

Translation of Daily Post Welsh National Press Article
'Gwenfair yn gorfoleddu yn Hafod y baw a'r llaca'

'Gwenfair rejoices in the farm dirt and dung!'

It's difficult to know how to judge an unkempt, dirty young woman who carries her baby around in a back-pack. But 'Megan Hafod Haidd' (Megan from Barley Farm) is one of the most endearing characters in the comedy that brings the sounds, magic, and aroma of the countryside to our screens every Monday night.

Not everyone would appreciate being described as an unattractive woman, but Gwenfair Vaughan delights in playing the hapless farm girl.

"I enjoy playing her very much, Megan's a lot of fun" says Gwenfair who originates from Bethesda but who since lives in Cardiff.

"Whilst creating the character we decided that she should be as dirty as possible, and as the series progresses, she gets worse. All the other characters have a choice of clothes, their outfits varied according to the demands of the scene, but Megan does not go anywhere near a wardrobe or make-up artist! However, deep down she's very sweet. After all, life is not easy for her. She has to live with her disorganized father and her clueless grandfather, without mentioning the fool next door who constantly 'drops by'. Megan has to be very tough and be 'one of the boys'."

Megan never goes far without her baby of course, and Gwenfair is astonished at the little actor's talents... "He behaved himself impeccably, especially considering that he was stuck in a back-pack on my back or being wheeled around in a wheel-barrow! He did not cry once.

A communications graduate, Gwenfair is also a very successful stage actress by now, getting the opportunity to travel to other countries with her work.

"The last thing I performed in was a theatre show in Singapore", she says, "I've been playing the character of Ceridwen in Arad Goch's show 'Taliesin' for the last three years, and I've traveled extensively across Wales with them. But we've also had the opportunity of performing in The United States, Canada, Ireland and lastly, Singapore. Not every actor gets the opportunity to work abroad - I've been lucky to be able to take modern Welsh culture to the four corners of the world."

Judging by the awful appearance of poor Megan, it's unlikely that viewers will associate her with Hannah's character, the preacher's daughter in 'Y Palmant Aur' (The Golden Pavement), but Gwenfair is responsible for both characters.

"They're both so different, and calls for different acting styles" says Gwenfair. "Acting Megan demands a bigger acting style as she over-does everything, but Hannah requires the utmost subtleties."

On 'Hafod Haidd' this week, Megan devises a money making scheme during the sheep shearing season, whilst Ned has a very unpleasant experience when his wife reaches for a cactus during an argument!