

Meleri Wyn James



2025

What was it like to write *Megs*?

I'm fond of Mogs, and it was a pleasure to go on an adventure with her. But life for Mogs isn't a bed of roses, and I felt for her when she was sad and afraid.

Where did you grow up?

I was born in Llandeilo and brought up in Beulah, a village near Newcastle Emlyn and Aberporth.

What was the best or the worst thing about school?

I enjoyed all creative activities, and being with friends. I hated sports. I enjoy keeping fit now as an adult. It's important for us to keep fit for ourselves; it's not just about competing against others.

What did you want to be when you grew up?

I've always wanted to be an author. I also wanted to be a jockey and a vet at one time.

What are your hobbies?

Running, socialising, travelling, fashion, sewing, and reading.

When did you start thinking about writing?

I can't remember a time when I wasn't writing. I began writing little stories when I was about 6 or 7 years old.

From where do you get your ideas?

I feel that there is something magical about writing. For me, ideas come from everyday life and from the news, and then the imagination takes over. That's when the fun begins.

Are there any themes or subjects which appeal to you?

A good story is what interests me. Recently, I've been writing about family and friendship. I have a daughter who is neurodivergent, and it's important to me that diverse people are represented in books from Wales.

What's the best thing about being an author?

Being able to disappear into the imaginary world. I love weaving stories and sharing them. I enjoy doing school visits and going to eisteddfodau to speak with children and young people about reading and writing and hearing their ideas. They're wonderful!

What's the worst thing about being an author?

I would like to see more focus on Welsh-language books and more people reading them.



Quick fire Questions

What's your favourite childhood book?

It's difficult to choose just one. One of my favourite books was *Hogan y Plas* by Gweneth Lilly. I loved all types of mystery novels, and I was a fan of T. Llew Jones' novels. I remember him coming to school to speak to us about his books.

Who's your favourite character from a children's book?

Pippi Hosan-Hir. She could lift her horse with one arm. I also liked Jim Hawkins in *Treasure Island* by Robert Louis Stevenson, because he always went on adventures.

What is your favourite place?

Home.

What's your favourite food?

I like healthy foods, so fresh seafood and salad.

What's your favourite film or show?

The original Star Wars trilogy. I also enjoy seeing people being creative on *The Great British Sewing Bee*.

What's is your favourite word?

Cwtsh.

What would be your superpower of choice?

The ability to use your imagination is a superpower.

What makes you smile?

Mischief!

What makes you happy?

Being in the company of family and friends, and losing myself in a good story.

If not an author, what would you be?

In another world, I would open a shop.

What's your advice for budding writers?

Write more and worry less!