



From: the County Commissioner

Dear All,

Welcome to the renewed *Suffolk Scouts County Newsletter*. Good communication helps keep our county connected, and this newsletter is part of our effort to better share news, ideas, and successes from across Suffolk. I hope it will become a place where we celebrate achievements, highlight great activities, and keep everyone informed about what's happening throughout our Scouting community.

For this to work well, we need your help. We would love to hear from volunteers and young people about the fantastic things happening in your groups, districts, and sections. Sharing your ideas, experiences, and stories can inspire others across the county and, for many young people, reflecting on these activities can even support progress towards badges and awards.

As our Chief Scout, **Dwayne Fields**, reminds us: *“Every young person deserves the chance to discover their potential and find their place in the world.”* By sharing what we do in Suffolk Scouts, we help show the impact Scouting has on young people and the communities around us.

If you have a story, photos, an upcoming event, or something worth sharing, please send your contributions by the **10th of each month** so we can include them in the issue published at the **end of the month**.

Thank you for everything you do to support Scouts across Suffolk. I look forward to seeing what we can share together in the months ahead.

Gary Burden County Lead Volunteer

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Suffolk Scouts

Website

www.suffolkscouts.org.uk

If you have news or events you would like to share with the County please send news items to colin.winter@suffolkscouts.org.uk

Produced by Colin Winter on behalf of the Suffolk Leadership Team



Learning

Permit application and renewal

If you wish to apply for a new permit or renewal of an existing permit the only way to do it now is via the membership system. To do this you go into your record, press apply for permit, fill in the application, choose an assessor from the dropdown list, preferably one near to you, then finish as instructed.

Please can we ask that you then notify the assessor that you have started this, in order to discuss progression onwards. We find this speeds things up as they do not get an email to notify them you have applied, only an action notification when they log on. Once the assessment is completed again on the system, can you also notify your DLV so they can look out for the notification and action it please?

Hope this helps answer any questions you have about the process as I know some people are unsure how to apply under the new system. If you have any further questions or problems please get in touch.

Jenny Roe [email](#)

CTL Learning, MAPS



Suffolk Scouts Duke of Edinburgh Award

Currently on DofE Programmes

Suffolk Scouts run all 3 levels of DofE during the year and is ongoing in all districts. See below how many young people we have registered on each level of the DofE award:

Bronze- 63 young people active

Silver- 35 young people active

Gold- 33 young people active

To take part in the DofE, participants pay a nominal fee. This fee is their contribution towards the charity's costs in terms of running their DofE programme and represents personal commitment, adding value to their involvement. The fee represents a very small proportion of the overall cost which is supported by the funds raised by the DofE charity.

Included in the cost, participants receive:

- A Welcome Pack
- A DofE account, which can also be used to login to the free DofE app
- Limited personal accident insurance
- Information on how to get a DofE Card, and access to discounts and offers from DofE partners
- A certificate and badge upon approved achievement of their Award
- Invitation to a national Gold Award celebration (Gold level only).

The current charge and how to enrol can be seen at [Suffolk Scouts Dof E](#)



Scout and Guide Wet Weekend

3rd to 5th July 2026 Ramsholt



Have fun at camp and on the water, with 5 water-based activity sessions over the weekend.

£35.00 per Scout / Explorer / Guide / Ranger for the activities.

All groups must be accompanied by a leader (that must have a current Girlguiding / Scout Association DBS), who will be responsible for them on site, when walking the mile to and from the river and at lunchtime. Numbers are limited to a maximum of 6 per scout, guide, explorer or ranger unit, and will be allocated on a first come first served basis (extra places will be allocated nearer the date). All participants are to take part in all activities and must be able to swim 50m in clothing appropriate to the activities, which includes a buoyancy aid. The camp is a green field site. OS ref. Explorer map 197: TM324422. What3Words: dragon.having.winds

Each group is to cater on gas stoves.

This is an activity camp. Attending both days without camping is now an option, but you must arrive at the campsite by 08:30 each day and be collected at 17:15 Saturday and 15:15 Sunday.

Applications to: Wet Weekend 2026, Suffolk Scouts County Office, Hallowtree Scout Activity Centre, Nacton, Ipswich, Suffolk IP10 0JP or email: wetweekend@suffolkscouts.org.uk and copy to Jsaagi@woodbridgeschool.org.uk.

For further information, please contact Jo Saagi on above email or 07885 265074.

Cheques payable to Suffolk Scouts Water Activity to above address.

BACs: Suffolk Scouts Water Activity, Barclays, Sort Code: 20-44-51 Account: 10868620

Please reference clearly e.g. for 1st Kesgrave Scouts - 1stKesScWwkd26

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Scout and Guide Wet Weekend 2026

Name of unit: _____ No. of places: _____ Extras: _____ Camping Yes/No

Fee paid by BACs £ reference: _____

Name and address for further communication:

E-mail: _____ Telephone Number: _____

Please indicate if you need to camp with another group

Suffolk Scouts M365 e-mail Accounts, Teams & Directory

Suffolk Scouts has a Microsoft M365 educational licence so that members can use all of the web-based 'Office' programmes, store documents and files for sharing in their 'Teams,' as well as using shared e-mail addresses for other useful ways of working. Those in Stowmarket and Wolsey District have their own instances setup and so their administrators should be contacted. (Wolsey – Tim Cutbush ; Stowmarket – Paul Rudland)

A new interface for your M365 account - [Suffolk Scouts - Member Portal](#) - has been developed so you can now see the basic data of roles and a locally designated 'Primary Role' that has been made automatically– but you can change this to another role if you like - It isn't applied to the HQ data – just in Suffolk.

If you don't have an account currently, you can request an account via a linked form that will request a Suffolk Scouts Microsoft 365 account with a personal 'firstname.surname@suffolkscouts.org.uk' email address. Useful when using dedicated email addresses for 'scouting purposes' is preferred. Work e-mails' should be avoided in any case for leaders. For shared mailboxes, distribution lists, and Teams, please raise a support request with your needs. The new 'Suffolk Directory' - [Suffolk Scouts - Member Portal - County Directory](#) – is also available from this portal. It uses data from overnight updates from the HQ membership system looking for any changes (joiners/leavers/ roles etc) and is easily searchable so you can see who is where, with some contact details.

The old directory will be removed from service very shortly. Any comments or feedback is welcomed - feedback@suffolkscouts.org.uk.

Suffolk Scouts IT
Team



Suffolk Scouts Mardle

A Free Event for Adult Volunteers



Join other leaders from around the County for a weekend of activities and companionship celebrating all that is good about Scouting in Suffolk. Register your interest [here](#).

Look out for further information on Suffolk Scouts Support (Facebook) and in the next edition of this newsletter.



Suffolk Punch

Planning for Suffolk Punch is progressing well and groups from all areas of the County are signed up for the event.

The Beaver and Squirrel day on the Saturday is now fully booked but Beavers and Squirrels can attend on the Friday with Cubs

There will be the opportunity to join in with a range of activities, watch a magic show and enjoy a birthday picnic lunch.

You can book by emailing [Jo Cracknell](mailto:Jo.Cracknell)