



Redesigning Grosvenor Square

*Digital events programme
May – June*



Redesigning Grosvenor Square

We are rethinking the role of Grosvenor Square to transform it into a thriving place for people and nature.

We want to do this with our neighbours and with other London communities, bringing together the best knowledge to create a new type of urban square that encourages discovery and fosters wellbeing for both people and planet.

The themes are:


-  **Green in our cities**
-  **Accessing the outdoors**
-  **Spectacular horticulture and biodiversity**
-  **Healthy places**
-  **Urban ecology**



In February we appointed architects Tonkin Liu to lead the design team for Grosvenor Square, and introduced them to you at our 'Meet the designers' events in March. We now want to start collaboratively exploring ideas, both big and small, for the square.

In **May and June 2020**, due to the evolving circumstances of Covid-19, we have a **programme of online events and activities**. These will be based around 5 key themes that people have told us they are interested in, and the areas where people can have most influence over the upcoming design process.

Book your place: To ensure a meaningful experience and manage group sizes, there are limited places for each online event, so please register in advance at bit.do/grosvenorsquare

 [@grosvenorsquare](https://twitter.com/grosvenorsquare)
grosvenorsquare.org

Each theme will have a:

Big topic talk: online interactive talks by experts in the field and the design team, followed by the opportunity to prioritise what the lessons for Grosvenor Square will be.

Local conversation: in smaller groups, there will be focused conversations and activities on a digital platform, applying the ideas from the big topic talk to Grosvenor Square.

Discovery pack: digital activities available to download from our website for our younger audience, and your inner child, to collect and identify ideas for Grosvenor Square.



Green in our cities

What is the future of green spaces in our cities?

We all love our green spaces and in the current circumstances we are even more aware of how important they are for our physical and emotional wellbeing.

With talks by a range of experts we will be exploring different ideas for the future of green spaces in our cities. What role do they have to play for a better, more sustainable future for both people and planet, and what does this mean for Grosvenor Square?

Speakers include:

Judy Ling Wong | Founding Trustee, National Park City

Edoardo Borgomeo | Honorary Research Associate, University of Oxford

Dr Meredith Whitton | London School of Economics & Political Science

Anna Liu | Director, Tonkin Liu

Carole Wright | Community gardener



Accessing the outdoors

How do we get to and move around our green spaces?

Great spaces need to be easy to access, easy to move around and safe for everybody. What important things do we need to get right to make a space accessible, what stops these from happening and what is the link between access, movement and our experience of a place?

Our speakers will explore this topic from practical and emotional perspectives, so that we can prioritise what will make Grosvenor Square accessible and welcoming to all.

Speakers include:

Peter Massini | Urban Greening Strategist, GLA

Neil Sinden | Director, CPRE London

Fahad Malik | Architect, Tonkin Liu

• **Big topic talk** | 12 May, 5 - 6:30pm

• **Local conversations** | 16 May, 11- 12:30pm
19 May, 12:30 - 2pm



Spectacular horticulture and biodiversity

How do we create places that bloom and beckon biodiversity?

We know people love the idea of spectacular horticulture and increasing biodiversity in our squares and parks, but how do we turn this into practice, and be sustainable? What are the steps we need to take to make this happen, and how can we all play our part in improving the quality and impact of planting?

We will be hearing from experts in the field, debating different approaches and thinking about what the lessons will be for Grosvenor Square.

Speakers include:

Ed Ikin | Deputy Director of Wakehurst, RBG Kew

Nigel Dunnett | Professor of Planting Design and Urban Horticulture, University of Sheffield

Emily Morshuis | Project Lead, London Wildlife Trust

Kabir Kaul | Young conservationist and wildlife writer



• **Big topic talk** | 26 May, 12:30 - 2pm

• **Local conversations** | 30 May, 11- 12:30pm
2 June, 5 - 6:30pm



Healthy places

How can urban spaces support our wellbeing?

Our own wellbeing and the wellbeing of our neighbourhoods is something that we have all started to be more aware of. At this event we will be exploring how places can support our health and wellbeing.

From peaceful to playful, our spaces need to work hard to provide for different people's needs; we will be exploring all the ways we can do this, learning from other places, before thinking about what this might mean for Grosvenor Square.

Speakers include:

Simon Wyatt | Sustainability Partner, Cundall

Dr Andrew Smith | School of Architecture & Cities, Westminster University

Sue Morgan | Director of Architecture & Built Environment, Design Council

• **Big topic talk** |
9 June
12:30 - 2pm

• **Local conversations** |
13 June
11- 12:30pm
16 June
5 - 6:30pm



Urban ecology

What is the role of an urban square in a time of climate crisis?

With over 600 garden squares in London we want to explore what role these spaces have to play in tackling the climate crisis. We know that people value being able to enjoy these garden spaces, including Grosvenor Square, but how can they work best for both people and planet.

We will hear speakers offer different perspectives on how these spaces can play their role in addressing the climate crisis, and what this might mean for Grosvenor Square.

Speakers include:

Emily Hamilton | Associate Director, Grosvenor Britain & Ireland

Dan Raven-Ellison | National Park City

Gary Grant | Director, Green Infrastructure Consultancy

Alice Bell | Co-director, Climate Change charity *Possible*

• **Big topic talk** |
23 June
5 - 6:30pm

• **Local conversations** |
27 June
11- 12:30pm
30 June
12:30 - 2pm

Indicative timeline



May 2020

All events will be **1.5 hours long** and we are offering a range of times to suit different audiences. **Please note the event start time in the calendar below.**



GROSVENOR

Event key



Discovery pack

Activities available to download from our website to collect and identify ideas relating to the key themes.



Big topic talk

Online interactive talks by experts and the design team with opportunities for you to comment and participate.



Local conversation

Focused participatory activities in small groups and conversations with the design team on digital platform. Offered at two different times per topic.



Themes

The colours used in the calendar correspond to the Big Topic themes presented overleaf.



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
				01	02	03
04	05	06 12:30	07 Discovery pack launches online	08 12:30 Local conversation: Green in our cities	09	10
11 Check online for a new discovery pack!	12 5pm Big topic talk: Accessing the outdoors	13	14	15	16 11am Local conversation: Accessing the outdoors	17
18	19 12:30 Local conversation: Accessing the outdoors	20	21	22	23	24
25 Check online for a new discovery pack!	26 12:30 Big topic talk: Spectacular horticulture and biodiversity	27	28	29	30 11am Local conversation: Spectacular horticulture and biodiversity	31

June 2020

Please register in advance at
bit.do/grosvenorsquare

Event key



Discovery pack

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Big topic talk

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Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
01	02 5pm Local conversation: Spectacular horticulture and biodiversity	03	04	05	06	07
08 Check online for a new discovery pack!	09 12:30 Big topic talk: Healthy places	10	11	12	13 11am Local conversation: Healthy places	14
15	16 5pm Local conversation: Healthy places	17	18	19	20	21
22 Check online for a new discovery pack!	23 5pm Big topic talk: Urban ecology	24	25	26	27 11am Local conversation: Urban ecology	28
29	30 12:30 Local conversation: Urban ecology					