


SUFFOLK #DAY



On behalf of the Lord Lieutenant and all the [civic leaders / MPs] of Suffolk, we want to tell you what it is to be free in 2023; as it starts with you and me.

On this day, the longest of the year, we look to a future full of opportunity and optimism. [As students from Chantry], we are proud to have the chance to represent our county and share the light that Suffolk can bring to us all.

We have freedom to be unique and to embrace diversity. We enjoy hearing the myriad of languages spoken in Suffolk. We are enriched by the wealth of different cultures - food, ideas, new contributions to our county. Suffolk allows us to be brave: to be proud of our individual cultures; to have beliefs and to believe in people.

We have the freedom to be safe and a history of giving freedom to others. In the 1600s, Robert Hitcham began a charity for the poor and disadvantaged, and this precedent continues today. We offer safety to those in need, from the foodbanks at local churches, to young people who work with the Princes Trust for a better future.

As a county we share the value of liberty for all. We welcome those who seek refuge; we encourage others to enjoy being free citizens and to express themselves however they wish.

This expression has a history in our county: through art - with world-famous works of Gainsborough and Constable, who defined our landscapes and “painted our county as they knew best”. Our 50-mile coast stretches to embrace quintessential seaside and inspires artists like Maggi Hambling. Even the range of medieval architecture and historical sites have inspired films of magic, mystery, aliens and archaeological finds.

From ‘The Dig’ to our wide-open skies above, and ever-changing fields, meadows and forests which have stirred classical composers like Benjamin Britten to create musical masterpieces and have helped local boy Ed Sheeran to live his dream. The same place we are living, has helped nurture worldwide artists. Like us, be free to take inspiration from these figures and believe in your goals.

Winning Goals! From individuals succeeding from humble beginnings, like Wolsey and his drive for education, to the roar of our Champions – the Tractor Boys at Portman Road - Suffolk is a county with a united roar. Together we are united; together we can all be promoted.
Together we are Suffolk.

In our county, we have the freedom to access opportunities and succeed, no matter where you are from. We stand here, in the [centre of Ipswich: a place of commerce, community and celebration]. Together we join to recognise the freedoms our county brings to us.

**Join us because we are free in 2023. Ladies and gentlemen - three cheers for Suffolk...
Hip Hip Hurray, Hip Hip Hurray, Hip Hip Hurray.**