

History made as the new Suffolk Medal is awarded to first three recipients

On 20 June 2019, **Terry Hunt (K68-75)**, along with Sally Fogden and Richard Martineau, was the first recipient of the Suffolk Medal. It is the most prestigious accolade that can be made to an individual in the county of Suffolk. The Lord Lieutenant of Suffolk, Lady Clare Euston, spoke of the medal's significance at the investiture ceremony at the Museum of East Anglian Life, in Stowmarket. She said: "I say this is like Suffolk's own Nobel Prize. It is Suffolk's highest honour to one of its own."

The medal was the idea of George Vestey, Suffolk's High Sheriff in 2018-19. The medal was designed by Suffolk artist Maggi Hambling, and comes in a presentation box made of Suffolk walnut handcrafted by Otis Luxton. It is administered by the Suffolk Community Foundation.

Winners were decided on by a panel chaired by the Lord Lieutenant, and including Suffolk's High Sheriff, the Police and Crime Commissioner and the chief executives of Suffolk County Council and Suffolk Chamber of Commerce.

Those honoured each year will have their names recorded and stories told at the new Suffolk Records Office, The Hold, at Ipswich Waterfront.

Terry Hunt was editor of the East Anglian Daily Times for more than 20 years until he retired in September 2017.

Now chairman of Ipswich Vision and volunteers for more than a dozen organisations - including Inspire Suffolk and St Elizabeth Hospice - the judging panel praised Terry for his unwavering support of local business, sport, education, tourism and Suffolk's voluntary sector.

He said that to be recognised with the Suffolk Medal was a proud moment - and admitted he was "amazed" when he found out he would be receiving it. Being honoured by his home county also meant a lot to him, he added. "There are thousands and thousands of people who do great work in Suffolk who would be very deserving recipients of the Suffolk Medal. I'm sure in the years to come lots of great people will have a wonderful medal like this."

