

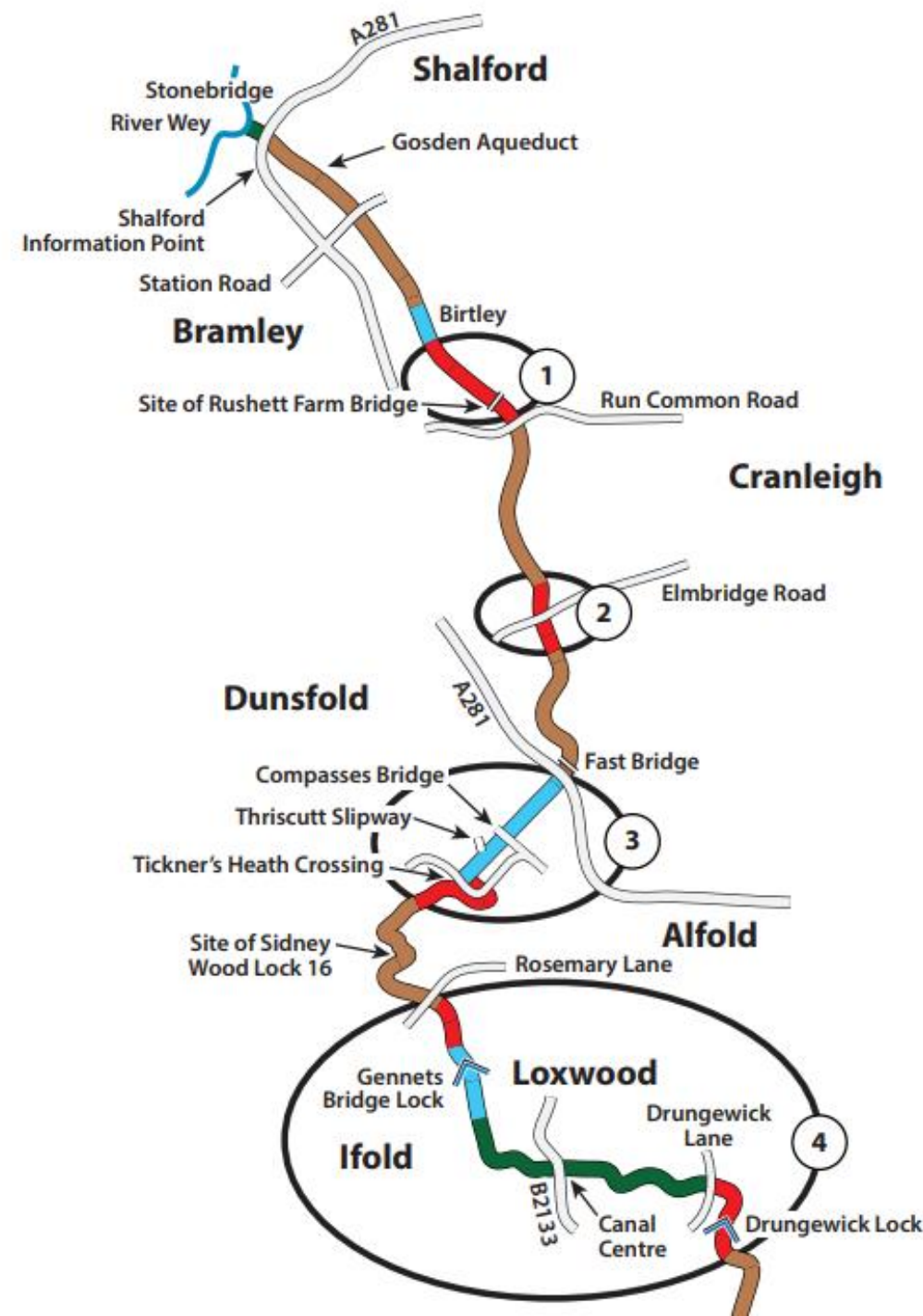


Our Priorities Our Challenges Fundraising & Membership

WEX & ARUZ
Canal
Trust

Recap

- At the Spring Meeting I shared updated three-year plan
 - The same four priority areas – finish what we have started and planned
 - Two additional objectives:
 - ☐ Land Acquisition and route protection
 - ☐ Maintenance and Asset Mgt
- As you have heard from Giles in his “Chairman’s report” we have faced several challenges and set-backs this year



South of Bramley

Birtley to Rushetts

- Tony's presentation has already covered the restoration opportunity
- Bill provided you an update on the Progress at Rooks Hill
- Later in this presentation I will highlight how fundraising has enabled so much progress without depleting our reserves



Cranleigh

Rye Farm

- Worked completed in two phases
- 370M of new towpath constructed
- Canal channel profiled and cleared
- £25k donation from landowner

Elmbridge Road

- We are working to secure a road crossing with navigable height: Requires an agreement with S.C.C.
- Tied to developing a new approach for property and land purchase
- Complex challenge, but we have experienced team looking to unlock important road crossing



Dunsfold and Alfold

Tickners Crossing

- Announcement to pause project in June
- However, our volunteers have been busy putting the site “to sleep”
 - Temporary road sub-base and drainage completed
 - Cover-up with soil underway



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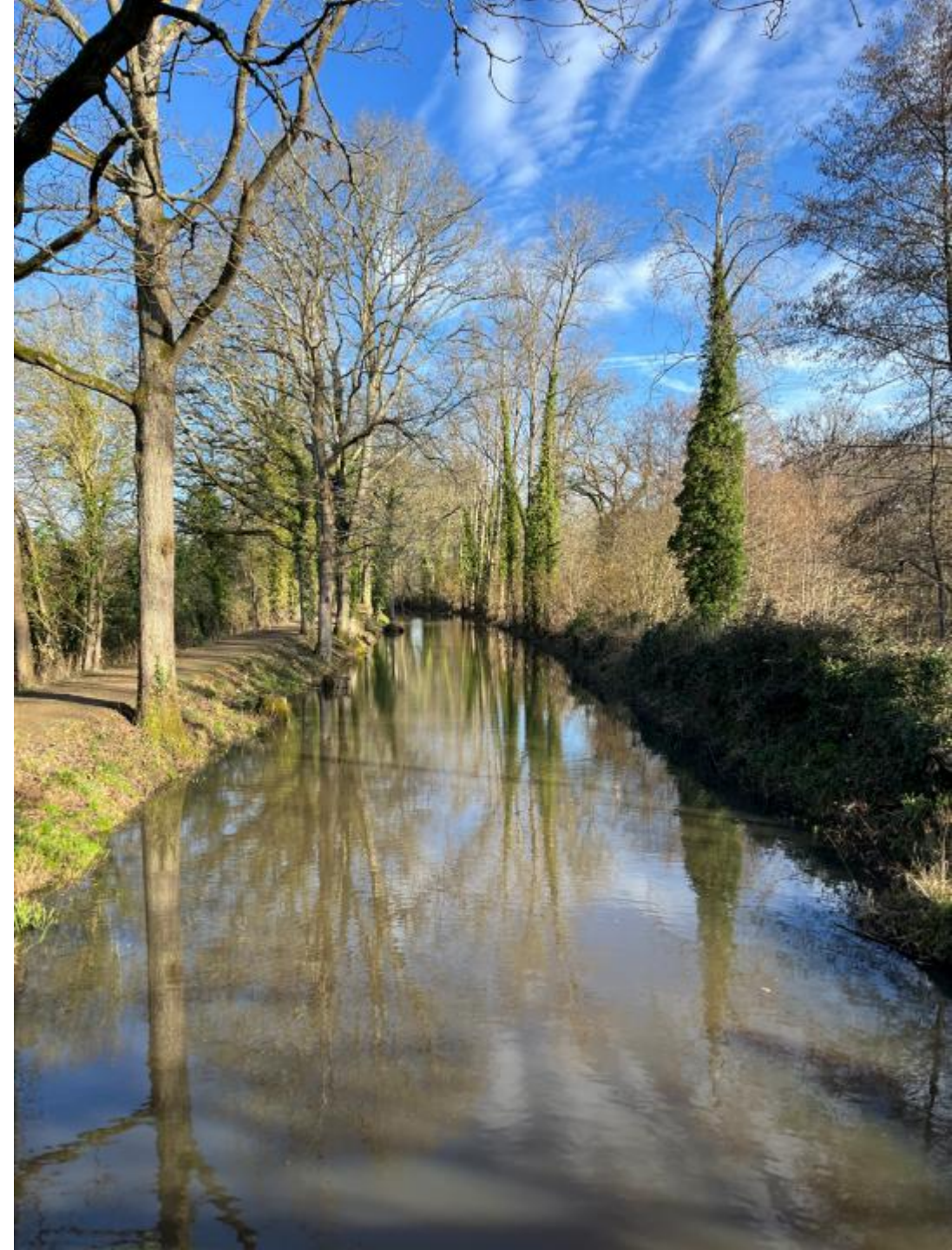
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 - Bridleway path to bridge re-laid
 - Road-side barriers by bridleway bridge removed and verge created
 - Site wide tidy-up well underway and construction fencing being removed



Loxwood and Ifold

Bonfire Hanger

- Dry canal bed in summer, but dams retaining water during the winter and spring
- Some small remedial repairs to towpath planned



Loxwood and Ifold

BKL to Long-Meadow

- As reported at Spring Meeting
 - Lining of canal completed where leak found in Long Meadow
 - New river pump below Drungewick Lock
 - However, plans to re-open navigation thwarted as water levels not maintained
- New pump now installed below BKL Lock
- Inspections and external consulting taking place
 - ❑ A way forward being developed and Board to review work required and assign resources



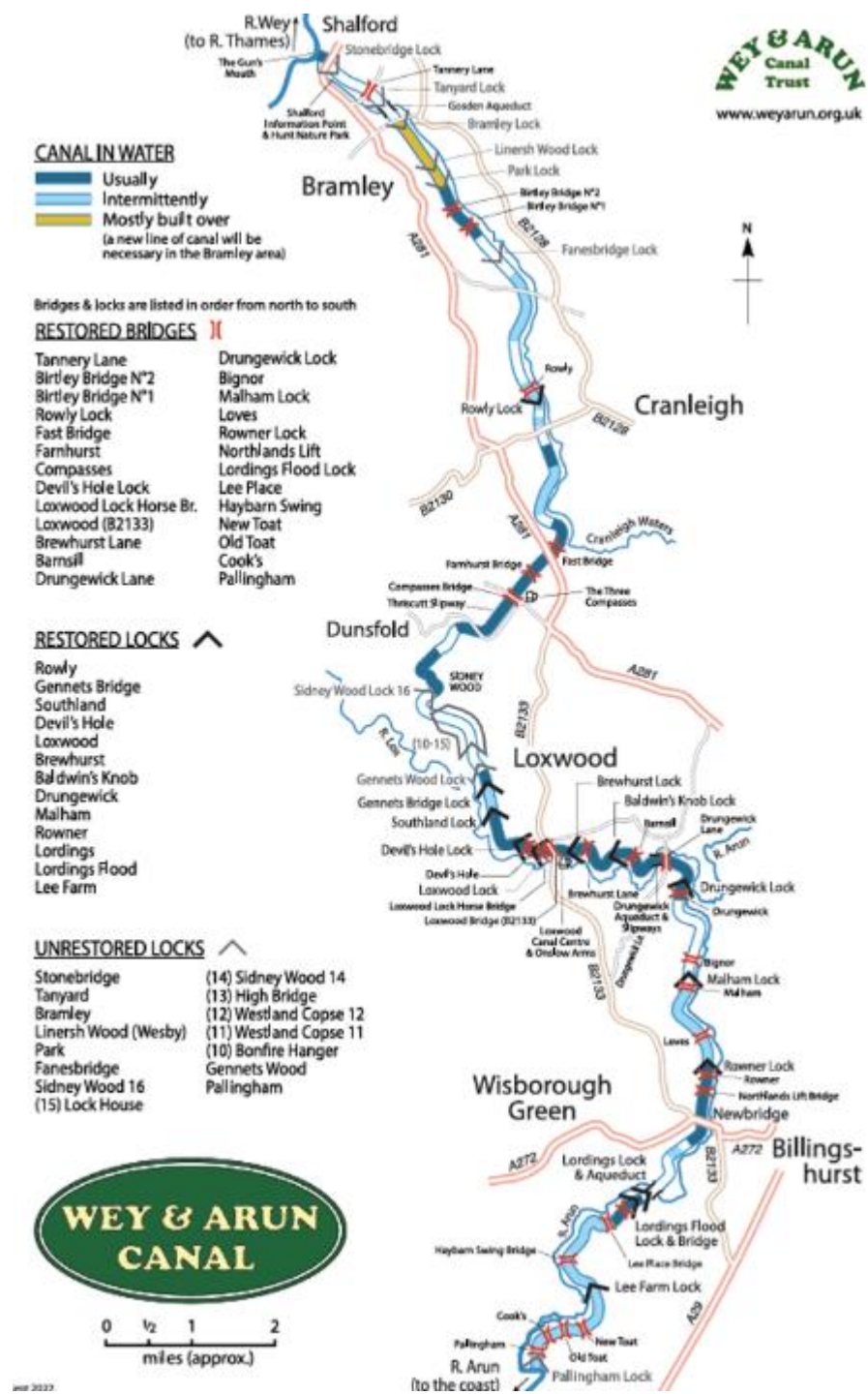
Land and Route

Land Acquisition

- Active negotiations taking place South of Bramley
- Land-owner liaison on-going but securing access to new sections of canal is rarely straight forward

Route Protection - Local Planning process

- Opportunity for applications to be assessed against more favourable policies
- Four submissions made for draft local plans over the last 12 months
- New Government framework should produce four more important consultation events spring/ summer 2027
- Favourable neighbourhood plans can help restoration funding: Potentially three representation opportunities this autumn



Maintenance & Asset Mgt

- An increased focus on inspections and planned maintenance
- Work to avoid future problems

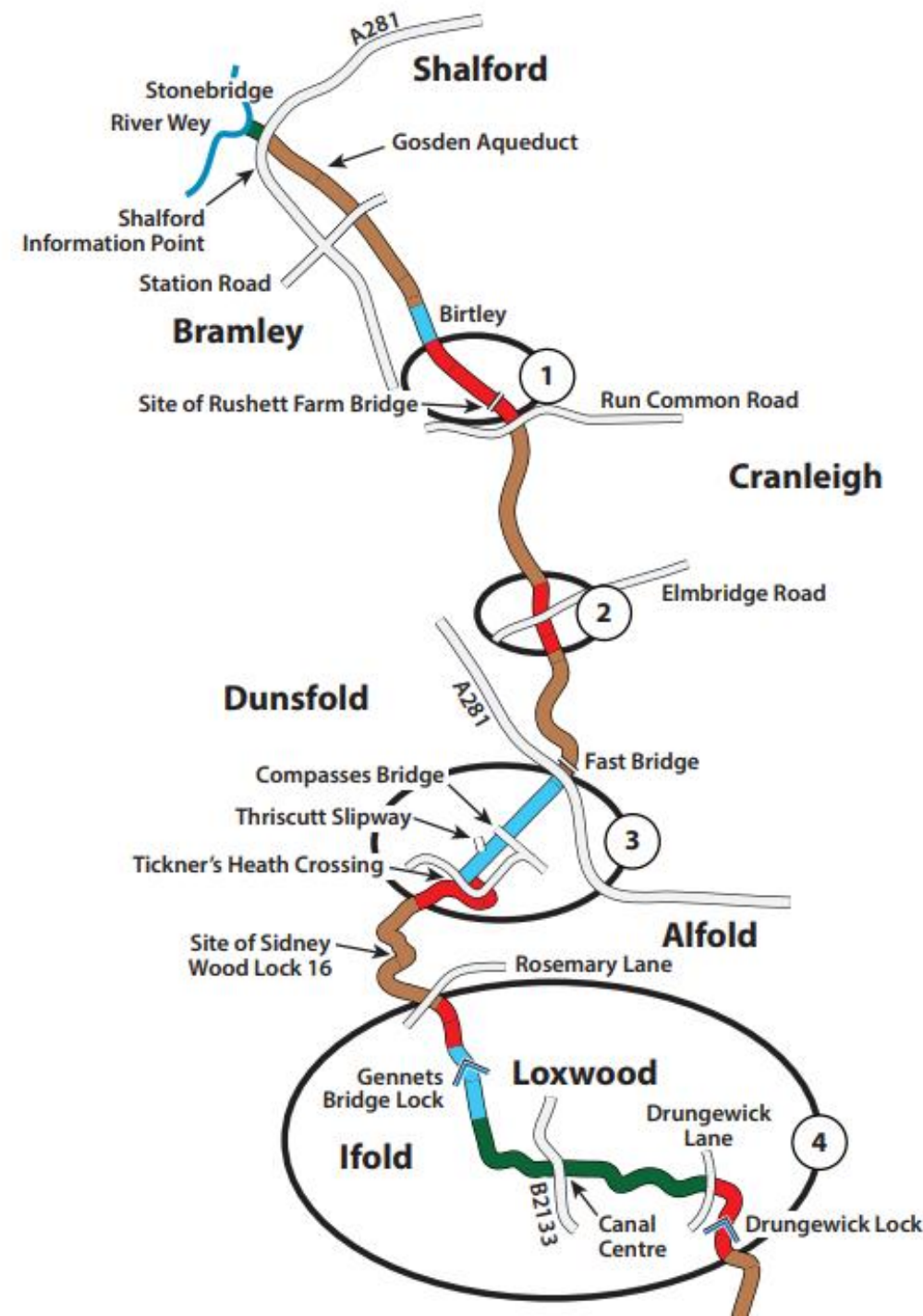
Birtley Embankment

- Engineering assessments completed on two areas where a breach could occur
- Work identified, funded and underway
 - Restoring the embankment slopes
 - Steel piling at water edge (15 metres)
 - Stone-filled gabions at bottom of slope
 - Culvert Head-wall



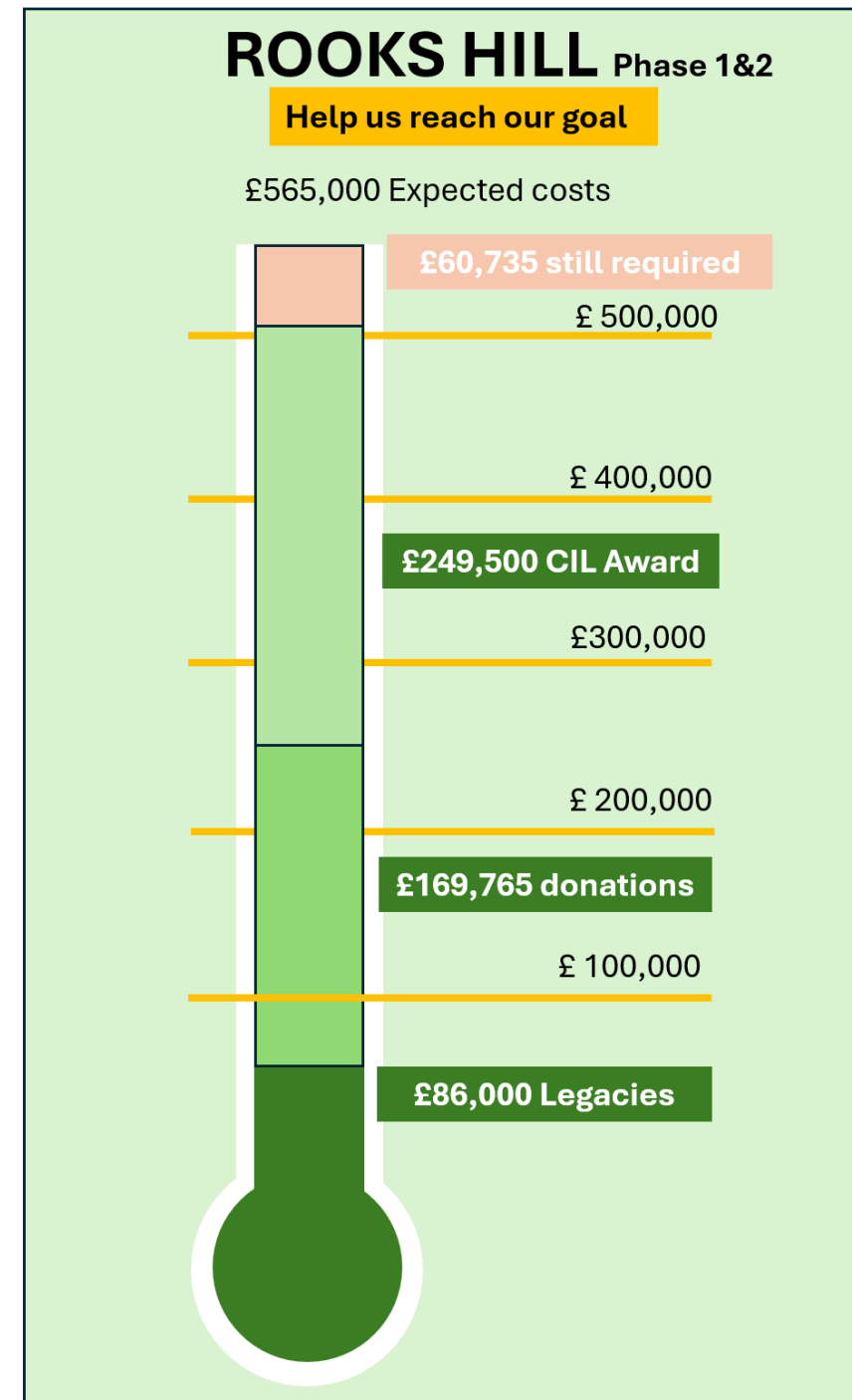
Priorities Summary

- Focus our active projects in four areas and expand from already restored sections
- Ensure we strengthen our processes to protect the full route and seek to purchase new sections
- Refocus our efforts to maintain what we have already restored and have processes in place to better anticipate spend



Rooks Hill Appeal update

- Thank you for the many generous donations !
- CIL Award funding 80% of Phase 2
- Just £60,000 short of full funding
- The appeal remains open if you haven't yet donated



A shameless plug !

- Buy your calendars and Christmas cards
- Buy some raffle tickets
- Not just income for us - help spread the word on who we are and what we do



Wey & Arun Canal Trust
Registered Charity No. 265331

CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

1st prize: £250
2nd prize: £100, 3rd prize: £75
4th prize: £50 John Lewis voucher
5th prize: £30 John Lewis voucher

The draw will take place on Saturday 23rd January 2027 at
Loxwood Canal Centre, Onslow Wharf, High Street, Loxwood RH14 0RD

The person responsible for the promotion of the lottery to be drawn on the 23rd January 2027
is Mr Gordon Powell c/o Canal Centre, Onslow Wharf, High Street, Loxwood, Billinghurst RH14 0RD
Registered under the Gambling Act 2005 with Chichester District Council with No: 2815/26/10763/GASSL

Tickets £1 each

Membership

- If you have received your October Wey-South you will have seen this on the back cover
- We need to attract more members !
- **Do you have ideas we might implement ?**
 - Please your thoughts with any of the Board members today or email: weysouth@weyarun.org.uk

Membership crunch !

Our numbers are falling....

Perhaps it's a sign of the times we live in. Maybe it reflects the age group of our members where, sadly, each year we say good-bye to more people than join. Whatever the reasons, ***we do need to attract more members.***

How can you help?

- Spread the word and encourage your family, friends or neighbours to join us.
- When you have read Wey-South, please share it with your friends and let them see what we do, and the benefits of becoming a member.
- Did you know you can buy gift memberships? This could be a unique present for someone with a love of the outdoors, waterways, nature, walking, boating
- Buy and send our Christmas cards and Calendar to promote our canal and the work we do.

What do you think?

Do you have ideas we might implement? If you'd like to suggest ways to attract new members, please email them to :

weysouth@weyarun.org.uk

Please make us a bequest in your will

Making a will can ensure your hard earned assets go to people and organisations you choose to support, with peace of mind for those survive you.

If you've already made a will and would like to include the Trust as a beneficiary, you can add a simple codicil or amendment. Simply download a form from the Donations page of our website, follow the instructions, and it's done, helping to ensure that the jewel that is our canal can carry on in perpetuity for the benefit of all.

As charitable bequests are tax-exempt, a gift to the Wey & Arun Canal Trust could reduce any Inheritance Tax to be paid after your death.

Questions? Please write in confidence to:

Legacies, Wey & Arun Canal Trust, Canal Centre, Onslow Wharf, High Street, Loxwood, Billingshurst RH14 0RD

Read all about our tremendous work throughout this magazine

**Thank you for
coming
and we hope to
see you at our
Spring Meeting
in 2027**

