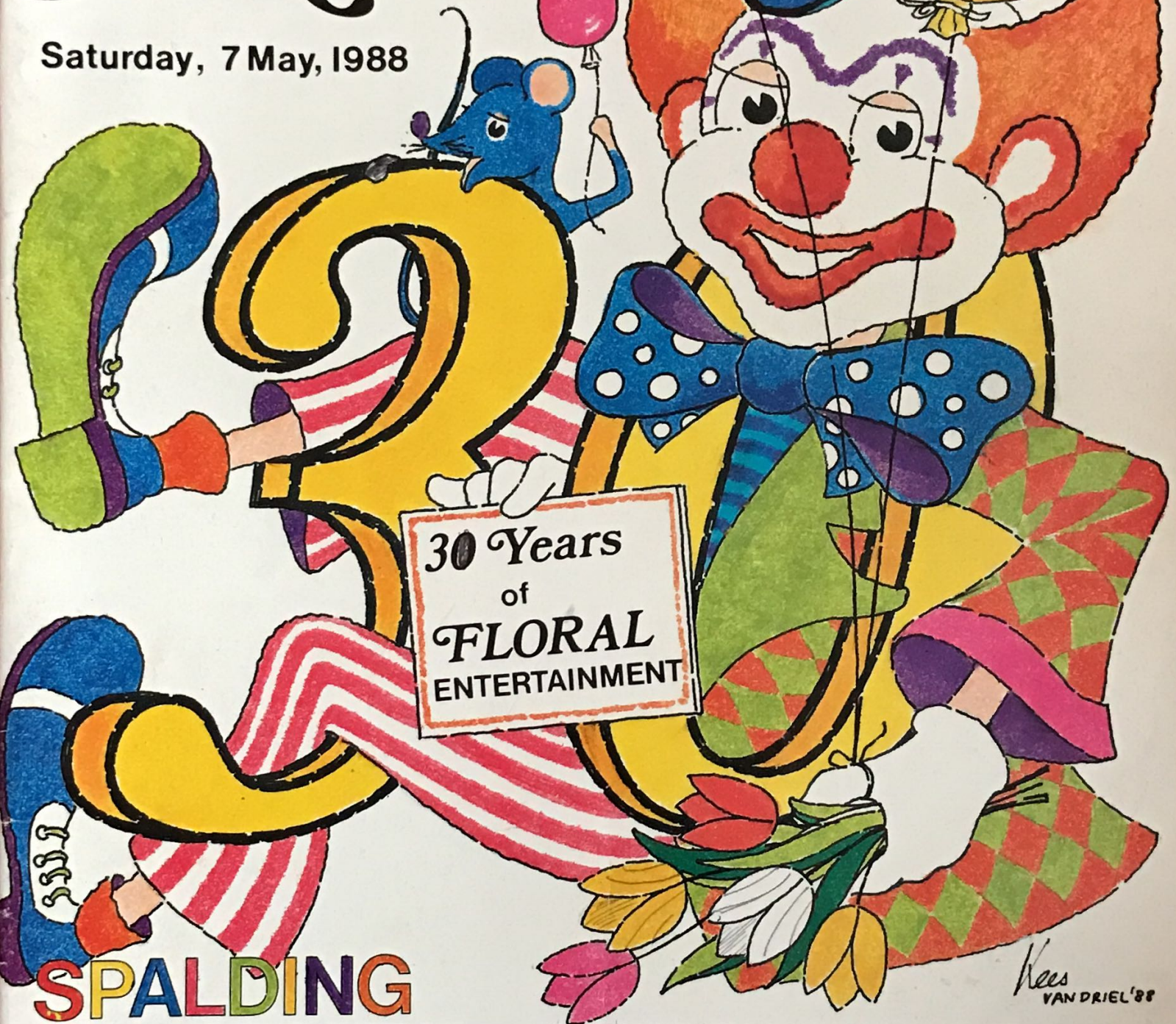


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# Flower Parade highlights at a glance

WELCOME to the 1988 Spalding Flower Parade.

This time we've something very special to celebrate – the theme is "Thirty Years of Entertainment".

Yes, for 30 years thousands have been flocking to Spalding and district to see the annual spectacular blend of flowers, fantasy, friendliness and fun.

The floats and bands will leave the Festival Site at the Sir Halley Stewart Field, Winfrey Avenue at 1pm.

This is the Spalding Flower Festival and Parade official souvenir programme designed to give you all the information you need to get the most out of your visit.

And there is the chance to win a once-in-a-lifetime luxury Caribbean cruise for two, offered as part of the anniversary celebration. See pages 10 and 11.

The magazine is in two parts: The first section is about the Festival and its people. The second features Springfields Gardens, open from Easter to the end of September.

Here's a page-by-page guide.

- **Flower Parade** (Saturday, May 7) – route Page 7.
- **Order of Parade** – Pages 34, 35.
- **Flower Festivals** – Page 8.
- **Festival entertainment** – Page 24.
- **Festival Site events** – Page 13.
- **30th anniversary** – Pages 15, 17, 21.
- **Springfields Gardens** – Pages 39 to 45. Country Fair on Saturday and Sunday, May 7 and 8. Marching Band contest on Sunday among other entertainments.

A shuttle bus service runs between the Festival Site and Springfields Gardens throughout the Festival weekend.

There's lots to see, including the visit of the fabulous Fantasy Girls and Avendo Band, both from Holland, and performing on the Festival Site at the Sir Halley Stewart Field.

Don't forget, apart from the church flower festivals, there are three major attractions this Festival weekend, and you shouldn't miss any of them.

They are the Parade itself, the entertainment on the Festival Site and the many attractions at Springfields Gardens.

# First Flower Queen

SOUTH HOLLAND'S first Flower Queen, 19-year-old petite blonde Sally Atkins of Pinchbeck will lead the 30th Spalding Flower Parade.

Yes, we know we've had a pretty girl on hand to represent the flower and bulb industry since 1950. First they were Tulip Queens, then Miss Tuliplants, now from 1988, our ambassadress will be known as the Flower Queen.

Why? Because the great expanses of tulip fields are a spectacle of the past and today we grow and export far more daffodils than we do tulips.

So the new title notes the inevitable changes brought by time in our basic industry - and the part the multi-flower church arrangements play in the attraction of our great Spring Festival.

This year the Flower Queen's cash prize was doubled to £500 and her deputy, 18-year-old Sharon Gammage of Crowland received £300 - both from South Holland District Council, which also buys the girls' dresses for the Parade and an outdoor outfit for the many duties they will perform out and about in the district during the year of office.

Twenty-year-old Jayne Gedney, again from Pinchbeck (the village on the outskirts of Spalding where the parish church of St. Mary's has won this year's award for services to Tulptime) was judged runner-up.

She received £100 from the Spalding Guardian, and will join the others at most events.

Flower Queen Sally is a clerk/cashier at the Spalding branch of the Halifax Building Society and as fiance Tony Riley is a buyer with local firm Broadgate Builders, they are all set for a home when they wed next year.

If Sally does a somersault for joy sometime on Parade weekend, don't be too surprised. This tiny beauty (4ft 11½ins, vital statistics 32-24-34) held the Lincolnshire schools' gymnast championships for four consecutive years.

Miss Deputy Sharon is a trainee hairdresser taking her finals this month. Australian-born, she loves swimming and badminton and with sister Joanne has another exciting date the Saturday after the parade - both are to be bridesmaids at their brother's wedding. Sharon's ambition is to go back Down-Under to holiday with relatives.

Runner-up Jayne Gedney, who will be on Parade in the Michelin bus works in the Marks and Spencers department of the world famous Geest firm in Spalding. In her spare time she enjoys running and drawing portraits in charcoal.

Every year, soon after Christmas, the big search begins to find the right girl to lead Spalding Flower Parade on the 'Queen's float'.

It's the sign for everyone that whatever the winter woes, Spring can't be too far behind and, first the daffodils and then the tulips, will be thrusting through the earth to gladden us all.

Girls who enter must be 18, and have lived in South Holland for at least six months. They can be married or single, though in the early years, entrants had to be workers in the bulb industry.

As the entries come in photographs are published in the district's two weekly newspapers, the Spalding Guardian and Lincolnshire Free Press, both members of East Midland Allied Press.

In previous years judging has been done (by a panel of parish councillors, former title holders and other prominent citizens) a few days previously and the result announced at the "Tulip Ball".

This year, in February, as part of the new-look Flower Queen contest the judges made their choice on the night at a special Gala Evening after the "magnificent seven - teen" had paraded on the catwalk and been interviewed in true Miss World fashion.

The Gala evening, organised by the district council, and the Spalding-based entertainments agency Live Promotions, had a very popular cabaret, the rock 'n' roll band Showaddywaddy.

When watching the Flower Queen on her float, don't miss the delightful young attendants she has as outriders.

Every year the six secondary schools in South Holland choose a girl from their first year for this singular ride.



● "Of all the girls that are so smart, there's none like pretty Sally." That's what the judges thought when they chose 19-year-old Sally Atkins as the first holder of the new title - Flower Queen.



● This smiling quartet of lovelies were pictured at the Flower Queen gala crowning in February. Sally Atkins, demure in blue, receives the crown from last year's title-holder brunette Lisa O'Dell. Also pictured are (left of Lisa) Jayne Gedney (Miss Runner-Up) and (right) Sharon Gammage (Deputy Flower Queen).

# Chairman's welcome



● FLOWER Parade chairman Brian Drury, pictured controlling the 1987 show through his walkie-talkie set.

AS CHAIRMAN of Spalding Flower Parade Committee I am very honoured and pleased to be able to welcome you to our 30th Flower Parade.

My committee felt that 30 years of parades was a milestone worthy of celebrations, hence the theme "30 years of Floral Entertainment".

Our float designer, the internationally famous Kees van Driel, has once again excelled; my congratulations and thanks to him are very justly deserved.

This is one of the largest parades with more double floats that

for several years. My sincere thanks to the float sponsors for making this possible.

This year the Sir Halley Stewart Field will see many changes. Not only will the floats be on view, there will be a Fantasy Garden (the first in the UK) and a full programme of entertainment on the Saturday and Sunday, the highlight of which will be the Dutch Fantasy Girls. Those of you who saw the 1986 Parade will not need me to draw any more attention to these leggy beauties!

I shall again lead the parade and look forward to seeing you there.

## Flower festivals

SOUTH HOLLAND is in bloom at Flower Festival time, both in the fields and within the magnificent churches.

This region is renowned for its wealth of medieval architecture and when this glory in stone is allied to the living loveliness of flowers the result is spell-binding.

The wonder is how every year the flower festival workers produce new themes and use their skill and imagination to combine living material and appropriate objects into fresh and glorious testimonies to faith, nature and the world around them.

The main festivals are listed here but don't forget that almost every church and chapel offers a floral welcome at this time, along

with the chance to drop into an adjoining hall to sample Lincolnshire homemade food at its simple, delicious best.

**Spalding** Parish Church of St. Mary and St. Nicolas. The Vista, May 5-10. 10am-8pm.

**Spalding** Broad Street Methodist Church. May 5-10. 10am-9pm. Theme 'Conversion'.

**Spalding** Catholic Church of the Immaculate Conception and St. Norbert, Henrietta Street. May 7. The grotto is known as the "Lourdes of England".

**Spalding** St. Paul's Church (near Springfields). May 5-8. 10am-9pm.

**Spalding** United Reformed Church, Pinchbeck Road. April 29-May 10. 10am-6pm.

FLOWER festivals at villages on the A151, east of Spalding include:

**Moulton** Parish Church. April 30-May 10.

**Holbeach** Parish Church. April 30-May 8.

**Fleet** Parish Church. April 29-May 8. Arts and crafts.

**Fleet** Baptist Church. May 6-9.

**Long Sutton** Parish Church. April 28-May 8.

**Moulton Chapel** (B1375, Cowbit to Moulton Road). Decorated church and chapel. Village parade and brass band, May 8. 3pm.

FLOWER festivals north of Spalding include:

**Pinchbeck** Parish Church. May 1-11. Viewing from 100 foot tower.

**Gosberton** Parish Church. April 30-May 10. Exhibition of crafts.

**Donington** Parish Church. May 6-9.

## THANKS FOR HELPING

SPALDING Flower Parade Committee wish to express sincere thanks to the following:

LINCOLNSHIRE CONSTABULARY for their close co-operation.

SWAN STREET MOTORS and R.C. EDMONDSON, of Spalding, for the loan of breakdown vehicles.

Tractors loaned by FORD TRACTOR OPERATIONS, Basildon.

GEEST plc for their generous assistance in providing storage facilities.

The Directors and staff of SPALDING BULB AND PRODUCE AUCTION.

LIN-PAC, for generous supply of materials.

SOUTH HOLLAND DISTRICT COUNCIL and their staff.

SPALDING AND DISTRICT FLOWER LOVERS' CLUB.

THE AUTOMOBILE ASSOCIATION.

THE ROYAL AUTOMOBILE CLUB.

The Directors of SPALDING UNITED FOOTBALL CLUB.

ST JOHN AMBULANCE.

LINCOLNSHIRE FREE PRESS AND SPALDING GUARDIAN.

EAST ELLOE ROTARY CLUB for their assistance in selling programmes.

KEES VAN DRIEL, float designer.

LINGARDEN LTD, Weston for generous loan of buildings.

SPRING PHOTOGRAPHIC LTD, for kind loan of transparencies.

Trailer by GEOFF GILBERT TRANSPORT, Swineshead, Boston.

SANDERSON FORKLIFT LTD., for use of equipment.


BOSTON TRACTORS LTD, for use of Range Rover.


BARCLAYS BANK, for sponsorship of Fantasy Garden.

PETER SYMONDS of Salisbury for Band Sponsorship.

Thanks to all other companies and individuals who help to ensure the success of the Flower Parade.

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
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It's all there to be won in our simple competition, worth around £2000 and sponsored by The Holiday Shop of Lincoln Co-operative Society, Royal Caribbean Cruise Lines and the Lincolnshire Free Press and Spalding Guardian.

There's £250 spending money, too, and all you have to do to enter is to answer the questions in the space provided on the facing page. All the clues are in the editorial below. Entry is free and the rules are on the facing page.



● Palm trees for shade, silver sands and cool waters. This is a sample of the idyllic 'islands in the sun' which our winner will visit.

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In service since 1982, it is 37,000 gross registered tons, 689 feet long, with a width of 94 feet and maximum speed of 21 knots.

By Tuesday, you'll arrive at Cozumel, Mexico, for a 10½ hour stay. You can dive and snorkel, laze on the beach or take a special tour to see the amazing Mayan ruins at Tulum.

Next stop is Georgetown in the Grand Cayman island, where there is the famous Seven Mile beach. Next on to Ocho Rios, Jamaica, with its famous Dunn's River Falls, Shaw Park Gardens, Fern Valley and Green Grotto caves.

Final port of call is Labadee, Haiti, 260 acres of secluded north-west coast where Planter's Punch is a speciality in the bars and you mustn't miss the barbecue lunch.

After a long day at Labadee (8.30am - 5pm) it's cruising back to Florida, when

you'll arrive at Miami at 8.30am on the Sunday, with more time to explore before the afternoon transfer to the airport for the flight back to London and a Monday morning arrival at Heathrow Airport.

Accommodation will be on B deck, with an inside cabin, shower and WC. The prize includes return flights to Miami, full board accommodation in Miami, plus holiday insurance. Free UK connecting flights are available if required ... and the sponsors are throwing in £250 spending money for the winner.

A luxury cruise is the perfect relaxation, once on board, all hassle is over. Your friendly room steward, attentive waiters, lively entertainers and the crew have only one aim - that you have a great holiday.

On board there are deck games, a gym, aerobic classes, a sauna, a casino and, after dark, music, laughter, and entertainment.

And if you and your partner have any room left after the five course, five choice dinner menu, there's a special buffet served every night at midnight!

**CHOOSE** to book with The Holiday Shop, Lincoln Co-op, Winsor Road, Spalding, and you can do so with confidence.

Their office is linked by computer to various holiday, airline and ferry companies, so all the very latest facts, figures and special offers are instantly available.

This season The Holiday Shop will give a £10 voucher for every £100 spent, per person, on the basic holiday price. Ask for full details: Tel: Spalding 60454 or Spalding 60462.

The Holiday Shop can make reservations with all A.B.T.A. tour operators offering British, European and worldwide holidays.

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Branch manager Paula Hanson and her experienced staff have travelled extensively, their personal experience can provide guidance in making choices. All advice and information is free of charge.

So why not try The Holiday Shop in Spalding first. You'll go away feeling much better - and with a great holiday saving!



# Get set for sun, sea, sand

1 - Don't forget to fill in your name, address and telephone number.

2 - Return your entry form to: i) one of the collecting bins on the Flower Parade route; ii) The collecting bin in the Lincolnshire Free Press reception office (Priory House, The Crescent, Spalding); iii) Post to; Win a Cruise Competition, Flower Festival Time, Priory House, The Crescent, Spalding, Lincs PE11 1AB.

3 - CLOSING DATE ... first post on Monday, May 23, 1988.

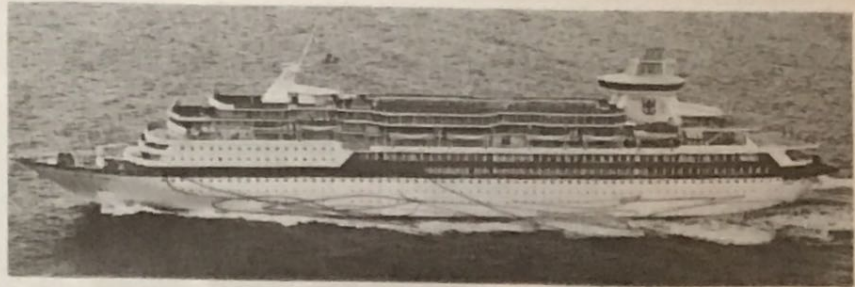
4 - There is no limit to the amount of entries per person but each entry must be on the official entry form on this page. No photo copies will be accepted.

5 - This competition is open to all members of the public except those employed by Welland Valley Newspapers Ltd, The Holiday Shop, Lincoln Co-op, Spalding, or Royal Caribbean Cruises.

6 - Proof of posting is not proof of receipt.

7 - No correspondence will be entered into and the judges' decision will be final.

8 - The first correct entry drawn after the closing date will be the winning entry.



● Song of America - the Royal Caribbean Cruise's luxury ship which will carry our winner and a companion to those islands in the sun.

## YOUR HOLIDAY ENTRY FORM

What bonus is The Holiday Shop offering to clients this season? .....

What is the name of the cruise ship on which the winner will sail? .....

In what country is port of call Labadee? .....

Which American city will the winner and companion visit twice during the holiday? .....

What is the name of the cruise line? .....

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# Tuneful welcome for Parade Day visitors

THERE'LL be a welcome, not from the valley but from the shores of Wales, when the 25 members of the male voice Hogia'r Ddwylan choir take the stage at South Holland Centre, Spalding, on Parade Night.

Their name means 'the boys from the two shores' for the choir rehearses in the shadow of Thomas Telford's famous suspension bridge which spans the Menai Straits, and joins Anglesey to the mainland.

These "gentlemen songsters out on a spree" will be in Spalding early on Parade Day so that they can join in the festivities along with everyone else, before their concert.

There's a banker, a baker, builder, farmer, electrician, sales representative, undertaker, a civil servant or two, some

teachers and few gentlemen of leisure whose talents have been moulded into one by musical director, the appropriately named Mrs Menai Williams.

She's a music graduate who composes and arranges the songs, accompanies and conducts the choir, and their success in competitions and through TV, radio and records is due in no small part to her outstanding musicianship.

The motto on the choir's smart blue blazers is 'Pontem Carmine Facimus' - We build a bridge through song - and their repertoire is as varied as it is enjoyable, ranging from folk song to choral masterpieces. (See full colour picture of the choir on page 19).

Their speciality is Cerdd Dant, a type of singing traditionally linked with the princely courts of the Middle Ages when a bard sang verses to celebrate a patron or a guest, accompanying himself on the harp.

Today this has evolved into a highly-skilled genre of folk-music unique to Wales as the harp plays an air while the singer improvises a counter-melody.

Hogia'r Ddwylan are "crossing the bridge" into Spalding with the best of Welsh singing for the second time.

Formed 22 years ago, they came to Spalding in 1978 through the link with the Rev Victor Tudor, a former United Reformed minister in Spalding, who lives on Anglesey and has again organised the visit of the party of 47 people.

"Unfortunately, on the first visit the posters left out the 'y' in the second word so, in fact announced that the 'idiots' of the two shores, were paying Spalding a visit," he said.

The concert is at 8pm on Saturday, May 7. Seats are bookable from South Holland Centre at £2 adults, £1.50 children and OAPs.

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## FLOWER PARADES PAST



● THIRTY one years ago – even before the first flower parade! Five early Queens were present to add their charms to the event when Norma Foulsham was crowned Miss Tulipland 1957 in the old Corn Exchange, Spalding. Norma (seated centre) is flanked by her two attendants, Pearl Longford (left) and Margaret Faulkner. The Queens – crowned in their single names – were (from left) the very first Miss Tulipland Joan Roberts (1950), Joyce Lister (1951), Jean Lambert (1953), Janet Naylor (1955) and Janice Grimwood (1956).

# Thirty years of fantastic flowers

“LONG before 3pm, the time for the parade to start, crowds began to gather in the centre of Spalding, and in residential areas along the three mile route.

“The work of organising the floats and decorated vehicles in the Cattle Market went off without a hitch, and by 2.15 they were all in place ready to move off.

“Shortly before 1.30pm, vehicles and floats were being manoeuvred into position. Spectators who were curious to see the picturesque floats

and decorated cars before the procession wandered around in the sultry heat before being hustled off by officials.

“At 2.45 those taking part were advised over the microphone to start preparing for the big moment...”

So began the description in the Lincolnshire Free Press of the first Spalding Flower Parade on May 9, 1959 ... sounding a bit as if all concerned were going to make a Moon landing!

But it was a big moment, the report was sub-titled “Great triumph for growers in a courageous experiment” and one of great importance in the subsequent story of an event which has since drawn millions every May to this small South Lincolnshire market town.

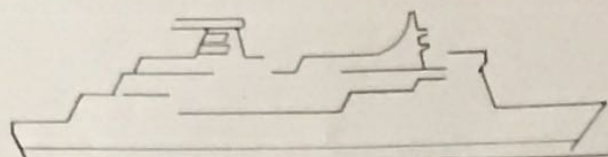
Today’s parade is aptly named “Thirty Years of Entertainment” and

float designer Kees van Driel (who succeeded his father Adrianus, the original creator) has looked back in happy nostalgia and re-created some of his stunning designs of former years.

There were 38 items in that first show – but only eight were floats – the rest of the procession was made up of decorated cars, two local bands, and walking groups of Guides, Scouts, Cubs, members of the Army Cadet Force, St. John Ambulance, Civil Defence Corps and others.

Over a million tulip heads had been used in decoration and the first ‘Tulip Queen’ with a parade of her own, Miss Jill Whitehouse, rode in splendour ... Such was the media interest that the first – but not the last – parade hold-up came when she and her attendants were besieged by newsreel cameras.

● TO PAGE 17



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## FLOWER PARADES PAST



● The first parade: Jill Whitehouse, Miss Tulipland 1959, waves her greetings from the Queen's float. A much simpler affair than the magnificent double floats of today it showed for the first time the decorative possibilities of the industry's waste product - tulip heads.

# Flowers make us world famous

**NOTHING** stands still: Nowadays we grow – and export – far more daffodils than tulips.

One of the reasons why on this 30th anniversary we now welcome a Flower Queen instead of Miss Tulipland and call our great Spring weekend event, the Flower Festival.

Though it's suspected that the spring season of flowering bulbs will be called Tulip Time for many a year to come, old titles die hard!

The first snowdrops were grown in local orchards around 100 years ago and the industry really came into its own in the 1930's when 3000 acres of daffodils and tulips were grown and folk began to flock (by charabanc and the rarer private car) to the district in early Spring to be warmed after winter by the patchwork quilt of living colour.

Traffic conditions became chaotic and led to organised signed routes as early as 1934. During the 39-45 war, food was grown on 75 per cent of bulb land and only 25 per cent was allowed for 'bulbs for dollars' exported to the

States ... of course, there was no private petrol for Tulip Time jaunts.

After victory, the flower industry gradually regained and then outran its former glory and in 1949 a Tulip Time committee of growers, councillors and others interested in the prosperity of town and district began to get organised.

The first Tulip Queen, now Joan Dalton, grandmother of six and catering supervisor at the town's indoor bowling rink, was crowned the following year.

● TO PAGE 21



● SOME of the brightest blooms exported by the Dutch – the beautiful Fantasy Girls in cabaret costume.



● USED to entertaining vast audiences on the Continent, the Avendo Band from Holland will feel quite at home among the Spalding crowds over Parade weekend.



● STEAMING across the ocean – one of the Olau Line (UK) Ltd ships. The company, based at Sheerness, Kent, is giving free passage to the fabulous Fantasy Girls as a contribution to the spectacular 30th Flower Parade.



● A COLOURFUL mini-float from last year's parade. It entertained the crowds with its high speed, zig-zag antics as it careered from one side of the road to the other.



● CRUNCH! And two of the Belvoir Castle Medieval Jousters collide in mortal combat. Favourites with the crowd – and especially the women – the jousters will once again ride majestically in the parade.



● A WELCOME from Wales – the Hogia'r Ddwylan choir from Anglesey which will entertain at Spalding's South Holland Centre on Parade Night at 8pm.



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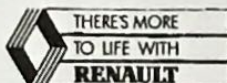


**RESULTS**

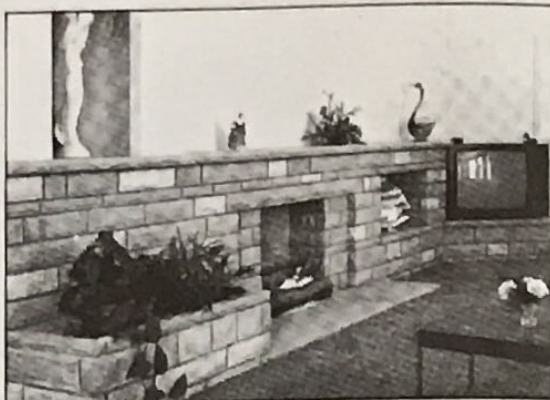
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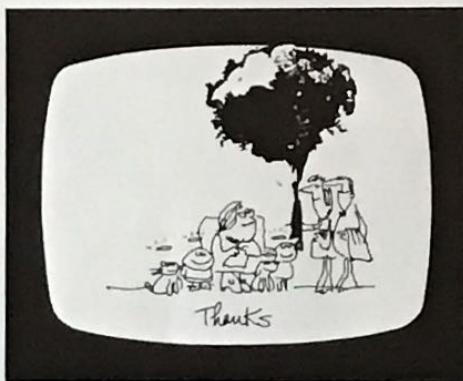
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## FLOWER PARADES PAST

# Miracles happen!

THE QUEEN and her two attendants had to be employed in the flower industry at the beginning and were chosen from girls selected at village dances.

They toured the fields on the three Tulip Sundays – travelling in a garland-hung hearse, the only vehicle available to give everyone a good view!

The splendid thought that Spalding might have its own show came after Spalding grower Francis Hanson, then Chairman of the Tulip Time committee, saw the Dutch parade – where heady hyacinths are used to dress the floats.

He came home and sold the idea to fellow growers that it was time we abandoned the hearse for a proper Queen's float and that the Dutch parade designer, Adrianus van Driel should be invited over to create a small show.

So that's how it began: A success from the start which has grown bigger and better – but more expensive to produce – with each succeeding year.

We've had heatwaves, chilling winds, and downpours, not forgetting cliff-hanging crisis years when, through the vagaries of the growing season, it looked as if there would be no parade at all.

Miracle is, perhaps, a word that

shouldn't be used too lightly, but it has been near miraculous how Parade week has often begun in gloom and doom, worries over weather and tulip supplies, only to end with a superb show.

For the tenth anniversary in 1968 we had a near-perfect parade, well-titled Ten Glorious Years in Flowers, and 11 former Tulip Queens took part.

A happy Adrianus van Driel put it like this: "Ten years ago few people had heard of Spalding, now it is world famous."

The 20th parade in 1978 was little short of a miracle – a touch and go show saved by 11 hours of sunshine.

This rescue followed a disastrous two days of almost continuous downpour and for the first time in its history the event came very close to cancellation. But that marvellous sunshine blessing on the Wednesday of parade week and fantastic co-operation from growers cropping every last bloom, saved the day.

The Halley Stewart Field where the floats line up before the parade was a sea of mud and as it was obvious that once in they might never get out again, the parade set off from the Bulb Auction hall, where decoration is carried out during the final 48 hours before the show.

With the hall ceilings only 12 feet high, all the tall items had to be added in the open via forklift trucks.

The Silver Jubilee show in 1983 was also a cliff-hanger. Torrential rain the previous weekend had resulted in ruined hail-marked rain-sodden heads.

But again, a fine day, this time on the Thursday (when there should have been thousands of heads ready for the decorators by 8am, but there was hardly a bloom available) saved the situation. For the army of gang and volunteer labour which dresses the floats soldiered on until the early hours of Parade morning to get everything finished.

So it's gone on over the years with each new Parade appearing on the appointed day like magic.

There are some dismal Jimmies among us who think it's all a waste of time, and grumble at the disruption to normal life.

But if you want to see the spirit that has kept the parade going for 30 years, call in at the Bulb Auction Hall in Swan Street on pre-parade evening – it's open to the public.

There they all are: Bertie Wray, the chap who has been in charge of float decoration since the beginning, the designer Kees van Driel, members of the growers' Flower Parade Committee, the blacksmith Geoff Dodd, parade organiser Peter Atkinson, Spalding Flower Lovers' Club, clambering up on the floats with the final floral fantasies, and many others.

## Miss YTV in parade



● Miss Yorkshire Television, lovely Zoe Bolsover – a Parade weekend celebrity visitor.

*MISS Yorkshire TV is a yearly visitor to the Spalding Flower Festival.*

*She rides in the Parade in a splendid veteran Rolls Royce driven by Monte Carlo veteran Mr J.W.E. "Billy" Banks and spends both Saturday and Parade Sunday on the Yorkshire TV stand on the Festival Site at the Halley Stewart Field.*

*This year we'll welcome petite blue-eyed blonde Zoe Bolsover from Sheffield, a 21-year-old freelance publicity and promotion girl and photographic model.*

*Last November Zoe beat 20 other finalists to win a £1,500 cash prize, a crown, sash and gold medallion, as well as a year's contract to represent Yorkshire TV throughout its viewing region.*

*Apart from Spalding Flower Parade, one highlight of Miss YTV's reign is a 10 day visit to the 50th Missile Regiment, Royal Artillery, in Germany, which includes a ski-ing trip with the troops in Bavaria.*

*Zoe, 5ft 5 inches tall with vital statistics of 32-22-34 always carries with her two lucky mascots – long-eared furry rabbits which she will doubtless be bringing to Spalding.*

*Her hobbies are ju-jitsu, golf, reading and walking her 'Yorkie' terrier, Nellie.*

## TRIBUTE TO GRACE

**A REMINDER** of a Victorian heroine can be seen on either the Festival Site or at Springfields during Parade weekend.

The Spalding and district branch of the Royal National Lifeboat Institution will have a replica of the boat in which Grace Darling and her lighthouse keeper father struggled to rescue passengers and crew of the S.S. Forfarshire, sinking off the Farne Islands near the Northumberland coast, 150 years ago.

"The exploits of this lass sparked off the public imagination and she became a national heroine," said branch chairman Theo Stibbons.

Grace's rescue came the year after Queen Victoria came to the throne and about 10 years after the RNLI itself was founded.

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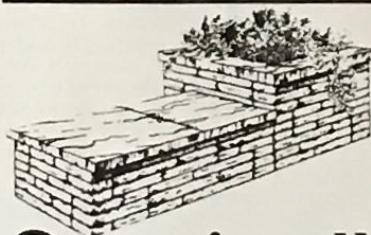
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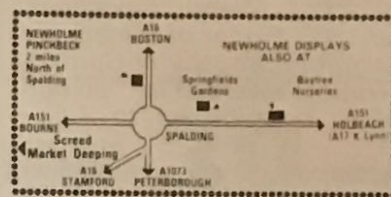
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floral floats in the spectacular 1988 Spalding Flower Parade.

# Glamour, music, song — to entertain you

GLAMOROUS girls, a Continental band, the rich melodies of a Welsh choir, folk, fairground fun and favourite hymns are all on the Festival entertainment menu.

#### Sunday, May 1:

● Festival Favourite Hymn Service, Spalding United Reformed Church, Pinchbeck Road, 6.30pm.

#### Thursday, May 5:

● Spalding Folk Club, Bob Bray and Jon Scafe, singer and guitarist, Spalding Sports Club, St. Thomas's Road, 8pm.

#### Friday, May 6:

● Tuby's Fun Fair, Swan Street, until Monday.

#### Parade Saturday, May 7:

● Hogia'r Ddwylan Choir from Anglesey. South Holland Centre, 8pm.

● Fantasy Girls and Avendo Band from Holland in cabaret at Spalding Sports Hall, Castle Field, 8pm-midnight. Music for dancing, bar, light refreshments.

#### Parade Sunday, May 8:

● Re-union of former Tulip Queens on Festival Site, Halley Stewart Field at 2pm.

On Parade Day, look out for the floral figures, the Peterborough Morris Men and the Michelin Bus with Spalding Folk Club members which will precede the parade.

Fairground organs make cheerful tunes at High Bridge, Queen's Road, Commercial Road and New road. In The Vista,

next to the Town Hall in Churchgate, the Navy pays its annual visit with a static display.

Apart from the flower festivals (see page 8) these out of town attractions are well worth a visit.

Out of town: At the Rutland Cottage Music Museum, Whaplode St Catherine, home of the British Fairground Society, there is a special exhibition "A 100 years of '78's", Open April 1-May 31, 10am-6pm.

The Butterfly Park, Little London, Long Sutton, combines an indoor tropical butterfly garden, with outdoor butterfly and bee garden, a small insectarium, tea room, gift shop and adventure playground. Open March 21-October 31.

## Award to church for effort at Tuliptime

*Den*  
*Mare*

ST. MARY'S Church, Pinchbeck, is the 1988 winner of the annual Worshipful Company of Gardeners Trophy, awarded for "an outstanding contribution to Tuliptime."

The church's tradition of fine flower festivals goes back 24 years — each one has had a religious theme illustrated not only in flowers but all manner of display materials.

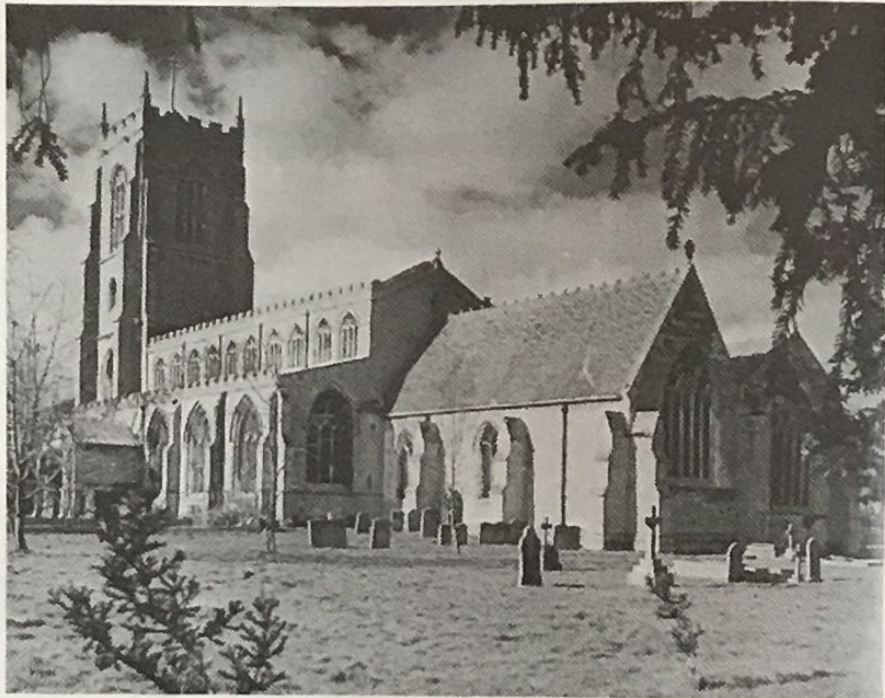
Recent themes have been "1984, Past, Present and Future", "Living Waters", "Meeting with God" and "The Seasons, Sacred and Secular". The 1988 theme is "The Family of God".

St Mary's, just outside Spalding, is one of the larger and lighter medieval churches in the district. The gilded Angels dating from 1495 look down from the beams of the nave ceiling; there is new and elaborate Easter embroidery on the altar frontal and beautiful oak panelling on the pulpit, carved by Belgium refugees in 1915.

Both East and West windows are magnificent in their colourings and some 15th century stained glass depicts early musical instruments. Then there's the 100ft high tower; those who can climb it are rewarded with a splendid panorama.

With an estimated 4000 visitors each year, the church has to have a considerable organisation behind each festival.

Over 120 helpers are involved together with local club members providing some of the displays. Then there are stewards



and others looking after the gift and produce tables as well as an army of capable ladies doing meals and light refreshments.

"The modern church hall over the road is an attractive place for the lunches and teas. Many parties come back year after year and when you come, you'll know

why," promised the Vicar of Pinchbeck, the Rev David Hill.

Pictured above St. Mary's, Pinchbeck. This atmospheric study, taken on a brooding February day, shows the 13th Century church without the "host of golden daffodils" which greet Spring visitors.

# Girls and more girls!

HOLLAND is providing two star attractions for the 1988 Festival – the Fantasy Girls and the Avendo Band (see colour pictures on page 18).

Anyone who saw the Fantasy Girls in the '86 Flower Parade will be delighted to know that the 25 lissom lovelies from the Dutch capital Den-Haag are coming over for the gala weekend.

The girls were a great sensation on their first visit as they marched and counter-marched along the route charming all onlookers with their verve and vital statistics!

This time they will be performing on the Festival site at the Halley Stewart Field on both Parade Day and Parade Sunday as well as appearing in cabaret at Spalding's fine new Castle Sports Complex on Parade evening.

The showgirls, who have wooed audiences in Germany, France, Italy, Belgium,

Sicily and Malta as well as being favourites throughout Holland, are travelling over by boat, courtesy of Olau Line of Sheerness, and will arrive in Spalding on the Friday evening.

As before they will be staying for two nights at St. Norbert's School, Spalding, where members of the town's Roman Catholic Church will look after them providing beds for everybody – and coffee on demand!

The 55 musicians in the Avendo Band are from Sneek, North Holland – watch out for them in the parade, distinctive in their sleek black and white uniform.

The band, led by maestro Bennie Hoogstra, will share the Cabaret Evening bill with the Fantasy girls and also perform with them on the Festival site on Sunday afternoon.

The Parade Evening (8pm-12 midnight) entertainment will be held in Spalding's Castle Sports Complex.

Opened only last December, and a ma-

for addition to the district's leisure facilities, this will be the first entertainment event to be staged there by South Holland District Council.

Mr David Atha, the council's deputy technical services officer, organiser of the event, said that the Fantasy girls will present the glamour style of cabaret act they perform on the Continent while the Dutch bandsmen's programme will show their versatility in popular music.

They have produced five LP's – under the title "Happy and Glorious".

"There will be music for dancing, a bar, and light refreshments available. We want this to be an occasion for townfolk and visitors to enjoy a happy get-together and relax after the Parade with some glamorous, cheerful entertainments."

Some of the evening's proceeds are to go to the Great Ormond Street Hospital for Children – and a car raffle will swell the appeal funds.

## THANK YOU TO SPONSORS

THE FABULOUS Dutch entertainers have been brought over from Holland at considerable expense.

The Flower Parade Committee is very grateful to the sponsors who have made their visit possible.

We thank: The Spalding Guardian; Olau Line U.K. Ltd of Sheerness, Kent; Ken Read (Wholesale Meat) Ltd of Spalding.

OLAU LINE (U.K.) Ltd of Sheerness, Kent, are giving free passage to the Fantasy Girls and their coach as a contribution to the 30th Flower Parade.

The company began operations in 1974 with one ship carrying freight only. Today, the M.V's 'Olau Hollandia' and 'Olau Britannia' are two of the largest and most luxurious

passenger car ferries on the cross-Channel service with two sailings daily in both directions from Vlissingen, Holland, to Sheerness.

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New for 1988 are package holidays cruising on the Rhine, motor rail from Cologne to all parts of Europe, and sailing and yacht charter round the islands of Zeeland.

Further information from travel agents or Sheerness 663355.

# Parade reaches 30 – and enters its prime!

THIRTY is a good. You're done with the silliness and uncertainty of youth, you know what works and what doesn't, but you're still young and energetic enough to take on fresh challenges and enjoy the excitement of not knowing what is round the next corner.

So here we are in our 30th year of Spalding Flower Parades, welcoming you once again, but pleased to say that we're not resting on our laurels. We're trying out new ideas without throwing out a basic formula which has brought millions of people to South Holland every year to admire the skill and spirit with which we change a waste product of our bulb industry into floral delight for all.

The 16 floats will pass by in all their

glory (don't forget that these days the show starts at 1pm) and you will see nine double floats among them, breath-taking in size and splendour.

The theme "Thirty years of Entertainment" is a wide one and designer Kees van Driel has recreated afresh some echoes of the past in this retrospective show.

Look at the Midland Bank's magnificent Maritime England recalling the emphasis on our coastal heritage in 1982.

Admire the giant panda and other endangered creatures featured on the World Wildlife float in 1974 and go right back in time to 1960 for Kees' evocation of Springtime for a flag wagging display for the National Farmers' Union.

The Flower and Plants Association float once again repeats the message (with a giant bunch of tissue-wrapped blooms) that we in England are far less flower-

conscious than our Continental neighbours.

We're not the only ones celebrating an anniversary, the giant photographic firm Kodak has a float in this year to mark their 100th birthday.

And our old parade friends, the Romsey Old Cadets will doubtless be giving us an extra special rave-up to mark their Silver Jubilee – and the super-energetic comedy band still has some founder members.

For our new look this year – we have a Flower Queen instead of Miss Tulipland – in keeping with the fact this is a multi-flower festival we have the Festival Site, where you will still find the floats on display.

Have a lovely time. There's so much to see with the Parade, Springfields, the Festival Site, the churches and other entertainments in town.



● THE Queen and Knave (not forgetting those tarts) charmed all hearts in last year's parade.



● HOW does your garden grow? – This float shows the gentle humour and animal charm which has been a feature of designer Kees van Driel's artistry and imagination over the years.



● THE lovable Panda epitomised the work of the World Wildlife Fund in this 1974 float recreated for the 30th anniversary parade.



● IT DOESN'T take a wizard to produce good food – just natural Lincolnshire ingredients – that was the story from an Adams Pork Products float which is as fresh as ever today.



● ROLL Up, roll up! Norman Roberts, the City of Leicester Town Crier, will welcome the crowds to the Festival Site.



● AN ELEPHANT never forgets and is quite clever enough to play a trumpet and be the drummer in a Spalding Flower Parade animal band.



● WHERE would the parade be without the army of float decorators who pin on the millions of flower heads?



● LOOK out for the Loafers: Sent to Spalding by the Flour Advisory Bureau, Babette Baquette, Holly Wholemeal, Patsy Plait and Norman Whiteslice will be fooling around town on Parade Day.

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# Record of country life from Roman times

SOUTH HOLLAND District Council has a new jewel in its tourist crown with the opening last May of Ayscoughfee Hall, Spalding, as a district museum as well as the region's Tourist Information Centre.

Ayscoughfee Hall is a magnificent medieval house – the grounds are the town's public park – situated by the river-side in Churchgate.

The north wing, now the Geest Gallery, is believed to have been built about 1430 by wealthy wool merchant Richard Alwyn.

The magnificent central hall, re-decorated in the high style of its late 18th century period (but with traces of the medieval brickwork still to be seen) now houses the friendly information centre.

Here museum curator and tourism officer Susanna Davis, her deputy Ros Purglove and staff carry out their dual roles.

Ask them about local accommodation and centres of interest and browse through the big collection of booklets on holiday spots throughout the U.K.

Over Flower Festival time the Geest Gallery will have a collection of paintings, mostly for sale and including local landscapes provided by the district arts and crafts group.

Don't miss the agricultural and horticultural gallery in the former drawing room. This tells the story of the area from the Romans through the Fen drainers over the centuries, the fishermen and wild fowlers, the animal husbandry, the flax and woad trade, arable farming and the 20th century bulb industry.

The house was the home of the Johnson family for over 200 years. The second Maurice Johnson was the founder of Spalding Gentlemen's Society, the second oldest antiquarian group in the country.

The former library, fallen into great disrepair, has been lovingly restored to the glowing mahogany comfort and furnishing of its 18th-19th century past.

The district council has many other plans to extend the museum's record of South Holland life in the future.

And – aware that a prosperous tourist trade is good for everyone – it also has a big commitment to the Flower Festival.

It runs the Flower Queen contest, finances her float, brings out the bunting, provides the floral street figures, the fair-ground organs, entertainment and a free leaflet "Welcome to Spalding and the South Holland District" with useful maps and tourist information.

When visiting the Hall (admission is free) don't forget Ayscoughfee Gardens. There are birds, a lake, tennis courts, a bowling green, a cafe, children's swings and woodland walks.



● Assistant curator Ros Purglove examines a bulb riddle in the corner of Ayscoughfee Museum's agricultural and horticultural gallery featuring the bulb industry. The story is told by wall panels, pictures and the implements of the industry.



● The impressive frontage of Spalding's Ayscoughfee Hall – home to a museum, art gallery and the tourist information office.

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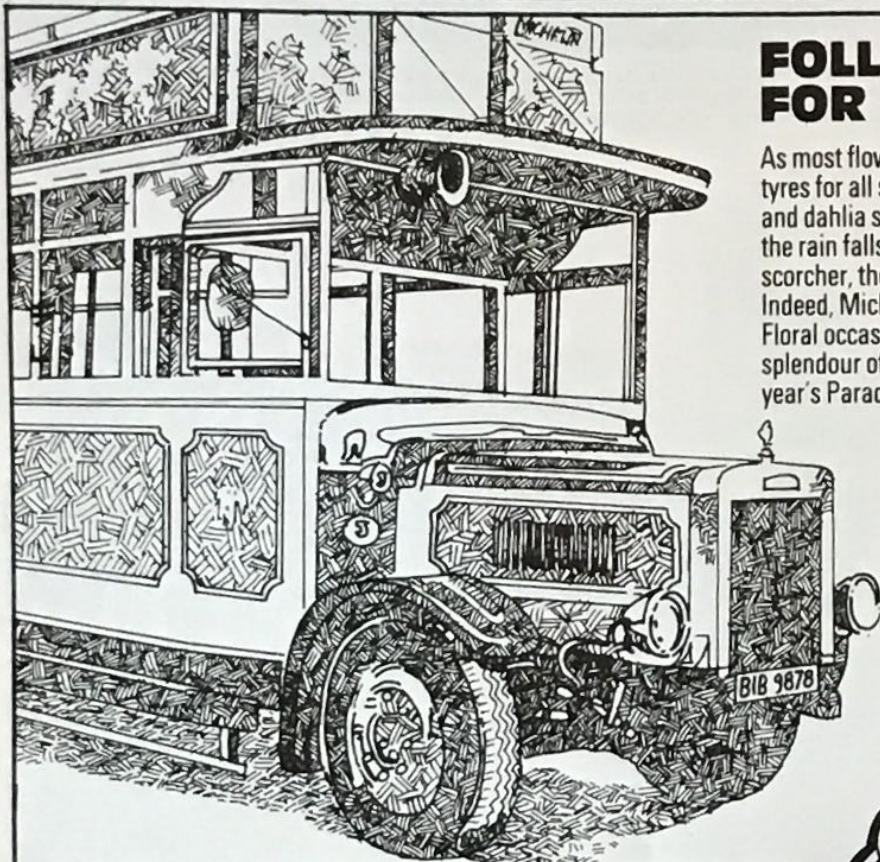
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year's Parade, the Michelin bus.



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# Brave explorer

LINCOLNSHIRE folk who visit South Australia need not feel far from home. There are so many familiar place names – Spalding Cove, Bicker, Surfleet Point, Port Boston, Cape Donington and many others.

In Australia's bi-centennial year it's good to remember that Lincolnshire men, Joseph Banks, George Bass, John Harrison, and Sir John Franklin were all important to the story of the new continent.

And nine miles up the road from Spalding in the village of Donington, Captain Matthew Flinders R.N. was born in March, 1774. In Australia, ranked only second in immortal memory to Captain Cook, his name is commemorated by a University, a mighty river, a naval academy and many other marks of regard.

Matthew Flinders, mapmaker, hydrographer and explorer, was the first man to call the new continent Australia.

Every year in March there is a commemorative service for Matthew in Lincoln Cathedral and Donington Parish Church, attended by distinguished Australians.

Flower Festival visitors can see the fine Flinders window, the bust, Flinders stone and other memorabilia, along with a precious copy of his great work "A Voyage to Terra Australis".

This navigational work with its charts, maps and logs, written with a compelling mixture of scientific accuracy and human comment, is of immense significance.

For it was his special achievement to complete the discovery of Tasmania and to establish beyond doubt what had been in dispute during the earlier voyages of Captain Cook – that Australia was in fact one great land mass.

Matthew, son of the village surgeon, first went to sea at 16. It is said he became obsessed with the thought after reading 'Robinson Crusoe'.

In 1791 he sailed under the notorious Captain Bligh, but before the Bounty incident, and, at 20, made his first voyage to Australia, charting and exploring much of the South Australian coastline.

By 1801 he had command of the Investigator and on the strength of this married his sweetheart Anne from North Lincolnshire.

On the Investigator Matthew charted 2,700 miles of unknown coastline with such accuracy that his maps needed hardly any alteration in later years.

On his way home in the Cumberland (the Investigator, rotten to begin with, had fallen to pieces) he put into French-owned Mauritius and spent

seven years in miserable captivity until he was released and re-united with the patient Anne. He had not known that England and France were again at war!

Once home, he carried on with his work on 'Terra Australis', begun in captivity, and experimented with the Flinders Bar, a navigational aid still in use today.

There were just four short years of happiness (and a daughter) for Matthew and Anne before, worn out by his privations, he died at 40 – only a few days before the publication of 'A Voyage to Terra Australis'.

□ IN AUSTRALIA'S bi-centennial year, Ayscoughfee Museum in Spalding is holding an exhibition to honour the village surgeon's son, Donnington-born Captain Matthew Flinders RN.

The exhibition "Matthew Flinders and his Discoveries" will be mounted in Ayscoughfee Hall from August 13 – September 18.

Opening hours are: Monday to Thursday, 10am-5pm; Friday, 10am to 4.30pm; Saturdays, 10am-5pm; and Sundays, 11am-5pm.



● The bust of Captain Matthew Flinders in Donington Parish Church. (D384-8).

During Flower Festival week, don't forget to visit the Geest Gallery at the museum where Spalding Arts and Crafts Society have an exhibition of paintings, including many local landscapes, and most for sale.



● Coun Mrs Ruby Hunt of Donington (left) and Miss Susanna Davis, curator of Ayscoughfee Museum, Spalding, view some of the memorabilia of Captain Matthew Flinders in Donington Church. Mrs Hunt is THE Flinders expert, and to her goes the credit of reviving interest in the village's "favourite son" who was almost forgotten in Lincolnshire until his 1974 bi-centenary.



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# TOP SECRET

ALL PHYLLIS Whisler, costume maker extraordinary, will say about the top secret Romsey Old Cadet 1988 outfits is that they are "extra special" to mark the Cadets' 25th anniversary and 30 years of Spalding Flower Parades.

But she did reveal that they're in six colours, and she will use around 650 metres of fabric and 20,000 metres of sewing cotton before she's through clothing those 80 likely lads.

They've all been individually re-measured for this year's extravaganza and Phyllis says she gets "some very funny looks" from those not in the know about her constant stream of fellows ringing her doorbell for their fittings!

"They're a great bunch, and I love them all," said Phyllis, who views every parade from her wheelchair sited just outside the Sir Halley Stewart Field at the start of the procession.

Though living in Hampshire, she's got strong local connections, for husband Peter comes from a Sutton Bridge family. They met in 1955 when he came down from Lincolnshire to work locally.

Phyllis, disabled since she was five, had come out of hospital two weeks before she met him. "That was that," said the mother of two daughters and granny to three.



● YOU can't keep a good animal costume craftswoman down. In the 'off' season of Romsey Old Cadets, Phyllis Whisler makes soft toys for charity.

The Cadets found Phyllis around the time they first appeared in Spalding Flower Parade.

She had made some penguin suits for a

local carnival and when band member Cyril Archer told them she was his sister, the band knew they'd struck gold.



● On parade at the Festival Site, the Sir Halley Stewart Field, fun loving favourites Romsey Old Cadets. What will they come as this year - it's the best kept secret of the Parade.

## FUN TIME

IN 1962 a bunch of Army Cadets in Romsey, Hampshire decided to take part in the town carnival, dressed in borrowed costumes as "Sons of the Sand".

Thus began the uninhibited clowning, allied with cheerful musicianship which has endeared the Romsey Old Cadets Association band to many thousands over the past 25 years, and made them an annual 'must' for Spalding Flower Parade.

"We had our barrel of beer from the first year. We hid it inside a camel's stomach," recalled chairman Roger Marsh, the big fellow with the baton who leads his band.

Roger is a plumber and there are carpenters, painters and chaps from all trades who attend the weekly rehearsals, and special extra Sunday morning sessions before their first date of the season - Spalding Flower Parade.

The band undertakes about 35 engagements per year and their fees cover the considerable travel expenses and upkeep of instruments. Each member buys his own new costume every year at around £25 after a costume meeting in October when ideas are tossed around with maker Phyllis Whisler and a democratic decision taken.

The mad musicians have been invited to Holland this year and have had two trips to France, but Roger Marsh says, "There's not another parade anywhere to match Spalding."

Spalding Flower Parade will leave the Festival Site, the Sir Halley Stewart Field, Winfrey Avenue, at 1pm on Saturday, May 7. For their own safety spectators round the route are advised not to block the roadway.

**1 BELVOIR CASTLE JOUSTERS**  
Entered by Belvoir Castle, Grantham.

**2 CHAIRMAN, SPALDING FLOWER PARADE - MR. BRIAN DRURY**  
Range Rover by courtesy of Boston Tractors Ltd.

**3 ROMSEY OLD CADETS ASSOCIATION**  
Secretary Mr. M. Tubb. Celebrating 25 years of the Association. See them again on Sunday, May 8, in Springfields Gardens.

**4 FLOWER QUEEN, 1988**  
Entered by South Holland District Council, the leading float conveys the Flower Queen and her deputy - the two local lasses chosen to represent the district. The six attendants have been chosen from six local secondary schools.

**5 MELTON MOWBRAY TALLY HO'S BAND**  
Manager Mr. S. Cragg.

**6 DISCOVER THE LANGUAGE OF FLOWERS**  
The Flowers and Plants Association encourages people to buy more flowers and plants through television advertising and providing regular promotion and publicity material to the media, including best buy and care tips.

**7 AVENDO DUTCH BAND**  
From Sneek in Holland. Leader Bernie Hoogstra.

**8 SPRINGTIME (1960)**  
"Support British Agriculture" is the plea from the National Farmers' Union, Holland (Lincs) County Branch on their float this year. Members of the public are urged to support one of the largest industries we have in Britain - Agriculture and Horticulture. The three farmers' daughters riding on the float are also anxious to promote the first class Lincolnshire produce which surrounds them. Lincolnshire is one of the most progressive, productive and innovative agricultural areas in the world, and its farmers are skilled in producing food. All three local girls - Katie and Penny Bowles and Julie Danby enjoy the outdoor life and the countryside - the farmers' workshop - which is a source of pleasure and leisure for the rest of the population.

**9 ELY CITY MILITARY BAND**  
Secretary Mr. M.J. Fletcher

**10 CAPTAIN PUGWASH, PIRATE SHIP (1982)**  
Entered by Spalding & District Young Farmers' Club. This float was built entirely by Club members and everyone joined in and had fun doing so. Come and see their re-vamped catering centre on the Sir Halley Stewart Field where refreshments may be enjoyed, the proceeds going to Club funds and to local charities.

**11 BREAKDOWN VEHICLE**  
Just in case ...

**12 LONG SUTTON AND DISTRICT VETERAN CYCLE CLUB**  
Secretary Mrs. D.E. Ellis  
This is the Club's 28th appearance in the Parade. Well done!

**13 DERBY SERENADERS SHOW BAND**  
Band manager Mr. M. Ward.

**14 CINDERELLA**  
Entered by D. W. Jarvis & Sons (Gangmasters). The company is based at Eye, near Peterborough, and supplies labour to farmers, produce factories, nurseries and anyone else who requires extra workers at 24 hours notice. D. W. Jarvis has grown rapidly in the past four years to become possibly East Anglia's largest gangmaster, with a workforce of 200 plus and a go anywhere, do anything attitude that has brought them the respect they deserve.



● A bevy of beauties among the blooms - v Centre is the very first Flower Queen Sally Deputy Flower Queen Sharon Gammage (Jayne Gedney (20), also from Pinchbeck.

**15 DECORATED VINTAGE CAR**  
Entered by FLORET of Spalding.

**16a GARDENING IS FUN**  
Entered by Baytree Nurseries Garden Centre, Weston, Nr. Spalding. Baytree's 25 acre complex is an enterprise that strives to achieve the perfect mix - every-

# FLOWER PARADE 1988



...ch out for this lovely trio in the parade. ...tkins (19) from Pinchbeck. Left is Miss ... from Crowland and right is runner-up

...thing for the keen gardener and plenty of diversions for other members of the family. Their efforts have been rewarded when recently a certain consumer survey (we can't say which) revealed they were the top garden centre in the UK for value and amenities.

## 16b FUN IN THE CONSERVATORY

Entered by Newholme of Pinchbeck, Nr.

Spalding. One of the most comprehensive displays of conservatories, greenhouses, chalets and sheds on the East Coast can be seen at Newholme's premises 7 days a week. The company can offer a nationwide delivery and erection service.

## 17 MARCHING AND CONCERT BAND OF BRAINTREE

Band Manager Mr. J. Miller

## 18 KODAK - 100 YEARS AHEAD!

Entered by Kodak Ltd in celebration of the 100th anniversary of the name Kodak and the first Kodak camera.

## 19 NURSERY RHYMES (1961)

CIS Windows, manufacturers and installers of Combi-Therm windows and doors thermally broken aluminium replacement windows and secondary glazing and uPVC replacement windows and doors. PLUS the latest addition to their range, the new CIS Premier Porch collection creating a grand entrance to your home. Over 18 years experience in the industry, as well as a member of the Pilkington Group - the world's largest flat glass manufacturer. A professional service from a professional company.

## 20 BREAKDOWN VEHICLE

Also just in case ...

## 21 HASLAND DRUM CORPS

Secretary Mrs. J. Lee

## 22 WORLD WILD LIFE (1974)

Entered by Geest PLC. Geest leads the UK market in the sourcing and supply of fresh produce, and is a leading producer of chilled convenience salads and recipe dishes for multiples. The food preparation sector has recently expanded into fish with the acquisition of the Clipper Group.

## 23 LET'S GO GARDENING

Recalling the popular "Let's go Gardening" theme of 1983, the Lingarden float depicts the original Gardening Gnome and some of his helpers. Lingarden are the world's largest bulb company, not only do their bulbs find their way to garden centres, parks and multiple outlets throughout the U.K. but also to most of Europe and America.

## 24 EASTWOOD ARCADIAN BAND

Secretary Mrs. M. Machin. Sponsored by British Sugar.

## 25 WORLD OF SPORT (1980)

Entered by British Sugar. In this Olympic year, British Sugar has taken a sporting theme to underline sugar's vital role as a quick and efficient energy source for the sportsmen and sportswomen of the world. And, whether they are runners, jumpers, hurdlers, vaulters, footballers, swimmers or shot putters - to name but a few - they all need energy and they all need to replace the vast amounts of energy they burn while striving for gold. That is where sugar - in whatever form the athletes choose to take it - plays such an important role and British Sugar, producers of Silver Spoon, salute them.

## 26 JOY OF SPRING

Entered by E Four Sales, Covent Garden's leading wholesaler of cut flowers in the Lincolnshire area.

## 27 ROMFORD BRITISH LEGION BOYS' BAND AND CORPS OF DRUMS

Secretary Mrs. J. Clapham.

## 28 GEORGE ADAMS - A LINCOLNSHIRE TRADITION SINCE 1910

George Adams & Sons was founded in 1910 with the opening of a butchers shop in The Crescent in Spalding. Today the company is a thriving manufacturing business supplying a wide range of fresh and frozen meat products from four factories based in Lincolnshire. Still a family owned concern, they have built up a fine reputation for their unique range of Lincolnshire pork pies, pork sausages, plum loaf and cooked meats. As a sign of their continuing expansion and commitment a prestige new factory is currently under construction at Fulney Lane in Spalding.

## 29 THIRTEENTH CITY OF COVENTRY SCOUT MARCHING BAND

Bandmaster Mr. R. H. Nowell

## 30 MARITIME ENGLAND (1982)

Entered by Midland Bank plc The Listening Bank.



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superb floral  
arrangements  
produced  
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GARDEN CENTRE**  
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At a little over £20,000, the new 760 - blessed with all the traditional Volvo virtues of reliability and durability - offers unrivalled protection to a company's most valuable assets.

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Visit your local stockist.**

# **Unwins**

Seeds of Quality



# Just how do they put them together?

HOW is it done? – that's the question newcomers to Spalding Flower Parade always ask as they watch the floral fantasies pass by for the first time.

With the pretty girls in costumes, saucy or sentimental, and embellished by the superb formal flower arrangements created by local flower club members and other skilled hands, the final effect looks so effortless that one might suspect that each float had sprung up fully created by some supernatural conjurer.

But behind the stunning effect is a great deal of hard graft – beginning as soon as the flowers fade on the year's show.

It all begins with the float designer, Dutch wizard Kees van Driel.

Kees, who lives locally at Bourne, also creates parades for the Continent, and it is amazing how his artist's skill and imagination (humorous or romantic by turns) spring newly fresh each year.

He visits the sponsors who choose their favourite designs on the year's theme, very often tailor-made to their own products – for sponsorship can cost up to several thousand pounds.

Next in the story is another man of unique talent, Spalding blacksmith Geoff Dodd who every year takes Kees's colour wash sketches and working drawings, scaled 1mm to an inch, and works the next miracle.

Geoff blows up the drawings 25 times by image projection, makes a rough template by drawing round each component, and then creates each piece in metal before welding the whole design into one.

His ironwork must be delicate, detailed and strong enough to follow each curve and curlique of the design – yet sturdy enough so high seated float riders travel safely.

Next comes the new technology – introduced two years ago. Until then, special straw mats were imported every year from Holland to cover the ironwork frame.

But they get very expensive (and mice loved them while in storage) and something new had to be tried.

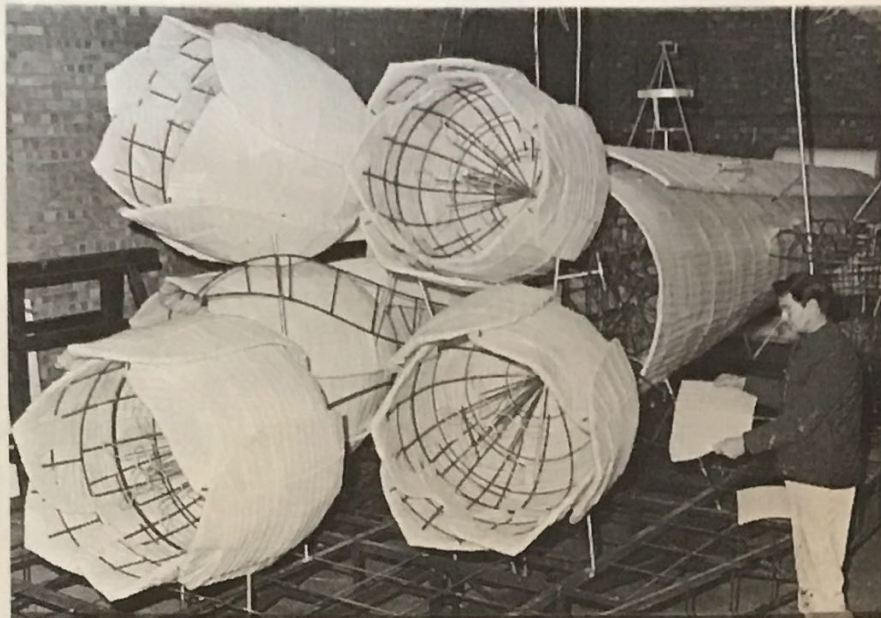
Kees van Driel found a new polyethylene foam, 4mm thick, and normally used for packing.

This is now cut and shaped and stuck to the ironwork with adhesive by Michael Pratt, painter and signwriter at Springfields Gardens, and has proved very successful.

At this stage the floats look straight out of a horror film, close-wrapped in ghostly white like Egyptian Mummies.

This work on the floats goes on for months, but all is ready for the final frantic 48 hours. In the Bulb and Produce Auction Halls in Spalding an army of float decorators gather, a mix of gang labour and eager volunteers.

Their mammoth task is to pin on each



● It looks a bit like the Space Shuttle on its side at this stage but soon these metal and foam tulips will look just like giant versions of the real thing.



● A coach fit for a princess – not quite yet, but it will. The frame has been made, the cladding is in place and here the interior trim is being applied ready for the final colourful covering of flower heads.

flower head with a giant version of a hairpin. It takes 1000 tulip heads, for instance, to cover each square yard of float, a job that can take around 2½ hours and longer if the worker is aloft dealing with a tricky area.

The designer always produces indications of the colour and amount of tulips needed to complete each section of float.

This is vital information to National



● A genius in metal – welder Geoff Dodd seen putting together the float frames following carefully Kees van Driel's colour designs.

Farmers' Union officer Bertie Wray, in charge of float decoration, who relies on faithful local growers each year to provide tulip heads.

Last stage of all – when the final covering flower is pinned on, in come the flower arrangement teams. It may be the small hours of Parade Day before they've produced the 50 or so spectacular effects which put the final touch on the floats.

^  
I  
KNOW  
HIM  
FROM  
SOME-  
WHERE



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# SPRINGFIELDS GARDENS '88

**HIGHLIGHT** of the new look three day Spalding Flower Festival and Parade is, of course, **THE PARADE**. See page 4 for your "at a glance" Parade Day details and page 7 for the Parade route. But there is much, much more to see and do – at the Festival Site on the Sir Halley Stewart Field in the town centre, at Springfields Gardens and at churches throughout the district where the villages stage their own flower festivals (see pages 8, 13, 24, 29 and 31). Here we detail what's on and when at the fabulous 25 acre Springfields Gardens.

## LOTS TO SEE AT SPRINGFIELDS

SPRINGFIELDS welcome tens of thousands of visitors each year and members of the Royal family are among them.

But one particular visitor is rather special; every year on Parade Day Springfields opens its arms to welcome and embrace the Flower Parade which triumphantly traverses the Arena within the gardens.

This detour by the Parade off the public highway enables the gardens' visitors to enjoy a close view of the spectacular floats and marching bands. At about 3pm the floats glide majestically through the Country Fair arena.

The Country Fair is, of course, a tradition going back many years and an annual firm favourite with visitors. Five acres of stalls, country crafts, charity stalls and food and

drink on sale enable families to enjoy the beauties of the gardens, have a bite to eat and a chance to relax before greeting the Parade.

The only public grandstand with seating to view the Parade is available at Springfields, on a 'first come, first served' basis – all proceeds go to the Royal National Lifeboat Institution.

A 300 seater cafeteria and 300 seater licensed restaurant all add to the enjoyment of a visit.

**SPECIAL EVENTS May 7-8, 1988**  
**Saturday, May 7:** (10am-6pm) Country Fair.

The Wellingborough Redwell Band and the Spalding Drum and Trumpet Corps will provide entertainment prior to the arrival of the Parade.

**Sunday, May 8:** (10am-6pm) Country Fair.

Music and flowers all the way.

12 noon. Romsey Old Cadets, firm favourites in the Parade stay over to clown their way round the gardens with music and fun second to none.

12.45-1.30pm. The Silver Spoon Square Dance team with over 100 couples expected, create a mobile patchwork quilt of colour on the arena. Visitors are welcome to join in!

1.30-4pm. Six of the top East Midlands marching bands will perform in the annual Springfields Trophy contest. Hundreds of musicians and majorettes in an enthralling contest with a nailbiting finale.

Springfields Gardens are open from 10am-6pm, Parade Saturday and Sunday. The fee is £2 per person per day to the Country Fair AND Gardens with accompanied children under 16 FREE.

### SPECIAL EVENT '88

**Flower Parade Weekend Country Fair**  
Saturday, Sunday May 7-8.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Springfields Summer Show Weekend**  
Saturday, Sunday, August 13-14.  
Major flower arranging show,  
international demonstrator.  
Garden walks with experts.  
Musical entertainment.

**Sixth Vintage and Classic Vehicle Rally**

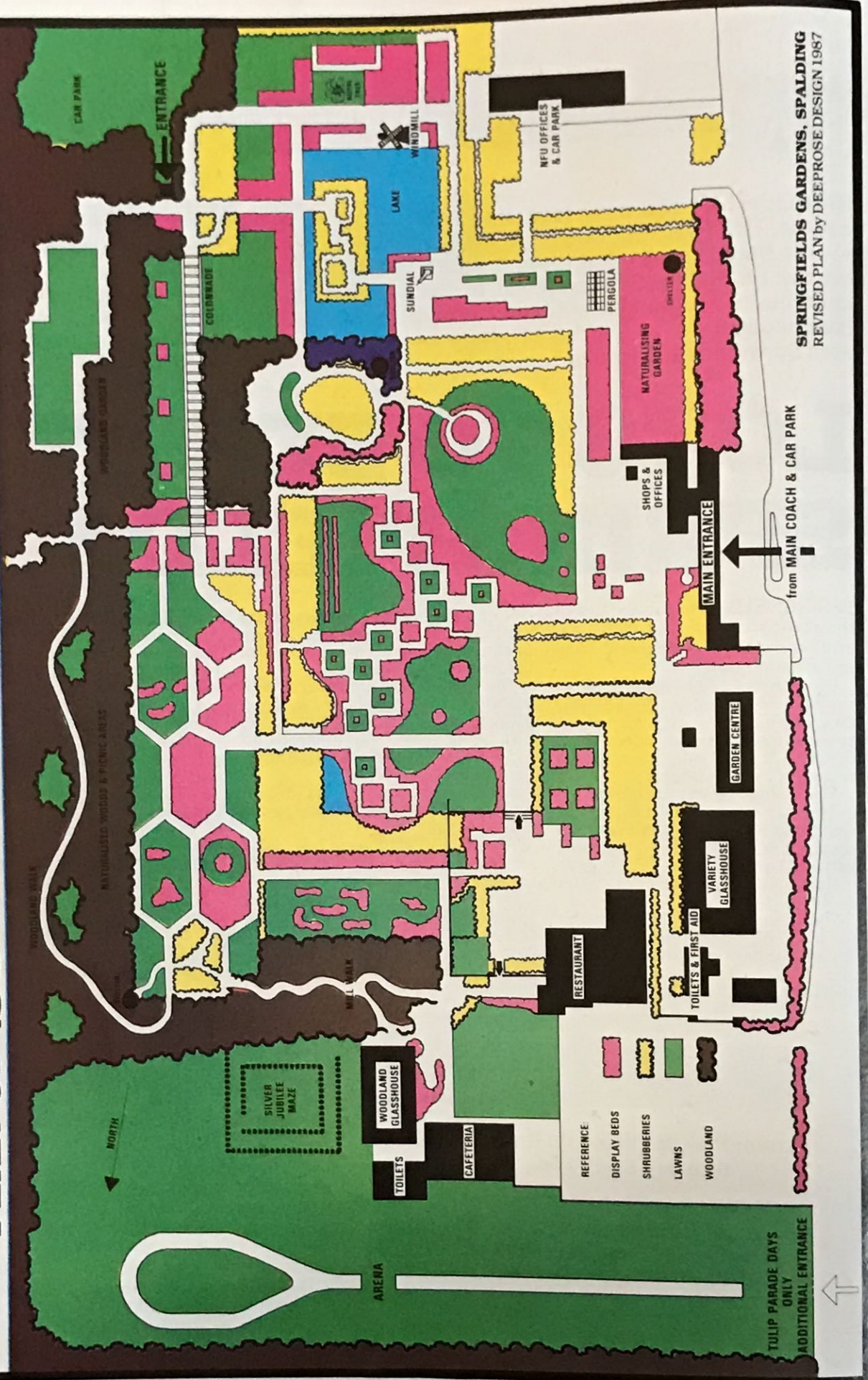
Sunday, July 31.

Hundreds of tractors, cars, commercial vehicles and motor cycles, plus vehicle parade and summer flower displays.

\*\*\*\*\*

Daily charge for Flower Parade weekend and Vehicle Rally is £2 adults and accompanied children under 16 FREE.  
Summer Show Weekend  
£2.50 adults, children.

# PLAN OF SPRINGFIELDS GARDENS



**SPRINGFIELDS GARDENS, SPALDING**  
 REVISED PLAN by DEEPROSE DESIGN 1987

seen  
K. Him



● AS ONE of Britain's premier show gardens Springfields is an ideal base for television gardening programmes. In July BBC Pebble Mill will be filming a programme for beginners there. In the picture TV gardener Geoff Hamilton (right) of BBC Gardeners World (a regular visitor to the gardens) discusses some of the blooms at Springfields Horticultural Exhibition (organised by Springfields Horticultural Society) in February. Also in the picture are Mr Jim Jack (second left) and Mr Reinhard Biehler (third left) of Baytree Nurseries, Weston.



● IN GLORIOUS technicolour (as they say in the films). A host of fantastic flowers at spring time Springfields Gardens.



## SPRINGFIELDS GARDENS '88

# Horticultural Society a registered charity

SPRINGFIELDS Horticultural Society Ltd, the body responsible for organising the annual display in the Gardens, was formed in 1966 under the sponsorship of the South Holland (Lincolnshire) Horticultural Association, a specialist branch of the Holland (Lincs) County Branch of the National Farmers' Union.

The Society is a registered charity, its principal object is to promote the study and practice of horticulture in all its branches and in particular the cultivation and development of all varieties of flowers grown from bulbs and corms.

Under its constitution, the Society's income must be used in carrying out these objectives. By organising the annual displays in the Gardens, the Society enables the public to see

the wide varieties of bulbs and corms and how best they can be used to beautify the small garden.

There is an information centre in the gardens where visitors can seek advice on their growing queries.

The Society organises lectures on horticultural topics, participates in various horticultural exhibitions and shows, and has been working closely with the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food on experimental programmes on bulb diseases and their treatment. It co-operates with other societies in running trials in the Gardens.

The Society has had to adapt and improve during its 21 years of operations and with an honorary board of directors carry out a wide variety of projects associated with the Gar-

dens.

The present Council is appointed annually by the South Holland (Lincolnshire) Horticultural Association and has 12 members, local growers, farmers and business people connected with the industry.

Present members of the Council are

A. Bellamy  
L. K. Braybrooks  
M. K. Chappell  
R. C. Dobbs (chairman)  
B. Drury  
D. Gibbard  
F. B. Hanson (vice-chairman)  
R. A. B. Hill  
R. Goemans  
R. Taylor  
R. Teeuw  
L. van Geest

### Structure of Committees

#### Springfields Council (governing body)

Gardens & Technical	Exhibition	Publicity	Finance	Development	Flower Parade
Chairman (M. K. Chappell)	Chairman (L. K. Braybrooks)	Chairman (D. Gibbard)	Chairman (E. Lloyd)	Chairman (F. B. Hanson)	Chairman (B. Drury)

General Manager P Atkinson

## Members' free admission

ANY member of the public is eligible to apply for associate membership of the Society. An annual subscription of £10 is payable by Associate Members, who enjoy certain privileges.

On production of membership cards an associate member and guest will be entitled to free admission to:

- A. Springfields Horticultural Exhibition (February).
- B. Springfields Spring and Summer Seasons.
- C. Tuliptime exhibition of Floats and Rural Industries in the Sir Halley Stewart Field.
- D. Lectures and displays organised by the Society.

\*MEMBERS ONLY - Free admission (except for Rose Festival, July 9, 10, 1988) to Royal National Rose Society Gardens at St. Albans.

N.B. Every member will be entered on our mailing list. Members are welcome to visit Springfields off season, Monday to Friday.

#### ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP

I wish to become an Associate Member of the Springfields Horticultural Society and enclose my cheque for £10 made payable to SPRINGFIELDS HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY LTD.

NAME MISS P. DORP  
(BLOCK CAPITALS)  
ADDRESS 32 HIGH ST.

SPALDING  
LINGS PEH ITX

Signature Phillip Dorp Date 5/4/88



## SPRINGFIELDS GARDENS '88



● BEAUTIFUL Springfields Gardens has more than just fresh spring colour to offer – pay it a visit at the height of summer and discover more glorious flowers like this display of Geraniums. In the background can be seen the natural setting of a woodland walk.

# Flower power rules

## SPRINGFIELDS JOTTINGS

**BULBS** have been grown commercially in South Lincolnshire for over 100 years.

Starting with snowdrops for medicinal purposes, and up to the massive acreages of daffodils today – in fact we are the world's largest producers of the golden bloom with over 12,000 acres.

Tulips, which dominated the district during the 50's, have decreased in acreage in the United Kingdom but are still grown by the specialist producers of the Spalding area.

However, tulip lovers need not despair. Springfields Gardens opened in 1966 and can truly be described as a living catalogue of colour showing tulips of all shapes, sizes and variety against a backdrop of spring flowering trees and shrubs.

This unique spectacle in the gardening calendar is a must for flower lovers and gardeners alike.

In 1976 a bold decision was made to develop the gardens to include a summer season using roses and bedding plants for colour to rival the springtime show.

This has been achieved and not only are we the national garden for spring flowers but with over 200,000 summer

plants represent a national bedding plant garden for the United Kingdom.

Seed companies from the United States and Europe as well as from Britain support the work being carried out at Springfields.

An innovation for 1988 is a special planting of the Springfields Collection. This consists of over 100 varieties of narcissi and daffodils being grown under trial conditions to obtain information on various aspects of growing and flowering times.

Likewise the summer display will show many newer varieties of bedding plants which will eventually be available to the public.

Breeders are now able to produce a wider range of colour in traditional summer bedding thus giving the gardener the opportunity to experiment with shapes and colours in his/her garden.

The Springfields displays are an attempt to stimulate visitors thoughts and ideas as to how new material can be used to the best advantage and, of course, not all displays have to be expensive.

'Good value' plants include the pansy, which is incorporated with the bulb displays in the Spring.

Trees, shrubs and lawns play an important part in any landscaping and here at Springfields new plantings are carried out each year.

Several types of flowering shrubs such as ribes and forsythia have a limited life and have to be grubbed out and replanted with new stock.

Flowering cherries and pears have a longer life and several specimen trees are maturing within the gardens providing a spectacular backdrop to the spring flowers.

Our shelter belt on the Eastern boundary protects the garden from various winter gales from the North Sea. This has been developed over the last 20 years or so to be a haven for flora and fauna, housing the occasional fox, woodpecker, grey squirrel, a pair of wood pigeons, jays, and countless rabbits and pheasants.

In fact over 30 species of bird life have been recorded. Another frequent visitor is the heron which morning and evening patrols the lake on the lookout for small fry.

Leisuretime, we are told, will dominate our thoughts in the future and gardening – either watching or doing – will continue to absorb many.

Springfields is well placed to cater for this activity and will continue to push forward the frontiers of garden design with new plants and displays.



## SPRINGFIELDS GARDENS '88

# Gardens information

● **PARKING:** Ample parking for cars and coaches is readily accessible adjacent to Springfields. On Saturday, May 7, the charge for cars is £2 and coaches £7. On Sunday, May 8, cars £1, coaches £5.

● **SHOPS:** There are shops selling garden goods, supplies for photographers and cut flowers. Don't miss the large gift shop featuring country arts, books, plants and bulbs, and souvenirs. Our shops are open daily until 5.30pm.

● **CATERING:** The modern Springfields Restaurant, with excellent bar facilities and a drinks patio, caters for main

meals. Enquiries for party bookings should be made direct to the restaurant (Tel Spalding 4405). Cooked meals and snacks are served in the 300 seater cafeteria (sorry, no advance booking) during the spring season. An attractive tea shop serving tea, coffee and light refreshments is open from July to September near the main entrance.

● **DOGS:** We regret that dogs (except guide dogs) cannot be allowed in the Gardens.

● **WHEELCHAIRS:** The Gardens have been planned for the enjoyment of the disabled with wide walks and wheel-

chairs available free of charge. Spalding St. John Ambulance members are on duty through the spring season and there is a well-equipped first aid room.

● **THE MANAGEMENT** reserve the right to close the Gardens at any time without prior notice of closure and without being responsible for any loss thereby occasioned.

● **CLOSING DATE:** Springfields Gardens also feature full displays of bedding plants, roses and dahlias according to season and finally close down for the winter on September 30.

## Through their generosity...

SPRINGFIELDS Horticultural Society Ltd, as a registered charity, wish to thank the undermentioned individuals, firms and organisations for their generous donations of bulbs, trees, shrubs and other plant material to the gardens and for their continued support.

### SPRINGFIELDS GARDENS EXHIBITORS 1988

#### SPRINGTIME:

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J. Bonkenburg  
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Tom Thumb Nursery





## SPRINGFIELDS GARDENS '88

# Full diary of events

SPRINGFIELDS events for gardeners are now well established but the two-day show on Saturday and Sunday, August 13-14, 1988, looks set to beat all records for activity and excitement.

Organised by two flower arranging national demonstrators Susie Edwards and Sue Brinton, "First Time Round" will have demonstrations by internationally known Dutch arranger Fred Heitbrink.

Members of flower arrangement societies from a wide area are expected at his Dutch Design Workshop, to be held at Springfields from August 10-12, prior to the weekend.

Competitive flower arranging classes (judged under the National Association of Flower Arrangement

Societies rules), relevant trade stands, overnight caravan facilities, and a Saturday night charity barbeque will all add to the usual 25 acre gardens' facilities.

Over 200,000 bedding plants, and major rose, dahlia and hanging basket displays will be in season along with the chance to meet gardening experts.

These include Geoff Hamilton (BBC TV Gardeners' World) and Daphne Ledward, who lives near Spalding, and is involved with Gardeners' Question Time on radio and the BBC TV Gardeners' Direct Line programme.

Garden walks with Springfields head gardener Bob Chapman are included in the programme for the Floral Extravaganza in August.

For further details contact Springfields, Camelgate, Spalding, or telephone Spalding 4843.



● TULIPS cluster naturally around a summer house with a backdrop of greenery in a small corner of Springfields Gardens.

# Experimenting with daffodils

ALTHOUGH the tulip acreage has decreased in the UK daffodils grown now exceed 12,000 acres. Here at Springfields this is reflected in the interest in this popular flower.

In the autumn of 1987 over 100 varieties of daffodil and narcissi were planted in a special woodland area to enable research to be carried out on different methods of planting, ie in grass, depth of planting, treated with and without peat, sand, gravel etc.

During the flowering period in the spring time and some summer flowering periods each variety will be assessed and recorded for

the basis of a paper on daffodils grown in naturalised areas.

This will enable gardeners to evaluate the merits of different types of bulbs to be used for particular plantings.

Naturalised daffodils represent excellent value in that small areas unplanted among trees and shrubs give strong spring colours against a green backdrop without a great deal of maintenance.

The bulbs can be allowed to die back without interference from lawnmowers or summer bedding. A collection can be developed by introducing new varieties which by careful selection of flowering times can prolong the length of the flowering period.



● A HOST of golden daffodils - propagated carefully in one of the gardens' woodland walks as part of a planting experiment.

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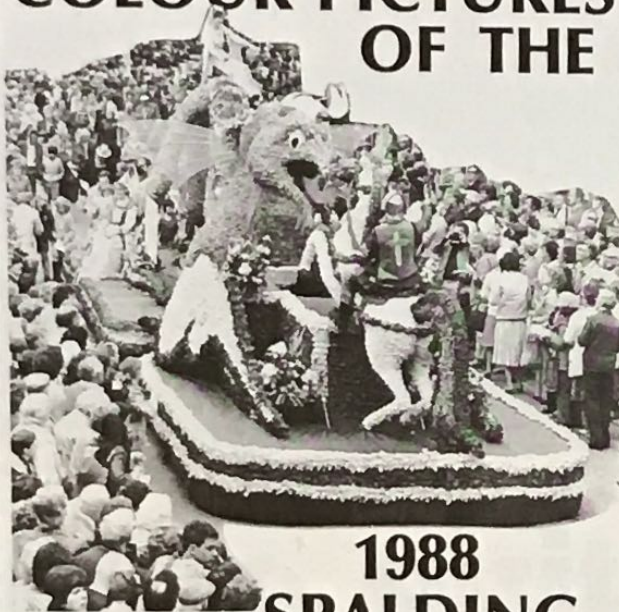
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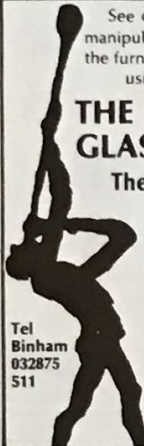
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Enquiries: Market Bosworth (0455) 290429



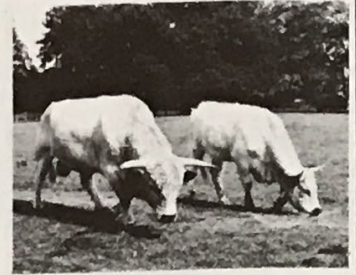
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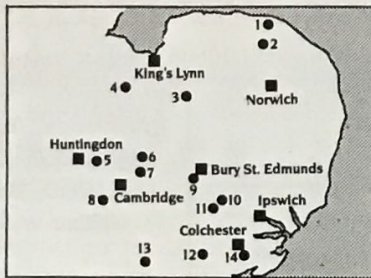
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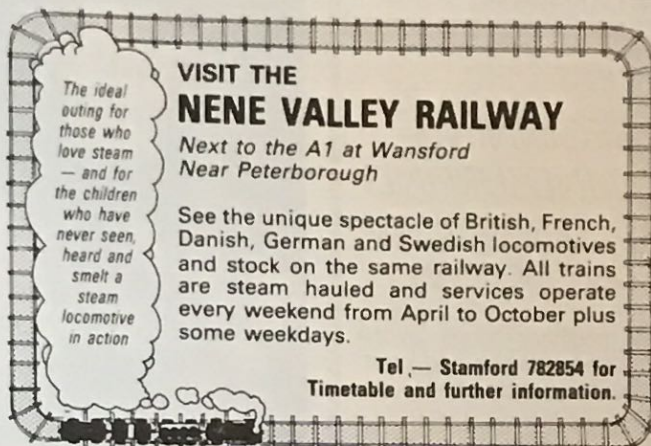
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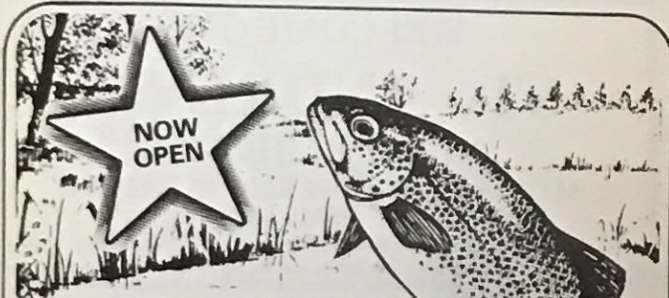
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or call us at our office facing the lifts on Level 11 of the Queensgate car  
parks.

Peterborough Shopmobility is a project of the Council for Voluntary  
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**Nationwide  
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A top local Estate Agent backed by one of Britain's largest Building Societies.

The benefit of many years local knowledge and experience is available, but now combined with the support and strength of the Nationwide Anglia Building Society.

## Looking for a new home in South Lincolnshire?

Then check  
the property  
pages every  
Tuesday in the

**Free Press**

For your postal copy write to:- **The Subscription Dept, The Crescent, Spalding, Lincs, PE11 1AB.**  
Charges including postage: 1 copy **50p**; 13 copies **£6.50**; 26 copies **£13.00**; 52 copies **£26.00**  
Cheques/PO payable to **Welland Valley Newspapers**

## FOR SALE IN TULIPLAND

IT IS now a sellers' market for property owners in South Lincolnshire.

Traditionally a low-priced area, the influx of folk from 'down South' over several years has now produced a supply and demand situation which has caused soaring increases.

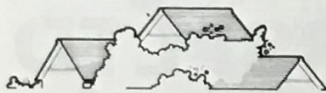
It takes only 43 minutes on an InterCity 125 from King's Cross to Peterborough (plus 18 miles by diesel train or car to Spalding) and more and more London commuters - with London salaries to match - are finding that living up here is a worth-while financial proposition with many bonuses in quality of living.

"People are coming up from the South and paying what's asked because they've got it. A four bedroom detached estate house of the type we have here could fetch £220,000 in a good district in Surrey, here it's making £72,000," commented one Spalding estate agent.

And if the same sort of house is on a small individual development and with a double garage, the asking price is now in the £80,000 to £90,000 range.

The knock-on effect has been added to by Peterborough people selling their houses to Southerners themselves and moving to Spalding and district where prices are still lower, and workplaces in the city only half an hour's car journey.

In this magazine property feature last year, a new three bedroom bungalow (already like gold) was listed at around £40,000. Now the going rate is in the £60,000 range, a staggering increase in a year.



**Allison  
Homes**

## HOUSEBUILDER OF THE YEAR

Award by Express Newspapers plc and the  
New Homes Marketing Board 1986-87



We continue our tradition of building quality detached houses and bungalows to superior specifications and high standards of space and comfort.

It will be a pleasure to welcome you at the Abbots Mead Show House in Spalding or to forward you our brochure on our new developments at Bourne and Deeping St. Nicholas.

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## MUNTON & RUSSELL

16 SHEEP MARKET,  
SPALDING, LINCS  
PE11 1BE. Telephone:  
Spalding (0775) 2475

Your local independent firm of Estate Agents,  
Valuers, Surveyors and Auctioneers, offering:

- ★ Valuation and marketing advice without cost or obligation
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- ★ National mailing list
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- ★ RICS surveys carried out

District Office:

Kent Reliance Building Society



## LONGSTAFF

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THINKING ABOUT IT?  
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4 OFFICES

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## NEW HOMES AVAILABLE

THE THREE bedroom new detached estate house, which began the bargain housing boom in the district, sold for £23,000 to £25,000 five years ago. Now £56,000 is nearer the mark.

New developments proposed within the town area should provide around 200 homes and slow down the present price rise over the year of around 25 to 27 per cent.

The "second hand" house on the established estates have also been caught up in the boom. A year ago, they would have been selling at £42,000 to £43,000. Today's price is between £52,000 and £54,000.

It is not an easy time for the traditional first time buyer. The "two up, two down, and bathroom" modernised town property seeker will not find much under £30,000 to £35,000. Five years ago, around £18,950 was the going rate.

But prices apart, there are many bonuses for householders moving into South Lincolnshire: clean air, wide skies, a sensible pace of life, and district facilities based in Spalding which include a civic centre, new sports hall and museum, swimming pool, indoor bowling rink, excellent schools, many leisure organisations, and an active church life.

Look in any estate agents window or the property pages of the Lincolnshire Free Press and you will see the diversity of homes on offer in Spalding and its surrounding towns and villages.

## P. L. ELY (CONTRACTORS) LTD

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for 6 successive years

### New Homes in South Lincolnshire



■ Illustrated: OXFORD - 4-bedroomed house with utility room and garage.  
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Currently being constructed on individual plots as well as a main development at

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Each new property is fully decorated and comes complete with drives, drains and fences, as well as an NHBC 10-year Structural Guarantee.



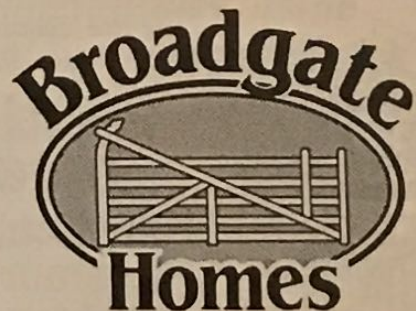
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South Lincolnshire's

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# Eating Out

## Your Food and Drink Guide in TULIPLAND

### CHINESE MEALS

**Golden City Restaurant**  
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Spalding  
TULIP SATURDAY OPEN ALL DAY  
Tel. 2065

Dine in or take away

OPEN  
MON-FRI  
12-2 & 6-11.30  
SAT  
12-2 & 5-m.n.  
SUN 5-11.30

Orders taken by phone

Visit the  
**Wheatsheaf Hotel Swineshead**

Nr. Boston, Lincs.  
Tel. Boston 820349

Bed and Breakfast  
Fast Bar Snacks, Basket Meals and Grills

Catering and outside bars catered for

Large car park at rear.  
Families and coaches welcome

SUNDAY LUNCHES  
Real Ales - Tetley House  
Function room available



### TURNERS

Family Fish Restaurant  
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Tel. (0775) 2502

- ★ Seating for 140
- ★ Bus Parties
- ★ Take Away Service

OPEN: Tues, Weds, Thurs, Fri & Sat and TULIP SUNDAY  
1st Choice for Fish & Chips



**Restaurant**  
SUPERB CUISINE  
Open evenings for Dinner from 7.30

Afternoon Teas, Sunday Lunches  
Comfortable, spacious accommodation at reasonable rates.  
Deeping St. Nicholas  
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Eat in style... at a price you can afford  
A warm welcome to NON-RESIDENTS is always assured at

## The Woodlands Hotel

In the Bar at lunchtime we serve a cold buffet which includes a wide choice of home cooked meats and salads, complimented by many additional home prepared dishes. Enjoy your meal in the bar or in the garden - ideal for children.

In the evenings we serve a selection of bar meals with prices to suit all.

**'A BLUE RIBBON HOTEL'**  
All rooms are en suite

Our restaurant is open lunch times and evenings

7 days a week where you can have a superb meal, choosing from the full a la carte menu

**Superior Accommodation for the discerning visitor**  
Luxurious facilities



## The Woodlands Hotel

### Four Seasons Restaurant

Pinchbeck Road, Spalding  
TEL SPALDING (0775) 69933

★ Don't forget - you don't have to be a resident

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OPEN: 12noon-2.30pm 6pm-11.30pm Seven days a week including Bank Holidays

Take away Service available

# SPALDING TANDOORI RESTAURANT

**HighClass Fully Licenced Indian Restaurant**

Enjoy the delicacies of traditional Indian Cuisine served in relaxed, elegant surroundings.  
The friendly and efficient service, excellent food and good wine contribute in making any occasion special.

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Tel. 4404

**44 DOUBLE STREET SPALDING Tel 0775 4404/5424**

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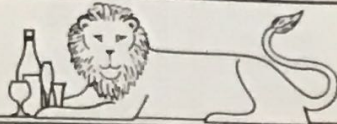


Been there

been there

Been there

Fully residential  
Free House  
in the  
centre of  
Spalding



Ideally situated  
for touring, to  
stay or have a  
pleasant break  
for refreshment

### The Red Lion Hotel

We look forward to welcoming you where you may enjoy a selection of delicious homemade bar meals or a wide choice of menu's in the Restaurant or Hot Carvery.  
*Your choice of three contrasting Bars*  
**TULIP SAT & SUN LUNCHEON**  
**11am-4pm**  
Market Place, Spalding. Tel. (0775) 2869

2 miles from Spalding  
on the B1165 Wisbech Road



0406 371306  
**THE BELL INN**  
Freehouse  
**WESTON HILLS**  
40 seat Restaurant  
LUNCHES, EVENING MEALS,  
BAR SNACKS, COFFEE  
Weddings, Parties catered for  
Large Coach Park, Beer Garden  
Coaches welcome

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SPALDING Tel: 67313  
**FLOWER PARADE WEEKEND**  
Saturday 11am-6pm  
Sunday & Monday mid-day-6pm  
**RESTAURANT HOURS**  
Monday-Friday 11 am-1.30 pm  
Saturday 11 am-4.30 pm  
Tuesday-Friday 5 pm-8.30 pm  
**TAKE AWAY HOURS**  
Monday-Friday 11 am-2.00 pm  
Saturday 11 am-5.00 pm  
Tuesday-Friday 5 pm-10 pm



Whilst in the area why not visit a traditional Fenland Inn? Recently refurbished to retain its original charm & cosiness.

## THE HORSE & JOCKEY

Six House Bank, West Pinchbeck, Nr. Spalding.  
Tel. Pinchbeck Bars 569  
(Take the A151 Bourne Road from Spalding and in six miles take second right after new bridge at West Pinchbeck)  
Enclosed beer garden, real ale, bar meals, children welcome.  
*It's worth a trip out*

## THE CHEQUERS GEDNEY DYKE

Freehouse and Restaurant  
● 3 Real Ales  
● Bar Snacks  
● A la Carte Menu  
● Traditional Sunday Lunch  
Just off A17 4 miles from Holbeach  
**The Country Inn**  
for good food  
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**Fully Licensed Bar**  
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Tel: 0205 820167 or 54114

Weddings and parties catered for (Up to 60 persons)

Extensive fixed and a la Carte menu  
Traditional Sunday Lunch  
Bar meals Tuesday - Friday  
Closed all day Monday

*Situated in the Market Square opposite the Church on the old A17*

## The Manor House Hotel and Restaurant

*Now open and at your service*

Tucked away in the beautiful village of Rippingale and next to the church, this recently refurbished, superbly equipped, 7 bedroomed, exclusive hotel and restaurant is set in its own secluded landscaped gardens.

For that special evening, our exclusive restaurant offers a superb a la carte menu with an excellent choice of French cuisine. Every effort has been made to ensure that residents enjoy their stay.

Midweek menu at £14.95 per head

The Manor House is owned and managed by Steve and Sue McDermott, who run the well known village pub, The Bull Inn.

High Street, Rippingale, Nr Bourne, PE10 0SR

Bookings only  
Please phone for reservations  
- 0778 35546

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Relish the delights of home cooking, savour a selection of fine wines, and relax in the comfort of Lincolnshire's finest, genuine Olde Worlde Inn.

## The "King's Head" Inn Morton . Nr. Bourne . Lincs.

A Free House situated 2 1/4 miles North of Bourne

Restaurant open daily  
including Sunday

Extensive  
bar menu  
daily

Traditional Sunday  
Lunch

Proprietor: Joe Jorgensen

For reservations telephone MORTON 289

● Limited accommodation available ●  
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PIZZERIA



5 High Street Spalding Tel. 60999

**Fine Italian cuisine  
in relaxed surroundings**

Also an enormous variety of Pizzas including:  
**DOLCE** Ham and pineapple on cheese and tomato;  
**MEXICANA** Hot chili con carne sauce; **PESCATORE**  
Prawns, peppers, olives and tomato; **PIZZA D'ISCHIA**  
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● PARKING AT REAR VIA BATH LANE ●

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Out**

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Deeping  
(0778) 347629

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Delightfully renovated country inn serving Bar Meals each lunchtime & evenings. Home made pies our speciality

★  
Traditional 3-course Sunday Lunch £4.75  
Bookings advisable for Dinky Diner

★  
Large Beer Gardens with Play Area. Large Car Park

★  
Dinky Diner available for small parties. Coaches only by appointment

★  
Open all day Saturday for Food, Coffee & Soft Drinks during the Summer Season

★  
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Morning Coffee  
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Meals served  
lunchtime and  
evenings

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GARDEN  
Coaches welcome

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Restaurant

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FULLY LICENSED

FLOWER PARADE  
WEEKEND

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Afternoon Teas

## GOOD FOOD!

We cater for all tastes

All home made

Full menu including  
vegetarian dishes

Our restaurant is open  
7 days a week and evenings

Bookings preferred

Morning coffee  
and bar snacks

Parties welcome

STRING OF HORSES

3, Boston Road,  
Holbeach.

Tel. Holbeach 23456

## DELIGHT

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Restaurant

Take-away service

will be open on  
TULIP SATURDAY, MAY 7  
from 11 am to midnight

Come and taste real  
Oriental Cooking

2-4 WESTLODE STREET,  
SPALDING

For Reservations  
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★ OPENING TIMES ★ Sun-Mon 5pm to midnight  
Tues-Sat 12 noon to 2pm, 5pm to midnight

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... not just a showpiece for  
British Bulbs

SPRINGFIELDS  
RESTAURANT

We serve a la carte and table  
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time and evening. Also good  
value for money bar snacks.  
For choice of food and wine  
particularly for those special  
occasions why not visit:-

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## The Chequers

Swan Street, Spalding

HOT & COLD MEALS  
lunchtime and evenings

Weekend a la Carte  
Traditional Sunday Roast

Everything home baked  
on the premises



Bed & Breakfast

Serving  
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12.00-1.45pm  
7.30-9.30pm

Phone 5606

## Hop Kweng Chinese Restaurant

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The Yick family offer you speciality dishes from the historical Peking Cuisine recipes used by the imperial chef during the China Dynasty. Here you can sample the famous Peking duck, as well as other specialities including sliced sole with Chinese wine sauce and fresh beef with ginger and spring onion sauce.



Part of our fully  
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We offer you super Chinese and English service, special a la Carte menu, take-away service, Cantonese style cooking. Access cards welcome.

Good prices, good quality, good results.

Please come and enjoy a good meal in a friendly atmosphere.

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TEA  
COSY



56 High Street • 8 miles  
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HOLBEACH Spalding

Open Monday to Saturday  
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ALL-DAY MENU  
MEALS - SNACKS - DRINKS  
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Coaches welcome (prior booking)

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A Victorian coaching inn  
— gateway to the Fens —  
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shopping mews precinct

Visit Copperfields Restaurant with an a la Carte menu, and bar meals for the smaller appetite

All bedrooms full en suite  
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Function room for weddings,  
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STAMFORD 64033



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Lunches: 12 noon-2pm ●●● Dinners: 7pm-10.00pm

We now have the pleasure of offering you four superb luxury bedrooms,  
each with private bathroom — each at unbelievable prices.

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- Guest Houses
- Camping and Caravan Sites

**FLEET HARGATE (10 miles from Spalding A151)**  
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**GEDNEY BROADGATE (12 miles from Spalding A17)**  
Laurel Park Caravan and Camping Site. B1359 signposted from A17 Phone (0406) 364369.

**GEDNEY DROVE END (15 miles from Spalding B1359)**  
Caravan pitches in village park close to sea marshes. Saturday night entertainment. Details (04068) 270.

**GEDNEY HILL (10 miles from Spalding B1166)**  
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**HOLBEACH HURN (10 miles Spalding A151)**  
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**LANGTOFT (13 miles from Spalding A15)**  
Mrs. Reedman, 26 Peterborough Road, Langtoft. Telephone Market Deeping 343102 Bed and Breakfast. One family and one twin. Parking space available.

**LUTTON (11 miles from Spalding off A17)**  
Mrs. Ward, White House Farm, Colleys Gate, Lutton, Nr. Spalding (0406) 364125.

Farm house bed and breakfast. Delightful setting surrounded by bulb fields. Reasonable terms.

**MARKET DEEPING (8 miles from Spalding A16)**  
Deepings Caravan and Camping Park, Outgang Road, Towngate East, Market Deeping Nr. Peterborough PE6 8LQ Telephone (0778) 344335.

**MOULTON EAUGATE (8 miles from Spalding B1168)**  
Static self contained, all electric, fully equipped holiday caravans. Small pleasant site. SAE for brochure. I.N. Mimmack, Woodlands Park, Jekyll's Bank, Moulton Eaugate, Spalding, Lincs. PE12 0SX Tel. (0406) 380088.

**PINCHBECK (2 miles from Spalding A16)**  
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Mrs. Brown, 8 Meadow Close, Spalding. Telephone (0775) 4105. Bed and breakfast. Car parking space. Reasonable terms.

Bulstrode Guest House, Holland Road, Spalding (near town centre). B&B/evening meal. Off the road parking. Tel. Spalding (0775) 69465.



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### WHAPLODE MANOR CARAVAN PARK at SARACEN'S HEAD

(LOCATED BETWEEN SUTTERTON AND LONG SUTTON)

• FULL FACILITIES AVAILABLE •  
Phone Holbeach 22837

### Whaplode Manor



Bed & Breakfast  
Optional Evening Meal  
Saracens Head  
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Tel. Holbeach (0406) 22837  
Sandra & Dave Wood

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#### OPEN ALL YEAR

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*Home-from-Home*

*with personal attention at all times*

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- ★ Special rates for O.A.P.'s early and late season ★

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*Members of Skegness Hoteliers Association*

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or telephone (0754) 5695



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Enjoy a relaxing holiday

- ★ Luxury south facing bungalows
- ★ Indoor heated pool
- ★ Jacuzzi, solarium and sauna
- ★ Golf and tennis on site
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*Make us the venue for your next holiday*  
Secluded touring caravan site

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Guest House

Gorleston

Activity Weekends including Art, Bowls, Golf, Fly/Sea Fishing, Nature Walks, Photographic.



Bed & Breakfast  
Evening Meals  
Licensed Bar  
TV Lounge  
Full Facilities for Children

Last minute plans? Not sure where to go?

THEN WHY NOT TRY THE EAST COAST

*We cannot guarantee sunshine, but we can a good time.*

**BED & BREAKFAST £10.00 pp**  
**WITH EVENING MEAL £13.50 pp**  
**CHILDREN 5 TO 15 £6.00**  
**CHILDREN UNDER 5 FREE**

Courtesy vehicle to and from the stations  
*Don't worry about pram, cot, high chair, etc.*  
Please ring KEVIN & SARAH ON

**GT YARMOUTH (0493) 653011**

"ARRIVE AS A GUEST -  
LEAVE AS A FRIEND"

We look forward to seeing you!

# Around Spalding

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(next to newspaper offices)  
Offering a complete service to the collector

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- STAMPS
- PRINTED EPHEMERA
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*We need to buy top quality articles for our national trade, so best prices offered*

**TEL: SPALDING 68228**

## South Holland District Council

**INFORMATION SERVICE**

The Tourist Information Centre in Ayscoughfee Hall now housed in the splendidly restored entrance hall, provides a wide ranging service for both visitors and residents alike.

Visitors to the Centre are assured of a warm welcome by the staff who are always willing to help tourists to the district; especially those who come at Tulip time seeking accommodation and entertainment.

The Tourist Information Centre also provides an information service on the extensive sporting and recreational facilities the district offers.

For further information  
Tel. 0775 5468

been there

## SPEEDY SPUD

WE WILL DELIVER DELICIOUS OVEN BAKED POTATOES WITH VARIOUS FILLINGS, PIZZA'S, SPAGHETTI BOLOGNAISE, CHILLI ETC. ALSO VARIETY OF PUDDINGS

TO YOUR CARAVAN SITE, HOUSE OR BUSINESS OVER FLOWER PARADE WEEKEND FROM 9AM-MIDNIGHT

**Telephone Holbeach 371571**

## Church Events

**CROWLAND METHODIST CHURCH.** Decorated Church. Catering April 23 - May 10 weekdays 2-6pm. Saturday and Sunday 10am-6pm. Enquiries: Mrs. J. Coley, 4 Abbots Drive, Crowland. Tel (0733) 210475 or 210530.

**LONG SUTTON ST MARY'S CHURCH.** Flower Festival April 28th-May 8th. Theme: 'Quote, Unquote' Lunches, teas and light refreshments daily. Coaches and parties welcome. Good parking. Enquiries and bookings to Brian Ford, 154 Spring Gardens, Long Sutton, Spalding, PE12 9HU. Tel (0406) 362932.

**SPALDING BROAD STREET METHODIST CHURCH.** Flower Festival May 5-10 10am to 9pm. Catering from April 23 except Sundays. Saturday May 7th cafeteria only including breakfast from 8am. Enquiries: H. F. Belton, 37 Seas End Road, Surfleet, Lincs. PE11 4DQ. Tel (077585) 317 or J. Head (0775) 4115.

**SPALDING PARISH CHURCH.** Flower and Bulb Thanksgiving Festival. May 5th-10th. The Church is on the route of the Spalding Flower Parade and is superbly decorated with flowers. Booked meals and cafeteria in large modern hall. Further information from: The Parish Office, The Parsonage, Church Street, Spalding, Lincs. Telephone (0775) 2772.

**SURFLEET PARISH CHURCH.** On A16, 3 1/2 miles north of Spalding, Boston road. Decorated 13th Century. Famous leaning spire. Snacks, cake, plant/vegetable stalls, May 5th-9th.

## Miscellaneous

**COWBIT NEW VILLAGE HALL.** Refreshments, parking, toilets (disabled). Stalls. Weekends April 30 - May 9. Party catering other days by prior booking. Tel (0406) 380323.

**GEDNEY DROVE END VILLAGE HALL.** May 7th Disco Dance. 8pm. Admission £1.50. Licensed bar.

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**PHOTOGRAPHS OF THE PARADE** in colour available from Spring Colour Publications, Springfields, Spalding. For details see the advertisement on page 6.

**SPALDING FLOWER PARADE** fully reported in words and pictures in the May 10 edition of the Lincolnshire free Press. Copies available by post. For details see the advertisement of page 46.

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