

Sent: Monday, July 14, 2008 2:09 PM  
Subject: Magna Carta Installation

I understand that the Magna Carta writing on John Street wall is to be removed by the new owners of the premises.

I am a Mayor's Guide and every Thursday morning I take my visitors to look at the wall and ask them what it represents. Very rarely one or two visitors will recognise it. Indeed, how many people have read the Magna Carta? If I have schoolchildren on my tours, especially girls, I point out to them that my mother was born eight years before women got the vote, and eighteen years before gaining the full franchise. It is mother's proud boast that she has never missed a vote. She remembers that Suffragettes went to prison and one died to force the government of the day to give women the right to vote, and how necessary it is for us all to honour their suffering by exercising our voting rights.

Apart from that, the installation art by Margaret Withers is an interesting, creative and appealing curiosity in Bath. Visitors and Bathonians love it. Please do what you can to ensure that it is retained.