



10/11

✓6

10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

27 October 1983

Possible Visit by the Prime Minister to the
International Garden Festival

The Prime Minister is giving some thought to her programme of regional tours for 1984, and in particular to the possibility that she might visit the International Garden Festival in Liverpool some time in July. If she were to decide to do this, the likelihood is that the visit would be made on a Friday morning, and combined with Party engagements and possibly one other visit in the North West (not in Liverpool).

At this stage, I should be grateful for advice on whether you would think a visit by the Prime Minister to the Garden Festival appropriate, together with any advice you may wish to offer on timing within the constraints I have outlined,

Roger Bright Esq
Department of the Environment,

6



Gr att

May I have the pps for
the possible visit to BNFA
at Ridley pce, together
with these.

*Thanks. Most grateful to you when
The PM has agreed to visit
the International Garden Festival on the evening
of 13 July. The course of a 1 day visit to BNFA
2 MARSHAM STREET
LONDON SW1P 3EB
01-212 3434
Probably the first
agreement appropriate initiative*

My ref: J/PSO/16237/83

Your ref: *Reg* 8 November 1983

8 November 1983

*Probably many
fly up to be there
need to leave
soon after meeting
Ridley had
BNFA
office
This was done in early
'60s but to make full
scale for agreement*

14/11

Dear David

POSSIBLE VISIT BY THE PRIME MINISTER TO THE INTERNATIONAL GARDEN FESTIVAL

Thank you for your letter of 27 October. We would certainly welcome a visit by the Prime Minister to the Garden Festival, and consider that this would be entirely appropriate given that this is such a major international event, and the first of its kind in this country.

On timing, we would like to suggest that the visit might be early in July, when the publicity for the Festival's peak summer season will be building up, and before the burst of publicity which will accompany the Tall Ships Race, which will be finishing in Liverpool in late July or early August.

Of the possible Fridays in early July the 13th may be the most suitable as the 12th - 19th July will be British Week at the Festival. This is one of a number of 'national' weeks taking place during the period of the Festival; the only other one in July is Chinese Week arranged for 3rd - 8th.

If the Prime Minister is content, we will make some suggestions for one other possible visit in the North West on the same day.

*Yours sincerely
Roger Bright*

R BRIGHT
Private Secretary

David Barclay Esq



NOV 11 1983



CONFIDENTIAL



10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

30 November 1983

The Prime Minister saw your letter of 25 November on her return from India. Mrs. Thatcher is delighted by your invitation and would very much like to accept.

Action We will, if we may, be in touch with your office a little nearer the time about detailed arrangements for a visit by the Prime Minister on the morning of Friday 13 July. Meanwhile I should be most grateful if the prospect of a visit by the Prime Minister could be regarded as confidential.

MR. D. BARCLAY

Leslie Young, Esq., C.B.E.

Lo

193



cc: DOE

Merseyside Development Corporation

Royal Liver Building Pier Head Liverpool L3 1JH Telephone (051) 236 6090 Telex MDC 627110 CHACOM G

The Rt Hon Margaret Thatcher, MP
Prime Minister and Minister for the Civil Service
No 10
Downing Street
London SW1

R26

25 November 1983

Dear Prime Minister,

INTERNATIONAL GARDEN FESTIVAL, LIVERPOOL '84

I know that you will have heard from the Secretary of State for the Environment of the progress we are making on the site of the International Garden Festival in Liverpool.

It would be an honour for all of us involved with this exciting and unique project if you could find time to visit the Festival - which opens on 2 May 1984 - and it has been suggested to me that Friday 13 July may be convenient for you.

I look forward very much to having the pleasure of showing you what has been created.

Sincerely,

Leslie Young

LESLIE C YOUNG, CBE DL



Chairman - Leslie Young CBE; Deputy Chairman - Sir Kenneth Thompson Bt;
Chief Executive - Basil Bean; Commercial Director - Alex Anderson;
Director of Development - John Ritchie; Director of Finance - David Morse
International Garden Festival Liverpool '84



22/12
lo

10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

24 November, 1983.

Liverpool Garden Festival

Roger Bright wrote to me on 8 November about the possibility that the Prime Minister might visit the International Garden Festival at Liverpool next summer. I am most grateful for his advice.

The Prime Minister has now agreed to visit the Garden Festival on the morning of Friday, 13 July. When we had a word about this on the telephone, you kindly undertook to prompt an appropriate invitation.

The visit will constitute the main part of a one-day tour of the North West region. In his letter of 8 November, Roger kindly offered to provide suggestions for an additional engagement. In the event, the day is already more or less full - the Prime Minister has in mind a Party lunch in Cheshire, followed by a visit to BNFL at Risley. If your Secretary of State felt, nevertheless, that an additional call in Liverpool was desirable for diplomatic reasons, and could be fitted into the timetable I have outlined, we should of course be happy to put this to the Prime Minister.

I should be grateful if all these arrangements could be regarded as confidential for the time being.

David Barclay

Alan Davis, Esq.,
Department of the Environment.

lo

4th October, 1983

Thank you for your letter of 29th September. It was most kind to you to send us tickets for your area reception. For my part, I hope - work permitting! - to be able to come.

Thank you also for the information and your views on the International Garden Festival being held in Liverpool next year. This was most helpful.

Stephen Sherbourne
Political Secretary

Miss Brenda Lowe

Conservative Central Office
North West Area

Woolton House 31 Byrom Street Manchester M3 4PJ Telephone: 061-832 6044

Central Office Agent: Miss B. M. LOWE Deputy Central Office Agents: Miss R. D. CATTELL J. M. GOODSMAN H. PURCELL
Publicity Liaison Officer: W. HARENAPE Industrial Organiser: P. DOWLING

BML/BJH

29th September, 1983.

Dear Stephen,

INTERNATIONAL GARDEN FESTIVAL - LIVERPOOL 1984

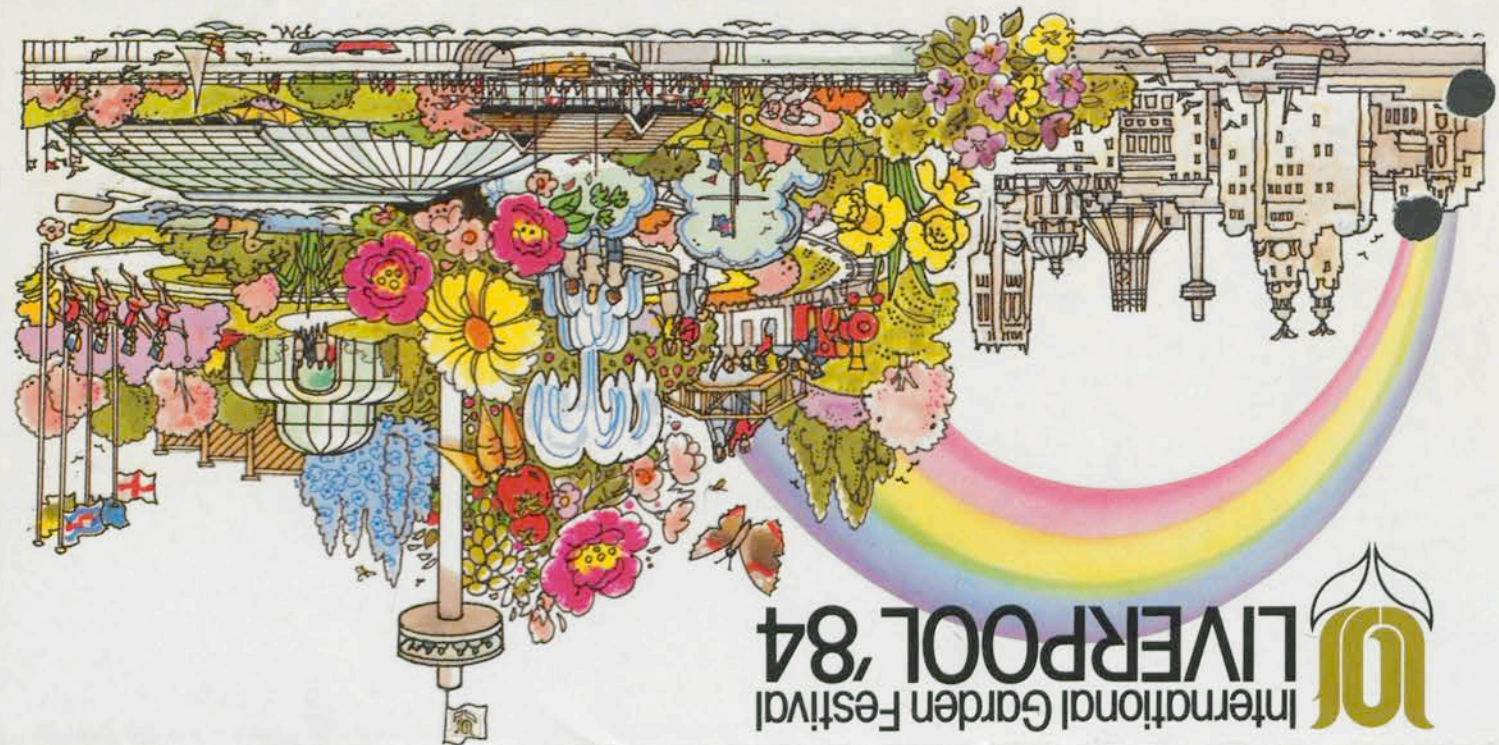
I enclose herewith brochure on the International Garden Festival being held in Liverpool in 1984. I understand that the Prime Minister may have received an invitation to visit this and I would fully support her acceptance.

I will ring you next week in respect of one or two details about the Party Conference and the Prime Minister's attendance at the Y.C. Ball and the Agents' Ball.

I enclose herewith six tickets for our Area Reception for any members of the Prime Minister's staff who are attending the Conference and would like to call in for a drink.

Yours,
John, e
Brenda

Stephen Sherbourne Esq.,
Political Secretary,
10 Downing Street,
London, S.W.1.



Liverpool 1984, scene of Britain's first-ever International Garden Festival

Between May and October 1984, the biggest Garden Festival ever staged in this country will take place on the banks of the River Mersey – a massive International event of worldwide interest, estimated to attract over 3 million visitors to Liverpool from both home and overseas.

represented in an impressive 125 acre display supplied by the many hundreds of Horticultural Organisations in the United Kingdom and overseas.



Something for all the family

Whatever the weather, there'll always be plenty of entertainment inside the Festival Building – including a regularly changing programme of specialised horticultural events. There's the Water Garden to visit too. Play Areas for the young and the not-so-young. A Gardener's Market, and of course, Leisure and Picnic areas.

Trouble-free travel!

It couldn't be easier to get to the Garden Festival. Whether you're travelling by coach, bus, plane or train, regular services will provide easy access to the site. Whilst a massive car park will be available for up to 10,000 cars.



The world's most beautiful gardens

Every race, every culture has its own very different ideas on what constitutes a beautiful garden. A great deal of course depends on the particular variety of plants and foliage that flourish in individual climates.



Now you can see an endless array of beautiful gardens

There's even a Miniature Railway to carry you all around the site. And a spectacular 220 feet high viewing tower from where you can look down on the entire festival.

Everything from international sporting events to pop concerts

From Theatre to Concerts and Carnivals – the Festival Arena will feature an incredible range of leisure and sporting spectacles and many other outdoor events for up to 20,000 spectators. Smaller events, however, will take place in the nearby Amphitheatre.

HORTICULTURAL SHOW PROGRAMME

The main Floral Competitions and Exhibitions to be held in the Festival Hall during the Festival are grouped in 'themes'. Below is a list of the main theme headings with some of the classes to be included:

2-16 May	SPRING FLOWER SHOW
15-29 May	HORTICULTURE AND THE ENVIRONMENT
30 May - 7 June	MORE COLOUR IN YOUR LIFE
13-26 June	INTERIOR LANDSCAPE
29 June - 8 July	GARDENERS OF THE FUTURE
11-19 July	DISABILITY WEEK
20 July - 3 August	SUMMER FLOWER SHOW
24-27 August	ROSE EVENT
28 August - 13 September	AUTUMN FLOWER SHOW
16-23 September	FLOWER ARRANGEMENT FESTIVAL
27 September - 3 October	AUTUMN ORCHID SHOW
6-14 October	HARVEST FESTIVAL



International Garden Festival
LIVERPOOL '84

Please send me further details on the INTERNATIONAL GARDEN FESTIVAL, LIVERPOOL '84.

Name _____

Address _____

Company _____

Position _____

INTERNATIONAL GARDEN FESTIVAL '84
Merseyside Development Corporation,
4th Floor, Royal Liver Building,
Liverpool L3 1JH.

A spectacular programme from May to October for exhibitors, sponsors and spectators alike!

The International Garden Festival – the big gardening festival with the big family appeal. There's something of interest for everyone, from toddlers upwards! Take a Miniature Railway sightseeing tour. Or get a birds eye view of the whole festival from the revolving deck of the 220 ft high Observation tower. Don't miss the spectacular music and sporting events in the big Arena, the Exhibition Hall, the Homes and Gardens section and the attractive Esplanade. There are even special play areas for the kids!

With a railway station virtually on site, a regular bus service, Liverpool Airport just 2.5 miles away and a large Festival car park, it couldn't be easier to give the whole family a day out to remember!

The International Garden Festival Liverpool '84 is the biggest event of its kind Britain has ever seen and will provide an unrivalled showcase for the horticultural firms, landscape designers and associated industries who will be participating by means of exhibitions or sponsorship. A full 100 acres of the massive 125 acre site will be devoted to a whole range of different garden themes and magnificent floral displays. There will be a huge Exhibition Hall too for horticultural events, a Gardener's Market and a Homes and Gardens section together with the ultimate in Garden Centres. Altogether an attractive spectacle for the estimated three million visitors!



We've taken over 125 acres of Liverpool's waterfront and transformed it into a Garden Paradise.

Already, work is in progress to transform the vast 125 acre site into a fabulous Garden Festival area featuring displays and exhibits of every conceivable type and description, together with a whole host of other exciting attractions not just for garden enthusiasts, but for all the family!

Liverpool – the perfect host!

Visitors to the International Garden Festival are sure to discover an added bonus in visiting one of Britain's most lively and interesting cities. Liverpool – a city that's proud to entertain its visitors with its ferryboats

and cathedrals, its museums and art galleries, its sportsgrounds and shopping centres, its nightclubs and restaurants. Yet Liverpool too is the ideal base for touring other places in the North West and Wales and for visiting seaside resorts in the Wirral, Southport and nearby Lancashire.

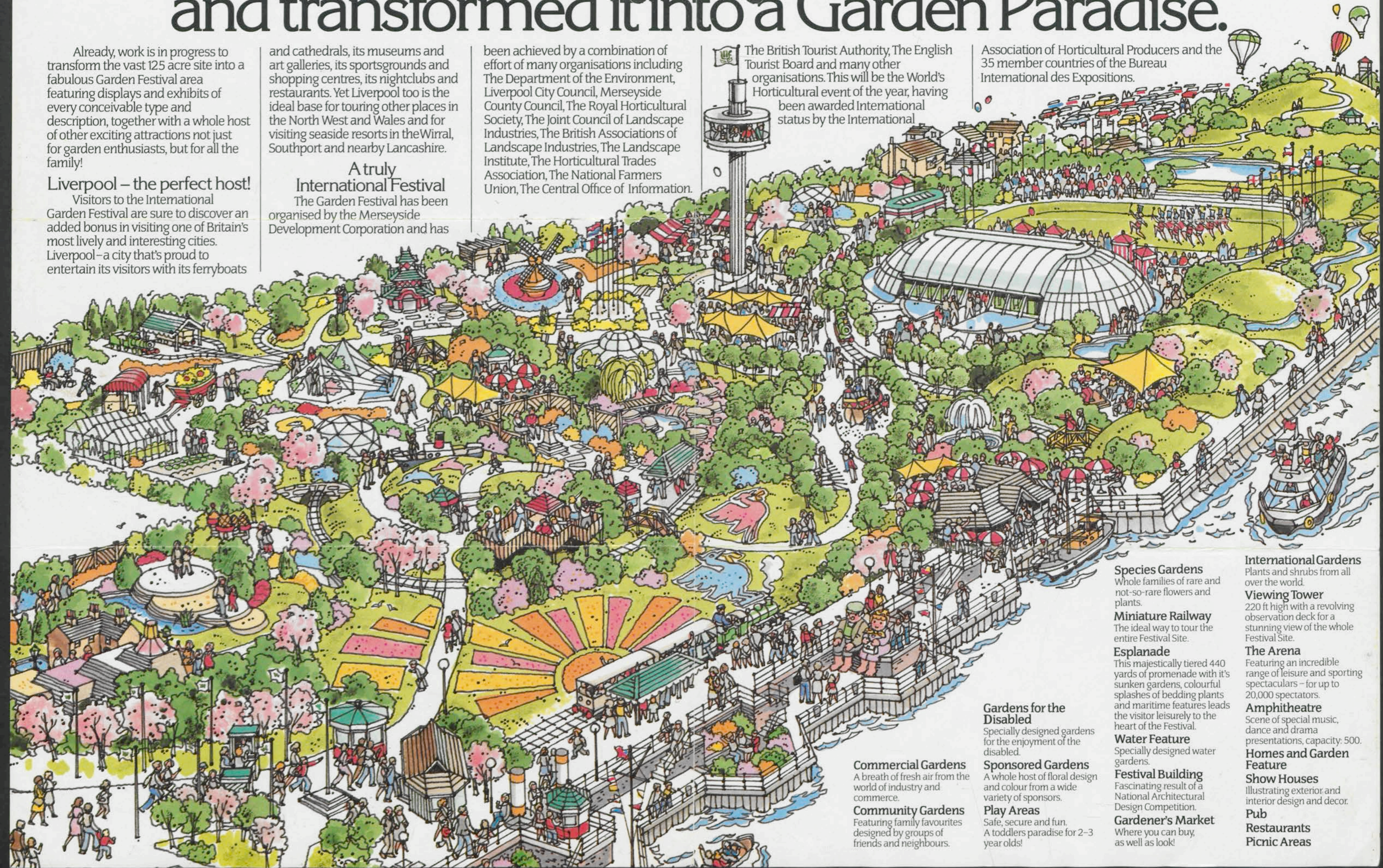
A truly International Festival

The Garden Festival has been organised by the Merseyside Development Corporation and has

been achieved by a combination of effort of many organisations including The Department of the Environment, Liverpool City Council, Merseyside County Council, The Royal Horticultural Society, The Joint Council of Landscape Industries, The British Associations of Landscape Industries, The Landscape Institute, The Horticultural Trades Association, The National Farmers Union, The Central Office of Information.

The British Tourist Authority, The English Tourist Board and many other organisations. This will be the World's Horticultural event of the year, having been awarded International status by the International

Association of Horticultural Producers and the 35 member countries of the Bureau International des Expositions.



Commercial Gardens
A breath of fresh air from the world of industry and commerce.

Community Gardens
Featuring family favourites designed by groups of friends and neighbours.

Gardens for the Disabled
Specially designed gardens for the enjoyment of the disabled.

Sponsored Gardens
A whole host of floral design and colour from a wide variety of sponsors.

Play Areas
Safe, secure and fun. A toddlers paradise for 2-3 year olds!

Species Gardens
Whole families of rare and not-so-rare flowers and plants.

Miniature Railway
The ideal way to tour the entire Festival Site.

Esplanade
This majestically tiered 440 yards of promenade with its sunken gardens, colourful splashes of bedding plants and maritime features leads the visitor leisurely to the heart of the Festival.

Water Feature
Specially designed water gardens.

Festival Building
Fascinating result of a National Architectural Design Competition.

Gardener's Market
Where you can buy, as well as look!

International Gardens
Plants and shrubs from all over the world.

Viewing Tower
220 ft high with a revolving observation deck for a stunning view of the whole Festival Site.

The Arena
Featuring an incredible range of leisure and sporting spectacles – for up to 20,000 spectators.

Amphitheatre
Scene of special music, dance and drama presentations, capacity: 500.

Homes and Garden Feature

Show Houses
Illustrating exterior and interior design and decor.

Pub
Restaurants
Picnic Areas