

# The Wee Cooper O' Fife

**Traditional Scottish song  
arranged by Ken Johnston**

**for SSA voices and piano (or piano and flute)**

Original version (2 part voices and piano) composed 1990

This version, 1994

Duration of piece: 2'

Other versions of this arrangement are also available:

SATB and piano (or piano and flute)

SAB and piano (or piano and flute)

SA and piano (or piano and flute)

This SSA and piano version is the one recorded on the CD,  
'There's lilt in the song: *Songs and ballads for highland or lowland or no!*',  
by the National Youth Choir of Scotland, directed by Christopher Bell

The following parts are available separately:

Alternative accompaniment for piano and flute (with separate flute part)

Piano accompaniment without voice parts (all on 3 pages to reduce page turns)

# The Wee Cooper O' Fife

for SSA voices and piano (or piano and flute\*)

Traditional Scottish song  
arranged by Ken Johnston

**Lively but not too fast**

$\text{♩} = \text{c.}104$

The musical score is arranged in four systems. Each system includes a piano accompaniment (Piano) and vocal parts for Alto (A) and Soprano (S). The piano part is in 6/8 time with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The tempo is marked 'Lively but not too fast' with a quarter note equal to approximately 104 beats per minute. The score begins with a piano introduction (measures 1-5) marked *mp* and (sim.).

**System 1 (Measures 6-9):** The Alto part begins with the lyrics "1) There was a wee coo - per wha". The piano accompaniment continues with a steady eighth-note pattern.

**System 2 (Measures 10-13):** The Soprano part enters with the lyrics "Nick - e - ty nack - e - ty noo, noo, noo,". The Alto part continues with "lived in Fife, And he has got - ten a". The piano accompaniment features a (sim.) marking and a *poco cresc.* instruction.

**System 3 (Measures 14-17):** The Soprano part continues with "Hey Wil - lie Wal - la - chy ho John Dou - gal, A - lane quo Rush - e - ty". The Alto part continues with "gen - tle wife,". The piano accompaniment continues with a (sim.) marking and a *poco cresc.* instruction.

Duration: 2'

\* The piano accompaniment has also been arranged for piano and flute.  
Separate accompaniment parts are available for this version.

18

S roo, roo, roo!

24

(altos) *mf*

2) She wad - na bake and she wad - na brew,

29

S *mf*

Nick - e - ty nack - e - ty noo, noo, noo,

A

Nick - e - ty nack - e - ty noo, noo, noo, For the spoil - ing o' her come - ly hue,

33

S *poco cresc.*

Hey Wil - lie Wal - la - chy ho John Dou - gal, A - lane quo Rush - e - ty roo, roo,

A *poco cresc.*

Hey Wil - lie Wal - la - chy ho John Dou - gal, A - lane quo Rush - e - ty roo, roo,

37

S roo!

A roo!

*f*

*mf*

Ped.

42

S. div. *mf*

3) She wad - na card and she wad - na spin, Nick - e - ty nack - e - ty

*mf*

46

S noo, noo noo, For the sham - ing o' her gen - tle kin,

A noo, noo noo, For the sham - ing o' her gen - tle kin,

49 *poco cresc.*

S  
A

Hey Wil - lie Wal - la - chy ho John Dou - gal, A - lane quo Rush - e - ty roo, roo,

*poco cresc.*

53

S  
A

roo!

*f*

4) The coo-per's a-wa to

*f* *mp* *f*

*Ped.* *Ped.*

58

S  
A

*f*

Nick - e - ty nack - e - ty noo, noo, noo,

his\_ woo' pack, And he's laid a sheep - skin  
your\_ proud kin, But I will thrash my

62

S  
A

Hey Wil - lie Wal - la - chy ho John Dou - gal, A - lane quo Rush - e - ty

on his wife's back,  
ain\_ sheep - skin,"

5) "I'll  
6) "O

66

S  
A

roo, roo, roo! Nick - e - ty nack - e - ty noo, noo, noo,

no thrash you for  
I will bake and I \_\_\_ will brew, And

70

S  
A

Hey Wil - lie Wal - la - chy ho John Dou - gal, A -

ne - ver think mair o' my come - ly hue,"

74

S

A

lane quo Rush-e-ty roo, roo, roo!

79

S

A

*mp*

7) "O I will card and I will spin,

*mp*

83

S

A

Nick - e - ty nack - e - ty noo, noo, noo, And ne - ver think mair o' my gen - tle kin,"

87 *poco cresc.*

S Hey Wil - lie Wal - la - chy ho John Dou - gal, A - lane quo Rush - e - ty roo, roo,

A *poco cresc.*

91

S roo! *f* 8) A' ye wha hae got - ten a

A *f*

*mf* *f*

*Ped.* *Ped.*

96

S gen - tle wife, Nick - e - ty nack - e - ty noo, noo, noo, Just send ye for the wee

A

100

S *p*

coo - per o' Fife, Hey Wil - lie Wal - la - chy ho John Dou - gal, A - lane quo Rush - e - ty

A

104

S *p cresc.*

roo, roo, roo! Hey Wil - lie Wal - la - chy ho John Dou - gal, A - lane quo Rush - e - ty

A *p cresc.*

108

S *f*

roo, roo, roo, roo, roo, roo, roo, roo, roo!

A *f*

roo, roo, roo, roo, roo, roo, roo, roo, roo!

*f* *gliss.*