



**WEY & ARUN**  
Canal  
Trust

Project Updates  
at AGM

# Agenda

- Reminder of our AIMS
- Priority Projects progress
- Land Acquisition
- 2030 Vision



# AIMS

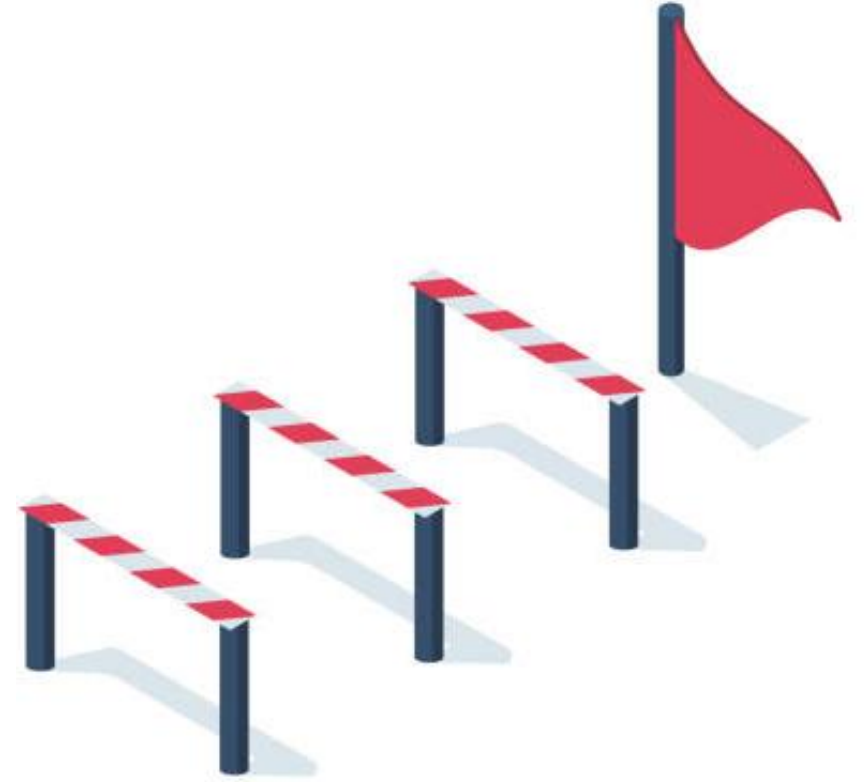
- We have come a long way since the canal restoration started, but there is a huge amount still to be done
- We remain committed to fully restoring the canal, but also want to ensure we deliver on our aims to :
  - Enhance public access: restoring the towpath and creating new footpath and bridleway links
  - Create a waterway for recreation and leisure
  - Extend the “green corridor” for wildlife and the peaceful enjoyment of the countryside
  - Be an educational resource and an opportunity for volunteering
  - To research and conserve heritage features



# 2024 has been challenging !

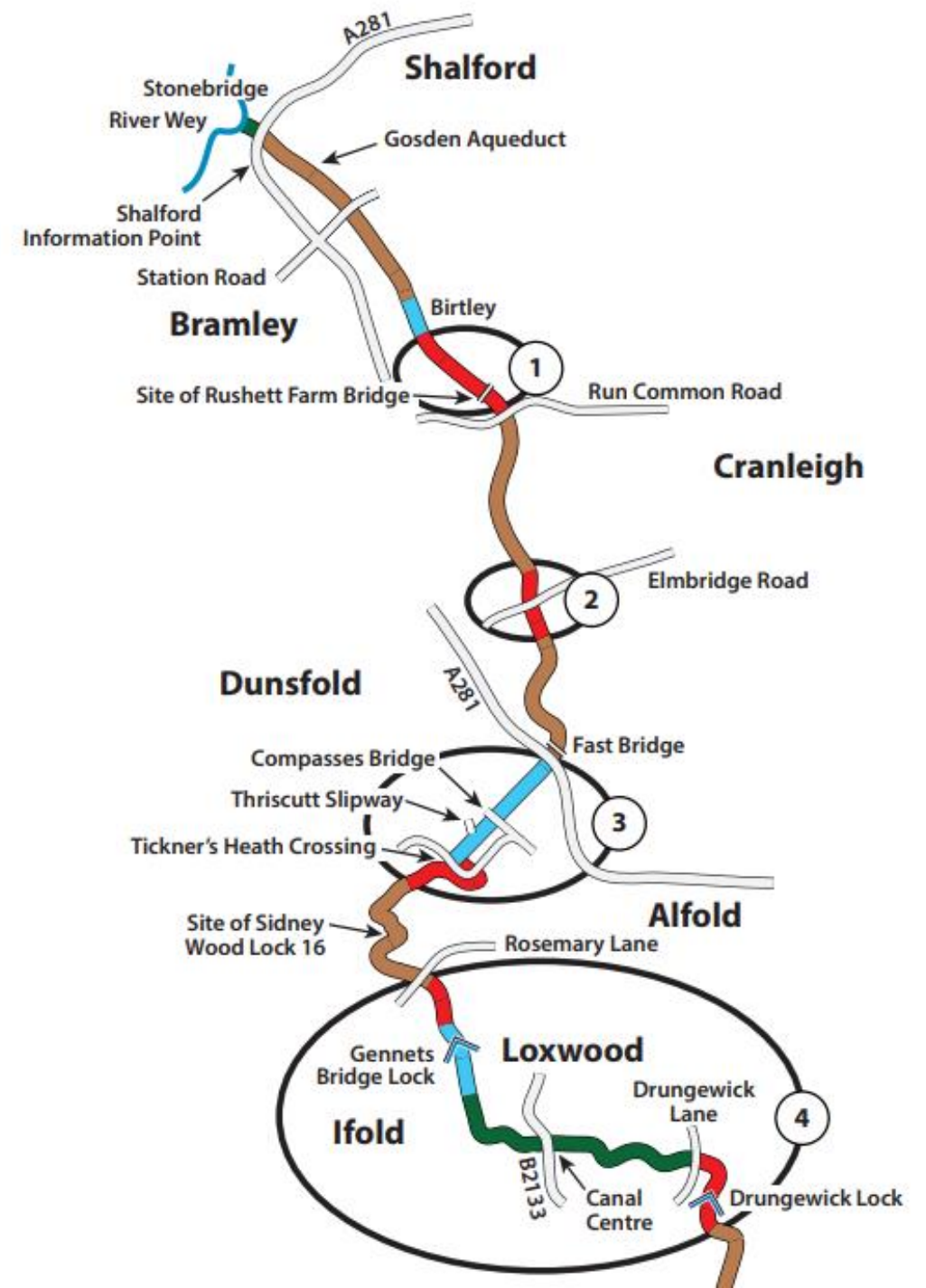
- Expected Rooks Hill planning approval close but still outstanding
- A wet summer caused re-scheduling of multiple projects
- Retirements and resignations

**But despite challenges, progress has been made and our volunteers have been kept busy**



# Priority Areas next 3 years

- South of Bramley  
Rooks Hill and Rushett Farm
- Cranleigh  
Rye Farm and Elmbridge Road
- Dunsfold and Alfold  
Tickners Crossing
- Loxwood  
Bonfire Hanger  
Long Meadow / Drungewick



# South of Bramley Projects

- Fanesbridge /Rooks Hill restoration: extending Birtley section and creating new footpaths
  - ❑ Still awaiting decision on planning application
  - ❑ Phased approach to include new bridge and cut
- Rushett Farm restoration
  - ❑ Complete lock on Rooks Hill section and continue south
  - ❑ Restore as much as possible on the original route but with a diversion around the encampment at Rushett Common bridge
- With both projects completed:
  - ❑ 2 KM section of canal from Birtley to Rushetts
  - ❑ Improved access and links to Greensand Way



# Cranleigh

- Opening up two sections of the canal to connect under Elmbridge Road into Cranleigh
- Rye Farm (North of Elmbridge Road)
  - Planning permission approved
  - Design work on new towpath completed
  - Finalising legal agreements with landowner
- Elmbridge Road
  - Prospective project for 350m of restoration plus new canal bridge
  - Awaiting update on the related navigable-height rebuilding of Surrey County Council's Elmbridge Road crossing, which is out of our control





**Tickners Heath Crossing**

- Footbridge built but long pause waiting for Highways and Utilities approvals
- Working hard to get restarted
  - Tender process underway
  - Temporary road and water main rerouting
  - Road bridge and road resurfacing





## Bonfire Hanger

Bill Nicholson will provide more information in a separate presentation



## Long Meadow and Drungewick

- Restoring Navigation
- Leak repair and bank profiling completed
- Dredging and vegetation clearance planned
- New pump control house and stop-plank shelter at Drungewick Lock

# Land Acquisition

- Over the last few years, we have been able to acquire access to more sections of the canal
- To achieve our Aims, we need to take advantage of further opportunities as they arise
  - Renewing existing leases is a priority
  - Second priority is land that helps us achieve our plans and the 2030 vision
  - Board approval for two more small sections in our priority areas** – we will share as soon as purchases secured
- Landowner support has to be earned and privacy respected



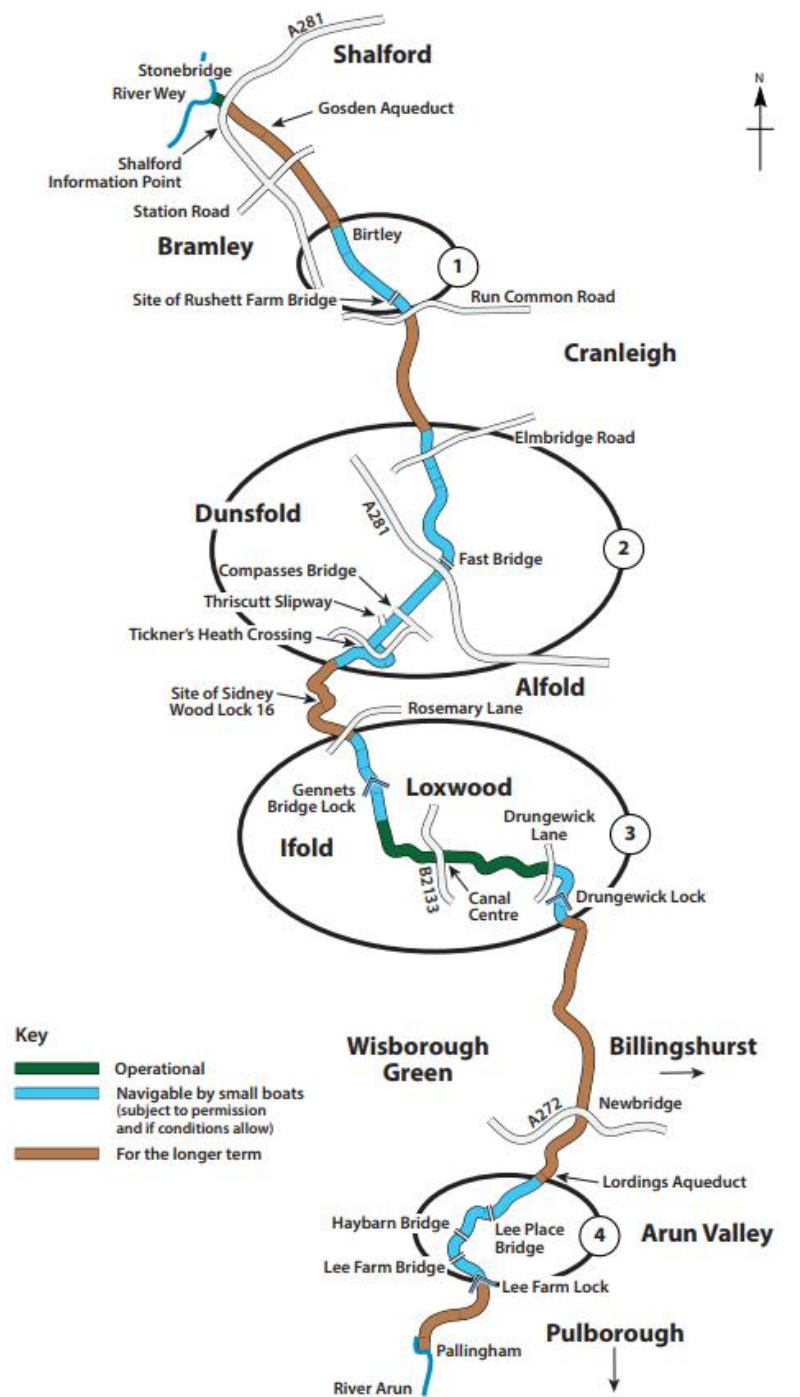
# 2030 Vision Reminder

Aspirational and challenging

Four connected restored sections and useable for small unpowered boats

- **Birtley to Run Common**
- **Tickner's Heath/Firtree Copse to Rye Farm with preparation for possible tripboat operation**
- **Long Meadow to Rosemary Lane**
- **Lordings to south of Lee Farm Lock**

**£10,000 donation for work**



# 2025 Key Targets

- Loxwood - re-restore navigation down to Drungewick Lock
- Rooks Hill – start work with planning permission secured
- Tickners Crossing – appoint contractor and commence road bridge construction
- Aquire more land and re-new leases
- Fundraising campaigns and grant applications to progress priority projects

