



MEDIA RELEASE

For immediate release

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Women get the Blues too

Friday 25 March: Highbridge based monthly jam sessions Blues in the Pews is delighted to welcome special guests **Small Days**, featuring Natalie Davis and Dave Merrick this **Saturday 26 March**. Blues in the Pews is a monthly session open to all to perform and enjoy local musical talent. Natalie and Dave will open this month's session with an hour-long set of 'The Classic Women's Blues', featuring songs and stories from Bessie Smith, Ma Rainey and other female blues pioneers.

Blues in the Pews organiser Martin Little says: "Blues in the Pews has gone from strength to strength this year, but one thing we've noticed is that there are there are fewer female performers than there are male ones. Those female musicians we have had join the jam session have been fantastic, but we want to encourage more. We hope that by inviting Natalie to perform for us (ably assisted by Dave) that we'll inspire more talented women to get up on stage. This is also a great chance to delve into the history of some of our greatest blues, soul and gospel artists - many of whom were women!"

The Small Days set will be followed by the usual jam session, allowing all to get involved. Bring your instruments and join house band Mossflower onstage at St John's Church in Highbridge this Saturday at 7.30pm. These sessions are not just for performers though – Blues in the Pews is open to anyone who would like to come along for a great evening of local music, with no cover charge. For more information visit www.seedsedgemoor.com or email bluesinthepews@gmail.com

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media release

IMAGES



Full size Images to accompany this release can be downloaded via:

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1-nEzfEIPpbyARgqTTOzSsEt22wkZy5-u?usp=sharing>

Seed Sedgemoor

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Seed is a Consortium of local organisations comprising:

Homes in Sedgemoor,
Community Council for Somerset,
Bridgwater Senior Citizens Forum,
Somerset Film;
Young Somerset and
Bridgwater Town Council.

We believe that arts, culture and creativity are not elite activities, but should be an ordinary part of everyday life, created by, with and for the people. This can be achieved in partnerships with artists in all forms of the creative arts, working in response to the collective imagination and reflecting the things that are important to the communities of Sedgemoor. We seek to make creative arts, culture and heritage part of everyday life in Sedgemoor by growing new opportunities for its people to participate, create and celebrate.

Seed is part of Arts Council England's **Creative People and Places** programme (**CPP**). Creative People and Places is about more people taking the lead in choosing, creating and taking part in arts and culture experiences in the places where they live. There are 33 projects, each located in a place where people are least likely to engage with arts and culture. We've committed £108 million to the programme so far, covering 33 Projects, 33 Places, 30 consortia and 45 local authorities. Since 2013, there have been 4.5 million engagements with the CPP programme and 86% of people who participate in weren't previously engaging regularly with arts and culture.

www.creativepeopleplaces.org.uk

www.artscouncil.org.uk/creative-people-and-places/creative-people-and-places-projects

If you would like further information about Seed, this announcement or to arrange an interview please contact Kirsten Mulcahy via kirsten@seedsedgemoor.com or on ph. 07875 269 561

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