**REF: Promo-1** 

# The Paragon Multimedia DVD, VHS Collection

Title: Scrooge



Colourised Version

Library Image



ISBN: News of the World Newspaper Edition

# **Information**

Release Title: Scrooge 30<sup>th</sup> November 1951 (United Kingdom)

From: Book – Charles Dickens AKA: A Christmas Carol

Release date: 28th November 1951 (New York)

Origin: United Kingdom

Genre: Drama, Family, Fantasy

Disc Nos. - 1

Certification: 15 U Duration: 1h 26m Region Code: Region: 2 Product Code:

MPN: EAN: UPC:

Languages: English

Filming locations: 8 Scandrett Street, London, England, UK (Scrooges House exterior)

Sound mix: DTS, Dolby Digital, SDDS, Dolby Atmos

Colour: PAL - Original black & white

Aspect Ratio: 1.37:1



# **Storyline**

On Christmas Eve 1843, the tight-fisted Ebenezer Scrooge tells two businessmen that he has no intention of celebrating Christmas. At his workplace, he refuses to donate to two men collecting for the poor. His nephew, Fred, invites him to dinner the next day, but Scrooge refuses, disparaging Fred for having married against Scrooge's will. Scrooge reluctantly gives his poor clerk Bob Cratchit Christmas off since there will be no business for Scrooge during the day, but expects him back to work earlier the next day. Scrooge returns home and sees the door-knocker transform into the face of his seven year-dead partner, Jacob Marley. Inside the house, Jacob Marley appears as a ghost before Scrooge, warning that he must repent or suffer being forever walking the earth bound in chains after death, as he has. He further warns Scrooge that he will be visited by three spirits; the first will arrive at one o'clock in the morning. Frightened by the visitation, Scrooge takes refuge in his bed.

At one o'clock, the Ghost of Christmas Past arrives. Scrooge is shown himself alone at school, unwanted by his father ever since his mother died in childbirth. His beloved sister Fan arrives to take him home, telling her brother that their father has recently had a change of heart toward Ebenezer. The Spirit shows Scrooge the annual Christmas party thrown by his former benevolent employer Fezziwig. He watches his proposal to his sweetheart Alice, who accepts his ring. He is then shown how he is tempted to leave Fezziwig's to join a business run by Mr. Jorkin, where he meets Jacob Marley. After Jorkin's firm buys up Fezziwig's business, Alice breaks her engagement to Scrooge because of his dedication to "a golden idol". Scrooge witnesses the death of Fan, who had just given birth to his nephew Fred, and discovers he missed her last words asking him to look after her son. Years later, when Jorkin is found to have embezzled funds from their now-bankrupt company, Scrooge and Marley make good on the missing funds, on condition they be allowed to control the company. On Christmas Eve 1836, Scrooge refuses to leave work early to visit Marley, who is on his deathbed. When Scrooge finally arrives, Marley, knowing he will be punished for his misdeeds, tries to warn Scrooge against his avarice before he dies. The Spirit reproaches Scrooge for taking Marley's money and house, as an ashamed Scrooge finds himself back in his bed.

Scrooge is visited by the Ghost of Christmas Present who takes him to see how "men of goodwill" celebrate Christmas. He shows him poor miners joyfully singing Christmas carols and the Cratchits' warm Christmas celebration on Christmas Day. Scrooge asks whether their disabled child, Tiny Tim, will survive his physical condition, but the Spirit hints that he will not unless the future changes. They next visit Fred's Christmas party, where Fred defends his uncle from his guests' snide remarks. Alice is working in a poorhouse, where she lovingly ministers to the sick and homeless. When Scrooge is unable to tell the Spirit that he may profit by what he has seen, the Spirit shows him two emaciated children – personifying Ignorance and Want – and pointedly mocks and scourges Scrooge with the miser's very own words when Scrooge shows concern for their welfare: "Are there no prisons? Are there no workhouses?".

Scrooge encounters the Ghost of Christmas Yet-to-Come, who shows him the Cratchits mourning Tiny Tim's death. He then watches as three people, including his charwoman Mrs. Dilber, sell off the possessions of a dead man and two businessmen discussing the man's upcoming funeral. When shown the man's grave bearing his own name, Scrooge begs the Spirit for a second chance, pleading "I'm not the man I was". He finds himself in his own bed to learn from Mrs. Dilber that it's Christmas Day and gleefully realizes he still has an opportunity to make amends. Though Mrs. Dilber is initially frightened by his transformation, Scrooge reassures her and promises to raise her salary. He anonymously purchases a prize turkey for the Cratchits and sends it to them as a gift. He later delights Fred by attending his dinner party and dancing with his once-estranged niece-in-law.

The next day, Scrooge plays a practical joke on Bob Cratchit, pretending to be about to scold him for being late, but instead gives him a raise, and asks to help Bob raise his family. Scrooge becomes "as good a man as the old city ever knew" and a second father to Tiny Tim, who does not die and recovers.

## Cast

Brian Desmond Hurst, producer and director of Scrooge (A Christmas Carol), in 1976 (portrait by Allan Warren)

The film also features Kathleen Harrison as Mrs. Dilber, Scrooge's charwoman. George Cole stars as the younger Scrooge, Hermione Baddeley as Mrs. Cratchit, Mervyn Johns as Bob Cratchit, Clifford Mollison as Samuel Wilkins, a debtor; Jack Warner as Mr. Jorkin, a role created for the film; Ernest Thesiger as Jacob Marley's undertaker; and Patrick Macnee as the younger Jacob Marley.

Michael Hordern plays Jacob Marley's ghost, as well as the older Jacob Marley. Peter Bull serves as narrator, by reading portions of Charles Dickens' words at the beginning and end of the film; he also appears on-screen as one of the businessmen talking with Scrooge (at the beginning of the film) and discussing Scrooge's funeral (as witnessed by Scrooge with the Ghost of Christmas Yet-to-Come).

#### Featured cast

Alastair Sim as Ebenezer Scrooge

Kathleen Harrison as Mrs. Dilber, Charwoman

Mervyn Johns as Bob Cratchit

Hermione Baddeley as Mrs. Cratchit

Michael Hordern as Jacob Marley's Ghost

George Cole as Young Ebenezer Scrooge

Glyn Dearman as Tiny Tim

John Charlesworth as Peter Cratchit

Michael J. Dolan as the Ghost of Christmas Past

Francis de Wolff as the Ghost of Christmas Present

Czesław Konarski as the Ghost of Christmas Yet-to-Come

Rona Anderson as Alice, Scrooge's past fiancée

Carol Marsh as Fan "Fanny" Scrooge

Jack Warner as Mr. Jorkin, Scrooge's second employer

Roddy Hughes as Mr. Fezziwig, Scrooge's first employer

Patrick Macnee as the Young Jacob Marley

Brian Worth as Fred, Scrooge's nephew

Olga Edwardes as Fred's wife

Miles Malleson as Old Joe

Ernest Thesiger as Mr. Stretch (the undertaker)

Louise Hampton as the Laundress

Peter Bull as First Businessman at exchange (also Narrator)

Douglas Muir as Second Businessman at exchange

Noel Howlett as First Collector for people in need

Fred Johnson as Second Collector for people in need

Eliot Makeham as Mr. Snedrig

Henry Hewitt as Mr. Rosebed

Hugh Dempster as Mr. Groper

Eleanor Summerfield as Miss Flora, Fred's party guest

Richard Pearson as Mr. Tupper, Fred's party guest

Clifford Mollison as Samuel Wilkins, Scrooge's poor client

Hattie Jacques as Mrs. Fezziwig

Theresa Derrington as Fred's Maid[3]

David Hannaford[4] as Boy buying prize turkey

Catherine Leach as Belinda Cratchit

Moiya Kelly as Martha Cratchit

Luanne Kemp as Mary Cratchit

Maire O'Neill as older Alice at the Charity Hospital

Anthony Wager as Mr. Fezziwig's Lad

Derek Stephens as a Dancer at Fezziwig's

Vi Kaley as Old Lady sitting by stove at the Charity Hospital

### **Parents Guide**

Certification

Australia:G Canada:G Finland:K-8 Netherlands:AL (orginal rating) Netherlands:AL (1952, original rating) Norway:A Russia:12+ Singapore:G Spain:7 Sweden:15 United Kingdom:U United Kingdom:U (1999, re-release) United States:Not Rated United States:Approved (pca #15238) United States:TV-G (TV rating) United States:TV-PG (original rating) West Germany:6

Sex & Nudity

None

Violence & Gore

None Profanity None Alcohol, Drugs & Smoking None Frightening & Intense Scenes None

