

Could you learn to sing Calon Lân in 30 minutes?

Video transcript – First verse

It's going to be easier to learn the words to *Calon Lân* if we break it down into little bitesized pieces. So, let's start with the first verse.

My Welsh teacher in school used to say to me, "Wynne, once you've learnt a particular sound in Welsh, it's usually pronounced the same way in every word."

There are, however, certain sounds that are totally unique to the Welsh language and they're going to take a little bit of practice. But don't worry – I'm here to help. Think of me as your little Welsh therapist!

The first verse starts with the line *Nid wy'n gofyn bywyd moethus*. And the first word is *nid*, which means 'not'. Now the way to pronounce this is to pretend you're an Australian and you're calling your friend Ned – "G'day Ned!" [in Australian accent]. *Nid* – simple you see?

The next word features a sound we don't have in English – *wy'n*. The way to do this is to pretend that you're Phil Mitchell from *EastEnders*, and you're standing in the middle of Albert Square, and you're a bit cross. So you go, "Oi!" [imitating Phil Mitchell] and then just put an **n** on the end - *wy'n*. You see it's easy when you know how!

The next word is *gofyn* – well, that sounds a bit like Gavin, doesn't it? *Gofyn*. The thing to remember is one **f** in Welsh is pronounced like a **v** in English.

Moving on – *bywyd*. Well, that sounds a bit like the singer David Bowie. Put a **d** on the end, drop the David bit – *bywyd*. *Gofyn bywyd*.

The last word in the first line is *moethus*. Now, you should find that one fairly straightforward. And there you have the first line. So far, so good!

Remember to roll your **rs** in *aur y byd* and *berlau mân*

Look out for Phil Mitchell's *wy* in the third line - *Gofyn wyf am galon hapus*. This time Phil meets the letter **V** – *wy* + **V**. *Wyf*. *Gofyn wyf am galon hapus*.

There we go! The rest of the first verse should be OK.

Just keep listening over and over again and you'll be an expert in no time!

Nid wy'n gofyn bywyd moethus,
aur y byd na'i berlau mân;
Gofyn wyf am galon hapus,
calon onest, calon lân

I do not ask for a life of luxury,
the world's gold or its fine pearls;
I ask for a happy heart,
an honest heart, a pure heart