



## Chair of Suffolk Craft Society

The Suffolk Craft Society is looking for a candidate to replace our Chair who has come to the end of their current term. This is a voluntary position usually held for a three year period by an individual who brings leadership and management qualities to the position.

The Suffolk Craft Society is a juried membership not for profit organisation with 80 exhibiting members. Formed in 1970 to support and promote the work of contemporary designer craftspeople in Suffolk, the aim remains to highlight the value and importance of the crafts and to support individual craftspeople in the creation and sale of their work. Management is undertaken by an executive committee with unpaid voluntary craft members and a Secretary and Treasurer who receive honoraria, all serving staggered three year terms to encourage wide participation. This committee meets 10 to 12 times a year with an AGM held in the Autumn. Vital support is offered by the Friends of the Society who, while autonomous, are included in the management structure. The activities of the Society for 2026 include exhibitions at Snape Maltings, London Craft Week, CraftCo Southwold, the National Trust's Ickworth Estate and the Guildhall in Bury St Edmunds. Additionally, this year Society members are engaging in a collaboration with members of the prestigious Society of Designer Craftsmen.

In recent years the Society has been through a period of stabilisation and consolidation, and our current Chair has extended the reach and vision of the Society by developing significant national partnerships. We are looking for someone who will build on this work and ensure the Society continues to grow in both number and reputation. We would like to hear from anybody who would be interested to take up this post or who can recommend someone we might approach. Whilst this a voluntary position which requires a high level of commitment, it presents a unique opportunity to lead a nationally recognised craft society and as such offers the right person great professional and personal satisfaction.

### **Role Description - Chair, Suffolk Craft Society (voluntary position)**

#### **Responsibilities**

- To lead the Society
- To provide vision, and create strategies to take the Society forward in collaboration with the Committee
- To act as the public face of the Society

#### **Essential Attributes**

- Leadership skills
- People skills - the ability to delegate, manage and communicate
- Time and willingness to undertake responsibilities
- Commitment to supporting and promoting the work of contemporary designer craftspeople in Suffolk
- Understanding of the value and importance of crafts today
- Knowledge of relevant regional and national networks and opportunities
- Experience of building and maintaining partnerships

#### **Desirable Attributes**

- Experience with chairing meetings
- Experience in creative arts management
- Experience of working with designers and craftspeople
- Experience of membership organisations

### **How to Apply**

Expressions of Interest (CV and brief statement outlining why you are interested in the position and how you meet the attributes) to be submitted to the Secretary ([secretary@suffolkcrafsociety.org](mailto:secretary@suffolkcrafsociety.org)) by 5pm Friday 31 July 2026. If you have any questions, please contact the Secretary.