

Dark Robin

As the winter solstice and Christmas approach, the sun casts its longest shadows stretching to the darkest places of nature and life.

If you're not looking for him, you will never see him but if you let yourself be aware, then he might be visible for a fleeting moment.

Dark Robin appears when the longest shadow of his daytime form reaches far enough to touch the edge of the ancient solstice residue, laid down through years of ritual.

He comes to remind the current world that the veil to the past is thin at this time of year and allows the present and legend to connect and exchange energies, revitalising the earth and the life upon it.

He appears from a shadow and emerges into the cold light of winter. His feathers are blackened and ruffled and his red breast is more like a scar than a beacon to attract a mate.

He won't stay long but will linger long enough to remind present day life of how short of a time they have and that there are more darker days to endure before the light ones come.

The Dark Robin is a gift for those who see beyond our physical world and feel the past pushing them forwards. He's not wrapped in a bow or found in a stocking. He's not around long enough for that. His message is brief but all inspiring and uplifting.

I saw him the other day.

He emerged from behind a plant pot as I looked out at the landscape and watched our familiar Robin looking for food.

Dark Robin looked at me and told me something that I wanted to know. It was for me only and it gave me the new hope and energy I need for the year ahead.

I thanked him as he disappeared back into a shadow. A dark red shadow that finally faded to black and he was gone.