The legend of:

ROBIN HOOD
THE ROBIN HOOD LEGEND

- In the time of Richard the Lionheart a minor noble of Nottinghamshire, one Robin of Loxley, was outlawed for poaching deer.

- At that time the deer in a royal forest belonged to the king, and killing one of the king's deer was therefore treason, and punishable by death.
THE ROBIN HOOD LEGEND

- As an outlaw Robin took to the greenwood of Sherwood Forest, making a living by stealing from rich travellers and distributing the loot among the poor of the area.
THE ROBIN HOOD LEGEND

In the process he gained a band of followers and a spouse, Maid Marion.
Robin Hood’s Gang

- Little John
- Friar Tuck
- Lady Marion
- Will
- Robin Hood
- Nazi
- Alan Adale
THE ROBIN HOOD LEGEND

- Despite the best efforts of the evil Sherrif of Nottingham, Robin avoided capture until the return of King Richard from the Crusades brought about a full pardon and the restoration of Robin's lands.

- In other versions he dies at the hands of a kinswoman, the abbess of Kirklees Priory.
THE ROBIN HOOD LEGEND

- That, in a very small nutshell, is the legend, but is there truth behind it?

- Well, possibly.
The Robin Hood Legend vs Evidence

- Several someones, named Robin Hood existed at different times.

- Court records of the York Assizes refer to a "Robert Hod", who was a fugitive in 1226.

- In the following year the assizes referred to the same man as "Robinhud".
The Robin Hood Legend vs Evidence

- By 1300 at least 8 people were called Robinhood, and at least 5 of those were fugitives from the law.

- In 1266 the Sherrif of Nottingham, William de Grey, was in active conflict with outlaws in Sherwood Forest.

- It seems most likely that a number of different outlaws built upon the reputation of a fugitive in the forest, and over time, the legend grew.
Robin Hood in fiction
– e.g. *Ivanhoe*

- **Ivanhoe** is a *novel*:
  - by **Sir Walter Scott**
  - written in 1819
  - set in 12th-century *England*,
  - an example of *historical fiction*
Robin Hood in fiction - *Ivanhoe* by Sir Walter Scott

- *Ivanhoe* is the story of one of the remaining **Saxon** noble families at a time when the English nobility was overwhelmingly **Norman**.

- It follows the Saxon protagonist, **Wilfred of Ivanhoe**, who is out of favour with his father for his allegiance to the Norman king **Richard I of England**.

- The story is set in 1194, after the end of the **Third Crusade**, when many of the Crusaders were still returning to Europe.

- The legendary **Robin Hood**, initially under the name of Locksley, is also a character in the story, as are his "merry men", including **Friar Tuck** and less so, **Alan-a-Dale**. (**Little John** is merely mentioned.)

- The character that Scott gave to Robin Hood in *Ivanhoe* helped shape the modern notion of this figure as a cheery noble outlaw.
Robin Hood in fiction - *Ivanhoe* by Sir Walter Scott

- Wilfred of Ivanhoe – a knight and son of Cedric the Saxon
- Rebecca – a Jewish healer, daughter of Isaac of York
- Rowena – a noble Saxon Lady
- Prince John – brother of King Richard
- The Black Knight or Knight of the Fetterlock – King Richard the Lionhearted, incognito
- Locksley – i.e., Robin Hood, an English yeoman
- The Hermit or Clerk of Copmanhurst — i.e., Friar Tuck
- Brian de Bois-Guilbert – a Templar Knight
- Isaac of York – the father of Rebecca; a Jewish merchant and money-lender
- Prior Aymer – Prior of Jorvaulx
- Reginald Front-de-Boeuf – a local baron who was given Ivanhoe's estate by Prince John
- Cedric the Saxon – Ivanhoe's father
- Lucas de Beaumanoir – fictional Grand Master of the Knights Templars
- Conrade de Montfichet – Templar
- Maurice De Bracy – Captain of the Free Companions
- Waldemar Fitzurse – Prince John's loyal minion
- Aethelstane – last of the Saxon royal line
- Albert de Malvoisin – Preceptor of Templestowe
- Philip de Malvoisin – local baron (brother of Albert)
- Gurth – Cedric's loyal Swineherd
- Wamba – Cedric's loyal Jester
One thing to note about the early legends is that Robin Hood:

- was not an aristocrat, as he was later portrayed,
- but a simple yeoman driven to a life of crime by the harsh rule of the law of the rich.

As such, it is easy to see how his story soon became a favourite folk tale among the poor.
ROBIN HOOD’s GRAVE?

- There is, in the grounds of Kirklees Priory, an old grave stone, marking the final resting place of one "Robard Hude".

- Proof that part of the tale may be true? It would be nice to think so.
LITTLE JOHN’S GRAVE?
THE ROBIN HOOD LEGEND vs ANIMATION
Robin Hood TV Series

Robin Hood, 2006 TV Series,

Robin of Sherwood, 1983-6
VARIOUS FILM ADAPTATIONS OF THE ROBIN HOOD LEGEND

Robin Hood: Prince of Thieves, Dir. Reynolds, K. 1991
Robin Hood: Men in Tights, Dir. Brooks, M. 1993
Robin Hood, Dir. Scott, R. 2010
THE ROBIN HOOD LEGEND

- Find out more
- Share with us
- Make a difference
THANK YOU ;-)
AND
SEE YOU NEXT WEEK