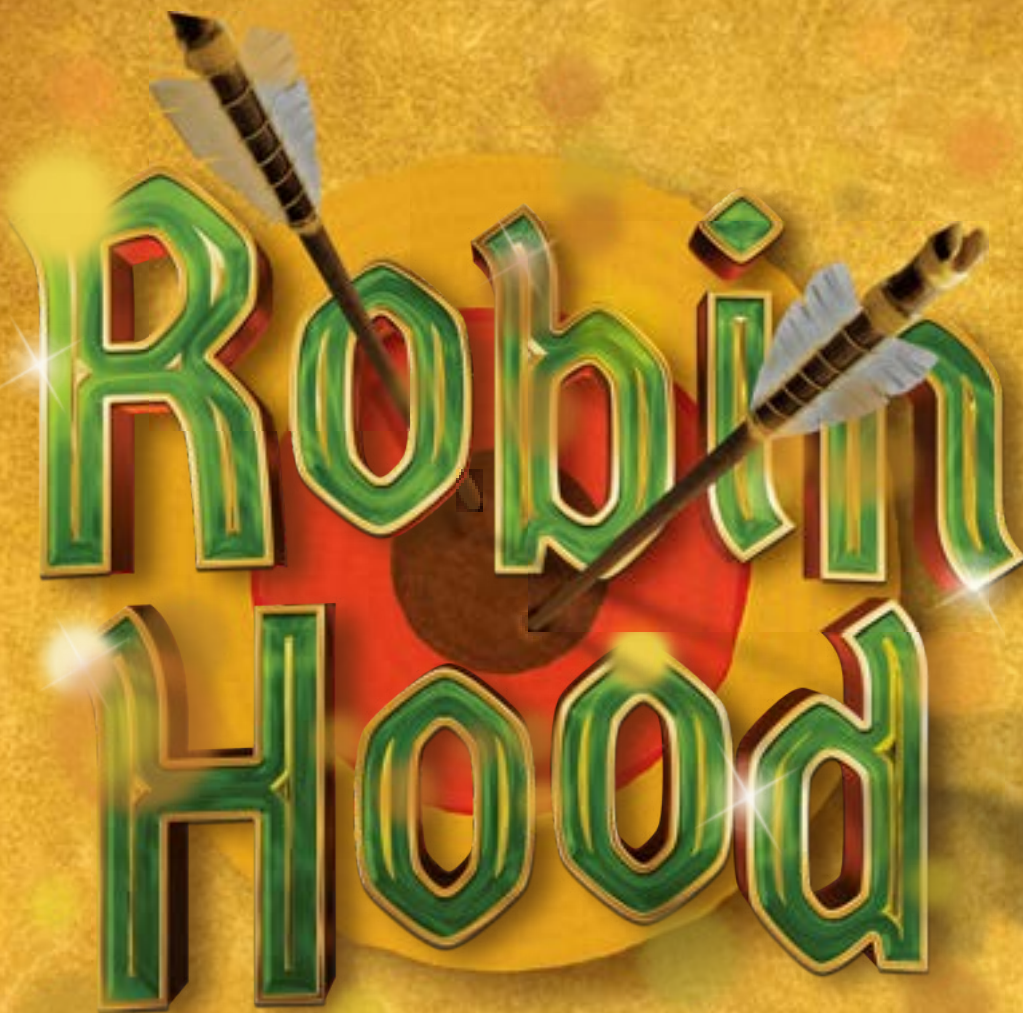


Robin Hood

The title 'Robin Hood' is rendered in large, 3D green letters with gold outlines. Behind the letters is a large yellow circle with a red bullseye in the center. Two arrows are shown: one passing through the 'i' in 'Robin' and the bullseye, and another passing through the 'o' in 'Hood'.

DIRECTED BY
KIRSTIE DAVIS



WRITTEN BY
ANDREW POLLARD



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Synopsis:

Robin Hood is hot on the Sheriff's heels and needs YOU to join his merry gang and help defeat the evil Sheriff.

Marian is the most successful sheep farmer in Bowland's forest, but while King Richard is away, the Sheriff of Nottingham ventures north to Lancaster. The Sheriff plans to seize the forest and build a gated community- all for himself! He plots to capture the Pendle Witches and exploit their sorcery to enchant Marian, forcing her hand in marriage to gain ownership of her thriving flock. But has the Sheriff greatly underestimated the power and strength of Marian and her fearsome flock of fluffy sheep?!

Are you ready for battle? Are you ready to join Robin's gang and save the forest? Then join us for a tale featuring swords, sorcery, and song! Romance and robbery! Archery and acrobatics! Derring-do and sheep pooh! Not to mention the infamous sea serpent of Morecambe!

MEET THE CAST & CREATIVETEAM



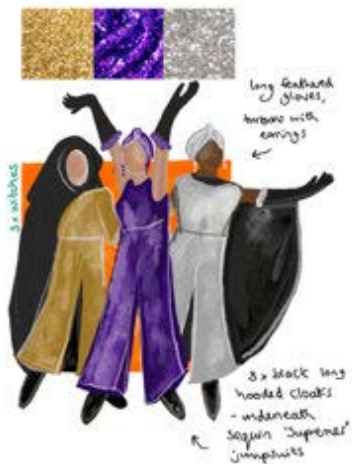
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ANDREW POLLARD



Designed by Irene Jade
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Interview with the Designer

What does your role as a theatre set designer in a show like this involve?

I collaborate with the props department, the costume department, the director, lighting design, to create an overall visual for the show, from concept to model box, set and costumes. It is like working with all the different teams to oversee the creative vision as a whole.

How much planning does it take for everything to come together, from the organisational stage to the end of performance?

Usually, you either get the script early on in the process or you're part of the research and development process where you will be developing the show. It can be a year before the show actually happens, or it can be six months or a few months even, and then you go from initial ideas to the technical aspects of it.

Have you ever designed a costume that you're particularly proud of and if so, what did you like about it?

The one that springs to mind is I designed an owl costume for an arial show years ago, but I quite liked because it was a bit of an anthropomorphic design. We took animal and human aspects and combined them and I quite enjoyed that when designing it. It wasn't even for a particularly big show, it was for an arial show in Oldham, when they had an Odeon opening and stuff like that. It just sprung to mind as it was just fun.

Interview with the Designer

What's your favourite aspect of working on a Christmas show like Robin Hood?

It's really good fun, because it's quite unexpected with the things that happen in the script, there are lots of crazy characters, costume changes and props. There's loads of fun, chaos and creativity.

What advice would you give to someone who would like to become a designer?

I guess that not everyone does things the same way, so you can do it in your own way, you don't necessarily have to go down the same path that everyone else does. You have to have a bit of an interest in plays, as well as history and costumes, it's such a varied job! I did an art foundation course at Chesterfield College, then did theatre design at Nottingham Trent University.

The Dukes performance is moving to the Rake stage this year, what are the challenges of moving into a bigger end-on configuration?

I usually do end-on shows anyway so it is not too much of a change for me, but the difference is that you are having to mask the wings a bit, so you are creating a backstage area and offstage area. It's a little bit different from being in the round where the audience can see a lot more of what's going on, you are trying to hide some things from the audience as well as letting them see other things.



Robin Hood



Interview with the Director

We met up with Kirstie Davies to find out all about Robin Hood

How many actors are there in Robin Hood?

There are only 5! But there are so many characters. They come on as guards, sheep, merry gang, brass band players; every time they come on, they're a different character. The costume changes on this show are going to be ridiculous - they're very fast, especially with the sheep.

Try to imagine them - they've got big woolly jumpers on, and sheep ears and goggles. The sheep are very silly.

Does the show follow the traditional storyline or are there many changes?

The thing that we have changed is that they are in Lancaster and that Marian and Robin are meeting up again to defend the forest of Bowland against the evil Sheriff of Nottingham who is trying to take it for himself. We also have the sea serpent of Morecambe Bay which isn't in the original story! But is great fun!

What do you like about Robin Hood?

I think the characters are fab: I like them because I think they're all a bit cheeky and I really like the fact that in this, it's very much about defeating the Sheriff if they work together. They're a team- the moment they're not, it doesn't work, and nobody gets anywhere. But the moment they work together at the end, there's a big surprise. I won't spoil it but the only reason that happens is because they all work together as one team.

Interview with the Director

How long will you be in rehearsal for?

We are only in rehearsals for three weeks from the beginning to end, and then the fourth week is called a production week. So, when you go into your fourth week, half of that is taken up with you working on the lights and sound, building the set, testing costume changes, going into a tech rehearsal and then a dress rehearsal on the Thursday morning. It all comes together quite quickly.

Is that the average amount of time?

Usually, you have three weeks' rehearsal and a production week, it just depends when you go up on that fourth week. It slightly varies depending on what you have to do.



Can you make a your own Robin Hood Hat?

We would love to see you wear it at the show!

Let us show you how...you might need some help

1. Choose a large sheet of green construction paper. Generally, a sheet measuring 46 by 30 cm should be large enough to fit the average head.

Cut down a sheet of paper so that it's 12 inches (30 cm) wide and its length matches the wearer's head circumference.

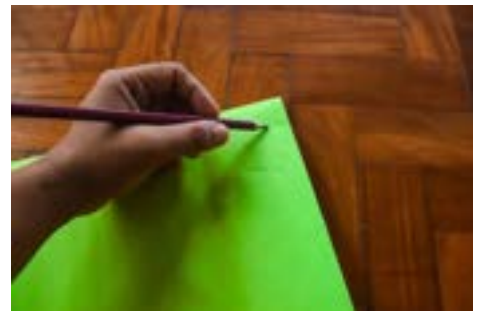


2 Fold the paper in half lengthwise. Crease the fold so the paper lays flat. When folded, the new dimensions should be 23 by 30 cm. Place the folded paper in front of you so that the fold is on the right.



3. Draw a curved line from the top right corner to the bottom left. To make your line easier to draw, start by making a small pencil mark along the left edge 5 cm from the bottom of the edge. Then lightly sketch a curved line starting from the top right corner to the mark you made on the left edge. This will make the edges easier to fold later on.

Your curved line should slightly curve out toward the upper left corner, rather than curve inward toward the bottom right corner.



You're nearly there.

Keep following the instructions and you'll have a hat!

4. Cut along the curved line. Use scissors to carefully cut along the curved line. Make sure to cut just below the pencil line so no pencil marks appear on the final hat. Keep the paper folded carefully while you cut to make the sides symmetrical.



5. Fold up the curved edges to make the hat brim. Fold the curved edges up, forming a flat edge on each side. The fold should make a straight line from the upper right-hand corner, where your curved line started, down to the bottom left corner. This will form the folded brim of your hat. At this point, your folded piece of paper should resemble a triangle.



Fold the curved edges identically on both sides so that the bottom edges match up.

6. Tape or glue the back edges of the hat together. If you use tape, hold both sides of the hat's back fold closed. Press a piece of tape over both and smooth either side. If you use glue, open up the top fold of the hat and apply glue along one edge, from bottom to peak. Press the two edges together and allow the glue to dry. This will create the flat back of the hat.



You're nearly there.

Keep following the instructions and you'll have a hat!

7. Open up the bottom of the hat. Your hat should now look like a triangle with a longer, pointed front and a pointy top. Open up the hat by spreading the brim edges so the bottom is slightly open.

At this point, your hat is ready to wear! You can either wear it like this or add a feather for a final touch.



Time to make your feather.

You're almost there.

1. Select a sheet of construction paper in a different colour. Choose another colour, like red or yellow, to create the feather. Since the feather shape will be much smaller, you'll only need a 22 by 28 sheet of construction paper.



2. Fold the paper in half lengthwise. The new dimensions should be 14 by 22 cm. Position the folded paper in front of you so the folded side is on the right.



Keep going, you're so close.

You're almost there.

3. Cut out a long curved shape for the feather's base. Leave a notch about 2.5 cm long at the bottom right corner (where the fold is) to act as the stem. From there, cut out a long half-teardrop shape to create the basic shape of your feather. The point should end at the very top right corner of the folded paper.

Make the feather as long or short as you would like. Remember that the longer the feather is, the more likely it is to droop.



4. Cut a fringe along the outside curve. Keeping the paper folded in half, cut 5mm slits into the curved edge. The slits should look like lines cut into the paper, not pieces cut out. Space the slits about 1 cm apart along the entirety of that outer curved edge.

Make sure to only cut along the open curved edge. Do not cut into the stem or the folded spine.

You could also cut triangles into the fringe to make a more varied, jagged edge.



5. Unfold the feather and place a little glue on the stem. On the side that was previously folded inward, place some craft glue along the stem. This will secure the feather to the hat.



You've done it!

Pop it on...Robin Hood!

One final touch...Glue the finished feather inside the brim of the hat. Open up one brim of your hat and place the stem inside, somewhere around the middle. Tilt the feather so it extends toward the back of the hat or slightly past the back of the hat. Press the brim closed again and hold it in place until the glue dries.



We can't wait to see you wear it when you visit us.

**Can you colour in
your own costume?**



The history of Robin Hood

History of Robin Hood:

Robin Hood is a legendary heroic outlaw originally seen in English folklore in the 13th Century. Alongside familiar characters such as Maid Marian, Little John, the Merry Men, and his rival the Sheriff of Nottingham, Robin Hood is a classic tale. He is said to have “robbed the rich to feed the poor”, stealing money from the richest people so the poorest could have food and clothing.

There have been lots of different variations and adaptations of Robin Hood- we can now hear about the tale through films, tv programmes, books, or even Christmas shows like this one!

How do you think the Sheriff of Nottingham felt about Robin Hood and his outlaws?

What would you do if you were Robin Hood?

Do you know anything else about Robin Hood?

What do you hope to see from the Dukes' Christmas Show?

Which character is most like yourself?

Robin Hood Word Search

FORESTEGHZWA
IYEYHSEDUKOR
UKLAVPFMOAPE
OIAROBBERYIT
GNRCFIHBN OFS
CGWHUGORKVFA
AUXETRTBRLIC
RMARIANYZIRN
OLCYOSCOWPEA
BOTHEATREBHL
IPSHOWDRUJSK
NUQSHEEPSHKE

Word bank- tick them off when you've found them!

Archery
Dukes
Forest
King
Lancaster
Marian
Robbery
Robin
Sheep
Sheriff
Show
Theatre

Script Activity

A small piece of script and a few questions based on it.

TUCK: You've lit it.

ELLEN: You said light it.

TUCK: I didn't.

ELLEN: Well, it's lit now. It's lit! Oh, gosh. It's lit!!

TUCK: Ah!

They begin to throw the pie between each other. Then they run into the audience.

Give it to Will or Joan...

ELLEN: Get rid of it!!

Tuck runs off with it in panic.

ELLEN: Now, I'm alone, I can finally get to sing a song. Would you like one?

AUDIENCE:Yes!

Music strikes up - she takes a deep breath as Tuck runs back on with the pie. He stands next to Ellen, there is a blackout and a massive explosion!

We hear wailing from Ellen and Tuck and when the lights come up, they have gone!

Underscore (instrumental of the song Robin and Marian were singing earlier) As

Marian and Robin come running on.

Script Activity

Potential questions:

How do you think Tuck and Ellen are feeling?

How do you think they're moving on stage?

What would you be doing if you were either of the characters?



We can't wait to see you.

To enquire about a workshop in your school contact
rachel@dukeslancaster.org

Or to find out more details about our work with
communities, email:

creativecommunities@dukeslancaster.org

www.dukes-lancaster.org