



MEDIA RELEASE

For immediate release

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Capturing real people, real lives and real history in a new podcast in Highbridge

Tuesday 4 January: We all know someone with a fascinating story to tell, and those stories tell the story of our community. Sedgemoor resident Mell Turford is seizing on this to create a new podcast that enables local people to tell the story of Highbridge. Commissioned by Seed to record a series of conversations, Mell will work with local residents to tell the tales that build a picture of the history of the town.

Mell explains *“The podcast will offer the community an opportunity to capture the history of their own place. It doesn’t matter how long they’ve been here – whether it’s 12 months or the whole of their life – they’ve all got a perception of what Highbridge has to offer, what’s great about it and how it has grown as a town and community.”*

Mell has already started conversations with the local U3A, participants and audience members at Blues in the Pews (the monthly jam night at St John’s Church) and some local businesses. As well as members of the community, he hopes to learn the stories and origins behind local businesses.

“We are very excited to commission this podcast,” says Scott O’Hara, Director of Seed. *“It will serve as an oral time capsule, both of past and current Highbridge, making it a wonderful way for future generations to learn about the history of the town. We hope it will capture the voices of every generation in Highbridge and perhaps even useful for those interested in looking into their family history as much as the story of the place where they live.”*

Finished podcasts will be posted on www.sedgemoormedia.com to listen to at any time, free of charge. There is plenty of opportunity to get involved. If you, a family member, friend or neighbour have a story to tell, Mell wants to hear from you. Get in touch by emailing highbridgepodcast@gmail.com to have an informal chat with Mell and share your story with Highbridge.

For more information, visit www.seedsedgemoor.com/highbridgepodcast or email info@seedsedgemoor.com

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media release

IMAGES



Artist Mell Turford



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

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1GbFTq7MQjDiKFRUnsRgFWsD0tkJMr8YG/view?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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