



## From: the County Commissioner

I write to you at the end of my first few months as County Commissioner, having started the role at the beginning of April. As you may know, I have no previous experience in scouting and so it has been a steep learning curve for me, not least getting to grips with myriad scouting acronyms, but fortunately I have been expertly mentored by Keith Barber, Deputy CC and the rest of the county's Senior Leadership Team to whom I am very grateful.

To date I have visited scout groups all over the county to see them in action, I have attended a great many meetings (NB recent District AGMs) and I have also had chats on a one-to-one basis with plenty of experienced hands to seek their advice/guidance – I have been very encouraged by all that I have seen. Suffolk scouting is in a very good place at present, and we are recovering numerically from the inevitable dip experienced during the pandemic. May I congratulate and thank all of you for your time, enthusiasm, and commitment?

One of the important tasks I have is to staff the County Team and there are a few gaps in our complement at present – if you are interested in applying for any of the posts advertised below do, please, make contact with me or Carl Gloess, County Administrator.

A not so pleasant and all-too-frequent task for me as CC is to suspend adult volunteers who have fallen behind on their required training – in most cases this is necessary when the individual concerned has not kept up to date with safeguarding training. May I ask you all to engage in the training relevant to your role? Each of the training modules is straightforward and should not present too onerous a challenge. By the way, we have a first-class training team here in Suffolk, ably led by Jenny Roe; if you are experiencing difficulties with your training, I'm sure that Jenny or a member of her team would be delighted to help.

Enjoy your summer break and I look forward to meeting some of you at the forthcoming Suffolk Punch event.



Howard Blackett County Commissioner

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## Suffolk Scouts

If you have news or events you would like to share with the County please send news items to [colin.winter@suffolkscouts.org.uk](mailto:colin.winter@suffolkscouts.org.uk)

## Website

[www.suffolkscouts.org.uk](http://www.suffolkscouts.org.uk)

Produced by Colin Winter on behalf of the Suffolk Leadership Team



## County Team Vacancies

Role	Notes
Youth C.C.	The appointee must be under 24 years of age
A.C.C. (Transition)	This is a new role; the appointee will be expected to lead the transition of Suffolk Scouts into its new phase of development
A.C.C. (Squirrels)	This is a new role to bring the leadership of Squirrels into line with other age groups
A.C.C. (Explorer Scouts)	
A.C.C. (Scout Network)	
A.C.C. (International)	

Please contact either the County Commissioner or the County Administrator if you would like to discuss any of these vacancies.

## Explorers News

3 Young Leaders from the Lowestoft District have recently been awarded their Explorer Belt. Thank you to Kevin Cole for the picture



## Executive Training Teasers

Can your Group Executive Committee correctly answer the question below? If not, they should consider organising Group Executive Training, contact [keith.gleen@suffolkscouts.org.uk](mailto:keith.gleen@suffolkscouts.org.uk) for details.

Q. "Can you name the categories of Risk Management your Executive Committee need to consider?"

A.

Risk category	Examples
Governance risks	Inappropriate organisational structure Trustee body lacks relevant skills or commitment Conflicts of interest
Operational risks	Lack of beneficiary welfare or safety Poor contract pricing Poor staff recruitment or training Doubt about security of assets
Financial risks	Inaccurate / sufficient information Inadequate reserves and cash flow Dependency on limited income Inadequate investment management Insufficient insurance cover
External risks	Poor public perception and reputation Demographic changes such as a group size increase Turbulent economic or political environment Changing government policy
Compliance with law and regulation	Acting in breach of trust Poor knowledge of legal responsibilities Poor knowledge of regulatory requirements of particular activities (eg fundraising, running of care facilities, operating vehicles)



## Stowmarket District Cub and Beaver Camp

Back at the beginning of 2022 I was asked by our District Commissioner if Maelstrom SAS would be able to run a camp for the Cubs and Beavers as they had missed out on so much outdoor Scouting due to Covid. We had a booking at Hallowtree and the beginnings of a plan.



Fast forward to the afternoon of the 26th June and I am standing in front of 150 very tired and happy Cubs and Beavers and about 50 even

more tired adults!

Over the course of the weekend the young people had the chance to try out some new adventurous activities, such as Archery, Climbing, Abseiling and Rifle Shooting. They also learnt some new skills such as making and cooking dough twists over an open fire and making a paracord keyring.

For me, the mark of a good camp is seeing the young people exhausted but happy when they get collected.

We certainly had that, the messages we received from the parents confirmed that the young people enjoyed themselves. Although they were not so happy about the campfire songs being sung on repeat at home!



Considering that for over 50% of the attendees this was their first time under canvas, I was amazed at how they took it all in their stride. They managed the sleep deprivation far better than the adults did.

This event would not have been anywhere near as successful without the help and support of all the section leaders that attended camp, and the district team that helped run the activities and the central catering. Thank you all!

After sitting down at Breakfast on Sunday morning, nursing a strong cup of coffee and wondering what possessed us to run an event like this, we have booked the site again for next year!

Thanks again to everyone who made the camp as awesome as it was. See you all in 2023...

## Beaver Log

### Wolsey Beavers Activity Weekend

We had a wonderful weekend of activities, the weather was very kind to us, and the beavers enjoyed a morning of archery, climbing and the new obstacle course at Hallowtree Activity Centre.

It was fantastic to see the young people out and about enjoying time just playing, laughing, and running around. Our afternoon activities of crafts, games, and camp jammy donuts were enjoyed with the same enthusiasm and energy as the morning activities, and I am quite sure that some would still be doing the Hama beads now given half a chance. However, we needed to move on to an hour of party dances until teatime. The campfire songs were a great hit and parents collecting the daytime beavers came early and joined in with a little coaxing. The day didn't end there for the beavers staying over, and they had time for bingo, stories, and poems before it was time to get the



beds out and enjoy a long 10 minutes of torch time. The last beaver went to sleep by about 1am, and the first one was up at 6am.

And so, the morning activities started. We had a full breakfast, with all the beavers enjoying cereal, toast and of course a cooked breakfast, after which they went off to the fire circle to light fires in buckets and have a couple of S'mores, and then finished off the weekend by making memory sticks with a scavenger hunt to add to the collection of crafts to take home. It is safe to say that each beaver left camp full of food, memories, and needing a bath. A great weekend for all involved and thank you to a great team of adults and young leaders for making it such a success.

Julia Oldaker

Wolsey Assistant District Commissioner - Beavers

### Beaver Jubilee Party

Orwell, Wolsey and Deben districts got together to hold a Jubilee Party at Hallowtree. With 280 Beavers in attendance a great time was had by all. Crafts, games, dances and a huge picnic on a hot sunny day will make memories for many years to come.

## Big Hoot Owl Washing

Do you fancy making a SPLASH and help wash down the Owls on the BIG HOOT ART TRAIL?

These OWLS have been standing proud since June 19<sup>th</sup> and need of some TLC.

Please come and support this fantastic parade of colour on **Friday August 19<sup>th</sup> at 10am** armed with your buckets and sponges, outside Craft-ability, where we shall charge up our buckets and make our way through town.

Please make sure you wear your group scarf



If you are interested, please email:

[jo.cracknell@suffolkscouts.org.uk](mailto:jo.cracknell@suffolkscouts.org.uk)

[brian.harvey@suffolkscouts.org.uk](mailto:brian.harvey@suffolkscouts.org.uk)

## Sudbury District Cubs

After 4 years without a Sudbury District camp we finally got together again for some fun in the sun with a two nights camp .

This year we chose Skreens Park near Chelmsford as our venue. Due to other commitments and their own pack camps, pack numbers attending were down on normal but 66 Cubs & 20+ leaders had a fantastic weekend with some great activities including sumo wrestling, crate stacking, axe throwing, tarpology, human table football, frisby golf, the cave bus, parachute drop, bouldering wall, wide games and a memorable camp fire. It was great to see all campers actually under canvas this year rather than opting for the indoor accommodation.



Despite the very warm temperatures everyone had a fantastic time and all our cubs went home full of excitement about the activities they had tried but probably totally exhausted, just as it should be on Cub camp!



With Skills Day in September, paintballing in November and a sleepover in a nuclear bunker in March it finally feels that

Sudbury District cubs are back in business.

Cliff Dark ADC Cubs Sudbury

## Cubs Capers



### Cubs News

In June, I was invited to attend **Essex Cub Mega Camp**, at Skreens Park near Chelmsford. It was exciting to see the 1600 cubs enjoying their pirate activities and to meet and chat with Wendy, ACC Cubs, and other leaders in the county. I hope, in 2024, we might be able to hold a county cub camp here in Suffolk.

It's great to hear of packs getting out and about around the county and once again holding district camps. At **Stowmarket District Cub Camp** I met the cubs as they returned to camp from their Friday evening river walk.

After what ended up as a long hike, the cubs were ready for their hot dog supper and the leaders were ready for a sit down!



At **Orwell District Cub Camp** I was privileged to lead the investiture of the newest cub in 8<sup>th</sup> Felixstowe Pack. The DC presented many leaders with various awards and Nathan Logansmith, ADC cubs (who was leading his first district cub camp), awarded 6 Chief Scout Silver Awards. Although very hot, it was so good to be back at camp.

Hopefully, during the next year I will be able to visit more district events. If any pack would like me to attend an event please get in touch.

Whatever you are doing during August, I hope you have a great summer and look forward to seeing some of you at **Suffolk Punch**.

Jo Cracknell

Assistant County Commissioner

### Big Hoot Fundraising

Thank you to everyone who has purchased a badge to support the fundraising for Big Hoot. We have made a HOOTastic £500 for St Elizabeth Hospice

Brian Harvey





## Thorpeness Meare Day

### 24th Sept 2022

Boating fun and games for  
Guides, Scouts, Rangers and Explorers

Leaders are very welcome but not essential.

(Come and join in the fun, sit and drink coffee or have a day off!)

Thorpeness Meare is a public boating lake, just north of Aldeburgh.

The day's activities include, boating and various watery team games.

Cost is £15 per participant

Registration is at 9.30am and we will finish and sign out at 4pm.

Participants **must** be able to swim 50m in the appropriate clothing and have a consent form.

It can be cold, it will be wet and muddy so participants will need to dress suitably.

All participants will be expected to take part in all activities.

Any queries please contact: Jo Tel: 01394 448846, 07885 265074, jo.saagi@kirtonflyer.com

Send application form to: Jo Saagi 14 Meadowlands, Kirton, IP10 0PP

Cheques payable to Suffolk Guide Association or BACs transfer to: Suffolk Guide Association,  
30-13-64, 00022679. Please reference clearly e.g. 1st Kesgrave Scouts use - 1stKesScTMD22

"....."

## Thorpeness Meare Day – 24th September 2022

Unit name \_\_\_\_\_

Numbers are limited to 6 per unit. Number of places required. \_\_\_\_\_

I would like \_\_\_\_\_ extra places if possible (notification will happen in September)

Which evening of the week does your unit meet \_\_\_\_\_

Cheque for £ \_\_\_\_\_ enclosed or BACs transfer made for £ \_\_\_\_\_ reference \_\_\_\_\_

Contact name and address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Email

Telephone number