





Welcome to Dragon's 2021
Rights Guide

Dragon Press is a friendly, creative independent publisher based in Wales. Our 2021 introductory list highlights our Celtic heritage with a range of magical myths and Welsh history.

As a bilingual country, we are keen to develop fun ways to learn a language. Our laugh-out-loud character series called 'Del Does...' starts with Del Does Sport and will be growing into a 9-part series (3 new titles per annum) covering all the basics of a new language. This innovative series also includes clever QR codes throughout the book with free audio to help with pronunciation.

Finally, we are showcasing a brilliant new talent with illustrator Leonie Servini. Her gorgeous animal characters help young children learn first concepts, beginning with ABC and 123 and we intend to expand this series with First Words and Feelings in the near future.

## Contents

**Board Books** 

**Picture Books** 

**Non-Fiction** 

**Activity Books** 

**Language Learners** 

**Short Stories** 

How to use this interactive guide

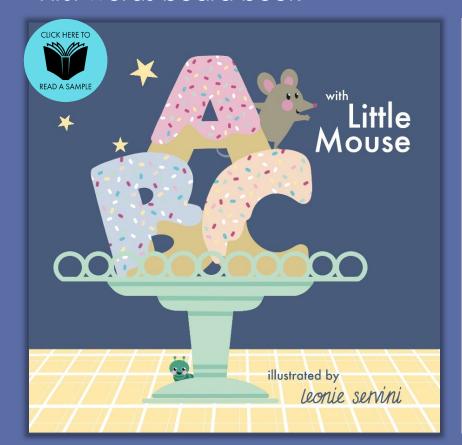


Read a digital sample of a book



Watch a product

#### ABC with Little Mouse First words board book









Learn the alphabet with this delightful ABC colourful board book, beautifully illustrated by Leonie Servini. There are many things to see and talk about on each page. Who celebrates at the party? Where does the van go? You will soon know every letter, from A to Z.

- First concept book perfect for very young children aged 0-5
- Features some of the same characters from Leonie Servini's best-selling Amser Canu Blant book (9781849675437)
- With simple text and pictures throughout, these chunky board books are perfect for little hands
- Perfect for home learning or as an educational resource
- Part of an exciting new series which also includes 123 with Little Mouse (9781849675925)









**Leonie Servini** is an exciting new illustrator from North East Wales who now lives in Cardiff. She specialises in gentle, digital illustrations for young children. Her first book, Amser Canu, Blant!, was published by Rily in 2020.

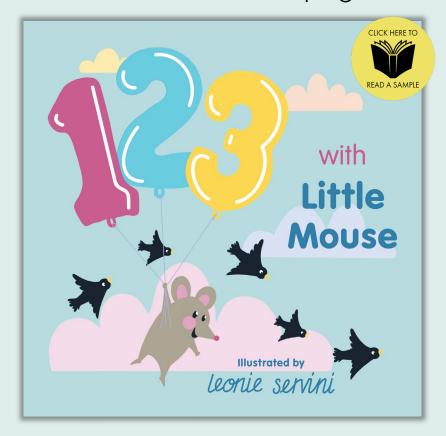








# 123 with Little Mouse First words board book | Ages 0-5



**Leonie Servini** is an exciting new illustrator from North East Wales who now lives in Cardiff. She specialises in gentle, digital illustrations for young children. Her first book, *Amser Canu, Blant!*, was published by Rily in 2020.

Have fun learning to count from 0 to 10 with Little Mouse. Introduce numbers to your little one with these modern and engaging illustrations. There are lots of things to see and talk about on each page. What is Little Mouse doing? How many stars are in the sky? Before you know it, you'll be counting together from 0 to 10.

- First concept book perfect for very young children aged 0-5
- Features some of the same characters from Leonie Servini's best-selling Amser Canu Blant book (9781849675437)
- With simple text and pictures throughout, these chunky board books are perfect for little hands
- Perfect for home learning or as an educational resource

 Part of an exciting new series which also includes ABC with Little Mouse (9781849675932)





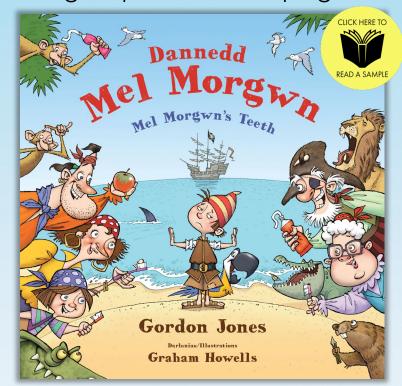






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# Mel Morgwn's Teeth Bilingual picture book | Ages 3+







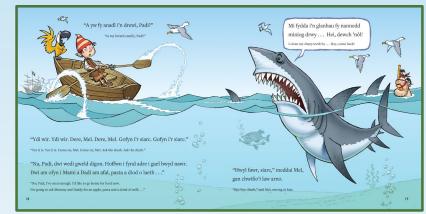


This bilingual, funny and colourful picture book is all about a young pirate, Mel Morgwn, who absolutely refuses to brush his teeth and eat healthily. In spite of the best efforts of the whole Morgwn family and his class teacher he will not clean his teeth. Join Mel on a hilarious pirate adventure to discover good hygiene and healthy eating habits!

- Suitable for ages 3-8, Early Years, Foundation Phase and Key Stage 2
- Features gorgeous full-colour illustrations throughout by Graham Howells
- Supports the 'Designed To Smile / Cynllun Gwên' school scheme supported by the Welsh **Assembly Government**
- An original, engaging story which emphasises the importance of good hygiene
- Brand new paperback edition for 2020









Gordon Jones worked at the National Library of Wales before joining the Books Council of Wales as editor of their children's magazine. He then worked for various Welsh publishers as a first class creative editor. Eight of the books he has edited have won the prestigious Tir na n-Og award.



Graham Howells was born in Antwerp, Belgium and has lived around the world before settling in Llanelli. He specialises in children's book illustration and particularly enjoys the themes of fantasy and magic.





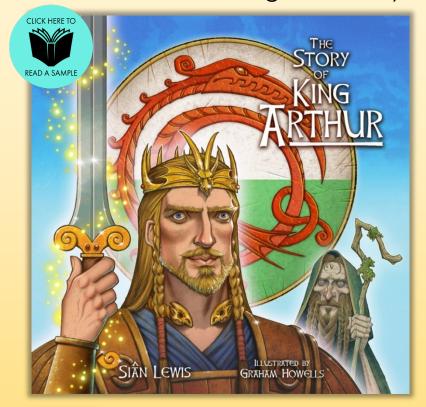


**Author** Gordon Jones **Illustrator** Graham Howells **Rights** World

This title can also be typeset in a single language, rather than bilingually.

# The Story of King Arthur

Stories from Welsh legends & mythology



A stunning retelling of the classic tales of King Arthur by award winning team of author Siân Lewis and illustrator Graham Howells. This luxurious, colourful, hardback edition includes all of the famous tales of King Arthur - The Quest for the Holy Grail, Merlin's Dream and The Battle of Camelot.

- A enchanting new edition for 2021, complete with a brand-new cover jacket
- Written in clear and poetic text, with beautiful full-colour illustrations throughout
- Includes a number of illustrated maps, plus a labelled assembly of the Round Table to familiarise readers with the characters
- Suitable for older children aged 7+, as well as adults looking for a retelling of the stories
- Also available as a Welsh language edition entitled Stori'r Brenin Arthur (9781849673280)





**Siân Lewis** was born in Aberystwyth and has written over 250 books for children and young people in both Welsh and English. She has won numerous prestigious awards for her work, including the Mary Vaughan Jones award in 2015 and the Tír na nÓg in 2016.



**Graham Howells** was born in Antwerp, Belgium and has lived around the world before settling in Llanelli. He specialises in children's book illustration and particularly enjoys the themes of fantasy and magic.









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247x 247mm

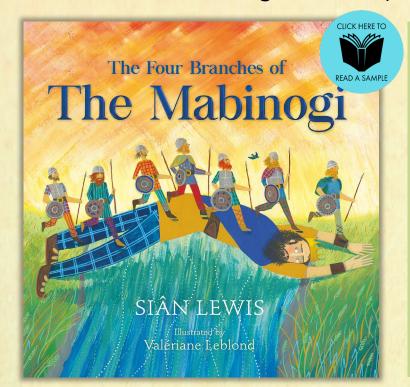
E9.99

On sale now

**Author** Siân Lewis **Illustrator** Graham Howells **Rights** World

#### The Four Branches of the Mabinogi Stories from Welsh legends & mythology





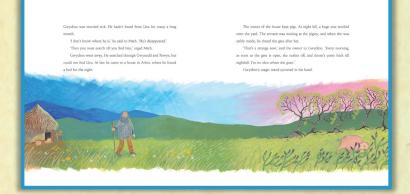
The Four Branches of the Mabinogi are the oldest and most famous legends in Wales. First written down around 800 years ago, they were being told for many vears before that, captivating audiences with their unique mix of magic, romance and adventure. Join us and explore the captivating stories with their unique mix of magic, romance, adventure, giants, wars and wizards.

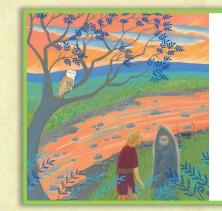
- A luxurious new paperback edition with soft-touch
- Retells the stories of Branwen, Blodeuwedd, Pwyll and Manawydan
- Beautiful full-colour illustrations throughout
- Suitable for older children and young people aged
- Also available as a Welsh language edition entitled Pedair Cainc y Mabinogi (9781849670234), which won the Tír na nÓg award in 2016



mooth. He was young once more. He laughed out loud, and heard hi







Gronw could not refuse. He went to stand on the bank of the river Cynfael, in the place where Lleu had stood. But first he placed a slab of

Lieu stood on the opposite hill and hurled his Gronw heard the whistle as it flew through the air, and then he heard othing. The spear had shattered the rock and killed him stone dead As Gronw fell to the ground an owl screeched in the woods.

Gwydion turned to Lord Math "She was once so beautiful"





Siân Lewis was born in Aberystwyth and has written over 250 books for children and young people in both Welsh and English. She has won numerous prestigious awards for her work, including the Mary Vaughan Jones award in 2015 and the Tír na nÓg in 2016.



Valériane Leblond is a traditional artist who has illustrated a number of books for both children and adults. Originally from Angers, France, she now lives in Aberystwyth and speaks multiple languages including Welsh. She has won two Tír na nÓg awards in 2016 and 2019.

220mm

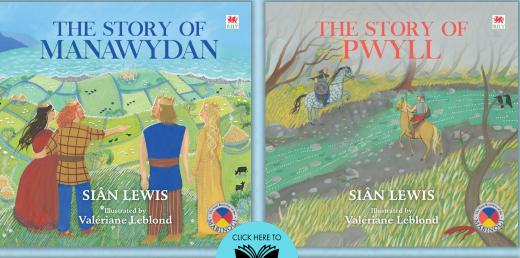
On sale

**Author** Siân Lewis **Illustrator** Valériane Leblond **Rights** World



## The Four Branches of the Mabinogi

Stories from Welsh legends & mythology





A new series of four individual books collecting the four branches of the Mabinogi. The Four Branches of the Mabinogi are the oldest and most famous legends in Wales. First written down around eight hundred years ago, they were being told for many years before that, captivating audiences with their unique mix of magic, romance and adventure. They conjure a world of giants, wizards, enchantments where families wage war and even some people who can transform into animals!

- Retells the stories of Branwen, Blodeuwedd, Pwyll and Manawydan
- Exciting new collectible editions of the Mabinogi stories, priced at just £4.99 each
- Also available as a complete edition containing all four stories entitled *The Four Branches of the Mabinogi* (9781849674386)
- Simple, accessible text and stunning illustrations are suitable for older children and young people aged 7+



By the end of that year Lieu was as strong as he'd ever been.

'I'm ready to regain my castle,' he said to his friends. 'Gronv
Pebe will now for this.'

Math called up the men of Gwynedd, and Gwydion himself led them to Mur Castell

Blodeuwedd heard the sound of horses' hoofs. 'Lleu's coming! 'Lleu's coming!' she cried, and she ran from the castle taking her maids with her.

Blodeuwedd fled towards another castle on the far side of the valley. But she could not outrun the horses. She and her maids looked over their shoulders in panic and, by doing so, failed to see the deep lake that lay in their path. The maids fell headlong into the water and drowned. Only Blodeuwedd was left alive.

Blodeuwedd kept on running, till she felt the warm breath of a horse on her neck. The shadow of the wizard hung over her.

37



'Neverl' With a scream of rage, Efnisien snatched the boy from his father's grasp, and before anyone could save him, he threw him onto the fire.

At once the soldiers of both countries

drew their swords and rushed into battle. Bendigeidfran picked up his poor sister and sheltered her under his shield.

'Bendigetdfran will kill us all!' cried the Irish, when they say the giant coming towards them.

'No! Have no fear!' Matholwch told them, 'I have a magic cauldron. It's known as the Cauldron of Rebirth. If you're killed in battle, the cauldron will brine you back to life.'



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Ages 7+ 40 page

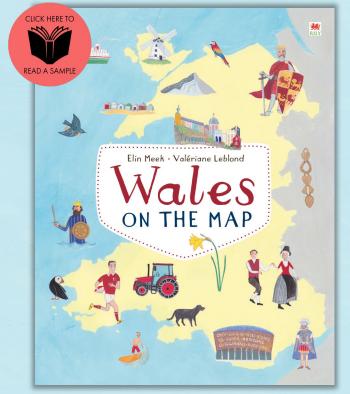
Valériane Leblond

150x 155mm £4.99 each

On sale now **Author** Siân Lewis **Illustrator** Valériane Leblond **Rights** World

#### Wales on the Map Encyclopedia of Wales





Explore the delights and hidden treasures of Wales on a voyage of discovery through this fascinating country. Featuring a collection of maps of Wales and its counties, complete with illustrations and interesting snippets, *Wales on the Map* is a lavishly illustrated picture atlas that showcases the best Wales has to offer.

- Visually exciting and beautifully illustrated by Valériane Leblond
- Highly informative and suitable for anyone who wants to learn more about Wales
- Suitable for children aged 7+ as well as older children and adults with an interest in historical and contemporary Wales
- Part of an exciting series which also includes a quiz book, activity book, posters and a card game
- Winner of the Tír na nÓg award in 2019











**Elin Meek** grew up in Ystalfera and Carmarthen. After studying Welsh and German at the University of Wales, Aberystwyth, she spent 10 years teaching in Trinity College, Carmarthen. She now works as a freelance translator, adapter and author from her home in Swansea.



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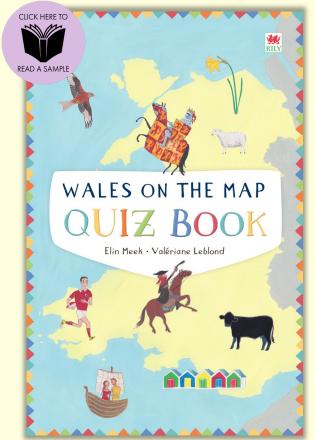


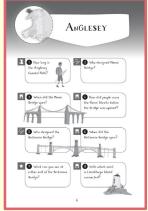




# Wales on the Map Quiz Book Welsh history, culture and geography









Test your knowledge about Wales – at home, in the classroom, in the pub. Get family and friends together to find out how much you really know about Wales! This paperback quiz book and thrilling trivia card game are linked to the Wales on the Map picture atlas.

- · Have fun colouring in, playing spot the difference, solving puzzles in this beautiful activity book all about Wales
- Book is suitable for children aged 6 years+ and is a great gift idea
- Pull-out colour poster map of Wales included free with every book
- Part of an exciting series which also includes an atlas, activity book and posters
- Also available as part of a 3-pack including the Wales on the Map atlas and quiz book







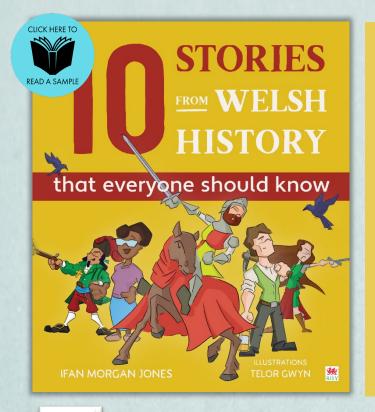
Elin Meek grew up in Ystalfera and Carmarthen. After studying Welsh and German at the University of Wales, Aberystwyth, she spent 10 years teaching in Trinity College, Carmarthen. She now works as a freelance translator, adapter and author from her home in Swansea.



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# 10 Stories from Welsh History

Narrative & factual information



A highly visual and factual hardback book with the aim of encouraging children to discover and learn more about 10 stories from Welsh history. Written by Ifan Morgan Jones and beautifully illustrated by Telor Gwyn.

- Includes stories about: Gwenllian Ferch Gruffudd; Owain Glyndŵr; Black Bart; Dic Penderyn / Merthyr Rising; Alfred Russel Wallace; Penrhyn Strike; Race Riots 20th Century; Eileen Beasley; Aberfan; Devolution.
- Includes full-colour illustrations throughout plus a timeline of Welsh history
- Covers a wide range of historical events from the Bronze Age to the present day
- Also available as a Welsh language edition called 10 Stori o Hanes Cymru (9781849675864)









In the 20th century, many people wanted a politicial whose job it was to represent Wales within the UK

Government. This post was eventually created in

1964, and Llanelli MP Jim Griffiths became the first

the Welsh Parliament have

responsibility for most creas

education, culture, transport and

the media. The UK Government ha

he voting age in Wales from 18 to 16. This gave 70,000 teenagers in

that the people can always see w is going on inside. It is also

friendly building. It wa built from oak and slat

from Wales, Rainwater

and used for flushing





ver time. Some people are campaigning for Welsh independence. Others argue that we do not even need our own parliament. Whatever happens, the future of Wales is up to you, the next



Telor Gwyn is an exciting new illustrator from Aberystwyth. He has a particular interest in history and draws unique, stylised illustrations. His first book, Genod Gwych a Merched Medrus, was shortlisted for the Tír na nÓg award and Book of the Year in 2020.

Ifan Morgan Jones is an author, journalist and university lecturer based in Llandysul, Ceredigion. He has won numerous awards for his work, including the Daniel Owen Memorial



Prize for Igam Ogam in 2008 and Book of the Year for Babel in 2020.

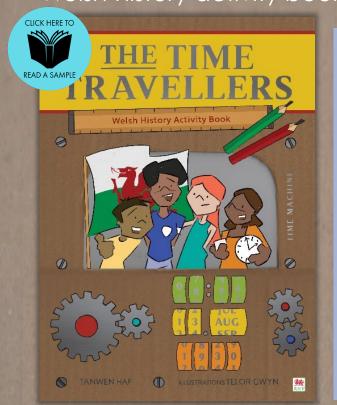
On sale

**Author** Ifan Morgan Jones **Illustrator** Telor Gwyn **Rights** World



generation. Perhaps, one day, your name will be in a book similar to this one.

#### The Time Travellers Welsh history activity book

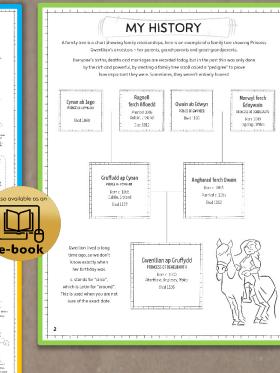


A beautiful paperback activity and colouring book packed full of content - all linked to the history of Welsh events, people, culture and heritage.

- Fun activities include puzzles, wordsearches, maths games, build your own castle, spot the difference and many more
- Includes a free full-colour pull-out timeline poster of Welsh history (297 x 772 mm)
- Attractive shiny foil cover suitable for children aged 6 yrs +
- · Ideal to keep children busy on long car journeys or rainy days
- Companion to 10 Stories From Welsh History by Ifan Morgan Jones and Telor Gwyn (9781849675567)
- Also available as a Welsh language edition called *Y Teithwyr Amser* (9781849675864)



BUILD YOUR CASTLE





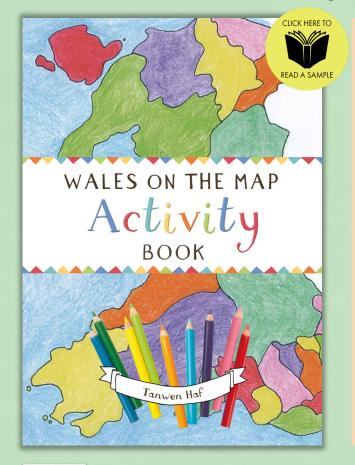
Tanwen Haf is a graphic designer based in Ceredigion with broad experience in design for print. She specialises in creating and sourcing images including photography, llustration and digital manipulation for both adult and child audiences.



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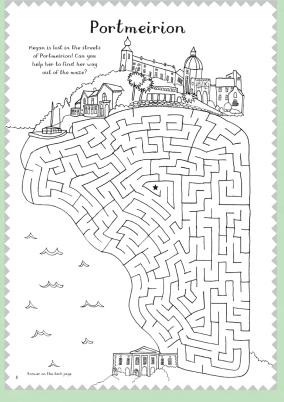


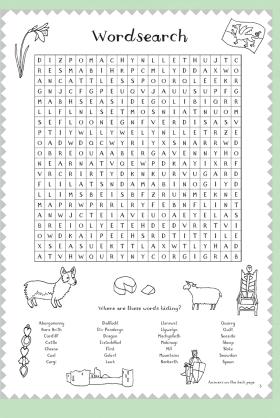
# Wales on the Map Activity Book Welsh history, culture and geography



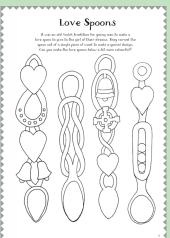
A beautiful paperback activity and colouring book full of Welsh content – places, animals, plants, symbols, landmarks and facts. This Wales activity book is linked to the Wales on the Map picture atlas. The atlas depicts Wales county by county and features icons highlighting famous people, places, animals, sport and other interesting facts about that area.

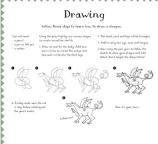
- Have fun colouring in, playing spot the difference, solving puzzles in this beautiful activity book all about Wales
- Book is suitable for children aged 6 years+ and is a great gift idea
- Pull-out colour poster map of Wales included free with every book
- Part of an exciting series which also includes an atlas, quiz book, posters and a card game
- Also available as part of a 3-pack including the Wales on the Map atlas and quiz book





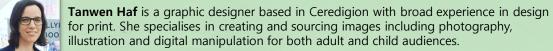


















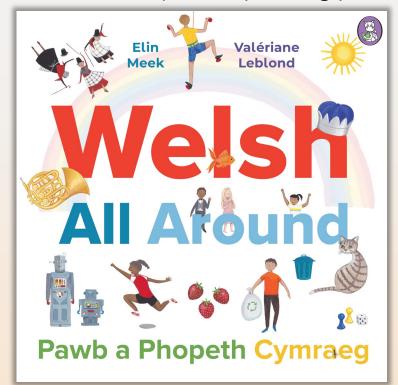
320x 224mm £6.99

On sale now

Author Tanwen Haf
Illustrator Tanwen Haf, Valériane Leblond
Rights World

#### Welsh All Around

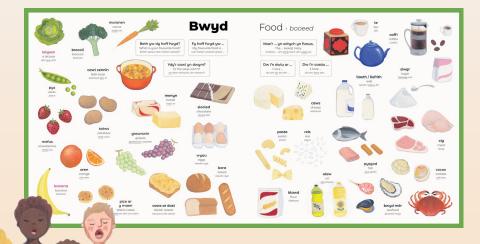
Pawb a Phopeth Cymraeg | Bilingual optional



Welsh All Around / Pawb a Phopeth Cymraeg is a stunning new hardback book which introduces Welsh as a language to readers of any age. Starting with the alphabet through to single words and sentences, the book then explores questions and more complex literary tools such as idioms and similes.

- Written and illustrated by Elin Meek and Valériane Leblond, who jointly won the 2019 Tír na nÓg award for their atlas book Wales on the Map
- Suitable for both young children and adult leaners
- A beautiful celebration of Wales and Welsh culture, with references to lovespoons, cynghanedd, mutations and our natural landscapes
- Bilingual throughout with an A-Z word list at the back for easy reference







**Elin Meek** grew up in Ystalfera and Carmarthen. After studying Welsh and German at the University of Wales, Aberystwyth, she spent 10 years teaching in Trinity College, Carmarthen. She now works as a freelance translator, adapter and author from her home in Swansea.



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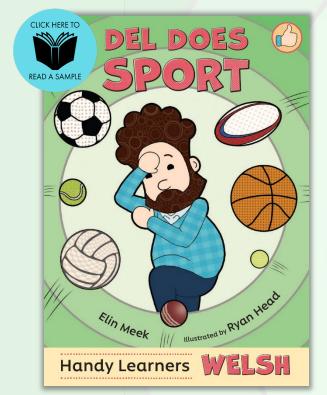




## **Del Does Sport**

New series for Welsh learners | Free audio











Learn Welsh the fun way! Del Does Sport is the first book in the exciting new Handy Learners series. Featuring a cast of quirky characters in comic stripstyle illustrations, this book is a perfect introduction to the Welsh language for learners of any age.

#### Includes FREE audio

When you see the QR code symbol in the book, scan it with your phone or tablet to hear how to the phrases are pronounced.





**Elin Meek** grew up in Ystalfera and Carmarthen. After studying Welsh and German at the University of Wales, Aberystwyth, she spent 10 years teaching in Trinity College, Carmarthen. She now works as a freelance translator, adapter and author from her home in Swansea.



**Ryan Head** is an exciting new illustrator from Caerphilly, South Wales. He studied Animation at the Atrium, University of South Wales, Cardiff, and has been working as a creative assistant at Rily Publications since 2018. *Del Does Sport* is his first published book.



The first book in this exciting new series links to the Welsh formal language course, and text book content, *Cwrs Mynediad* 









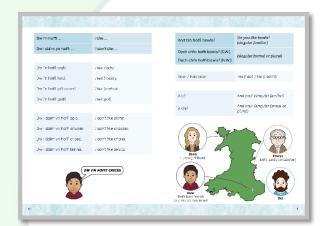
# DOES SPORT

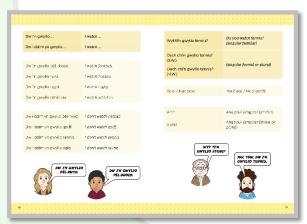


Join Del and his friends on a quest to find a sport he enjoys and, along the way, learn some basic Welsh phrases and words related to sport. A number of key phrases are also written phonetically, giving readers a head start in developing their conversational skills.



- A light-hearted and fun approach to learning Welsh
- Text is designed to be simple and accessible, offering a wide range of common phrases and words
- ♦ North and South Walian versions of select phrases are provided, ensuring a nationwide appeal
- This handy, pocked-sized paperback is a great value purchase at just £5.99
- ♦ Del's adventures will continue in Del Does Parenting, coming late 2021

























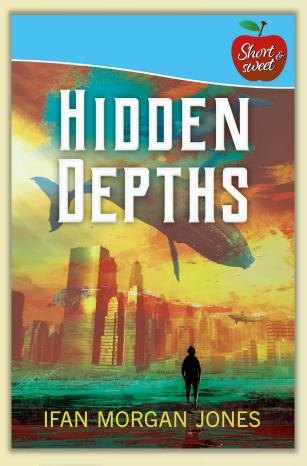


## Hidden Depths

Science fiction & fantasy short story



# Dogs for Life A collection of true stories about dogs

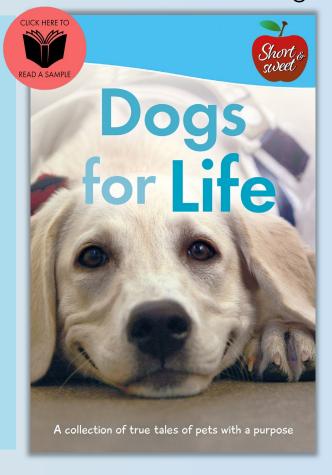


Hidden Depths is a jaw-dropping sci-fi novella with echoes of the Welsh myth of Cantre Gwaelod (Wales's very own Atlantis situated along the shore of Cardigan Bay). Rees has been running away his whole life. But when a legend from his childhood turns out to be fact rather than fiction, he is drawn deeper into a hidden world that reveals a troubling truth - not just about his present, but also his past. The choice is clear: keep running, or stay and fight.

- Written by Ifan Morgan Jones, whose 2020 novel Babel won the Wales Book of the Year award
- Suitable for teenagers aged 14 years + and the adult market
- A short, engaging and accessible story which is perfect for reluctant readers
- · Suitable for any fans of science fiction and fantasy
- Draws on classic Welsh legends and mythology for a truly unique and original story

They are often our best friends and share a special bond with us. But what if your dog was more than just a pet? In *Dogs for Life,* we share the stories of animals with very important jobs to do. Heart-warming and inspiring, emotional and funny, *Dogs for Life* shows how some amazing animals are changing the lives of the humans who love them. The book explores the world of dogs, not just as adored pets and life companions, but as guide dogs, sniffer dogs, therapy dogs and more.

- Includes 6 uplifting true stories about dogs that will warm your heart and lift your spirits
- Suitable for teenagers aged 14 years + and the adult market
- A guick and easy read which is perfect for any reluctant readers
- Features the Welsh animal charity Burns by Your Side, who help children grow confidence in their ability to read
- Expertly written by Alison Stokes, who specialises in writing about gripping real-life stories





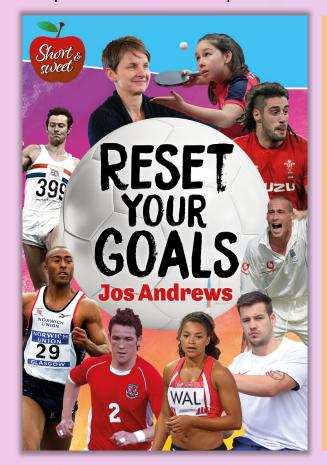
Ifan Morgan Jones is an author, journalist and university lecturer based in Llandysul, Ceredigion. He has won numerous awards for his work, including the Daniel Owen Memorial Prize for *Igam Ogam* in 2008 and Book of the Year for *Babel* in 2020.



Alison Stokes is a UK-based writer and journalist, who writes for national magazines in the UK and US and regional newspapers in Wales. A former features editor at the South Wales Echo, she specialises in arts, music and real-life stories.

#### Reset Your Goals

Sports & leisure | Real-life stories from athletes



Don't worry about failures, worry about the chances you miss when you don't even try. Sportsmen and women talk about dealing with success and disappointment. The common message is I might get knocked down but I get up again. Setbacks are challenges but they don't defeat me. In the words of Wales' Olympic gold medallist, 'If it's to be, it's up to me.' - Lynn Davies (featured).

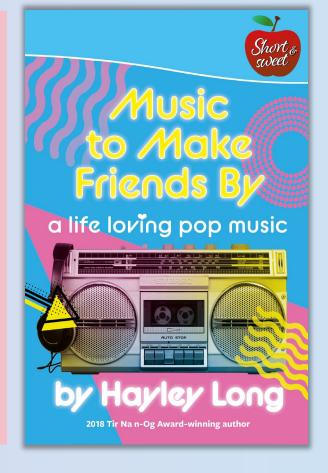
- Includes the inspirational real-life stories of the following sportspeople:
- Lynn Davies (Track and field athlete)
- Colin Jackson (Sprint and hurdling)
- Prof Laura McAllister (Footballer)
- Nathan Stephens (Javelin thrower)
- Mica Moore (Bob-sleigher and sprinter)
- Simon Jones (Cricketer)
- Josh Navidi (Rugby player)
- Matt Jones (Footballer)
- Anna Hursey (Table tennis player)
- Suitable for teenagers aged 14 years + and the adult market
- · An inspirational and uplifting book with a positive central message about resilience and determination



#### Music to Make Friends By True stories about the power of music

Music to Make Friends By is a funny, uplifting and autobiographical book about the lifechanging moments and friendships that result from loving pop music. From buying my first record, aged 6, to teaming up with a friend to DJ in the bars and clubs of Cardiff, each short chapter will be packed with music and memories.

- A funny and uplifting book which explores the themes of friendship and memories through the medium of music
- Hayley Long is a multi award-winning author and was the recipient of the 2018 T'ir Na N'Og award
- Suitable for teenagers aged 14 years + and the adult market
- A short and accessible book which is perfect for any reluctant readers
- Anyone familiar with Hayley's writing will love this book as well as fans of pop music of all ages





**Jos Andrews** is former BBC producer, creative writer and consultant with extensive experience in the media, education, training, arts and public relations. She has written seven 'Quick Reads' books for the Books Council of Wales.



Hayley Long is an English author best known for her teen fiction. Her 2017 novel The Nearest Faraway Place won the Tir na n-Oq Award in 2018 and the Mal Peet Children's Book Award in 2020.

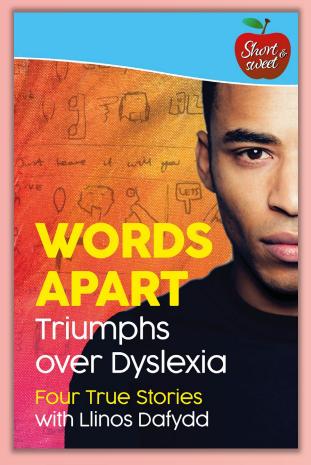
## Words Apart: Triumphs Over Dyslexia

A collection of true stories about dyslexia



## No Place to Call Home

A true story about homelessness

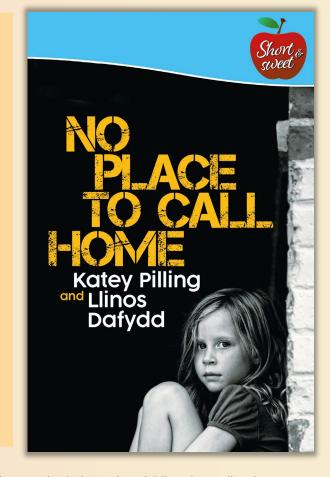


A diagnosis of dyslexia can cause anxiety and confusion. This illuminating book shares triumphant stories of people in Wales who have found creative ways of getting to grips with the condition. Some even say that their dyslexia helped them to be more successful. Words Apart is a book about some of those people, and how they've overcome their difficulties and succeeded in acting, poetry, teaching and more.

- Includes four inspirational real-life stories of Welsh people including actor Lloyd Everitt and poet Aneirin Karadog
- Suitable for teenagers aged 14 years + and the adult market
- A short, engaging and accessible book which is perfect for reluctant readers
- Fully supported and endorsed by local charity Dyslexia Cymru, with 10% of royalties being donated to them
- · An inspiring and insightful exploration of dyslexia and how it can affect individuals differently

Children, families, couples - anyone can become homeless. Read the fascinating and emotional personal story about Katey Pilling's experiences of homelessness as a child and as an adult. Katey gives her own take on homelessness, giving us a detailed account from her childhood in Aberaeron on the west Wales coast through to adulthood. We also hear about the frustrations that have left deep scars on her. The author and publisher wish to extend their gratitude to Shelter Cymru for supporting this book and sharing their expertise.

- Recounts Katey Pilling's personal story of homelessness, whilst also exploring the theme as a whole and possible causes
- Suitable for teenagers aged 14 years + and the adult market
- Back of the book includes useful phone numbers for anyone seeking support
- Deals with an important theme in a poignant and sensitive manner
- Includes a number of facts and statistics to help educate readers



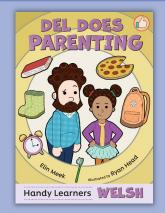


Llinos Dafydd is a creative editor, writer and translator based in Llandysul, Ceredigion. She is the editor of Lysh Cymru, a Welsh-language digital magazine for teenage girls, and has a wealth of experience in publishing and journalism.



**Katey Pilling** has survived homelessness both during her childhood as well as later in life as a mother. Through her work with Shelter Cymru and the Take Notice Project, she has campaigned to help people who find themselves without a home.

# Upcoming Titles 2021-22



#### **Del Does Parenting**

Elin Meek Illustrated by Ryan Head

Del has to look after his niece, Nia, whilst his sister is away. Though initially out of his depth as he deals with the trials and tribulations of dealing with a 6-year-old diva, he soon forms a bond with Nia and learns a number of important skills along the way.

- Learn Welsh the fun way with this second book in the exciting new Handy Learners series, following Del Does Sport
- Handy pocked-sized paperback book includes FREE audio with a phonetic pronunciation guide for select phrases

**Publication date: October 2021** 



#### First Words with Little Mouse

Illustrated by Leonie Servini

Have fun learning first words with Little Mouse. Introduce a variety of different words to your little one with these modern and engaging illustrations.

- The latest book from illustrator Leonie Servini, following Amser Canu, Blant!, 123 with Little Mouse and ABC with Little Mouse
- A perfect first words book for children aged 0-5, with gentle illustrations and simple text
- Also available as a Welsh language edition entitled Geiriau Cyntaf gyda Llygoden Fach

**Publication date: April 2022** 



#### Del Does Social Media Elin Meek Illustrated by Ryan Head

Emrys, Del's grandfather, has very little understanding of technology but wants to stay in touch with his friends and family via social media. Del tries to teach him how to use technology with mixed results.

- The third book in the Handy Learners series, following Del Does Sport and Del Does Parenting
- Handy pocked-sized paperback book includes FREE audio with a phonetic pronunciation guide
- A light-hearted and modern approach to learning Welsh

**Publication date: March 2022** 







Click the icons below for more information about the Eisteddfod









#### **Welsh History and Culture**

#### The Eisteddfod

The **National Eisteddfod** is a big Welsh language cultural festival that takes place annually, alternating between north and south Wales. It's the largest cultural festival of its kind in Europe, and a key event in the Welsh calendar. Although events are conducted through the medium of Welsh, the festival itself attracts Welsh and English speakers. It is a mixture of daily talent competitions and evening concerts (performers in 2008 included Bryn Terfel, Connie Fisher and Cerys Matthews), gigs, plays and exhibitions. Competitions in the main pavilion vary from dance to recitation, singing to brass bands.

The first Eisteddfod was held in 1176, under the patronage of Lord Rhys, in his castle in Cardigan. He invited poets and musicians from all over the country and awarded a chair to the best poet and musician, a tradition that has carried on to the present day. Many Eisteddfods were held over the centuries under the patronage of Welsh gentry and noblemen. The first National Eisteddfod was held in Aberdare in 1861, and since then, it has been moulded into the **annual cultural event** we recognise today. During the second half of the 19th century, there was a thirst in Wales for the celebration of Welsh culture and the establishment of the National Eisteddfod has contributed heavily to the preservation of traditional Welsh literary and musical culture. With the exception of 1914 and 1940, the National Eisteddfod has been held alternately between north and south Wales and is the responsibility of the National Eisteddfod Association.

#### **Ceremonies**

The festival has a quasi-druidic flavour, with the main literary prizes for poetry and prose being awarded in colourful and dramatic ceremonies under the auspices of the **Gorsedd of Bards**, complete with prominent figures in Welsh cultural life dressed in flowing druidic costumes, flower dances, trumpet fanfares and a symbolic Horn of Plenty. However, the Gorsedd is not an ancient institution or a pagan ceremony but rather a romantic creation by lolo Morganwg in the 1790s, which first became a formal part of the Eisteddfod ceremonial in 1819. Nevertheless, it is taken very seriously, and an award of a crown or a chair for poetry is a great honour.

**Gorsedd Stones** are groups of standing stones constructed for the National Eisteddfod of Wales. They form an integral part of the druidic Gorsedd ceremonies of the Eisteddfod. The stones can be found as commemorative structures throughout Wales and are the hallmark of the National Eisteddfod having visited a community.

The **Chairing** and **Crowning** ceremonies are the highlights of the week, and are presided over by the Archdruid. Other important awards include the **Prose Medal, Drama Medal. Musicians' Medal** and the **Welsh Learner of the Year** award.



# CYNE PRAUCT.

Manon Steffan Ros, Valériane Leblond and Elin Meek - winners of the 2019 Tir na n-Oq awards.



Siân Lewis, author of over 250 children's books, won the Mary Vaughan Jones award in 2015.

#### Tír na nÓg Awards

The **Tir na n-Og Awards** are a set of annual children's literary awards in Wales from 1976. They are presented by the Books Council of Wales to the best books published during the preceding calendar year in each of three awards categories, one English-language and two Welsh-language. Their purpose is "[to raise] the standard of children's and young people's books and to encourage the buying and reading of good books." There is no restriction to fiction or prose. The awards are named for Tír na nÓg, the "Land of the Young", an otherworldly realm in Irish mythology. The English-language award honours one book with an "authentic Welsh background" whose original language is English. It is sponsored by the British Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals, Cymru Wales division (CILIP/Wales), and presented at that association's annual conference in May. The Welsh-language Primary Sector and Secondary Sector awards honour one book written for primary school children and one for secondary school children. They are presented at the annual Urdd National Eisteddfod, recently at the beginning of June or end of May. Since 2011, the Welsh-language awards are co-sponsored by the Cardigan-based publisher Cymdeithas Lyfrau Ceredigion.

#### The Mary Vaughan Jones Award

The Mary Vaughan Jones Award is presented once every three years to a person who has made an outstanding contribution to children's books in Wales over a considerable period of time. The Award – presented once every three years by the Books Council of Wales in memory of the author Mary Vaughan Jones, who died in 1983 – is presented to a person who has made a special contribution to the field of children's literature in Wales over many years. Anyone who has contributed extensively to the field of children's books in Welsh over a period of years, whether as an author, artist, bookseller, librarian, officer etc, can be considered. For someone who has made a contribution mainly as part of their job, it would be necessary to demonstrate that the contribution is truly exceptional and goes beyond the general requirements of a salaried post. The Mary Vaughan Jones Trophy is the highest honour in the field of children's books in Wales and should be considered the crowning glory of the winner's career. Individual award winners, such as the Tir na n-Og prize, should not be excluded when considering merit for this honour.

#### Wales Book of the Year

The Wales Book of the Year Award is an annual prize celebrating outstanding literary talent from Wales across many genres and in both English and Welsh. There are twelve awards in total with a collective prize fund of £14,000. In both Welsh and English there are four category winners, one People's Choice winner and one overall winner. There are four categories in each language – Poetry, Fiction, Creative Non-fiction and Children & Young People, with one of the four category winners announced as the Overall Winner, and claims the title Wales Book of the Year 2021. The Wales Book of the Year Awards play an essential part in Literature Wales' programme of activity and contributes to its strategic aim of celebrating and representing Wales' writers, its heritage and rich literary culture. The prize offers an invaluable platform to both emerging and established writers.

Click the icons below for more information:











## The **Dragon Press** Team



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**Richard Tunnicliffe**Finance Director



**Siân Chapman**Production Manager



**Luned Whelan**Editing & Office Manager



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Creative Editor



**Llinos Dafydd**Creative Editor



**Ryan Head**Creative Assistant



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