

J. Parker (D.B.) R. & W.O.

J. & L. K. Braybrooks Ltd. W.O.

H. Houghton W.O.

E. J. Gotobed & Sons W.O.

M. K. & B. Chappell W.O.

G. Darley & Sons W.O.

H. K. Braybrooks (Cowbit) Ltd. W.O.



The Sunken Garden



Woodland Garden



The Garden Glasshouse

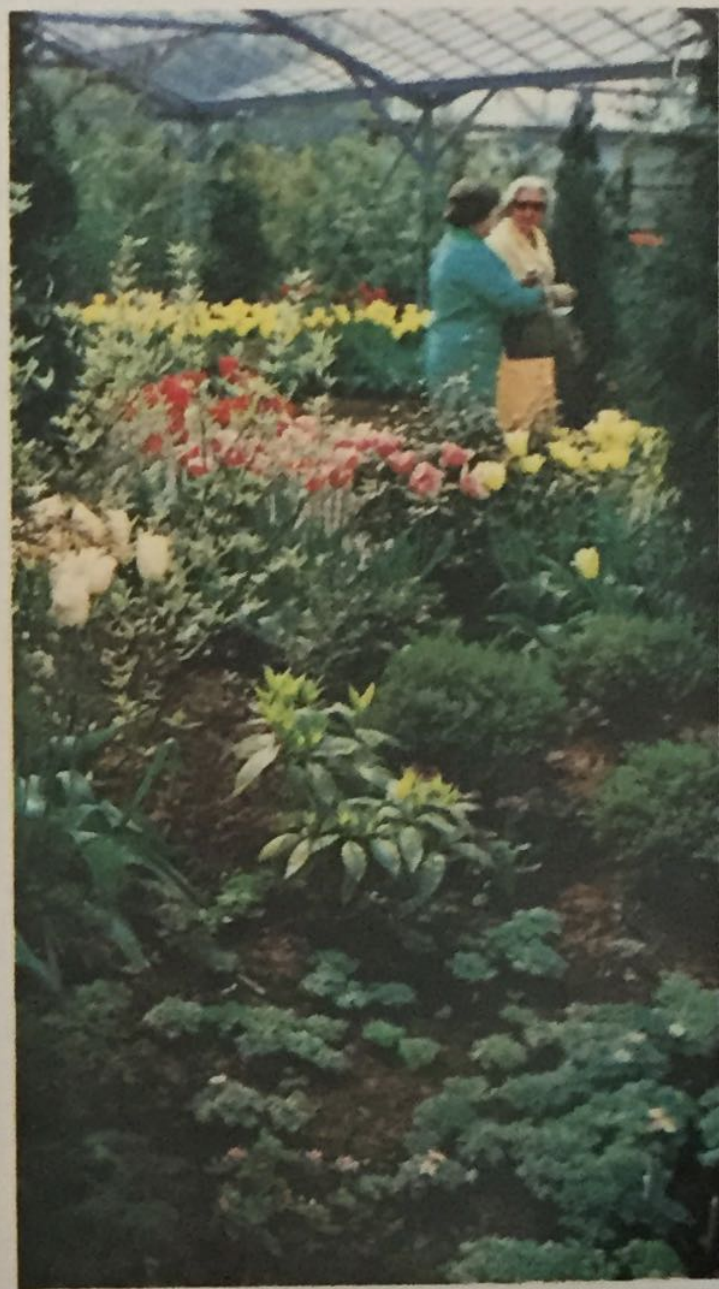


A new addition last year, the garden glasshouse is exactly what its name implies – a garden under glass. Complete with trees, shrubs, flowers, fountain, a pond and gravelled paths where you can stroll around, or relax on the seats provided to enjoy the harmony and peace.

An intriguing feature – the lines of the gently curving beds are continued outside the glasshouse to show how the gardeners tackle the problems of planting between two completely different sets of growing conditions – with one part in the glasshouse atmosphere and the rest exposed to the ups and downs of the English climate.

Nearby, we are constantly developing more attractions for younger visitors, apart from Tulipan's fun and games to mark the 400th centenary year. One is a model windmill, of the kind that were a feature of the fenland scenery before their job of pumping water along the drainage system so vital to this area was taken over by the more practical, but not as pretty, pumping station.

The island by the windmill is a favourite nest of mallard ducks and other local water fowl. Nearby is the aviary where splendid peacocks and other beautifully plumaged birds may be seen.



How to grow your bulbs

Tulips and daffodils are among the easiest flowers to grow, and if you follow a few simple rules there is no reason why you should not have a beautiful display of bloom in your own garden next spring.

The first thing to remember that with bulbs, as with anything else, you get what you pay for. So obtain your bulbs from a reputable source. So-called bargains can lead to disappointment later. Generally speaking, the larger the bulb the better its performance, and for effective flowering no tulip bulb should be smaller than a penny in diameter, and in the case of daffodils the bulbs should be double-nosed and about the size of a hen's egg. In the main, bulbs prefer lightish soil but it is possible to get good results even in the heaviest land, providing it is well drained. Water-logging is the one thing which bulbs cannot stand. Whatever your soil, it will probably benefit from the addition of some form of organic matter, such as compost leafmould, or peat. Fresh manure should never be used, but a dressing of garden fertiliser can be applied if necessary. Planting – in October or November for tulips, preferably in September for daffodils – is best carried out with a trowel.

But whatever method you use, make sure that the base of the bulb is resting





firmly on the soil. There must never be an air pocket beneath it. With heavier soils, a little sand placed in the bottom of the hole beneath the bulb will assist drainage.

The ideal depth for planting varies with the type of soil. For instance, in very light, sandy soil, which dries out easily, the bulbs should be planted deeper than in heavy, stiff soil. But a good general rule is to plant at roughly two or three times the diameter of the bulb – measuring from the top of the bulb to the surface.



Spacing will vary according to the effect you want to create. But remember that tulips and daffodils are seen at their best when grown in a mass. On the other hand, they need breathing space, so don't be tempted to plant too closely. In general, large tulips and daffodils should be planted at least 5 to 6 inches apart, and smaller tulips not closer than 3 to 4 inches apart. Of course, you will want your bulbs to flower and give you pleasure for season after season. Here again there is no problem providing a little care is taken. The first step is to remove the flower head as soon as the blooms are past the best. But it is essential, to enable the bulb to build up its resources for next year's flowering, that the foliage should be allowed to die down naturally. So, if you want to remove the bulb to make way for other



bedding plants, re-plant them in a shallow trench elsewhere in the garden, and leave them there until all the foliage has withered. They should then be lifted carefully, to avoid damaging the bulbs, and allowed to dry thoroughly in an airy place, but out of strong sun. When the tops are quite dry they can easily be removed, and the soil should then be brushed off, and the clean dry bulbs stored in a cool, well-ventilated place until time for planting again in the autumn.

So far we have been concerned with bulbs grown in beds, but many people believe that daffodils are seen at their best when 'naturalised' – grown in informal clumps in open grass or around shrubs or trees.

To get the right informal effect, scatter the bulbs on the ground, and plant them where they fall. In a year or two each bulb will form a clump, and they can later be lifted and split if you wish to increase the number of bulbs, or left indefinitely where they are. One point to remember is that, with naturalised bulbs just as with those grown in beds, it is essential that the foliage should be allowed to die down naturally. So if you are planting in grass it must be left uncut until the bulbs have died down – which may mean until the end of June. So choose a site where you don't mind having long grass for a time.



LINCOLNSHIRE ENGLAND
Flower Parade Organised by The Spalding Farmers Union

SPRINGFIELDS & FLOWER PARADE CELEBRATION GUIDE 1972

WRITTEN BY SHEILA ROBSON OF THE LINCOLNSHIRE FREE PRESS

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DESIGN AND LAYOUT KEES VAN DRIEL PRINTED BY CHROMOWORKS LTD, NOTTINGHAM



To get the best results from indoor tulips and daffodils the planting medium (fibre) should be well soaked before planting. The bulbs should then be planted with the nose showing. Best varieties are single early tulips, double early tulips and Tazetta narcissi. Prepared trumpet daffodils are also suitable for early flowering. Hyacinths can be made to flower around Christmas with very little trouble. Obtain prepared or Roman hyacinths if you want them to flower at Christmas. They may be grown in water or in bulb fibre, which should be well soaked before planting. If growing in water, place the bulb in the hyacinth glass or aqua bowl, and fill the containers to within half an inch of the base of the bulb.



Tulipan the Tulipman