

SHERIFF OF NOTTINGHAM

The Sheriff enters DSL, carrying a whip. He sneers at the audience.

Sheriff: Oh, who let you lot in? Security! Could you remove these peasants please? I can't believe this rabble from Solihull have come to the beautiful city of Nottingham! (*Picking on someone*) Couldn't you have dressed up for the theatre? I know it's not the opera but for goodness' sake... did you get dressed in the dark? It's bad enough having to deal with that outlaw Robin Hood and his band of Merry Men. He is a traitor and a scoundrel! He robs from the rich and gives to the poor! You don't want that, do you?

The audience respond.

Oh I see, so he's helping you lot is he?! Even more reason to have him captured! Sergeant Spick? Corporal Span?

Spick and Span run in from DSL.

Spick: Here we are boss! Sergeant Spick at your service (*he salutes and stamps his foot*)!

Span: Corporal Span here to do your bidding!

Span salutes and stamps his foot on Spick's, causing Spick to yell, grab his foot and hop around in pain.

Spick: You blithering idiot!

Span: I'm sorry, Spick. Are you okay?

Spick: Well I'm probably going to need a foot amputating but apart from that, I've never been better.

Span: (*pleased*) Oh good!

Spick: (*incredulous*) Good?!

Sheriff: Oh stop it you two! Now, how have you got on collecting the taxes from the peasants?

Spick: (*nervously*) Well... er... to be honest, boss, a lot of the townsfolk said that they can't possibly pay since you've put the taxes up again.

Sheriff: What? Well how else am I supposed to give my millionaire mates contracts for delivering public services? What do you want them to do, starve on their yachts?

Span: (*trying to save it*) Er... what Spick is trying to say, boss, is that we gave people a warning... and said we'd be coming back to collect the taxes later today.

Spick: So... by sunset we'll have all the money you were expecting!

Sheriff: I'm glad to hear it. Now come on, I need you to get back to the castle to mobilise the troops. I need all my soldiers armed and ready to tear Sherwood Forest apart tree by tree until we find that Robin Hood.

Spick: We're on it, boss!

Spick and Span exit USR.

Sheriff: Oh I'm so bad! Mwahahaha! I'm coming for you Robin Hood! I want him dead or alive! (*To the audience*) And there's nothing *you* can do to stop me!

He exits USR.