

Frontinus-Gesellschaft e.V.

Internationale Gesellschaft für die Geschichte
der Wasser-, Energie- und Rohrleitungstechnik



**Cordial Invitation
to the Online Lecture (ZOOM) on 13.06.2024, 6:00 pm (CET)**

Dr. Hubertus Manderscheid

**"Einst und jetzt" - Standard und Luxus des Warmbades in römischer Zeit
("Once and now" - the standard and luxury of warm baths in Roman times)
(Lecture in German)**

Hubertus Manderscheid is a freelance archaeologist. He completed his doctorate at the University of Cologne in 1977. He lived in and near Rome since 1978. Two of his main areas of work are the architecture, decorative furnishings and hydro- and heating technology of ancient baths as well as Roman "water archaeology". He has published a number of major and minor articles on these topics (Rome, Ostia, Pompei, etc.). His most recent monograph (2020) deals with "Water management, hydrotechnology and water architecture of Minturnae", and his current work on "Air conditioning of residential and representational architecture in Rome and Latium" is about to be published. He is a corresponding member of the German Archaeological Institute and was awarded the Frontinus Medal in 2018.

Hubertus Manderscheid about his lecture:

Both the written sources and the archaeological findings document the development of Roman bathing from a simple "washbasin" for physical cleansing, mainly with cold water, to the "heated swimming pool", the ultimate in Roman bathing culture. The invention of the hypocaust heater and its use in bathing contexts was of decisive importance. It not only helped to heat the spa rooms, but also revolutionised the way water was heated. A standard gradually developed that is reflected in countless bathing facilities. A second factor had major consequences for the bathing industry: the increased construction of long-distance pipelines, which transported a considerable, constant volume of high-quality water to numerous cities in the Roman Empire day-to-day. This made it possible to build larger baths and at the same time increase the number and dimensions of the bathing pools, including the boilers for heating the water. In this way, more and more people were able to enjoy bathing. In the end, thermal bath architecture and technology had an influence on the social life of the Romans that should not be underestimated. The facilities that highlighted from this standard, which was intended for the masses, were those that offered something "more", namely the luxury of a heated *piscina*.

The access data for the online meeting (ZOOM) are as follows:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87933930044?pwd=dlk4REZ4S0NnL3k2RGN2TVdtZTd3Zz09>

Meeting-ID: 879 3393 0044, Kenncode: 631844

Prof. Dr.-Ing. Hans Mehlhorn
President of the Frontinus Society

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