

There will be **NO MEETING on 12 FEBRUARY at the HILTON**. The week beginning Monday 9<sup>th</sup> will be a **SCATTER WEEK** with each Committee visiting a Club of their choice, away from Bath, at some time during this week.

**19 FEBRUARY** - Peter Bazire has been booked to speak at this meeting about "My teenage years in Japanese Prison Camps in Northern China, 1942 – 1945".



Peter was a Biology teacher at the City of Bath Boys/Beechen Cliff School and a colleague of the late Glyn Maddocks.

**26 FEBRUARY** – An evening with partners and guests at a **Wine Tasting** with nibbles at **Great Western Wine** on Wells Road – cost £15 each.

Monies will be collected at the meeting on 19 February.

**5 MARCH – BUSINESS MEETING** with the added attraction of two members from the Rotary Club of Mendip presenting propaganda for the 2015 District Conference sometime in October.

**12 MARCH – STEVE BAXTER** will be speaking to Club about **Iconic Cycling Events**. Steve is the organiser of the annual Bike Bath event. No doubt you will remember that last year's event was in June; this year it will be held in July.

**19 MARCH** – at this meeting Club welcomes **SHERRIE-JANE JACKSON** who is the **District Foundation Ambassador**. "What is a District Foundation Ambassador?" I hear you all cry! Well no doubt we shall all find out at this meeting.

**26 MARCH - NO MEETING at the HILTON** but there is a **visit to the SS Great Britain on Saturday 28 March**



SS *Great Britain* was designed by Isambard Kingdom Brunel for the Great Western Steamship Company's transatlantic service between Bristol and New York. She was advanced for her time, while other ships had been built of iron or equipped with a screw propeller. *Great Britain* was the first to combine these features in a large ocean-going ship. She was the first iron steamer to cross the Atlantic, which she did in 1845, in the time of 14 days.

When launched in 1843, *Great Britain* was by far the largest vessel afloat. However, her protracted construction, high cost and the ship being stranded by a navigational error forced her owners out of business in 1846.

Sold for salvage and repaired, *Great Britain* carried thousands of immigrants to Australia until converted to sail in 1881. Three years later she was retired to the Falkland Islands where she was used as a warehouse, quarantine ship and coal hulk until scuttled in 1937.

In 1970, following a donation by Sir Jack Hayward, she was towed back to the UK. *Great Britain* was returned to the Bristol dry dock where she was built. Now part of the National Historic Fleet, she is a museum ship in Bristol Harbour.



Details of timings, transportation and refreshments are to be finalised and advised.

**16 APRIL – JOHNNY JOHNSON the LAST DAMBUSTER.**

As this is a fundraising evening our Partners and guests are invited to the Hilton Hotel to hear the Last Dambuster for a minimum donation of £15 a ticket. The evening is in aid of Rotary charities and the RAF Benevolent Fund. The audience is limited to 200. There will be a pay bar.



George Leonard "Johnny" Johnson was born in 1921. He joined the RAF in 1940 retiring as a Squadron Leader in 1962 and subsequently became a school teacher living in Newark. He retired to Torquay and then moved to Bristol to be nearer his family.

#### NEW MEMBER

Transferred from Rotary Club of Palermo Teatro del Sole.



President Charles welcomed **Elena Trincanato** to Club during the Business Meeting on 5<sup>th</sup> February.

Elena lives at  
**11 High Gate Street,**  
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 with her husband Mirco Gnesi.  
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