

Wassial 2019 – Mummers Play

By Head Ranger Steve Hinton Esq.

Dramatis personae (Cast)

The old man/woman of the orchard (narrator) – Steve Hinton

Harry Cannab the devils rider – Oliver Smith

Slivey Tove the Minister of Land (Based on Michael Gove) – Keith Woolford

Robin hood the protector of the people – Ranger Jack

The doctor – Mike Brooke

Plotline

Slivey Tove tries to take everything green to build a new pleasure palace for the rich **Robin** tries to stop him - **Robin** dies is brought back by the doctor fights **Slivey Tove** beats him **Harry Cannab** takes **Slivey Tove** of to hell

Narrators introduction to the play

Welcome one and all to our fair orchard nestled in the heart of the Lickey hills:

Guardian of the trees I be,

I've planted and tended all you can see.

Stay a while for our Wassail play

of dastardly deeds and actions brave

where good will triumphs and sees evil out

and will make you boo, scream and shout.

Now let us begin and our story regail

And Wish you all a merry Wassail...

The introductions (Each character to step forward and introduce themselves)

The Minister of Land

In walks I - Slivey Tove, the minister of Land I be.

No one can be as devious or as scheming as me.

The May-Bot has made me the protector of all things green

But I am doing deals unseen.

To steal away your green and pleasant land

And put it into another's hands.

For them to co-vert and to keep

And finally burry under concrete.

To make pleasure palaces and homes - that the likes of you cannot afford
(points at the audience)

There will be no housing for the poor.

Whilst you all stand there booing and hissing and wining

Its my own pockets that I will be lining *(pulls out a wad of cash and waves it at the audience)*

(walks off Manically Laughing in a 'Muhhahaha' way)

Robin Hood

In walks I bold Sir Robin

I am a hero to the people free

I am tall and handsome lithe and slim

And I'll save the green belt from the likes of him

I walk the woods and love the trees

They will never stop us enjoying these

So rise up people and lend a hand its time for us to protect our land

The Doctor

I am the doctor...who? You may ask

I've marvellous medicines in my flask

Made from Medlar, Mulbery and cheese

It cure all sorts of horrible disease

it will even cure Warwickshire drooper

And turn your man into a proper storm trooper

I learned my craft from all over

From Coventry, Metchley to Bolsover

No Harley street knave am I

I'm a proper doctor you'll soon see why

Harry Cannab

In walks I Harry Cannab

A man bought by the devil bad

I ride these hills of my wayward youth

Drinking, gambling and hunting was my boon

And gather up souls of this I speak the truth.

On a flaming bull at night I ride

Across the Lickey Hills far and wide

For the wicked and greedy will be my get

there's nowhere to hide you can bet.

The play:

Scene 1:

Slivey Tove approaches & threatens to take the land....

Old man, old man - how wonderful are your trees

You will have to move them - I don't need these.

They need to make way for posh homes and halls

Chop them down they are not needed at all.

I have sold this land to developers for cash

They will be along soon to knock it all down in a flash.

Old man of the woods

Oh please don't do it we need our Orchard trees

What will be left to feed the bees

And the people who come here too

The trees they love what are we to do?

Slivey Tove

I don't expect you to understand you uneducated chap

(holds hand up to side of mouth from old man of the woods but the audience can see his mouth gives the audience a conspiratory wink)

For that would be my fault - as I was minister for that!

Progress my dear fellow you cannot stop

The loss of fields and woods and more - will not stop.

Until all is covered by brick and stone.

We all need more expensive homes.

Now move away you're beginning to bore

LET ME BUILD A GREAT BIG MEXICAN-STYLE HALL

Old man of the woods

OH walley walley what can I do

If he builds on the green belt there will be no party for you

Will no one save me from his unfair dealings?

Because our heritage he is stealing

Is there no one big brave and bold

Who change the end of this story not yet told.

Robin to stand posing behind old mam/woman every time old man/woman turns so does Robin everyone shouts he's behind you?

Robin Hood

In walks I bold Sir Robin

Who threatens yea

Oh guardian of the trees

Old Man of the woods

Ti's that greedy Slivey Tove with his threats unfair

He does not want the trees to live how he could dare

Robin Hood

Fear not honest toiler of the woods

I stand for all that is honest and good

I will stop you, you perjured, false, disloyal man.

Turnabout on your heel and run if you can.

Slivey Tove

How very dare you - an honest man am I
I treat everyone equally I wouldn't Lie.

Your name is Robin how very apt
For robing from the government is where you are at.

A varmint, a scumbag and blaggard is he
I am a good swords man you shall not harm me.

(Robin and the Slivey Tove fight Robin falls to the ground dead)

Slivey Tove He is dead....

Old man of the woods Oh no he isn't *(Robin twitches his head)*

Slivey Tove

Oh yes he is !

(and stabs Robin a few more times)

Old man of the woods If only there is a doctor in the house

Doctor

Make way, stand clear, if it is a doctor you need
I can cure all ills, of this you must heed.
I can cure the itch the stitch the mumps and the gout
If there are 99 diseases in I can fetch a 100 out
This is serious I can tell
If I don't act quickly he will be in heaven or hell
Tis a good job I brought my strongest brew
Made from clippings, snipping's and the venom of shrew
One drop to many or one drop to little
Will be the difference between being buried or being in fine fettle
So here goes I to administer my great potion
Fingers crossed he will be soon back in motion

Robin Hood

I am back from the dead of this it is true
Now it's time for us to fight round two

Scene 2:

Doctor

Robin is back my work here is done.
A miracle of modern medicine here you can see
I'm offski before the **Tove** gets his claws into me
*More fighting **Slivey Tove** is mortally wounded*

Slivey Tove

I am done, I am done - what will happen to me

A paradise awaits - just you wait and see!

Harry Cannab

Enter I the devils huntsman

What is all of this commotion?

Now I see the **Slivey Tove** I have a notion

No heaven will you see

Down below you'll come with me

And into the pan for the likes of you

For the Devil likes his sinners boiled, scrambled or fried

(Cannab looks at the Audience with a conspiratorial wink)

So off with me now **Tove** on my flaming bull

To the depth of hell go you its getting rather full

Tove with Cannab go off on Bull

Old man of the woods

Good masters and good mistresses

you see our play has gone

we make it our business to follow it along

We thank you for your civility

And for coming here

We wish you all a good evening

And another fertile year

Join us now with good voice

And now sing with us you have no choice.

All take applause