



## **Ride to Stoke Bruerne January 29<sup>th</sup>**

All those long hours of pelvic floor exercises paid off as I unexpectedly encountered ice whilst taking the back lanes to the Long Itch causing me to rapidly amend my route to hit the main road much earlier than usual. There are few policies for which I can thank the Thatcher era but one must be 'Care in the Community' for without it, most of those who venture out on CWAMs winter rideouts would surely be kept safely out of harm's way, in a secure environment. There can be no other explanation for sixteen, to all appearances, normal people, joining Sunday's jaunt.

Briefing done we progressed at a respectful (due to the weather) speed along the Welsh Road through Priors Marston. I don't know whether it's because I usually travel in the opposite direction or that our speed was slightly slower than normal but we got a really look at Charwelton BT tower. OK, it's pretty brutal and utilitarian but at just under 400 feet, some 60 taller than the Stokenchurch tower beside the M40, it dominates the countryside for miles around and makes its little Meccano-like brother look rather puny.

We overwhelm The Boat beside the canal, which unlike our previous visit on a balmy summer evening, was deserted. A quick look at the turgid water before we leave shows it's started to rain, as forecast. An excruciatingly slow journey to A5 then it was a straightforward, if wet run, along A45 to McDs near Dunchurch.



Another good opportunity to get out on the bike with friends. Thanks to Trev for leading us with due care and John at the rear.