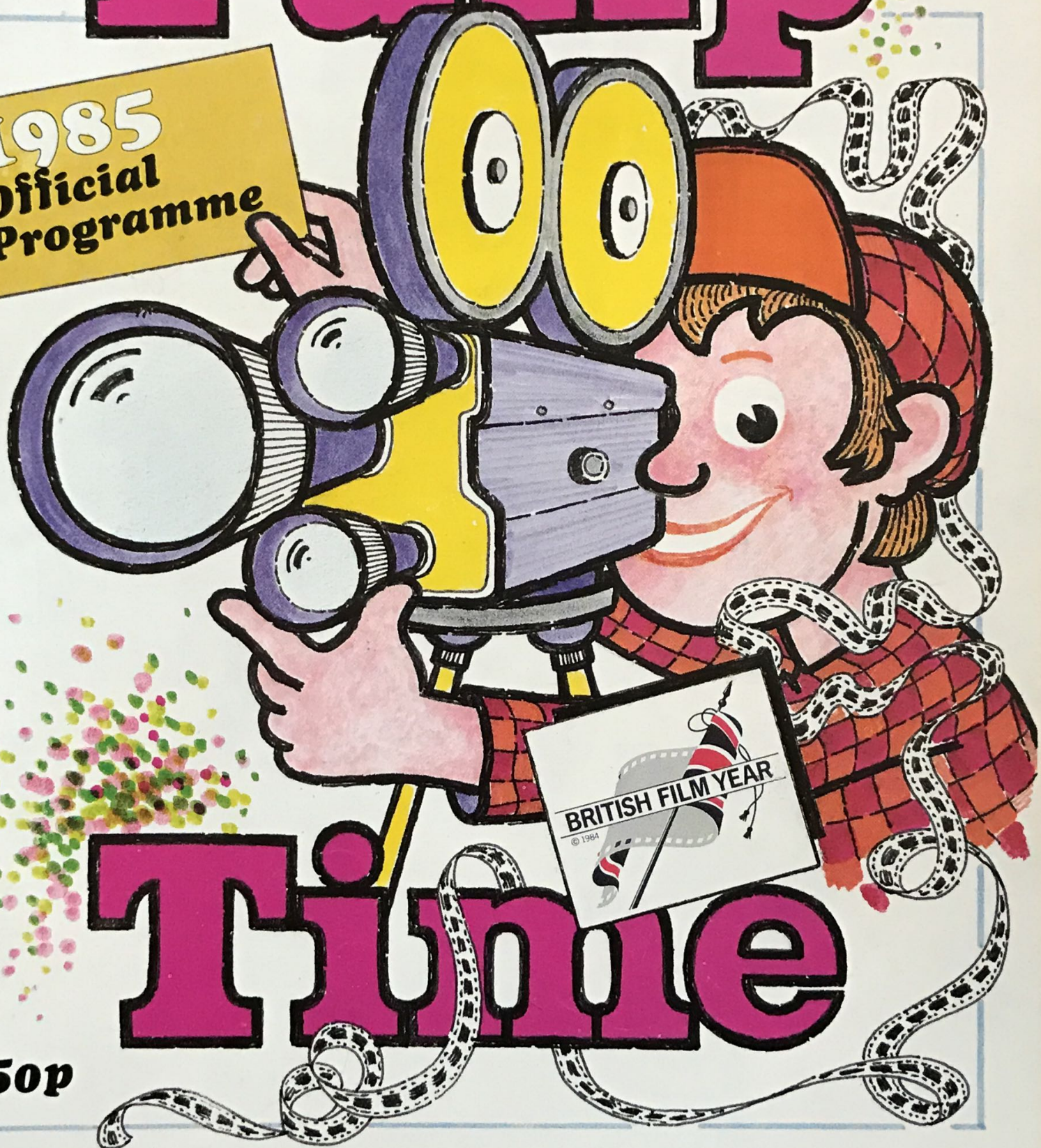


Souvenir

Tulip

1985
Official
Programme



Time

50p

Geest

FRESHNESS GOES FURTHER



Enjoy your visit

Welcome to all our visitors to South Lincolnshire at Tulip Time to see the magnificent display of flowers both in the Flower Parade and Springfields Gardens. Our theme in this, the 27th year, is "Film Time". As you will see the designs have been selected from firm favourites in the film world.

I sincerely hope that you will enjoy your visit to Britain's tulip town and retain happy memories of your day.

Please do visit Springfields Gardens and/or the Halley Stewart Float Exhibition. Both are non profit making organisations, which help to provide the magnificent spring shows.

Lastly, I would like to thank all sponsors of the floats, South Holland District Council, Lincolnshire Constabulary, St John Ambulance Brigade and the many organisations and firms, voluntary groups and individuals, for their splendid effort in producing another marvellous spectacle.

ROGER TAYLOR
Chairman, Spalding
Flower Parade.



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FLOWER PARADE ROUTE



GEEST COACH AND CAR PARK

Parade starts 1.30 at Halley Stewart Field, May 5, 1984. returning at about 4.30

TIMINGS
 Wondering where to watch the show? Here are the times (approximate only) when the parade will reach the various vantage points on the 4½ mile route.
 King's Road/Pinchbeck Road, 1.35; Market Place, 1.45; High Bridge 2pm; Churchgate/Love Lane 2.15; Halmegate/Queen's Road corner 2.25; Queen's Road/Holbeach Road corner 2.30; Holbeach Road/Camelgate 2.40; Springfields Gardens (where the parade makes a circuit of the arena) 3pm; Roman Bank 3.20; West Elloe Bridge 3.25; West Elloe Avenue/Pinchbeck Road 3.40; Return to Halley Stewart Field 4pm to 4.30
 The floats remain on exhibition in the field.
 The distance from town centre to Springfields is about 1¼ miles (this map is not to scale).

A.16 To Mkt. Deeping

A.1073 To Crowland

ORDER OF PARADE, 1985

Spalding Flower Parade will leave the Sir Halley Stewart Field, Winfrey Avenue, at 1.30pm on Saturday, May 4. For their own safety spectators round the route are advised not to block the roadway

1 **BELVOIR CASTLE JOUSTERS**

Entered by Belvoir Castle, Grantham, Lincs.

2 **ROMSEY OLD CADETS ASSOCIATION**

Secretary: Mr M. Tubb. Famous for their outrageous costumes and comedy routines. See them again on Sunday, May 5 in Springfields Gardens at noon.

3 **MISS TULIPLAND 1985**

Entered by South Holland District Council, the leading float depicts Tuliptime and carries Miss Tulipland and her Deputy, the two charming young ladies who have been chosen to represent South Holland during Tuliptime and the following year. The six delightful girls also on the float have been chosen from the six local secondary schools.

4 **SUPER TED CARES**

This year East Midlands Electricity Board's cuddly bear is displayed on their float emulating Superman, speeding to bring the benefits of a super fuel — electricity — to his customers. Super Ted — the symbol of a super caring service.

5 **MARCHING AND CONCERT BAND OF BRAINTREE.**

Band manager Mr J. Miller

6 **PETER PAN**

Entered by CIS Pilkington. What makes CIS windows the best? With over 20 years experience and more than 50 offices and showrooms, CIS doors and windows are made and fitted with expert care. Top quality products backed by the Pilkington Group, by a unique double warranty, the G.G.F, AWA and BSI Kitemark.

7 **POPEYE**

The Holland (Lincs) County Branch of the National Farmers' Union have depicted Popeye who may be eating spinach — but could be enjoying the many vegetables and salads which are grown in this area. Popeye, as you know, was capable of great strength on occasions and the message from our farmers is — If YOU like to keep healthy, fit and vigorous, do as Popeye does.

8 **THIRTEENTH CITY OF COVENTRY SCOUT GROUP MARCHING BAND.**

Bandmaster Mr R. H. Nowell.

9 **EASTWOOD ARCADIAN BAND**

Secretary Mrs M. Machin. Sponsored by British Sugar

10 **MARY POPPINS**

"A Spoonful of Sugar" — British Sugar have chosen this favourite song from the much-loved film Mary Poppins as the theme for their float. Silver Spoon sugar is produced in 13 British Sugar factories in East Anglia and the West Midlands from beet grown on 12,000 farms. For nearly a century British Sugar (which has a Spalding factory) has kept up with technological advances in field and factory to become one of Europe's leading sugar producers.

11 **BREAKDOWN VEHICLE**

Just in case ...

12 **LONG SUTTON AND DISTRICT VETERAN CYCLE CLUB**

Secretary Mrs D. E. Ellis. This is the 25th appearance of the club in the parade. Well done!

13 **MELTON MOWBRAY TALLY HO'S BAND**

Secretary Mr A. Cragg. Sponsored by Leeds Permanent Building Society.

14 **THE GREATEST SHOW ON EARTH**

Entered by the Leeds Permanent Building Society. "The Leeds" is the 4th largest building society in the country, with assets of £6,000 million and over 475 branches throughout the country. This year will be the sixth that "the Leeds" has been part of the parade.

15 **ROMFORD ROYAL BRITISH LEGION BOYS' BAND & CORPS OF DRUMS**

Secretary Mrs J. Clapham.

16 **ANTHONY AND CLEOPATRA**

Entered by the Geo. Adams Group of Companies, celebrating their 75th Jubilee in 1985. Their message is "A warm welcome to you all to Spalding which, as well as presenting the Tulip Festival, is also home to George Adams, famous for their Lincolnshire range of pork pies and sausages. As well as our factory here in Spalding, we have two others in nearby Ruskington and Frampton."

17 **CHARIOTS OF FIRE — "The Sprinter"**

Entered by British Rail (Eastern). The new class 150 "Sprinter" trains will be appearing on cross-country services in the East Midlands from late 1985 onwards. Faster and more comfortable than the ageing trains they are to replace, "Sprinters" will provide a much improved service for passengers.

18 **HASLAND DRUM CORPS**

Secretary Mr C. Johnson

19 **DUMBO**

Entered by Lingarden Ltd, Weston, Nr Spalding. Lingarden is a grower-owned co-operative which, since its formation almost 20 years ago, has become the largest bulb growing organisation in the world. Bulbs and flowers are grown on over 100 member farms totalling some 2,500 acres.

20 **CHITTY, CHITTY, BANG BANG**

Entered by Spalding and District Young Farmers' Club. Visits to police stations and telephone exchanges, talks on fire protection and home brewing, carol singing for charity — just a few of the activities enjoyed by members who at this time of year devote all their energies to constructing and decorating their own float as well as providing refreshments for thousands of visitors to the float exhibition.

21 **BREAKDOWN VEHICLE**

Just in case ...

22 **ELY CITY MILITARY BAND**

Secretary Mr M. J. Fletcher

23 **FOLLOW THE YELLOW BRICK ROAD**

Entered by the Halifax Building Society. The Wizard of Oz is one of the most popular films of all time, so it is quite appropriate that the Halifax — the country's number one building society — should adopt the Oz theme for its float. So keep an eye out for the delightful Dorothy, and favourite characters such as the Tin Man, who give her a little Xtra help along the Yellow Brick Road. Could you use a helping hand through life? If so, you won't go far wrong with the Halifax.

24 **THE JUNGLE BOOK**

Entered by Geest Industries Limited, importers and distributors of fresh fruit and vegetables, house-plant producers and suppliers of bulbs, roses, shrubs and other garden products. Mowgli and his friends will be featured on the float sampling bananas and other exotic fruits supplied by Geest.

25 **DERBY SERENADERS SHOW BAND**

Manager Mr A. Gilbert

26 **SNOW WHITE AND THE SEVEN DWARFS**

Entered by the Midland Bank plc

27 **E.T.**

Entered by British Telecom Midland. British Telecom is one of the largest businesses in Britain today. Its principal activity is providing connections between 29 million telephones serving 20 million customers. Satellite, microwave radio and cable links have made possible instant, worldwide communication from every part of the U.K. and as part of their modernisation plan, British Telecom are up-dating the telecommunications network using optical fibres.

Fen churches – in full bloom

The magnificent churches of South Lincolnshire stand tall among the flat fenlands like perpendicular "Jewels in the Crown".

This heritage of vast and beautiful stone buildings often surprises visitors who wonder how such splendid edifices, built to the glory of God by the skill of man, came to be so abundant in what was a sparsely populated isolated corner of England.

The answer is — sheep. The rich wool merchants who grazed their flocks round the land edges of the fens in the early Middle Ages, and again flourished after the draining of the Fens in the late 17th century, helped build and endow many churches.

What better way to be remembered for their benefactions on earth, and hopefully work their passage for a seat in Heaven?

Here in South Holland we have a cathedral size church in the middle of a field (Gedney), a magnificent Abbey ruin at historic Crowland, a leaning spire to rival Pisa (Surfleet), England's oldest timber spire (Long Sutton) ... to name but a few.

So our churches are worth visiting, especially at Tulip Time when almost every one is decorated and many put on major flower festivals which attract thousands of visitors.

Then there's the food, in church halls throughout the area you will find delicious home baking at budget prices, anything from a small meal to a simple snack.

Below are brief details of the main festivals.

Spalding Parish Church of St Mary and St Nicolas: May 2-7 10am-8pm.

Spalding Broad Street Methodist Church: May 2-7 10am-9pm.

Spalding United Reformed Church (central): April 20-May 7.

St Paul's Church, Fulney (near Springfields): May 2-6.

Spalding St Norbert's Roman Catholic Church: Open May 4-5. Grotto, known as the Lourdes of England.

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

Moulton Parish Church: April 27-May 7.

Whaplode Parish Church: May 4-12.

Holbeach Parish Church: April 27-May 6.

Fleet Parish Church: May 3-12.

Fleet Baptist Church: May 3-8.

Long Sutton Parish Church: April 25-May 6.

Notable festivals north of Spalding include:

Pinchbeck Parish Church: April 29-May 8.

Surfleet Parish Church: April 30-May 7.

Gosberton Parish Church: April 27-May 7.

Donington Parish Church: May 3-6.

Moulton Chapel (B1375 Cowbit to Moulton road): Decorated church and chapel. Village flower parade, May 5.

FESTIVALS ROUND-UP



Pinchbeck girls Fiona Smith (left) and Candida Hill beside one of the floral arrangements in last year's flower festival at Pinchbeck Parish Church.



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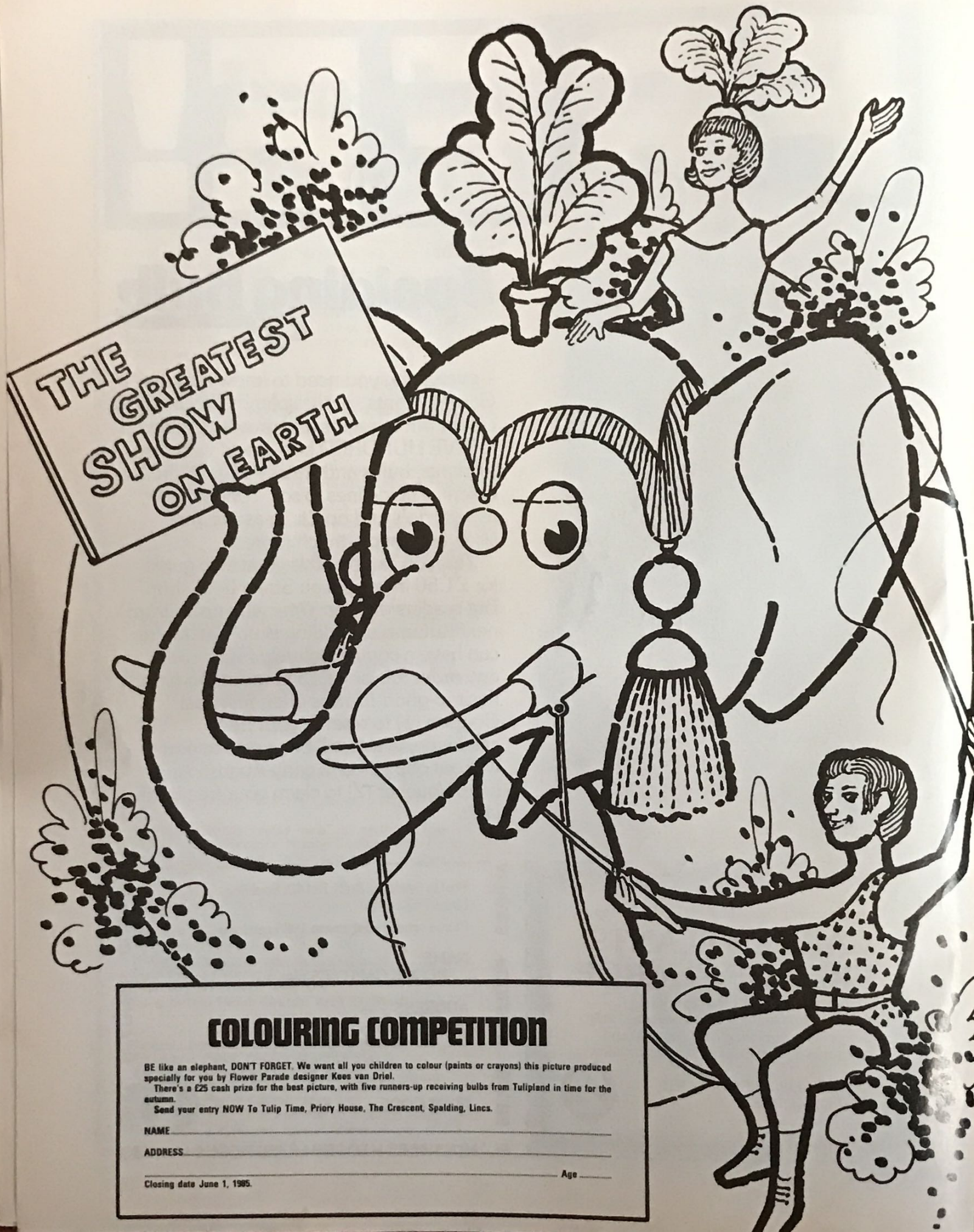
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COLOURING COMPETITION

BE like an elephant, DON'T FORGET. We want all you children to colour (paints or crayons) this picture produced specially for you by Flower Parade designer Kees van Driel.

There's a £25 cash prize for the best picture, with five runners-up receiving bulbs from Tulipland in time for the autumn.

Send your entry NOW To Tulip Time, Priory House, The Crescent, Spalding, Lincs.

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Age _____

Closing date June 1, 1985.

IRON



STRAW

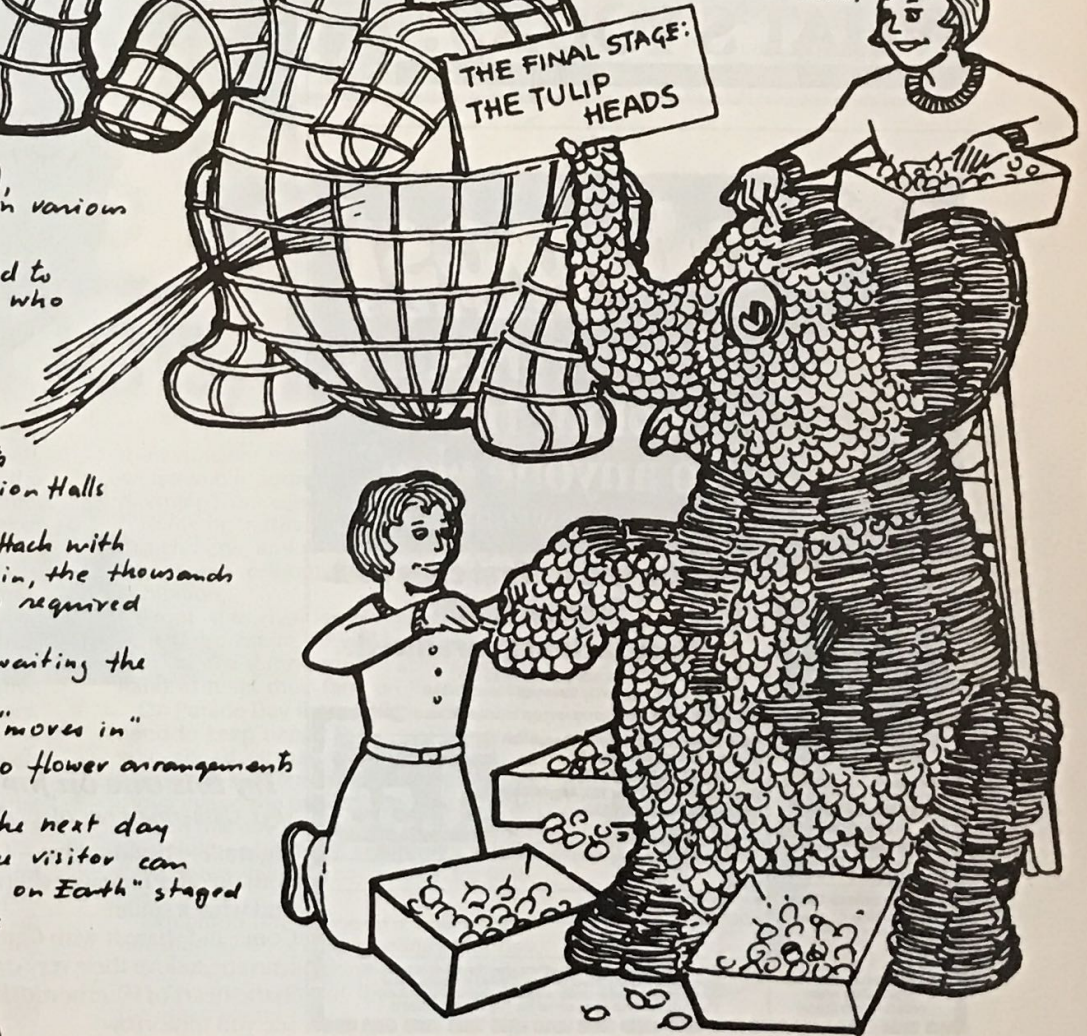


Inspired by the film The Greatest Show on Earth I have chosen some elephants to show you how our, Greatest Free Show on Earth (as it is often called), is staged from the colour design to a floral extravaganza. 8 mm iron, Long rye straw, pins, thousands of Tulipheads and many busy hands form the basic ingredients for a nearly year long preparation process from a colour design to a float.

Once the colour design collection based on a chosen theme is ready float entrants are contacted to make their choice.

Once a design is decided upon a working drawing, scale 1:25 is prepared with a list of requirements e.g. quantity of straw, mats.

THE FINAL STAGE: THE TULIP HEADS



(they are imported from Holland), flower arrangements, Tulip heads in various colours etc etc.

The working drawing is then handed to Geoff Dodd our Parade blacksmith who transforms them into 25 times larger three dimensional shapes and fixes ready to be covered with a layer of straw.

The last 2 days most of the floats are transported to the Bulb Auction Halls in the centre of Spalding.

Here hundreds of busy hands attach with a pin in the shape of an hairpin, the thousands of individual Tulipheads in the required colours to the floats.

The float is then nearly ready awaiting the "final touch".

The Spalding Flower Lovers Club "moves in" to arrange a total of some 200 flower arrangements on the floats.

What we only need then is for the next day beautiful weather so that you the visitor can enjoy our "Greatest Free Show on Earth" staged by the Lincolnshire Bulb Growers

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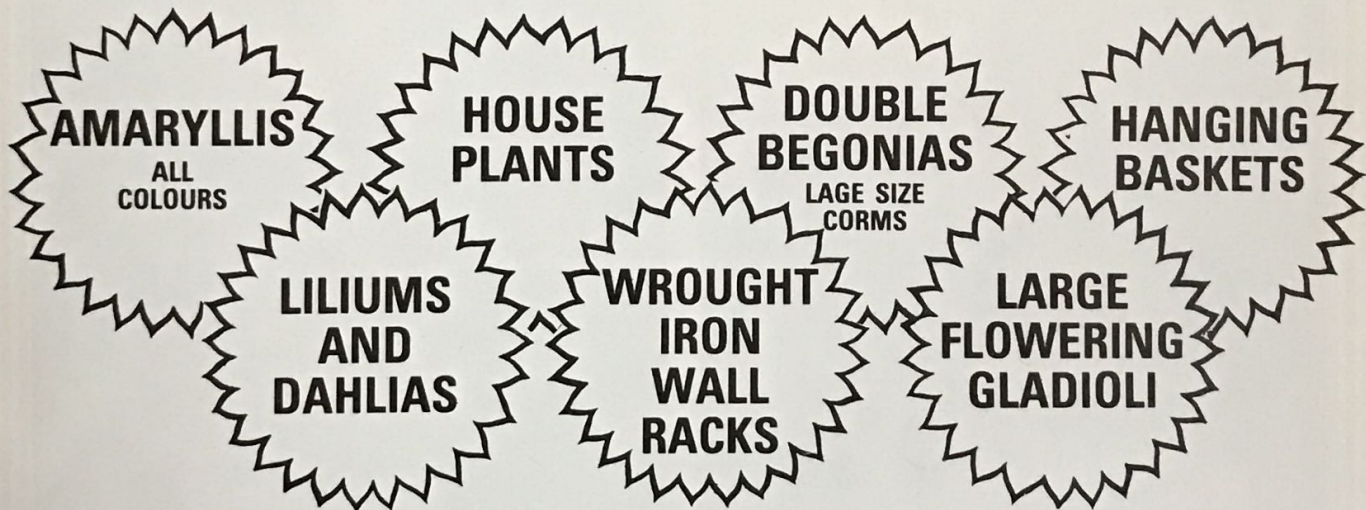
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Fiesta time

Tulip Time is full of sights and sounds which add up to a total experience for the thousands of people who flock to Spalding and district through the six weeks season.

Every visitor takes back a special memory. It may be the birds high in the air over the lake at Springfields, glimpsed through daffodils, with the windmill a focal point among the spring splendour.

For others the highspot is just walking through endless vistas of bulb varieties, as those who are keen gardeners ruminate on how a particular species might look in the border back home.

Then there's the jostle and excitement in central Spalding on parade day as the crowds gather to watch "the greatest free show on earth" — we feel free to use superlatives as the theme this year is the larger than life world of films.

The giant tulip-covered characters provided by the district council are flower parade favourites. The combination of a small child posed by one of these amiable giants is irresistible to most family photographers and sums up Tulip Time for many.







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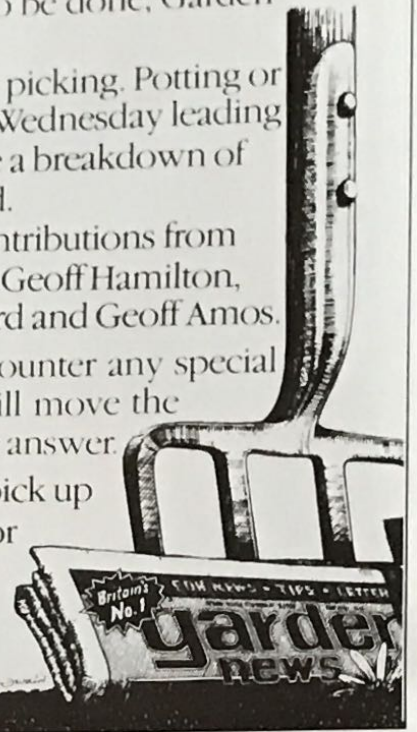
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Be it planting or picking, Potting or pruning. Every Wednesday leading experts provide a breakdown of the tasks at hand.

With regular contributions from Geoffrey Smith, Geoff Hamilton, Daphne Ledward and Geoff Amos. Should you encounter any special problems, we will move the earth to find the answer.

So, before you pick up the spade, fork or hoe, dig into Garden News.



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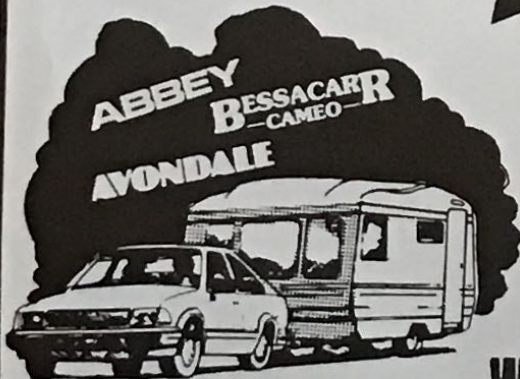
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Special day for Specials

For the first time in 16 years South Holland smallholder Geoff Payne will be watching Spalding Flower Parade in style because he is a "Special".

Divisional Officer Payne, in charge of special constables in the Boston and Spalding area, is usually out among the thousands who congregate around Springfields Gardens to watch the show.

Along with all his "Specials" he spends long hours on the job of providing friendly local knowledge and advice to many of the thousands of visitors who flock to Spalding over Flower Parade weekend.

But this year on Flower Parade Day Geoff will be guest of honour at the district council's official luncheon at the town's civic centre.

He will be there on behalf of the Specials to receive the trophy awarded each year by the Worshipful Company of Gardeners "for special services to tulip time".

The magnificent silver trophy has been awarded to the regular police, parade officials, church festival organisers, the flower parade committee, St John Ambulance, and other groups and individuals whom the district council Tulip Time Committee recognise as having made a vital contribution to the town's great annual event.

So Geoff Payne and his wife Beryl will join the district council chairman, Coun Tom Barker, the Master of the Worshipful Company, neighbouring civic and county leaders and other guests on the council's viewing stand in Churchgate to watch the 27th flower parade pass by.

Geoff Payne is 55, he lives in Gedney Drove End, one of the remote marsh villages reclaimed from the sea, and so blessed with some of the richest growing land in the country.

He was born and bred "in the Drove End" and has run a smallholding near the village centre since he was 21.

The little wooden bungalow in which Geoff and Beryl set up home has long been replaced by a modern brick home with every comfort.

But stout "wellies" outside the back porch testify to the fact that smallholders spend much of their time in muddy, back-breaking work as they tend the young stock.

As with so many couples in this district, smallholding is a way of life



South Holland smallholder Geoff Payne, Divisional Officer for the Special Police.

and a partnership between the pair. As Geoff said: "It's a joint effort. I couldn't do it without Beryl or our daughter Julie, who lives in the village and helps out when needed."

Geoff Payne has been a "Special" since 1968 — he joined as a new interest after several years playing football for the village team.

At this time the famous "chicken patrols" were part of the Specials' duties!

These were time-honoured tramps before Christmas when Special Constables made their presence felt in the remote droves and drains where chickens and turkeys were being bred for sale.

The idea was to discourage anyone who might chance his arm for a free Christmas dinner.

Geoff Payne had three years as a Special Constable before promotion to sergeant for the Drove End and Sutton Bridge. Promotion to Inspector followed in 1974 and he took over as Divisional Officer in charge in 1983.

Of his 104 Specials today, only 24 are female and he would like the force

to be more balanced, believing that many more girls would enjoy the service now that special police duties are much more professional.

He said: "We have training nights once a month, based on regular officer courses in police procedure. Nowadays there are a lot more regulations. The Special of today have intelligence tests based on the same principles which face regular recruits and have to go before an interview board."

Geoff, the police superintendent, and the local inspector with responsibility for Specials, make up the board and there is a full weekend of training at the county police headquarters at Lincoln before the new Special goes on duty.

Up to the rank of section officer, recruits can serve from 18 to 55 years, over that rank they can go on until 60.

Today, in South Holland, the Specials are in a new era. There are not as many of them now, but younger people are joining a community service where every member is expected to regard him or herself as a professional.

In an emergency, the specials have a call-out system, with a symbol after each name denoting degrees of availability for duty.

"But, as with everything else, those busiest in their own occupations are always the ones willing to do more," he said.

The Paynes are an example of this "always ask the busiest people" philosophy.

Geoff is also a parish councillor, through interest in the welfare of his own village community and Beryl is a leading Women's Institute member.

It is not surprising that Geoff is bound up in the land which bred him, for he has the distinction of being the descendant of a man whose name is now a familiar geographical location.

When any local resident visits the marshes, he's likely to be "going up Shep White's".

This is the name given to the spot on the furthest reaches, the nearest a car can get to the sea embankment.

There was a Shep White, and he was Geoff Payne's great-grandfather.

His own mother was born in a little cottage, now vanished, which marked one of the remotest — and some would think the most mysterious and beautiful — places in South Lincolnshire.



Police and Pink Panthers in step together — a happy shot from last year's parade shows a Special Policewoman with parade favourites, the Romsey Old Cadets.

Friendly parade day

Out and about in Spalding on Flower Parade Day you'll find many familiar blue-clad uniformed figures enjoying the fun along with everyone else.

The boys — and girls — in blue are the Lincolnshire Constabulary, both regulars and the volunteer specials.

It's a big day for the police. About 150 regulars and specials are on duty, the locals augmented by personnel from Lincoln, Grantham, Skegness and Boston.

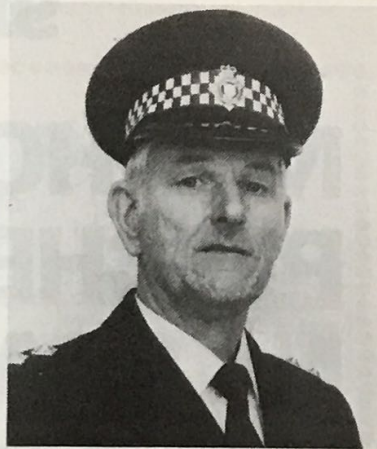
They are all here to ensure that the invasion of Spalding on Parade Day remains the friendly hassle-free event it always has been.

The planning is meticulous. The town is split into 14 sections, each section has its own space in the control centre in Winfrey Avenue, where both regulars and specials muster to receive instructions from their own sergeant.

Each sergeant has his own box with radios, armbands, instructions and meal tickets — 389 dinners and 414 teas keep the inner man going over the Saturday and Sunday.

The specials have a vital role to play in the light-handed good-tempered crowd control which is a feature of the festival atmosphere.

Their secret weapon is LOCAL KNOWLEDGE. The specials live here



Inspector Keith Woods

so they are the folk who know the shortest routes out of town, where food, services and car parks can be found, and, very important, where all the loos are.

The men and women with the "S" on their shoulder flash come from all sorts of occupations.

They perform their duties for love — the only money involved is petrol expenses and the annual £20 boot allowance — which can only be claimed if

the special constable has put in over 100 hours duty that year.

Listen to Inspector Keith Woods, the Spalding police officer in charge of local specials.

"We're getting on fine. There are much closer contacts with the regular force and a much wider role for specials to play in the community.

"The specials have been turning out regularly on a voluntary basis to cover for officers involved in the miners' dispute and we are very grateful to them.

"The material we are getting these days is very good. Volunteers are joining now because of a genuine interest in making a contribution to the work of the police.

"At Tulip Time they are invaluable, in addition to the extra strength, they are people with a good local knowledge, invaluable in dealing with so many visitors."

Inspector Woods is "absolutely delighted" that the specials have been honoured as this year's recipients of the award for services to Tulip Time.

"This year is my 13th in charge of the parade police control room and I can say without any reservation that their service is invaluable and very much appreciated."

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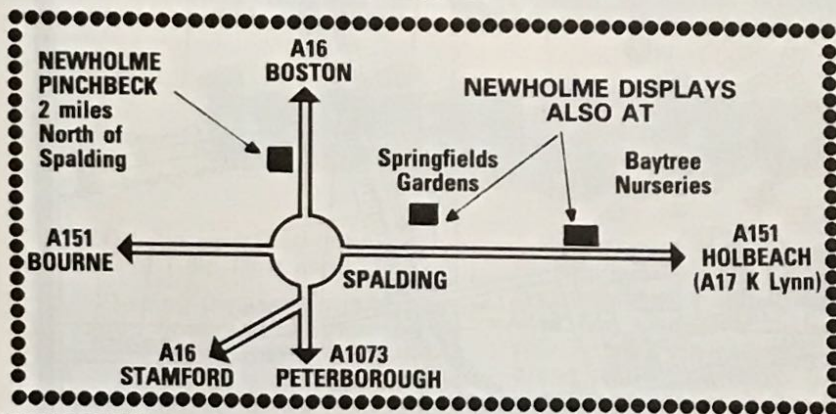
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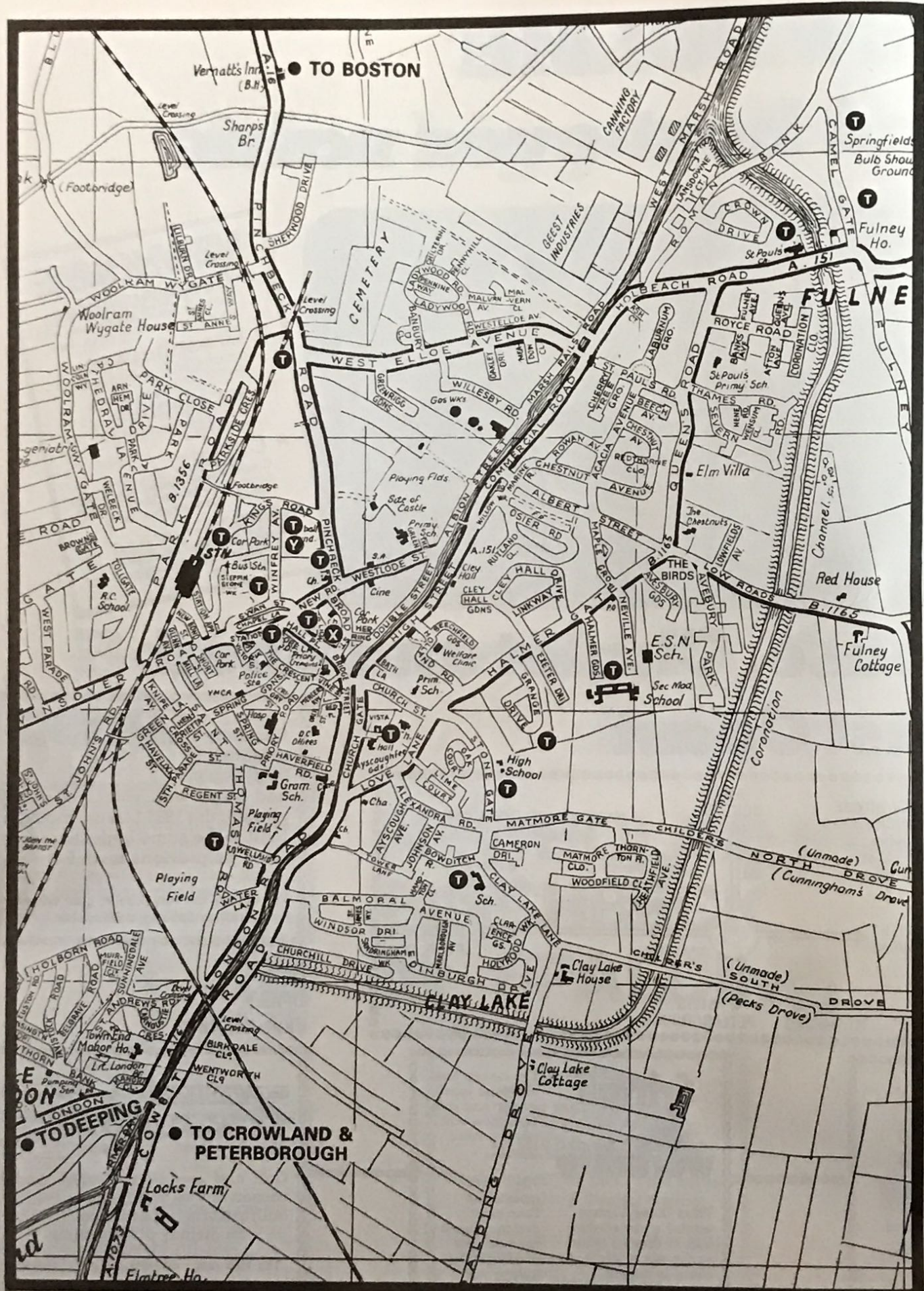
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TULIP TIME



TO BOSTON

TO CROWLAND & PETERBOROUGH

SPALDING STREET MAP GUIDE

A map of the Flower Parade route appears on page 6. Opposite is a more detailed map to help visitors find their way about on foot. It concentrates on the central areas of town and Springfields is situated just over 1½ miles from the centre at the top right of the map.

Key: **X** = Market Place **Y** = Float Exhibition **T** = Toilets.

TOILET FACILITIES: As you can see there are plenty of toilets. As well as the usual public facilities, many extra loos, such as at schools and church halls, plus mobile units set up by the South Holland District Council are provided for visitors.

CAR PARKING: Finding somewhere for the huge number of coaches and cars arriving in Spalding is a mammoth problem. But over the years we've become experts, and there is adequate hard standing for the heavier buses and space for many thousands of cars. School grounds and industrial sites are used and farmers also help out by offering space in fields on the outskirts of town. Camping and caravan facilities are available at three district council sites, and others in the town, so many visitors now stay several days in Spalding and district.

For drivers new to the area, parking can be a bit of a problem and they (and their passengers) are asked to take careful note of exactly where the vehicles are left — so that there is no panic after the parade. Each major car and coachpark is clearly signposted. The central bus park is in Winfrey Avenue close by the float exhibition field where the parade starts and ends. Other major bus parks are at Springfields (top right of map) and on the big Geest Industries complex in West March Road, by West Elloe bridge.

TRAFFIC SYSTEMS: On Parade Day, May 4, roads are re-opened to traffic as soon as possible after the parade passes by. On Sunday, May 5, a one-way system operates in a clockwise direction round the town's main thoroughfares, taking in the float exhibition, Springfields and the town centre.

TOURIST BUS SERVICES: A town bus service which carries passengers between the float exhibition in the town centre and Springfields Gardens will operate all day Saturday, May 4 and Sunday, May 5.

No excuse for being hungry

Food, glorious food is as much a part of Tulip Time as the flowers.

Feeding the visitors is a mammoth operation, carried on in almost every church, chapel and village hall throughout South Holland, and by sports associations and other local groups.

Whether it is home-baked teas, hot or cold lunches, soup and sandwiches, or just the odd cup of coffee, legions of local women put their time and their talents into a double job — helping their own organisation's funds and providing a vital service for the thousands who flock to the district during the six weeks the bulbs are in bloom.

Parishioners of St. Gilbert and St. Hugh, Gosberton Clough and Risegate venture quite a way from their Fen village for their yearly role — as main caterers on the arena at Springfields Gardens during the annual Flower Parade weekend country fair.

This church group have been feeding Springfields visitors for nine years — long before the Springfields fair became an attraction in its own right.

The group decided to back up the National Farmer's Union effort at Springfields early on, and in the beginning just six helpers provided soup and cups of tea from a caravan.

Now the majority of church ladies — and quite a few of their men — rally round each year in a massive effort which takes a lot of forward planning.

All the home-baking is donated by the cooks (Lincolnshire dough cake is one speciality) and classy country fare is the popular style which attracted visitors to the tune of £1300 raised for church funds last year.

On Parade Day six of the team stand and make sandwiches all day long. There are country vegetables and salads to go with such delicacies as salmon, chicken and turkey, not processed, but carved on the spot in good Lincolnshire tradition.

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TOWN'S FLOWER GIRLS

All eyes on Parade Day are on Miss Tulipland and her deputy, the two pretty girls from South Holland chosen from dozens of entries every year to be "Queen" for the day and VIPs for the rest of the year.

For the pair, the thrills begin at a Tulip Ball in March in the South Holland Centre, Spalding, where a celebrity (this time it was Ian Sharrock, Jackie Merrick from Emmerdale Farm) reveals the best kept secret of the year.

For the lucky twosome there are cash prizes of £250 and £125 respectively, their parade dresses, another outfit and the prospect of a lively year ahead out and about in the district.

Organising all this is just one of the commitments South Holland District Council make to Tuliptime.

Out go the flags to decorate the town centre, along with the outside floral street characters so beloved of photographers, hanging baskets and further floral fantasies floating on the river at High Bridge.

Then there's a tulip mosaic competition open to towns and villages throughout South Holland and the preparation of a splendid new leaflet

"Rural Rides and Church Festivals" which includes a useful town centre map.

Visit the year-round Tourist Information Centre in Ayscoughfee Gardens (the town's public park) and call in for a free copy — the Centre will also help with overnight accommodation addresses.

☐ Cheerful dancers from the Peterborough Morris and the Cross Key Club will entertain along the route before the Parade.

Three fairground organs, at High Bridge, Queen's Road/Commercial Road and New Road will add to the carnival atmosphere and the ever-popular Tuby's Fair will be "in residence" in the Cattle Market, Swan Street from May 3-6.

Look out, too, for the Royal Naval exhibition outside the Town Hall, Churchgate, which will feature the Fleet Air Arm, all attractions brought to town by the South Holland District Council.

Among the parade week events are: May 2: Spalding Folk Club, White Hart Hotel, from 8pm. May 3: Spalding Royal British Legion Band Concert, South Holland Centre, 7.45pm. Tickets

(from Centre) £1.50, children/OAP's £1. May 4: South Lincolnshire United Chorale, St. John's Church, Hawthorn Bank, 8pm. Concert of sacred music "Melodies for You" in aid of BBC "Children in Need" appeal. Parade Night Disco, South Holland Centre, 8-12pm.

Out of town: May 4-6, large model engineering exhibition at Rutland Cottage music museum, Whaplode St. Catherine. Also children's entertainment.

☐ Favourites from Emmerdale Farm, that twice-weekly saga of Yorkshire farming folk, are coming south on Parade Day.

Look out for the 1920 Rolls Royce leading the show and there you'll find Matt and Dolly Sugden among other characters waving to you. Visit them later on the Yorkshire TV stand at the Float Exhibition on the Halley Stewart Field where they will be signing autographs.

☐ Watch out, too, for Miss Great Britain (Jill Saxby), who will be Queen of the Nile on Parade Day as she rides by on Anthony and Cleopatra, the magnificent float entered by Lincolnshire pork products firm, Geo Adams.

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Dazzling display



The backbone of the industry — tulip croppers busy in a field at Cowbit.



Miss Tulipland leads every parade on a magnificent float entered by South Holland District Council



Stephenson's Rocket and today's Intercity 125's were the contrasting themes for British Rail's heritage float last year.

Photograph Springfields and win a cash prize

Springfields requires good colour transparencies of the gardens to use in its publicity material for 1986 and is organising a competition with a prize for each of the two winning entries (one for Spring, one for Summer) which will be used in the brochure plus a prize for the four runners-up. These slides will remain the property of Springfields Gardens. The photographs must be taken during the 1985 season. The closing date for entries is 1st October, 1985.

HERE'S HOW TO ENTER:

Send your transparencies — each clearly marked with your name and address to Photograph Competition, Springfields, Spalding, Lincs.

Entries must be 35mm colour transparencies only. No black and white or colour enprints, negatives can be accepted.

A panel of judges will decide on the winners and their decision will be final. No correspondence will be entered into.

All slides not winning a prize will be returned soon after the closing date.

THE PRIZES

The prize for the most attractive Spring transparency will be £25.00 and a similar amount for a summer transparency. The four runners-up will receive a cash prize of £10.00 each.



HINTS

Springfields is famous for flowers and a good shot should show off the displays to good effect with clear foreground and attractive back drop. Both portrait and landscapes i.e. upright and horizontal pictures are acceptable.




This smiling team from Gosberton Clough and Risegate church undertake Flower Parade weekend every year catering at Springfields arena — and every goody shown is home-baked.

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CHURCH EVENTS

CROWLAND METHODIST CHURCH. Decorated Church. Catering 20th April-7th May. Weekdays 2pm-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. 25th April-6th May. Salad lunches, teas, afternoon teas and morning coffee, light refreshments each day from 10am-9pm. Coaches and booked parties welcomed. Good coach/car parking. Toilets. Enquiries and bookings to Rev. O. G. Folkard, The Vicarage, Long Sutton, Spalding. Tel: Holbeach (0406) 362033.

SPALDING BROAD STREET METHODIST CHURCH. Flower Festival 2nd-7th May 10am-9pm. Lunches and teas. Parties catered for from 20th April-11th May except Sundays. (Saturday 4th May cafeteria only including breakfast). Enquiries: H. F. Belton, 37 Seas End Road, Surfleet. Tel: Surfleet 317.

SPALDING PARISH CHURCH. Flower & Bulb Thanksgiving Festival. May 2nd-7th. The Church is on the route of 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.

SPALDING ST. PAUL'S CHURCH. Flower Festival (near Springfields). May 2nd-6th. Refreshments: Sundays April 28th and May 5th, Saturday May 4th, Monday May 6th. Salad lunches and teas may be booked on any day in Tuliptime except May 4th. Toilets. Enquiries to: Mrs C. Higgins, 56 Albert Street, Spalding. Tel. (0775) 2909.

SURFLEET PARISH CHURCH (A16—3½ miles north of Spalding, Boston Road). **Decorated 13th Century.** Famous leaning spire. Snacks, cake and plant/vegetable stalls. Tuesday 30th April-Tuesday 7th May.

WEST PINCHBECK NORTHGATE METHODIST CHURCH. Luncheons and teas every day except Sundays from mid April to mid May. Booked parties only. Full details from Mr B. Wheatley, Short Drove, West Pinchbeck, Spalding, Lincs. Tel: (0775 87) 316.

WHAPLODE ST. MARY'S CHURCH. Flower Festival May 4th-12th, 6 miles from Spalding on A151. Norman Church set in beautiful surroundings. Exhibitions, Maypole Dancing, May Market. All day catering. Party bookings accepted. Good car/coach park. Toilets. Details from Mrs D. Selby, 34 Abbots Gardens, Whaplode, Spalding. Tel. (0406) 371286. Coach parties welcome.

Other Events

DISABLED AND ELDERLY GROUPS especially welcome. Refreshments, meals by arrangement, coach parking, toilets, reserved route-side seating at Chappell Centre, Pinchbeck Road, Spalding. Telephone (0775) 69721.

SPRINGFIELDS GARDENS, SPALDING. The unique Spring flower spectacle situated 1 mile east of town centre off Holbeach road (A151).

SPALDING FLOWER PARADE. Fully reported in words and pictures in the May 7th edition of the Lincolnshire Free Press. Copies available by post. For details cut out the coupon on page 28.

PHOTOGRAPHS OF THE PARADE in colour available from Spring Colour Publications, Springfields, Spalding. For full details turn to page 19.

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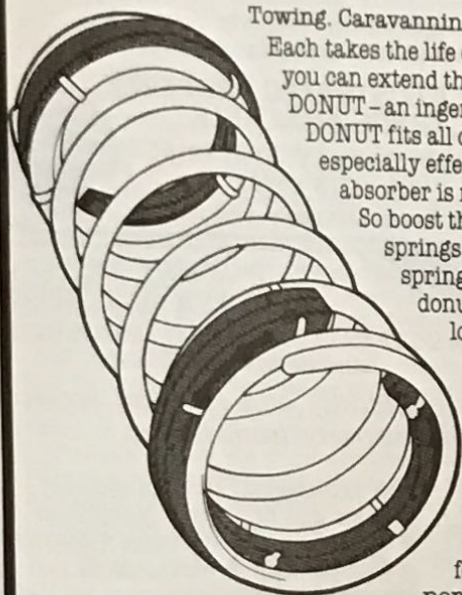
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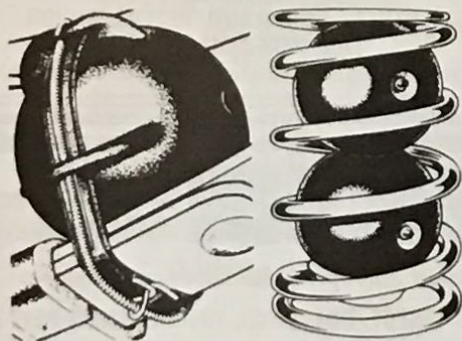
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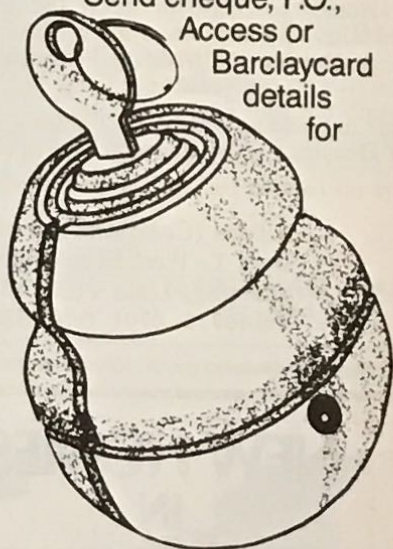
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Prices have risen — but so has the depth of many purchasers' pockets — and South Lincolnshire is still one of the cheapest housing areas in the country.

Long term residents are not alone in thinking this: a considerable number of couples standing on the streets of Spalding today as they watch the parade pass by will turn their thoughts towards living in the area.

This is a proven fact — ask any of our estate agents. For Lincolnshire, Britain's largest but one county is still relatively unknown and its many pleasures are a revelation to a lot of people, particularly those from the South of England.

These pleasures include clean air, wide skies, Spalding with its historic centre and excellent amenities and the satellite small towns and villages, each with its own distinctive charm.

All this, and close access to the outside world — commuters to London prove it every day. The diesel rail link with Peterborough gives access to anywhere in Britain, and Peterborough to King's Cross is less than an hour's journey.

Obviously there are great attractions in particular for the retired who can realise on property in the Home Counties and other high-priced areas.

For at current rates, such fortunate people can choose from a wide range of housing and still have several thousands left for investment income.

Last month a Spalding estate agent quoted £30,000 to £35,000 as the going rate for a four bedroom detached house on an estate; a riverside town house ten minutes from the centre at £23,000, a semi in a local village on the market at £20,000 and an unmodernised town terrace property for £14,000.

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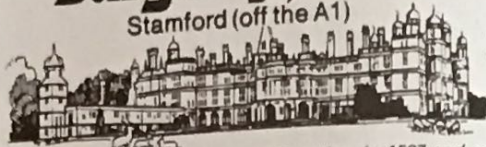
South Street, Boston. Tel: Boston
65954. (South Street (one way) runs
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Further Information: Recreational Services, Lincolnshire County Council, County Offices, Lincoln. Tel: Lincoln (0522) 29931

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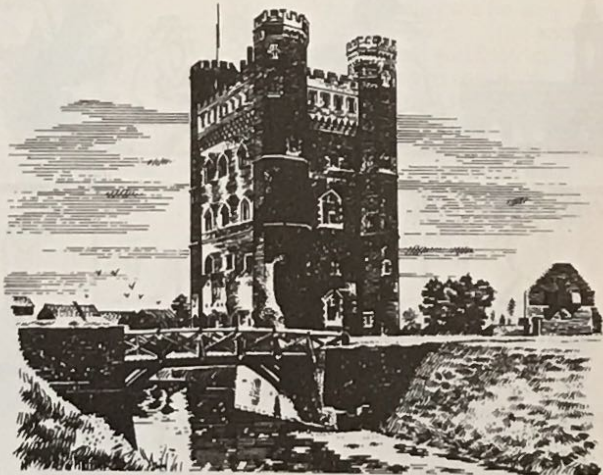
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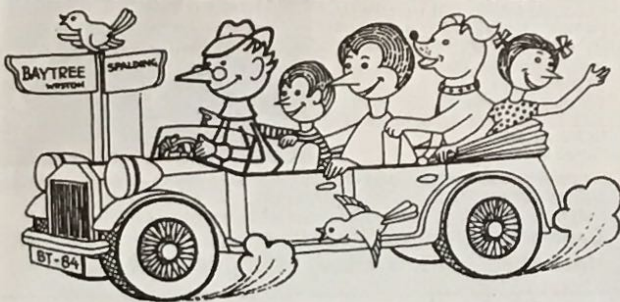
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Visitor Centre open afternoons 3rd April-27th October, Adults £1.00, Children & O.A.P.'s 60p. Party rates by arrangement. Battle Trail, Car Parks and Picnic Areas open daily all year. Cars 30p, Coaches £1.50.

Signposted off A447, A444, A5 and B585 in the vicinity of Market Bosworth, Leicestershire. Free leaflet available.

Party enquiries, etc.: Tel: Market Bosworth (0455) 290429.
Project Manager, Director of Property, Land Agency Division, County Hall, Glenfield, Leicester. Tel: Leicester (0533) 871313 Ext. 645.

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The Welney Refuge is famous as the winter home of over 3,000 wild Bewick's Swans and many thousands of other wildfowl. There are numerous hides and a spacious observatory. On winter evenings you can watch the swans by floodlight. Welney is open daily (except 24 and 25 December) from 10am to 5pm plus winter evenings at 7pm. Peakirk is open daily (except 24 and 25 December) 9.30am to 5pm.

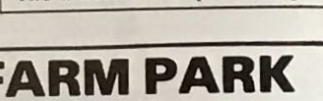
Further details on Peakirk from the Waterfowl Gardens, Peakirk, Peterborough, Cambs. Tel: 0733 252271. And on Welney, from Pintail House, Hundred Foot Bank, Welney, Near Wisbech, Cambs. Tel: 0353 860711.

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May 1st-Sept 30th 1985

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School and coach parties welcome at all times by arrangement (except Monday).
Entry: Adults £1.00, Children and OAPs 50p.
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SPECIAL THANKS

The Spalding Flower Parade Committee wishes to express its sincere thanks to the following:

THE LINCOLNSHIRE COUNTY CONSTABULARY for their close co-operation.

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

Tractors loaned by **FORD TRACTOR OPERATIONS**, Basildon, and prepared by **P. M. TRACTORS**, Spalding.

GEEST INDUSTRIES LTD., for their generous assistance.

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COUNCIL and their staff.

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ST JOHN AMBULANCE BRIGADE.

LINCOLNSHIRE FREE PRESS and **SPALDING GUARDIAN.**

HOLBEACH AND DISTRICT ROUND

TABLE and **EAST ELLOE ROTARY**

CLUB for their assistance in selling programmes.

SPALDING ROTARY CLUB for their assistance in selling this publication.

KEES VAN DRIEL.

GEE TEE BULB CO, Spalding for generous loan of buildings.

SPRING PHOTOGRAPHIC LTD., for

kind loan of transparencies.

Trailers by **GEOFF GILBERT TRANSPORT**, Swineshead, Boston.

SANDERSON FORKLIFT LTD., for the

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

You can't really enjoy the Parade without this official programme and members of Holbeach and District Round Table are among the main sellers round and about the town with copies of the 50p souvenir of a great day.

The Tablers sell "Tulip Time" as volunteers — the money earned goes to charities. Selling is hard on the feet, but it's also a lot of fun!



Thanks are also due to the many bandmen in this year's parade. Pictured last year is the Ely City Military Band.

FLOWERS ON PARADE







Bank Holiday Bonanza

Springfields Gardens have again organised a Bank Holiday Bonanza over Parade weekend with a repeat of their Country Fair. Not only will visitors see the magnificent tulip displays, indoor gardens and woodland walks but 75 stands and stalls will be selling a wide variety of goods. There will be arts and crafts, a country life museum, kiddies corner, vintage tractors, in fact something for everybody.

Live entertainment is, of course, the major attraction with the Flower Parade actually travelling through the gardens on Parade Saturday at approximately 3.00 p.m. Prior to the Parade the crowds will be entertained by the Wellingborough Redwell Band and the Spalding Drum and Trumpet Band.

On Sunday at noon the famous Romsey Old Cadets, stars of the Flower Parade, will perform their comedy routine on the central lawn at Springfields to the delight of their supporters. Once seen, never forgotten!

The Silver Spoon Square Dance Club with their American caller will take over the arena from 12.45 p.m. to 1.30 p.m. for a colourful hoe-down with country music.

At 2.30 p.m. on Sunday the annual Marching Band competition takes place with six of the East Midlands top bands challenging for the Springfields Trophy.

On Bank Holiday Monday the City of Nottingham Drum and Trumpet Corp will present (at 1.00 p.m. and 3.00 p.m.) their very polished marching and counter march display with flag-waving majorettes. This band, having taken part in the Parade for many years, is now concentrating on the arena displays for which it is famous.

Work on Springfields was begun in 1964 and the gardens opened to the public in 1966. Since that time well over 2,000,000 people have seen the displays.

Designed by Carl van Emplen, an international landscape architect, the gardens were primarily laid out for the display of tulips and daffodils. In 1975 the Springfields Council (which administers the gardens) in conjunction with the Association of Rose Breeders planted 7,500 rose bushes to provide a display for a summer season.

There are now 12,000 rose bushes (mainly new varieties) in the gardens and these are continually updated. To complement the roses the major seed houses help to provide up to 200,000 bedding plants which are planted in June after the bulbous flowers have been lifted.

These displays with the backdrop of flowering trees, shrubs, woodland walks, lake etc., make Springfields one of Britain's most popular show gardens.

The two large glasshouses have fine tulip displays this spring and will be filled with hanging baskets and beds of geraniums, begonias, petunias and impatiens in the summer.



Springfield has been transformed by the new summer season, and again, special events have been arranged for 1985. On Sunday, 14th July and Sunday, 18th August, "A Gardeners' Day Out" has been organised. These popular events provide visitors with the opportunity to accompany gardening experts round the gardens to hear at first hand advice on gardening problems and plant identification.

Sunday, 28th July, will see Springfields Vintage Vehicle Rally which includes a major display of tractors, some dating back to the turn of the century. Lincolnshire is famous for agricultural equipment and Springfields is an attractive venue for both young and old to view these magnificent machines together with many cars, motor-cycles etc.

Springfields is a registered charity and relies on admissions at the gate for its main income. The horticultural industry donate many of the bulbs, trees, shrubs and plants but the gardens are labour intensive and much work is carried out during the close season, October to March each year.

Springfields



Springfields head gardener Bob Chapman shows a party round on one of the special "walkabouts" featured in the summer season.

In your garden...

Anyone can grow tulips or daffodils. All you have to do is use your common sense and follow a few simple rules.

First and foremost you have to sort out the bulbs. It's important to choose the best. "Bargains" are not always what they seem so it pays to buy from a reputable source.

One general rule to remember is that for effective flowering the bigger the bulb the better. Tulips should be at least 10 cm in circumference and egg sized and double nosed daffodil bulbs are best.

Where to plant. Any well drained soil, the lighter the better, will grow good bulbs. Plant daffodils in September and tulips in October/November.

One thing that bulbs can't stand is water logging. So, if you are growing on heavy land, a little sand under the bulbs will help drainage.

Some form of organic matter will probably help whatever your soil is like. Compost leaf mould or peat is best.

Fresh manure should never be used but garden fertiliser can be applied if necessary. Plant with a trowel, seeing there are no air pockets beneath the bulb.

Now, the ideal depth for planting varies with the type of soil. In very light soil which dries out easily the bulb can go deeper than in heavy, stiff soil.

A good general rule is to plant at about two to three

times the diameter — measuring from the top of the bulb to the surface.

Spacing will vary according to the effect you want, but remember that tulips and daffodils look their best when grown in mass. But they need breathing space.

Send for
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For FREE information leaflet — Calendar of displays — Spring & Summer seasons 1986 — posted to your home during December 1985 — complete the details below and post to:

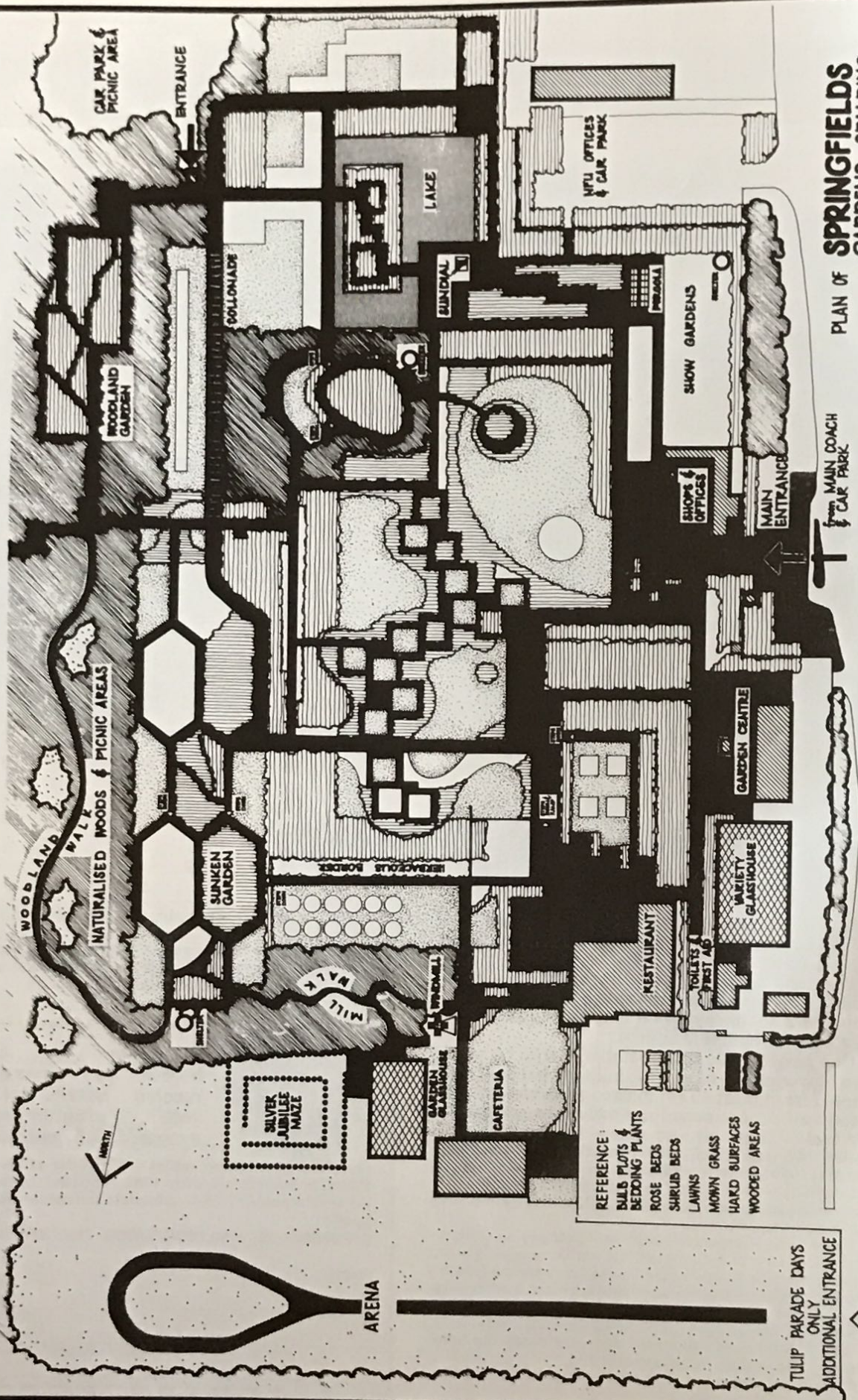
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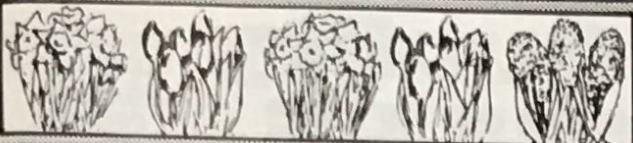
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Springfields



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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. Where a company name is followed by a (W) this company is wholesale only. However, where the name is followed by an (R) that company is in retailing and should you wish to contact them either fill in a card from the box adjacent to the plot or call at the information desk for details.

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Admission details

Admission charges to Springfields Gardens for the Spring season 1985 (which ends in mid-May) is £1.20 adults. Accompanied children (up to 16 years) are admitted free. The exception is on Flower Parade weekend, May 4-6, when the charge will be £1.50 for adults, with accompanied children similarly free of charge. Times of opening are 10am to 6pm daily, including Sundays. Summer season charges (mid-May to October) are £1.20 adults, with accompanied children again free of charge.

Times of opening are also 10am-6pm (evening parties by arrangement). A collection of over 12,500 rose bushes, bedding plants, dahlias, and a herbaceous border in bloom are attractions offered according to season. For special rates for school parties ring Spalding 4843. Special 1985 events are: Gardeners' Day Out, Sundays July 14 and August 18. Vintage Vehicle Rally, July 28. Admission £1.50, accompanied children free.

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Springfields

● **PARKING:** Ample parking for cars and coaches is readily accessible adjacent to Springfields. On Saturday and Sunday, May 4 and 5, the charge is £1 for cars and £5 for coaches.

★ ★ ★

● **SHOPS:** Inside the gardens there are shops selling a variety of garden requisites, photographic and tuck shops and a cut flower kiosk. Don't miss our gift shop featuring country arts and local crafts, now under Springfields management. The shops are open daily until 5.30pm.

★ ★ ★

● **CATERING:** There is a modern newly refurbished restaurant with large bar facilities which caters for main meals. Cooked meals and snacks are served in our 300 seater cafeteria (sorry, no advance bookings) during the spring season. Enquiries for restaurant party bookings should be made to Springfields Restaurant, Tel: Spalding (0775) 4405. Attractive teashop serving tea, coffee and light refreshments is open from July to September.

● **GENERAL:** We regret that dogs are not allowed in the Gardens.

★ ★ ★

● **WHEELCHAIRS:** Springfields Gardens has been planned for the enjoyment of the disabled with wide walks and wheelchairs available free of charge. Spalding St. John Ambulance personnel are on duty throughout the spring season and there is a well equipped first-aid room.

★ ★ ★

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

★ ★ ★

● **CLOSING DATE:** The Gardens also feature displays of bedding plants, roses and dahlias, according to season, and finally close down for the winter in mid-October.

Springfields Horticultural Society Ltd

The Springfields Horticultural Society Ltd, the body responsible for organising the annual display in the gardens of Springfields, 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 Farmer's Union.

The Society is a registered charity, its principal object being 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 income of the Society must be expended in carrying out its objects. By organising the annual display in the gardens, the Society enables members of the public to see the wide varieties of bulbs and corms available, and how best they can be used to beautify the small garden. There is in the gardens an information centre where visitors are able to obtain answers to their queries regarding the growing of bulbs and corms.

The Society organises lectures on horticultural topics, and participates in various horticultural exhibitions and shows.

The Society has been working closely with the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food on experimental programmes concerning bulb diseases and their treatment, and it co-operates with other societies in running trials in the gardens.

Any member of the public is eligible to apply for

associate membership of the Society. An annual subscription of £7.50 is payable by Associate Members, who enjoy certain privileges relative to admission to the gardens.

On production of membership card an associate member and guest will be entitled to free admission to the following:—

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

* **MEMBERS ONLY** — Free admission (except rose festival, July 6&7, 1985) 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 Monday-Friday off season.

ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP

I wish to become an Associate Member of the Springfields Horticultural Society and enclose my cheque for £7.50 made payable to SPRINGFIELDS HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY LTD.

NAME.....
(BLOCK CAPITALS)
ADDRESS

Signature..... Date

eating out

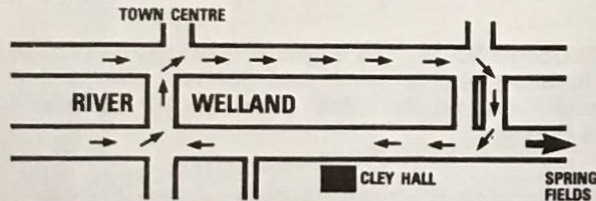
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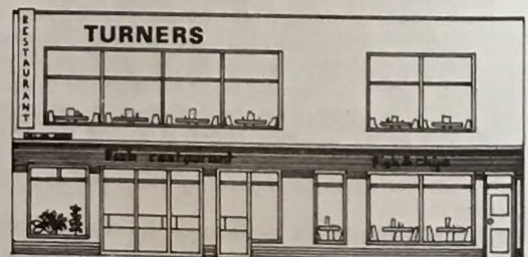
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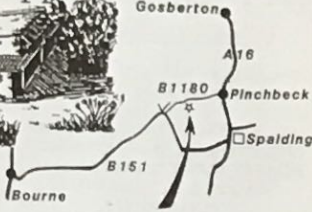
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