



SUFFOLK #DAY

On behalf of the Lord Lieutenant, alongside the [Mayors of / MPs for] Suffolk and all our civic leaders, we are proud to celebrate with you today the culture, community, and creativity of the county we are proud to call home. Despite turbulent times, by standing together during the Festival of Suffolk, and united in our hopes for a better future, we are able to gather and celebrate all that makes Suffolk great.

Great art and creativity are central to Suffolk's identity with many notable figures such as Benjamin Britton, Ed Sheeran, John Constable, Thomas Gainsborough, Maggi Hambling, George Orwell, and Jeremy Wade, to name but a few.

Snape Maltings truly encompasses the heart of Suffolk's culture. From beer and brewing to business and beauty; our diversity knows no bounds. Snape is a centre for music and culture, a concert hall overflowing with talent. And the symphony of Snape calls all to its doors, welcoming them with open arms.

Suffolk is also home to many beloved businesses. From Framlingham's Sausage Festival to the nationally recognized Adnams; we have much to be proud of. Felixstowe hosts the UK's busiest port, and let's not forget our local businesses from Ness Point to the Rowley Mile. What's business without the culture of food and drink? Aldeburgh's Food and Drink Festival introduced many to brands and supports up and coming businesses. Suffolk, although small, inspires generations of entrepreneurial minds.

Suffolk is a truly beautiful county. It is renowned for its spectacular skies, providing a scenic blanket for the pockets of serenity that can be found dotted throughout Suffolk in the form of bustling forests, tranquil heaths or vast marshlands teeming with wildlife. Suffolk's beaches are equally famed, drawing thousands each year with their often near-untouched ribbons of diverse and ever dynamic coastline and striking landscapes.

As a mark of the importance of our county day, today we are investing five outstanding Suffolk Citizens with a Suffolk Medal, the highest award that the county can bestow on one of its own. As we stand together, embraced by history and heralding the Platinum Jubilee, we celebrate the way Suffolk has captured its heritage, turning it into something tangible, breath-taking and most importantly- something to be proud of.

**Ladies and gentlemen - three cheers for Suffolk... Hip Hip Hurrah, Hip Hip Hurrah,
Hip Hip Hurrah.**

* Composed for the Lord Lieutenant by Year 12 English students
at Thomas Mills High School, Framlingham