

Sian Eirian Lewis

Where did you grow up?

Pen Llŷn (north Wales).

Where did you go to school?

Ysgol Botwnnog.

What was the best / worst thing about your school?

I hated physical exercise classes, and especially cross-country running through the muddy fields of Botwnnog! The best part was laughing and chatting with good friends.

What did you want to be when you grew up?

A caretaker in a zoo. I loved watching the penguins swimming in the tank in Colwyn Bay Mountain Zoo years ago.

What was your favourite book when you were a child?

I have two favourite childhood books – *Cyfrinach Betsan Morgan* by Gwenno Hywyn, and *Luned Bengoch* by Elizabeth Watkin-Jones. I love history and enjoy reading about brave and adventurous characters.

What are your hobbies?

Swimming, paddleboarding, walking on the beach ... anything near water! And penguins.

What makes you happy?

Being outdoors.

What makes you angry?

Wind and rain and being stuck in the house.

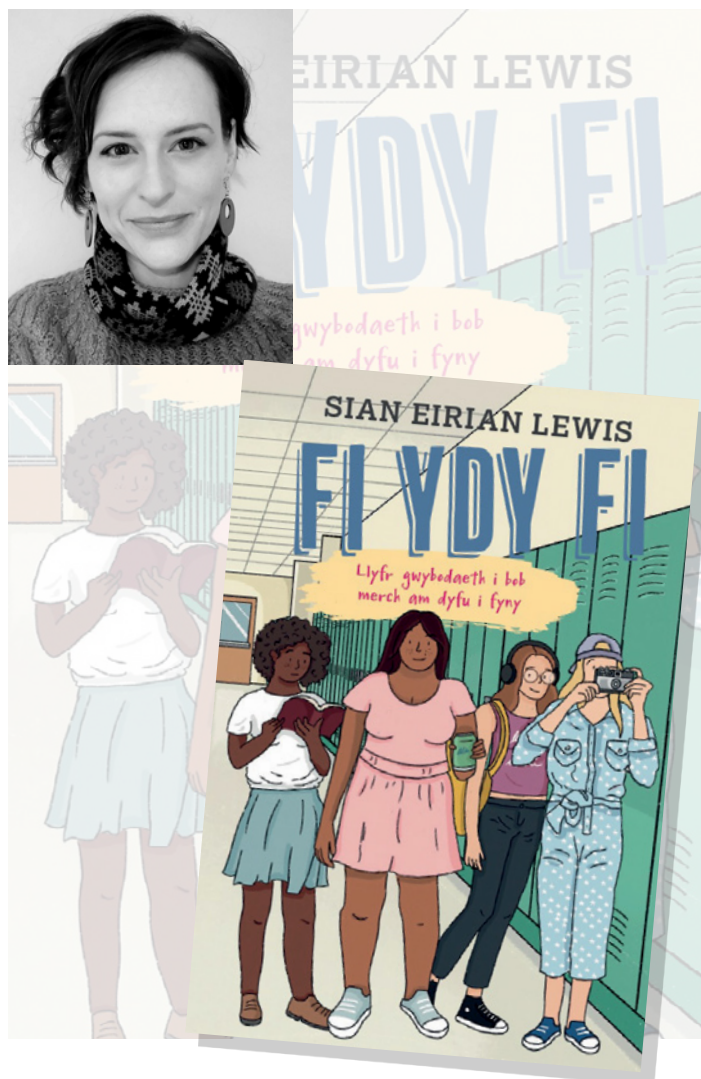
When did you consider being an author?

When I was studying for my GCSE exams.

I enjoyed writing little stories to escape, rather than concentrating on learning the work! My Welsh teachers at school encouraged me write and to compete in eisteddfodau, which was a great help.

From where do you get your ideas?

My children are good at suggesting ideas. It's interesting to see which books they enjoy reading, and to understand which themes appeal to them and their friends.



Are there any themes which particularly appeal to you?

I like learning new things, so I enjoy giving new themes a go.

What advice can you give to budding authors?

Don't be afraid to give it a go and enjoy the experience.

What's the best / worst part about being an author?

Writing can be a very lonely process at times, and writing takes a lot of time. The best part is typing the first draft after spending weeks/months/years mulling the idea around in your head.