

Mia the Miller's Daughter

Mia was born in 1177 in what is now Mapperley Park, close to St Augustine's school, and was the daughter of, yes – you guessed it, the local miller. The family's windmills, and where Mia grew up, overlooked what is now the Forest Recreation Ground, standing on the highest ground along Forest Road.

She first met Robin Hood at the Golden Arrow contest, where she helped Robin in distributing the food and blankets to people. She then joined Robin and his companions in Sherwood Forest (their main encampment is what would now be Bestwood Country Park) – ambushing people travelling for Nottingham to York along the King's Road (we now know this as Mansfield Road – the A60 – which runs through Sherwood), using this to buy things for those who needed them.

After Robin was captured by the Sherriff, she was part of the group, along with Little John and Will Scarlet who rescued him from the Castle dungeons and was the one who knew the escape route up what later became known as Robin Hood's Chase in St Ann's.

She was a regular thorn in the Sheriff's side by ambushing his attempts to move food and gold from one side of the Trent to the other. She knew the areas of Clifton, Wilford and the Meadows very well and would lie in wait, near what is now the Wilford tram bridge, for the wagons before sweeping in and stealing the goods to share with the people of Nottingham.

After Robin's death and subsequent pardon of all of Robin's companions after King John's death, she began her own mills in Wollaton (near where the current Wollaton Hall stands) and in Sneinton (which inspired George Green to build his many years later).

She is rumoured to be buried in the churchyard of St Margaret's, Aspley – next to Bluecoat Academy Aspley.