

BATH 250

A *VIRTUAL CONFERENCE*

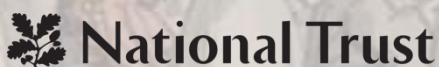
To Mark

The 250th *ANNIVERSARY*

of the **NEW ASSEMBLY ROOMS**

at *BATH*

29th & 30th September 2021



Many thanks to our sponsors



Thomas Rowlandson, *Comforts of Bath, Plate 10: A Ball* (6 January 1798)

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Bath 250 Programme

The conference is free and will be held on Zoom. Registration will be through Eventbrite. Zoom links will be sent out to registrants prior to the conference.

29 SEPTEMBER

9.00–16.30

9–9.15 **Welcome: Elaine Chalus & Robin Eagles**

Keynote

9.15–9.55 Hannah Greig (University of York): Having a Ball in Eighteenth Century England

9.55–11.25 **Panel 1: Assembly Rooms and Before**

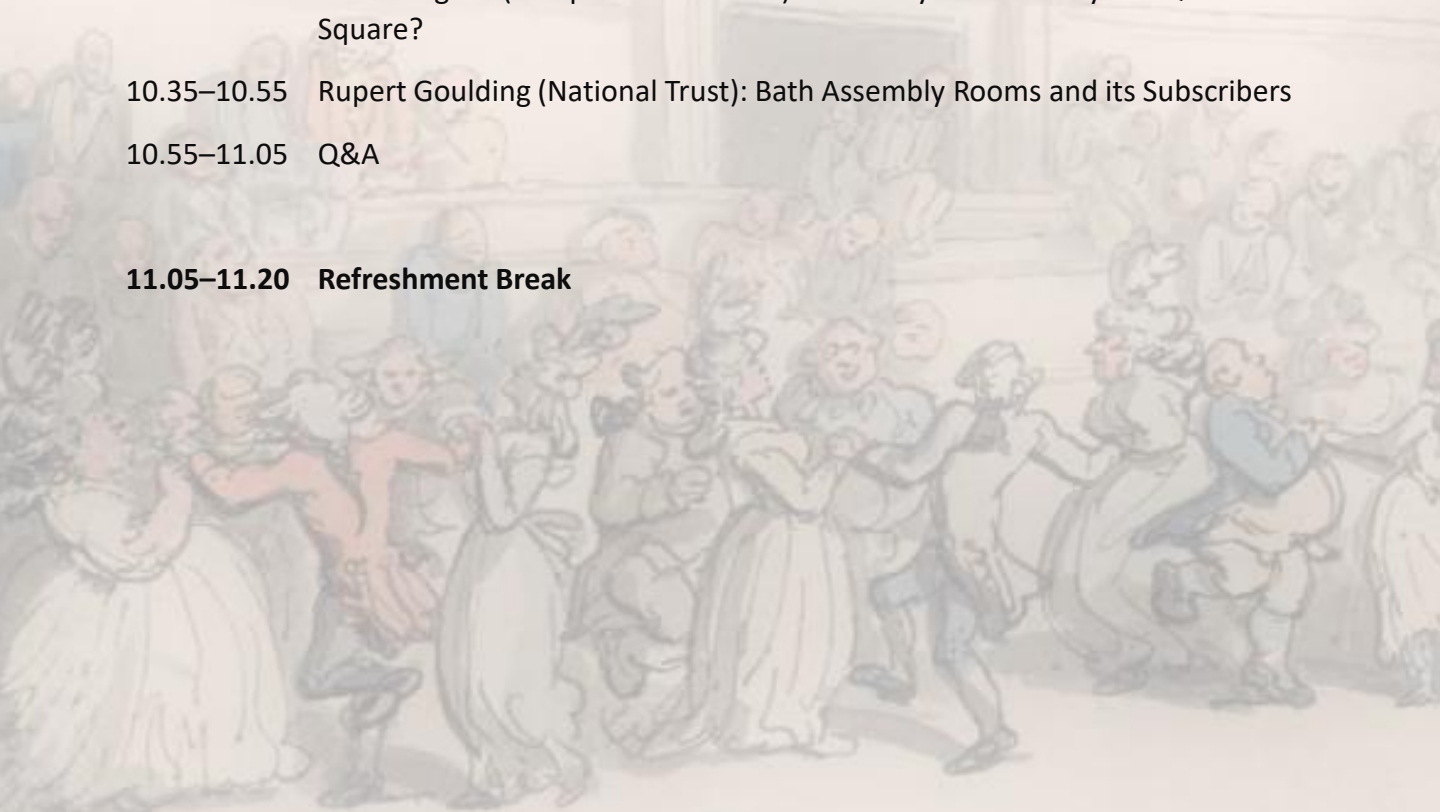
9.55–10.15 Cathryn Spence (Curator and Archivist, Bowood House): 'Chocolate, Coffee, Tea and Buttered Hot Cakes': Entertainments in Bath before the Upper Assembly Rooms

10.15–10.35 David Hughes (Independent Scholar): Assembly Rooms: Why not Queen Square?

10.35–10.55 Rupert Goulding (National Trust): Bath Assembly Rooms and its Subscribers

10.55–11.05 Q&A

11.05–11.20 **Refreshment Break**



11.20–12.50 Panels 2 & 3

Panel 2 Polite & Impolite Bath

- 11.20–11.40 Rachael Johnson (Independent Scholar): The Shadow of Beau Nash: Masters of Ceremony at Bath and Tunbridge Wells, 1761–c.1801
- 11.40–12.00 Hillary Burlock (PGR, Queen Mary University of London): ‘Battle of the Belles’: electing Bath’s ‘Kings’
- 12.00–12.20 Steve Poole (University of the West of England): ‘Confusion, clamour and insolence’: Georgian Bath's disorderly sedan chairmen
- 12.20–12.40 Daniel O’Brien (ECR, University of Bath): ‘There’s not a man in the City of Bath that has a finer feeling than I have’: the real and imagined undertakers of late-eighteenth century Bath
- 12.40–12.50 Q&A

Panel 3 Women’s Experiences of Bath

- 11.20–11.40 Rose McCormack (ECR, Aberystwyth University): Voices of Satire and Sincerity: Exploring the Letters and Diaries of Leisured Women in Georgian Bath
- 11.40–12.00 Jemima Hubberstey (PGR, University of Oxford): ‘I am a sort of Prisoner here’: Jemima Marchioness Grey’s and Lady Elizabeth Anson’s Accounts of Bath
- 12.00–12.20 Rachel Bynoth (PGR, Bath Spa University/Cardiff University): The Marriage Mart Reassessed: Female Emotional Experiences of Eighteenth-Century Bath Through Letters
- 12.20–12.40 Mark Philp (University of Warwick): Touch and Power in Bath, 1789–1815
- 12.40–12.50 Q&A

12.50–13.40 Lunch

13.40–15.10 Panels 4 & 5

Panel 4 Sociability, Celebrity & Politics

13.40–14.00 Elaine Chalus (University of Liverpool): Sociability and Soft Power at the Spa

14.00–14.20 Robin Eagles (History of Parliament): 'More violent at Bath than even at London': Celebrity Politicians and the 'Rage of Politics' in 18th-Century Bath

14.20–14.40 James Peate (PGR, University of Bristol): Schooled by Scandal: Richard Brinsley Sheridan, Eliza Linley & Managing Scandal in Eighteenth Century Bath

14.40–15.00 Michael McMullen (Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary): 'Molested with Callers and Calling': William Wilberforce's Love–Hate Relationship with Bath, Illustrated from his Unpublished Diaries and Journals

15.00–15.10 Q&A

Panel 5 Performance

13.40–14.00 Ann Hinchcliffe (Independent Scholar): The Evolution of the Country Dance in the Assembly Room from 1700 to 1900: What People Danced, and Why

14.00–14.20 Matthew Spring (Bath Spa University): The Glory Years, 1771–76: The New Assembly Rooms under Wade and Linley

14.20–14.40 Brianna Robertson-Kirkland (ECR, University of Glasgow): Singing Stars and Singing Students: The Bath Assembly Room Concerts

14.40–15.00 Rhian Davies (Artistic Director, Gregynog Festival): 'By particular Desire': Welsh Musicians in Georgian Bath

15.00–15.10 Q&A

15.10–15.40 Refreshment Break with Pre-Recorded Recital of Welsh harp music by Maximilian Ehrhardt, Historical Harpist

15.40–16.40 Panel 6: Roundtable & Q&A
Bath Assembly Rooms: The Next 250 Years

Oliver Cox (Oxford, TORCH), Tim Cole (University of Bristol), Olivette Otele (University of Bristol), Tom Boden (National Trust)

Commentator: Steve Poole (University of the West of England)

30 SEPTEMBER

9.20–12.15

9.20 Welcome

9.30–10.40 Panel 7: Bath Town

9.30-9.50 Kevin Grieves (Bath Spa University): 'For the convenience of strangers': Digitally Mapping the Lodging and Boarding Houses of Bath

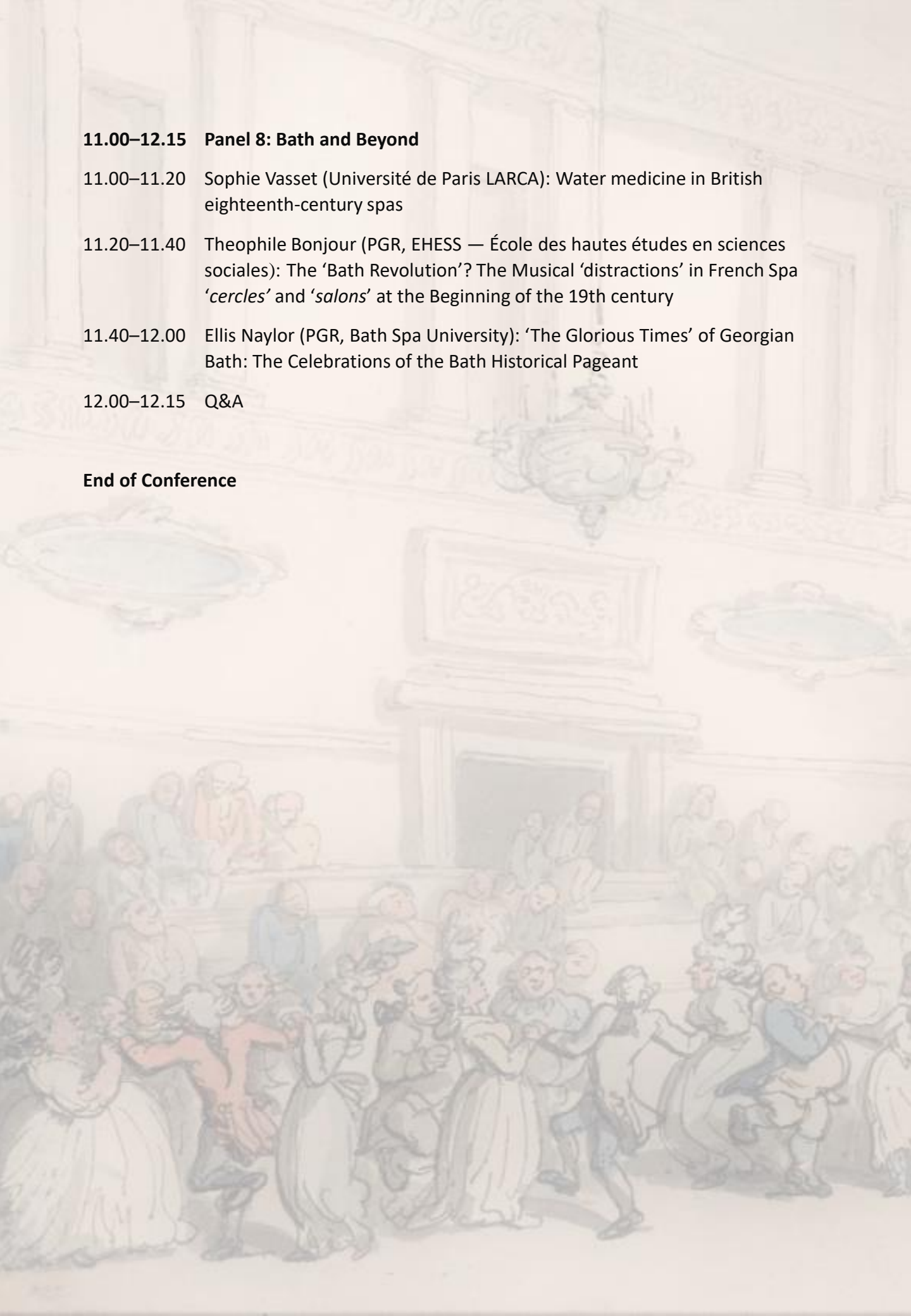
9.50–10.10 Amy Frost (Bath Preservation Trust): Adam in Bath: The unbuilt vision for a new town – Building the Assembly Rooms

10.10-10.30 Kim Simpson (ECR, Chawton House): Blunderheads at Bath: Jane Austen among the Satirists

10.30–10.40 Q&A

10.40–11.00 Refreshment Break





11.00–12.15 Panel 8: Bath and Beyond

11.00–11.20 Sophie Vasset (Université de Paris LARCA): Water medicine in British eighteenth-century spas

11.20–11.40 Theophile Bonjour (PGR, EHESS — École des hautes études en sciences sociales): The ‘Bath Revolution’? The Musical ‘distractions’ in French Spa ‘*cercles*’ and ‘*salons*’ at the Beginning of the 19th century

11.40–12.00 Ellis Naylor (PGR, Bath Spa University): ‘The Glorious Times’ of Georgian Bath: The Celebrations of the Bath Historical Pageant

12.00–12.15 Q&A

End of Conference

EVENING RECEPTION

For those who are interested, and/or able to travel to Bath, there will be an evening reception on the 30th in the Assembly Rooms to commemorate their opening on 30 Sept. 1771.

A separate booking will be required for this event and there will be a registration fee. More information will follow and tickets will be booked through Eventbrite.

17.45–18.00 Welcome and Introduction

Public Lecture

18.00–19.00 Jonathan Foyle (Visiting Professor in Conservation at the University of Lincoln; Director, Built Heritage, Ltd): The Upper Assembly Rooms: Assembling the Influences on John Wood the Younger's Design

19.00–19.15 Hillary Burlock (PGR, QMUL): Ridotto Redux, 1771 in 2021

19.25–20.10 Dance Display, Ball Room: Bath Minuet Company

20.10–21.00 Reception

Ends

