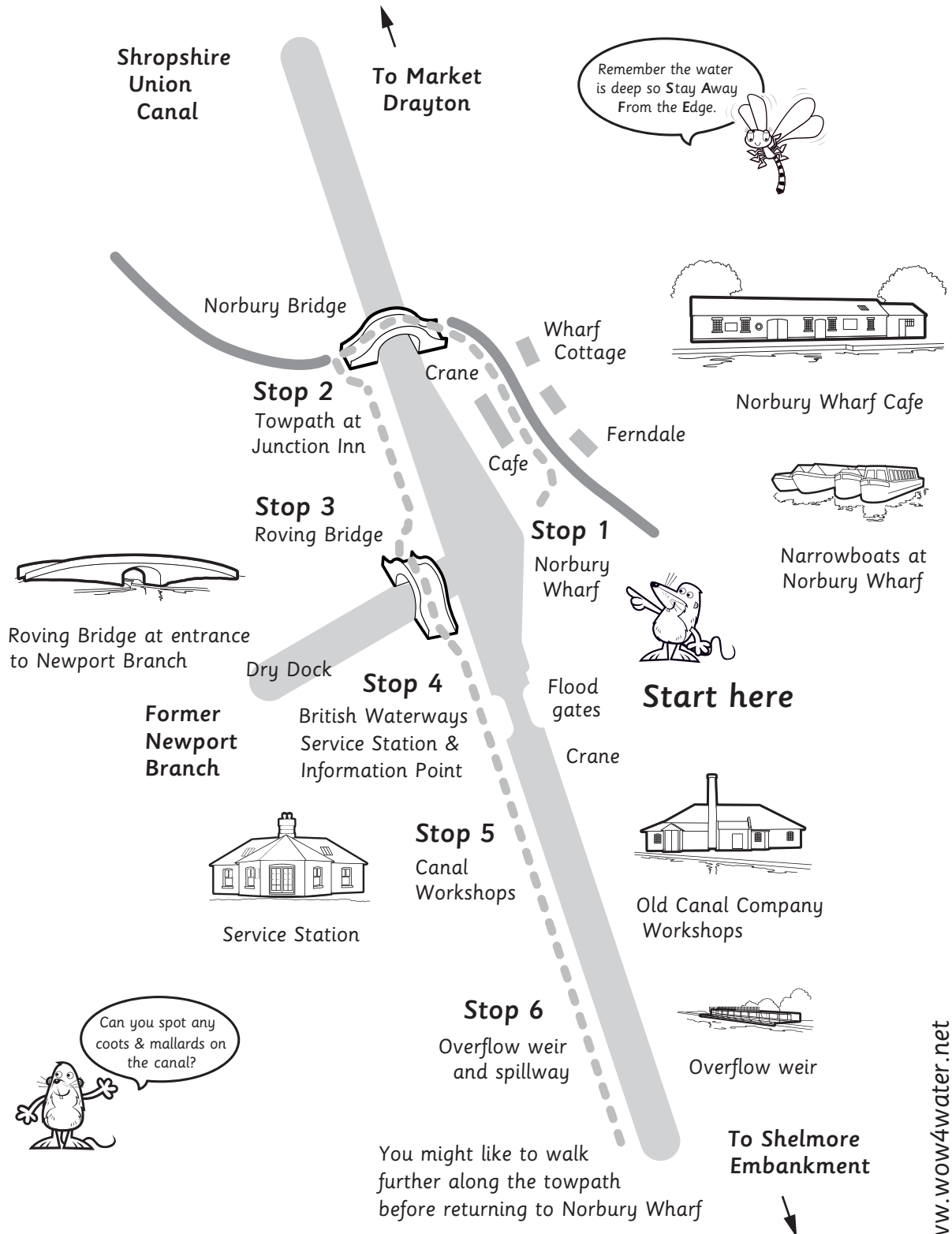


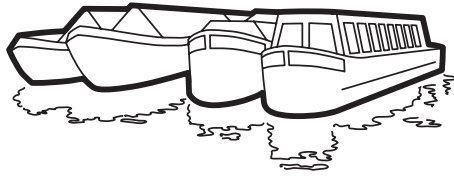
Norbury Junction Trail

Shropshire Union Canal



www.wow4water.net

Stop 1: Norbury Wharf The Shropshire Union Canal was built in 1826 to provide a fast link between Birmingham and Liverpool.



Norbury Junction is located where the former Newport Branch (closed in 1944) joined the main line. A busy wharf grew up at the junction.

Today Norbury Wharf is used by a boatyard and hire boat business.

Can you spot:

Narrowboats moored alongside the wharf?

The bridge at the entrance to the Newport Branch?

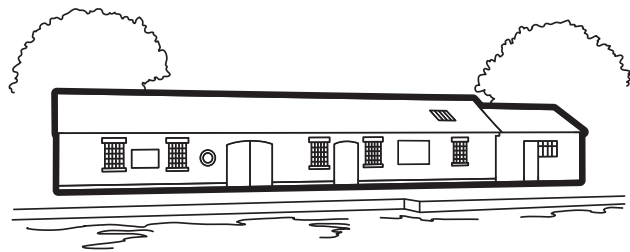
'Ferndale' - formerly the Canal Superintendent's house?

'Wharf Cottage' - formerly stabling for the boat horses?

Take care as you cross Norbury Bridge to reach the towpath!

Stop 2: Towpath beside the Junction Inn

In the 1830s, shortly after the canal opened, the wharf was busy with men loading grain and milk (used in Cadbury's milk chocolate) and unloading coal and lime (for use as fertilizer on the fields).



The long, single-storey building was a warehouse and the Wharfinger's office. What is it used for now? _____

Can you spot: The old jib crane used for loading sacks?

Bollards so boats can tie up alongside?

What is the number on Norbury Bridge?



Stop 3: Roving bridge at entrance to Newport Branch

The Newport Branch joined the Shrewsbury & Shropshire Canal at Wappenshall. It carried iron ore from the Coalbrookdale area to the iron furnaces at Wolverhampton and Dudley.



Narrowboats were pulled by horses.

The roving bridge enabled horses to cross from the towpath beside the Newport Branch without having to be unhitched.

Can you spot:

Narrowboats moored alongside the Newport Branch?

The dry dock built from a lock on the Newport Branch?

What is the number of the roving bridge? _____

Stop 4: Service Station and Information Point



You can find out more about Norbury Junction by using the touch screen.

The new Service Station (with toilets and showers for boaters) has been designed to blend in with the surroundings.

What kind of reclaimed materials were used to build it?

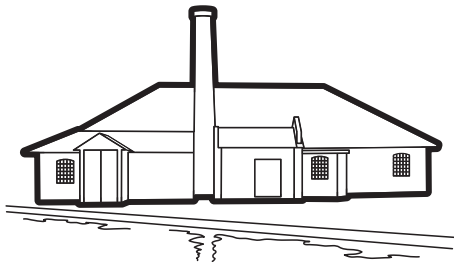
Can you spot: The ornate chimney stack?

The traditional sash windows?

The new solar panels on the roof?

Why is the canal wider at this point? _____

Stop 5: Old Canal Company Workshops



The old Canal Company workshops were built shortly after the canal opened in 1826.

The main workshop with the tall chimney included a carpenter's shop.

The smaller building, to the right, contained a blacksmith's forge.

Can you spot: The building that housed the old forge?

The tall chimney where a coal-fired boiler powered the steam engine used to drive the woodworking machinery?

The floodgates which could be closed across the narrow section of canal here to stop all the water flooding out if there was a breach in the Shelmore Embankment?

Stop 6: Overflow weir and spillway



The overflow weir ensures that, after heavy rain, excess water in the canal drains away down the spillway and doesn't flood over the top of the embankment.

How can boaters cross the weir to reach the moorings?

If you go further along the towpath before returning to Norbury Wharf, you can walk along the top of the Shelmore Embankment. This is over 18m (60ft) high and took six years to complete as it collapsed several times during construction.

Find the answers + lots of fun things to do on the WOW website: www.wow4water.net/nc_resource/norburyanswers.pdf