

# The Paragon Multimedia DVD, VHS Collection

Title: **Scrooge**



Colourised Version

Library Image



UK quad poster

Directed by	Brian Desmond Hurst
Screenplay by	Noel Langley
Based on	<i>A Christmas Carol</i> 1843 novella by Charles Dickens
Produced by	Brian Desmond Hurst Stanley Haynes
Starring	Alastair Sim Mervyn Johns Hermione Baddeley Jack Warner Kathleen Harrison Michael Hordern George Cole
Narrated by	Peter Bull
Cinematography	C. M. Pennington-Richards
Edited by	Clive Donner
Music by	Richard Addinsell
Production company	George Minter Productions
Distributed by	Renown Pictures
Release dates	22 November 1951 (Odeon Marble Arch) 28 November 1951 (New York) <sup>[1]</sup>
Running time	87 minutes <sup>[2]</sup>
Country	United Kingdom
Language	English

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. Jorin, where he meets Jacob Marley. After Jorin'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 Jorin 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. Jorin, 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 Malleon 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  
David Hannaford 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 (original 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

