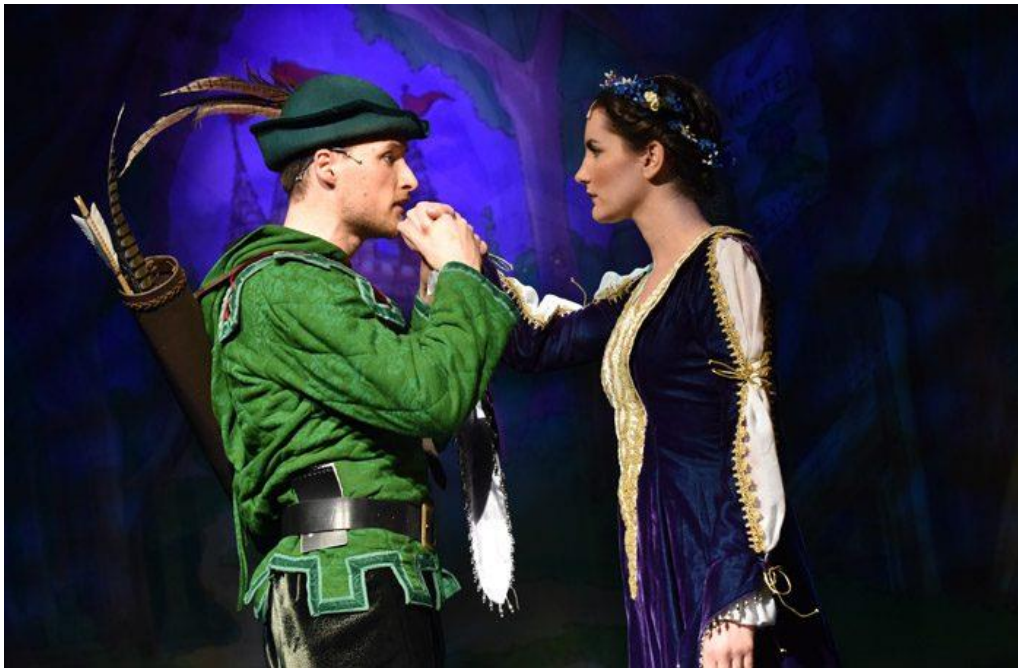


## THE REAL ROBIN HOOD

In ballads<sup>1</sup>, books and films, Robin Hood is a very popular hero. Even after 700 years, the rogue<sup>2</sup> from Nottinghamshire, who steals<sup>3</sup> money from rich people and gives it to poor people, is still very popular. But is Robin Hood a real person **from the past?**



Writers and filmmakers<sup>4</sup> create many versions of Robin Hood. In 14<sup>th</sup> century England, he is a rebel who kills government people and rich landowners<sup>5</sup>. Later, Robin is a poor aristocrat with a **heart of gold** and a woman he loves, **Maid Marian**.

Robin Hood is present in 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> century ballads about an aggressive man from Sherwood Forest, who doesn't like Sheriff of Nottingham. In **medieval times**, **May Day** celebrations often involve<sup>6</sup> a Robin Hood figure. Modern experts don't have any evidence, but medieval chroniclers<sup>7</sup> are sure that a historical Robin Hood comes from the 12<sup>th</sup> or 13<sup>th</sup> century.

At the end of each summer, the city of Nottingham holds<sup>8</sup> the Robin Hood Festival in Sherwood Forest – this year for the 34<sup>th</sup> time already.

**Vocabulary:** <sup>1</sup>balada | <sup>2</sup>darebák | <sup>3</sup>krást | <sup>4</sup>filmař | <sup>5</sup>statkář | <sup>6</sup>zahrnovat | <sup>7</sup>kronikář | <sup>8</sup>pořádat

**Language notes:** from the past=z minulosti | a heart of gold=zlaté srdce | Maid Marian=panna Mari-  
on | medieval times=středověká doba | May Day=První máj

**Sources:** history.com | bbc.com