

Gwch Fach Cuckoo Dear

Verse 1 Welsh :

Phonetics:

Gwch fach, ond wyf ti'n fflog **Goo-coo vach und wee-teen ffoh-log**
Ffal di ral di rw dw ri ral tai to! Fal-dee ral-dee roo-dee roo-dee rie-tie-toh
Canu 'mhlith yr eithin pigog **Can-ee misk err eh-teen pee-gog**
Ffal di ral di rw dw ri rai tai to, Fal-dee ral-dee roo-dee roo-dee rie-tie-toh
Dos i blwy Dolgelle dirion, **Doh-see bloy Dol-gethh-eye dir-ree-on**
Ffal dir ral di rw, di rai tai to. Fal-dee ral-dee roo-dee roo-dee rie-tie-to
Ti gei yno, lwyni gwyrddion **Tee gay ah-noh looee-nee gwerr-deon**
Ffal di ral di rw, dw ri rai tai to. Fal-dee ral-dee roo-dee roo-dee rie-tie-toh

NB:

Ff - (blow lots of air)

ll – thh (like a cat hiss)

r – always rolled rr

Verse 2.

Cuckoo dear why are you winging
Fal-dee ral-dee roo-dee roo-dee rie-tie-toh

Hither o'er the heather singing
Fal-dee ral-dee roo-dee roo-dee rie-tie-toh

To Dol-gethh-eye on the morrow
Fal-dee ral-dee roo-dee roo-dee rie-tie-toh

Wend your way and soothe my sorrow
Fal-dee ral-dee roo-dee roo-dee rie-tie-toh

Verse 3.

Cuckoo dear my heart's companion
Fal-dee ral-dee roo-dee roo-dee rie-tie-toh

Fly from here across the Wnion (win-eon)
Fal-dee ral-dee roo-dee roo-dee rie-tie-toh

There a moment lightly hover

Fal-dee ral-dee roo-dee roo-dee rie-tie-toh

O'er the home of my true lover

Fal-dee ral-dee roo-dee roo-dee rie-tie-toh

Verse 4.

Cuckoo dear if there you find him

Fal-dee ral-dee roo-dee roo-dee rie-tie-toh

Sad of cheer oh perch behind him

Fal-dee ral-dee roo-dee roo-dee rie-tie-toh

Then a Christmas carol sing him

Fal-dee ral-dee roo-dee roo-dee rie-tie-toh

That shall hope and comfort bring him

Fal-dee ral-dee roo-dee roo-dee rie-tie-toh

Literal translation of Welsh verses:

Little cuckoo, aren't you foolish,
Singing amongst the spiky gorse,
Go to the parish of fair Dolgellau,
You will find there green bushes.

Little cuckoo, fly immediately
To the banks of the Wnion river
On the wing, wait awhile
By the home of my beloved.

Little cuckoo, if you see there
Someone weeping salty tears
Sing to him the song of spring
A song of hope to comfort him.

Translation - Dafydd Iwan