



The Magic of
HOT WATER

Published for the 25th Anniversary of Andrews Water Heaters 1976-2001

The Magic of

H O T W A T E R



l. Woodcut. Bathing, Czechoslovakia, 1495. (TBL, p.226).

A selective pictorial history of the early days of
domestic water heating to mark the 25th Anniversary
of the founding of Andrews Water Heaters
1976-2001



The Magic of

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H O T W A T E R

Brian Roberts



Paul Yunnie



3. Advertisement, Fenlon's Patent Geyser, 1900.
(Plumbing, No.67, 1986, p40).

Introduction

This book has been produced by Andrews Water Heaters to mark the 25th Anniversary of our founding. We hope our many customers and friends in the industry will enjoy reading about the development of domestic hot water systems and equipment.

To live, primitive Man needed an adequate supply of fresh drinking water, food and a place to shelter. Early civilisations, like those of Minoan Crete and of Rome, recognised these basic needs. Their houses had openings to admit light and air. Heating was provided where demanded by the climate. Water supplies were laid on to towns, and primitive drainage and sanitation often existed. They also recognised the magic of hot water. They discovered natural hot springs and bathed and played in the waters. Where no springs existed they learned to heat water by artificial means.

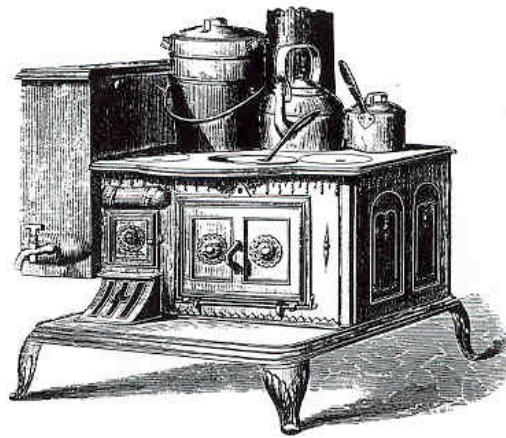
It was Roman engineering genius that first truly developed the technology to heat large volumes of water. But the practice of bathing (at least in Europe) was largely forgotten with the decline of the Roman Empire. It was not revived until the Middle Ages but again faded when public bathing was judged (and often was) immoral. Private bathrooms and bathing pavilions became popular during the Renaissance. However, the benefits of hot water for domestic purposes became more apparent and gradually available from the mid-19th century. This time it was Victorian technology that produced hot water boilers, piped systems, sanitary ware, taps and the first geysers. It was to take a further century of steady engineering development to make hot water as readily taken for granted as it is today.

This book which tells, in pictures, the story of the development of domestic hot water equipment and services is arranged in historical order. After a brief glimpse over the eighteen hundred or so years from Roman times to the Regency period, the main emphasis is on the progress made during the Victorian era and then from the turn of the century up to just after the Second World War. Each time section has an introductory note. The illustrations are often accompanied by further information and the picture source. A Picture Index and References are given at the end of the book.

We hope you will find *The Magic of Hot Water* informative and amusing.



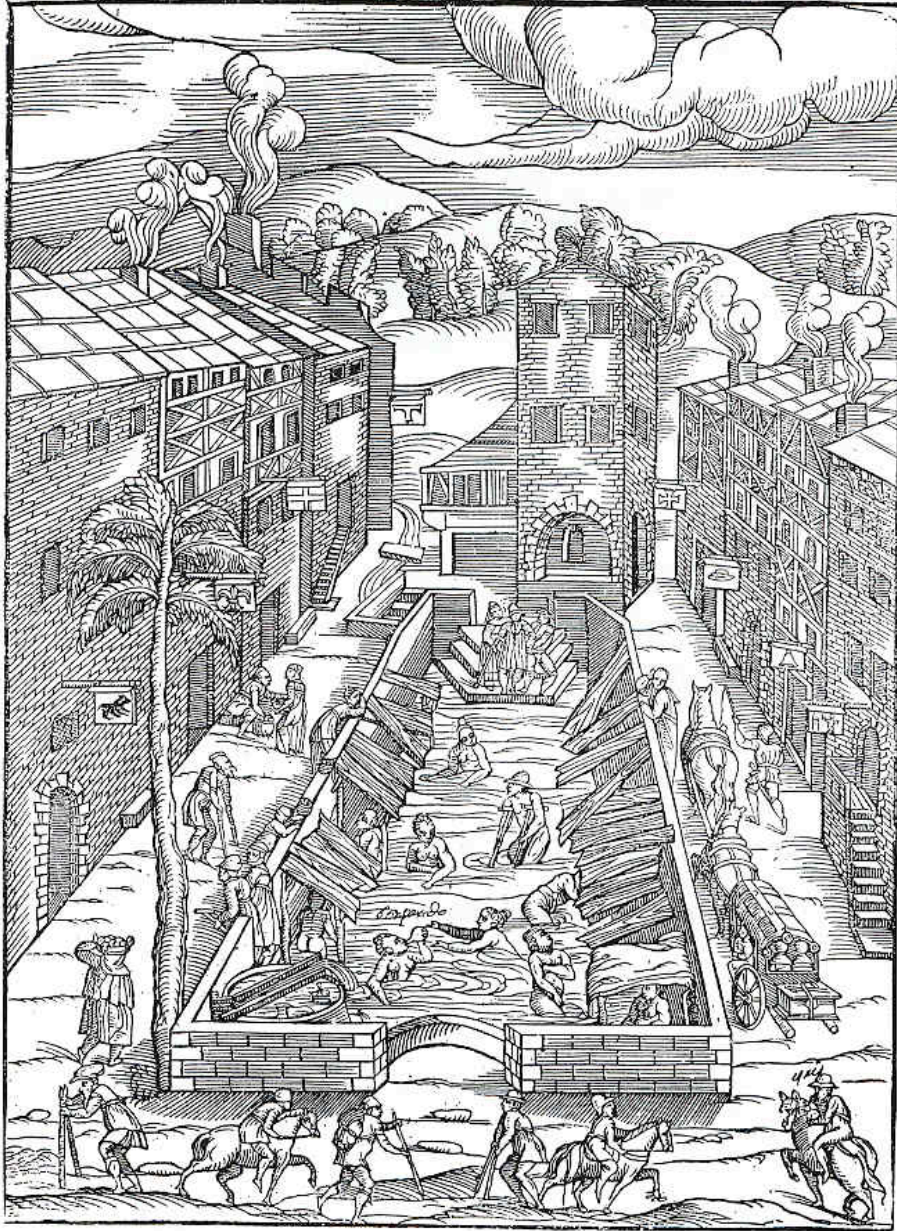
Paul Yunnice
Managing Director
ANDREWS WATER HEATERS



4. Trafford Range with Hot Water Attachment. Smith & Wellstood, c.1890. (HGT Collection).

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5. Woodcut. Roman Thermal Baths, c.1559. Said to be in France. (ADI, p.82).