

u3a Talk 12 March 2026 (note 2nd Thursday)

The Bath Assembly Rooms Through the Ages

Dr. Tim Manningmore, National Trust

This talk will reveal the fascinating story of the Bath Assembly Rooms, from their glittering eighteenth century heyday through its the many challenges they have faced across the centuries. Our speaker will uncover the changing fortunes of the building, shedding light on the mysterious group of people who first funded its construction and then exploring how the Rooms have survived fire, war as well as shifting fashions to remain one of Bath's most iconic landmarks. And then what about its twenty-first century future? This talk will provide the 'inside track' on the current project to restore the building. In preparation the curators have conducted lots of research into the lives of Georgians in Bath from all walks of life, uncovering stories to be shared with the public.

Dr. Tim Manningmore is a Lecturer at the University of Oxford and the National Trust's first Inclusive Histories Curator. His work focuses on researching and sharing under-represented histories and narratives of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries with a particular focus on queer histories and global/colonial histories.