

This week on Radio Nova we’re looking at the Birdsong of the Robin.

**How to recognise the Robin:**

* Distinctive with orange-red breast & rounded head and thick neck.
* The Robin remains very still when perched.
* Upright stance, occasionally cocks tail momentarily.
* Mostly on ground or prominent perch.
* It’s song is a varied series of rolling notes and twitters, some drawn out, others quite rapid.
* The song has a melancholy quality.
* It’s call is a sharp, metallic “tick”, sometimes repeated rapidly in a continuous phrase, the sound is reminiscent of winding a clock.
* Many are rescheduling their song recitals to the middle of the night, when motorists are tucked up in their beds and cars are off the road. A singer on the nightshift can get his message out without having to strain his syrinx, the avian equivalent of vocal chords.

**Links for more information:**

[www.xeno-canto.org](http://www.xeno-canto.org)

[www.academy.allaboutbirds.org/birdsong](http://www.academy.allaboutbirds.org/birdsong)

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