



HOLME PIERREPONT HALL

Holme Pierrepont Hall
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Rare Wild Tulips in Flower at Holme Pierrepont Hall



The rare wild tulip, ‘*Tulipa Sylvestris*’ has once again made an appearance in the gardens at Holme Pierrepont Hall this Spring.

These sweet-scented yellow flowers appear in the parkland each April and it is believed to be the only relative of the garden tulip which grows naturally in the wild.

The story of how these exquisite flowers came to be on the estate has its roots in 17th century history.

Robert Brackenbury, the 19th generation owner of Holme Pierrepont Hall says: *“Back in the 17th Century, the East Garden would have had very formal planting and this was where the tulips were originally planted. When the East Garden was dismantled back in the 1800s, tulips had grown out of fashion so the gardeners simply threw the tulip bulbs over the garden wall, when they were no longer wanted. This is why the bulbs can be seen in the parkland, rather than the East Garden today.”*

He adds, *“The flowers are from the original Tudor bulbs. Each bulb typically only flowers every 5 or 10 years so it’s a rare sight indeed to see these exquisitely pretty flowers, when they appear. Over the years, quite a few tulip enthusiasts who have visited the Hall have commented that they haven’t found anywhere else in the country where ‘*Tulipa Sylvestris*’ can be seen in such abundance.”*

It’s thought that the flower was originally introduced into England in Roman times from the Southern Mediterranean.

Tulips were extremely fashionable in the early 17th century and their popularity and scarcity generated one of the first recorded speculative bubbles in commercial history, called '**Tulip Mania**'. In the 1630s, the price of tulips rose astronomically with many bulbs costing as much as the price of a house to purchase. However, the commercial bubble was to be short-lived and when the demand and market for tulips collapsed in February 1637, many livelihoods and homes were lost for people connected with the industry. It was the collapse of 'Tulip Mania' which ultimately saw the bulbs at Holme Pierrepont Hall being discarded over the garden wall – where they remain today.

Members of the public can visit the Hall to see 'Tulipa Sylvestris' throughout April, on days when the gardens are open to the public on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Sundays.

Visit the Holme Pierrepont Hall website at www.holmepierreponthall.com for details of opening dates and times.

Ends

NOTES FOR EDITORS:

'Tulipa Sylvestris' at Holme Pierrepont Hall

See 'Tulipa Sylvestris' at Holme Pierrepont Hall on the BBC's Garden Revival on Youtube at this link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h1N1RRYPDkI>. Article at 30' with Holme Pierrepont Hall at 33'. Footage courtesy of VideoStudio.

About Holme Pierrepont Hall:

Holme Pierrepont Hall is a Grade I listed Tudor manor house dating back to c.1500, set in a secluded 30 acre estate just a few minutes from Trent Bridge in Nottingham.

Open to the public on selected dates throughout the year, Holme Pierrepont Hall is also an exclusive-use wedding venue, renowned for its stunning parkland and Grade II listed courtyard garden.

Restoration of the Courtyard Garden Wall is currently in progress, thanks to a grant being awarded by the Heritage Lottery Fund.

PRESS ENQUIRIES:

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