



## CCA Newsletter No. 27 'In Lock down'

**Current Situation.** The current lock down restrictions due to the corona virus pandemic has set everything into unknown territory. We can only hope that the end result will not be put back too far, and will be close to what might be hoped for. There are signs already that plans for the future are better than we in the Association, at one time feared.

**Archaeology.** The archaeologists have continued to work in all areas of the grounds, and have discovered so much more than had been expected. We still await their full report. In the meantime, they have been very clear that the ground throughout the rear area of the Charterhouse building can not be disturbed below a few centimetres.

**The Lack of Trees.** Many of our members and many outside the Association have had concern about the loss of trees during the renovation work period. It is now understood that the original planning which proposed the removal of so many trees, was based upon two beliefs. The first was that many of the trees removed were in fact less than 30 years old, and had little to do with the history of the site, and many indeed had self seeded. The second belief was that there would be every opportunity to re-instate a number of trees, many more appropriate to the site and its history. Unfortunately this is no longer possible, because of the numerous archaeological finds. It is believed however, that potted plants can be used to reduce the impact. There has also been concern that the 'Heart and Broken Heart' maze has been removed. We are assured that it would never have survived due to the diseased nature of the plants.

**New discoveries.** Unexpectedly, during the renovation work two new grisaille wall painting have been discovered.



Black and white grisaille painting discovered in corridor



Location plan showing area of newly discovered grisaille wall painting

Some of the cells have been re-excavated, together with the well



Re-excavation of cell. Cell wall right foreground



excavation of medieval well

**Future.** It is with much hope, that we can believe that the future is brighter than we have at times thought likely. There are signs that this is so.

### Contact

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