

DESIGN

PEACE PROCESS

Italian studio Stefano Boeri Architetti has designed a new centre for prayer, meditation and peace at a sacred Buddhist site in Nepal. Ramagrama Stupa, an archaeological burial site crowned by a hill and an ancient tree, still houses an intact portion of the relics of the Buddha and is one of the most important historical, religious and cultural sites for Buddhism. Buddhist communities and other cultural organisations have committed to preserving and enhancing the space. The masterplan includes two giant gardens: a Peace Meadow for contemplation, with a ground design that recalls the mandala symbol; as well as a Biodiversity Ring, which will host 80,000 plants of 70 different local species. For more information, visit stefano-boeri-architetti.net



STEFANO BOERI ARCHITETTI

CONSERVATION

FROM LITTLE ACORNS

Blenheim Palace and Estate is home to the greatest number of ancient oak trees in Europe and is safeguarding the future of the collection with an extensive tree-growing initiative. Last year, the estate forestry team collected over 20,000 acorns as well as more than 50,000 seedlings from 20 other native species of tree, including cherry, walnut and beech. Saplings planted out in the parkland in 2016 are now around half a metre tall, and it is hoped that the programme will enhance the estate and contribute to a healthier environment.

See the ancient oaks for yourself by booking a visit at blenheimpalace.com

PETE SEAWARD, BLENHEIM PALACE



WHAT TO DO IN... FEBRUARY

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Plants Before Time

Visit Wisley to discover fascinating houseplants among fossils and footprints. Saturday 3 February – Sunday 10 March, 10am-3.45pm (opens 9.30am weekends). RHS Garden Wisley, Woking, Surrey GU23 6QB. rhs.org.uk



HELEN YATES

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Herbalist Walk, Talk and Tea Dive into the world of medicinal plants and their healing properties with an expert herbalist. Tuesday 6 February, 11am-12.30pm. £15. One Garden Brighton, Stanmer Park, Lewes Road, Brighton, East Sussex BN1 9SE. onegardenbrighton.com



DR TRACEY RICH

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Early Flowering Perennials with Rosy Hardy

A talk on the attributes of 24 early flowering perennials. Wednesday 28 February, 10.30am-12.30pm. £22.50. Hardy's Cottage Garden Plants, Whitchurch, Hampshire RG28 7FA. hardysplants.co.uk