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Why faire-folk.com

OR WOULD YOU RATHER BE A PIG

All the shows at Renaissance Festival have interesting characters. Most of the shows are a humorous example of the dark ages. In the case of the Wellies, basic norms don't apply. The Wellies are people within a world of their own, a world of mud, dirt, and water.

The average show of the Wellies consists of two characters, Laundra and Dameren. These two women of the well are lazy, sloppy, and hardly ladies at all.

Laundra is of Prussian decent, who's mother died giving birth. As a result of the death of Laundra's mother, her father took a strong dislike to Laundra. Constant beatings by her father caused her to flee to the village. In need of money she became a Wellie.

Dameren Thig Fen's mother had an affair with an unpopular Duke during one of their travels. The Duke was finally killed, causing mass disgrace to Dameren, and her mother. Dameren grew to dislike men because in that age they controlled the world. This dislike grew stronger when her mother was killed by wolves just outside the walls of a castle. No one even lifted a finger to help. Dameren hides in the mud, using it to isolate her from the real world.

The Act is simple and entertaining. Dameren played by Penny Pankonin (Stage Manager), has been with the Wellies for three years.

Tony Dembovsky (Boss in Character), new to the Wellies this year has worked as a street character two years ago. Teresa Stark (Naive Wench Laundra), has been will the Wellies for two years, and attends school at Henry High.

- Q: How did the Wellie come to be?
- Penny: I don't know. I just see the
 Wellie women as outcasts, even
 among the peasants, and it's like
 we purposely outcast ourselves.
 - Q: Is it better when people cut you down, or would you rather be left alone by other characters?
- Penny: Well the thing is on site I love to be cut down, you know, and the funny thing about it is, I'll be on site, and everyone feels sorry for me, but they won't cut me down. Then when I'm off site, it's like ish! I get all the remarks when I don't need them at all.
 - Q: Do you have a large amount of adlibbing during the show?
- Tony: We've got a main script, and we follow it as closely as possible, but a show isn't a show out here without adlibbing.
- Teresa: I remember a time last year, my skirt got ripped off in the middle of the show and we had to quickly end the show. I don't remember how we did it, but it worked out really good.

- Q: Have you ever had a customer become ugly on you?
- Teresa: One time we had this guy who wanted to mud wrestle us, and he started hurting us.
- Penny: He was really drunk, and he comes in and he was really mean, and very serious! And he goes "Come on, I'll take you all on!"
 - Q: Have you ever had a costume that didn't get clean?
- Tony: My costume purposely is dirty.
 When I got my costume, me and
 Penny went down to the
 Mississippi River and soaked them
 in Mississippi mud. Just to get
 them from white to black, and
 dirty.
 - Q: Anything you'd like to add?
- Penny: Um, no just that by the end of the Festival it's like my last words are, next year I'm not going to be a Wellie, and then you know, by February when I'm starting to think of Festival Ollries gee I can't wait to starting wrestling again.

Tony: Yea, Hi mom!

REPORTER: Thom Schrampfer

JOE FESTIVAL









