

# A Christmas Carol

by Charles Dickens



Adapted by Michael Redwood-Jones  
for Splats Entertainment

This teaching pack contains the script that the pupils will follow and the props they can make. Please distribute to class teachers.

The Splats teacher will also have copies of this and the teachers do not need to do any work in advance. It is purely to help prepare the making materials. This involves making props for their part of the show. These are very simple and are not compulsory.

Please note these require paper, card, scissors, string and glue which unfortunately we **do not** supply.

# Props to make at the school

## Act 1 Marleys Ghost

Bonnets

Stove pipe hats black or white decorated card

Chains, ledgers and money: boxes; white card

Gold coins with A Christmas carol on a letter a coin: gold coins

## Act 2 The Ghost of Christmas past

Candle hats: White card

Stove pipe hats black or white decorated card

Bonnets.

## Act 3 The Ghost of Christmas present

A sign with Marley and Scrooge on white card

Door with a paper tissue flap in. Larger the better. Can be card.

Stove pipe hats black or white decorated card

Bonnets.

## Act 4 The Ghost of Christmas future

Card Grave stones: white card painted grey

one with Ebenezer Scrooge written on it

one with Tiny Tim written on it.

Stove pipe hats black or white decorated card

Bonnets.

## Production Notes

*As the part of Scrooge is so big if you prefer to change Scrooges in the scenes this will be fairer and easier for all the children.*

*Some older children may want to take it on.*



## **ACT ONE PROPS AND SCRIPT**

### **Act 1 Marleys Ghost**

#### Bonnets

Stove pipe hats black or white decorated card

Chains, ledgers and money: boxes; white card

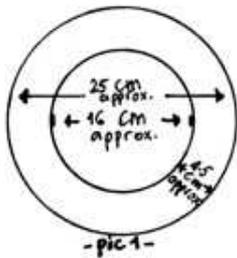
Gold coins with A Christmas carol on a letter a coin:gold coins

## How to make a stove pipe hat

### You will need:

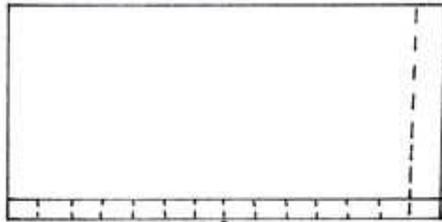
- Black cardboard (not too thick)
- Glue (PVA)
- Stapler (optional)
- Scissors
- Cutter

-1-



- Draw a circle on black cardboard
- Draw another circle inside the earlier one you made. This one should fit a child's head.
- Cut the inner circle with a cutter (an adult should help).

-2-

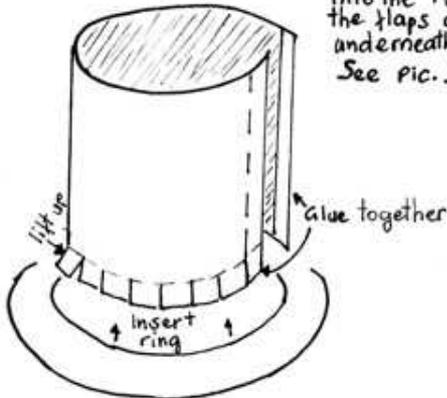


- Draw a rectangle and cut to form a cylinder as big as the inner circle of the ring in pic.1.
- Glue the short sides together to make a cylinder. See pic.3.
- On one of the open sides of it, cut all along short vertical lines (3cm) to make flaps. See pic.2.

↑ cut to make flaps

- pic.2 -

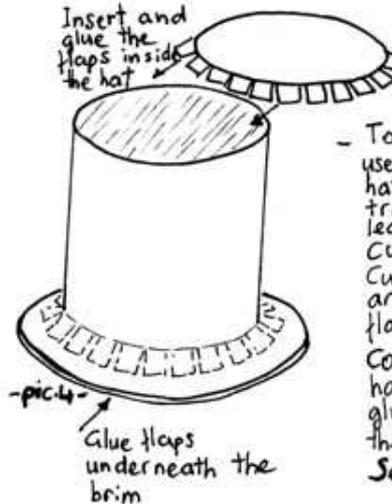
-3-



- Insert the cylinder into the ring. Lift up the flaps and glue them underneath the brim. See pic.3 and 4.

- pic.3 -

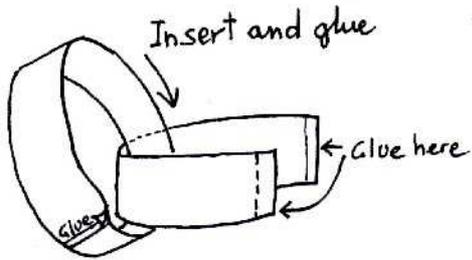
-4-



- To close the top, use the open part of the hat as a pattern and trace another circle leaving a 3cm allowance. Cut with scissors. Cut short vertical lines around it to make flaps. Cover the top of the hat with this and glue its flaps inside the cylinder. See pic.4.

-pic.4-

## HOW TO MAKE CHAINS



**You will need:**

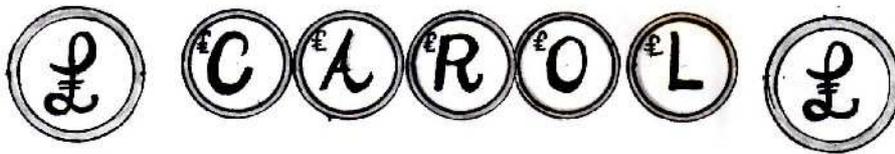
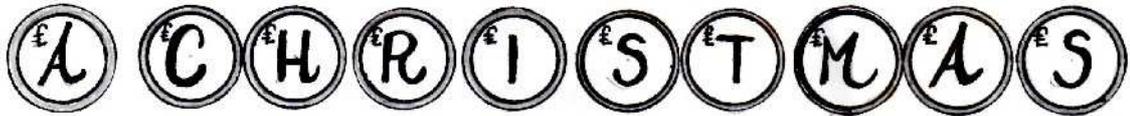
- Paper (grey or white)
- White glue

### **Chains**

- Cut long rectangles (20 x 6 cm approx.)
- Glue the short sides together then insert another rectangle in and glue together as shown in the picture.

Make as many as you can.

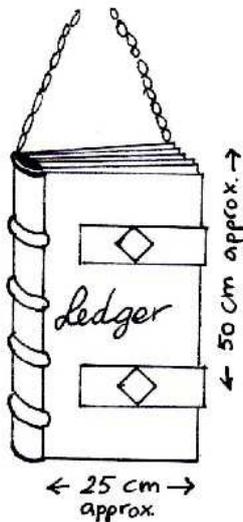
## HOW TO MAKE THE COINS



Cut out circles big enough to be seen from a distance with a letter written out one each one. Decorate as coins.

If more pupils than coins add Splats Present or "Name of School"

## HOW TO MAKE THE LEDGER

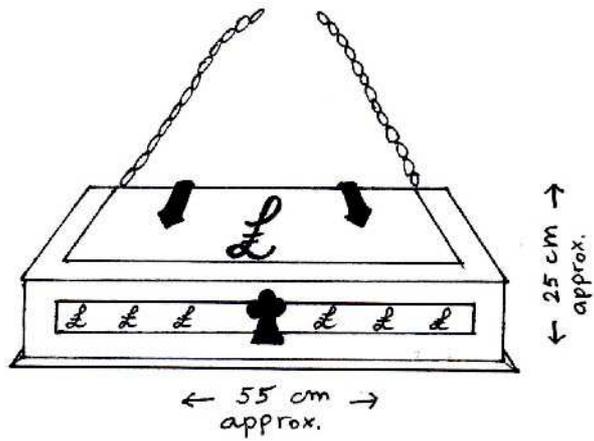


Ledger book

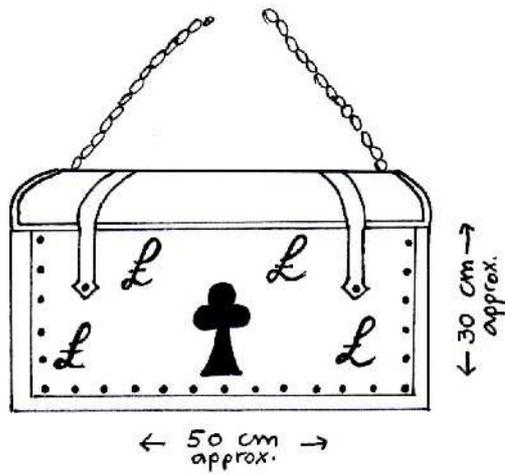
You will need:

- Cardboard (white or beige).
- String or chain.

## HOW TO MAKE THE MONEY BOX



Money Boxes



You will need:

- Cardboard (silver, light brown)
- String or chain

# Act 1

## Marley's Ghost

*Scrooge is sitting in his counting house USR high on a school horse box with a lectern in front . In a line standing hunched writing are **Bob Cratchet** and the **Counters**. Some are shaking uncontrollably with cold, some are frozen still. **Bob Cratchet** is warming his hands on an imaginary candle CS. All the children from all the scenes sing 'Silent Night' (so the beginning of every rehearsal you need to rehearse this with the other groups)**Bob Cratchet** and the **Counters** raise gold coins with ' **A CHRISTMAS CAROL**' on a letter on each coin held by one child. These will be coins they count by passing along.*

**NARRATOR:** It was a cold snowy Christmas Eve seven years after Scrooge's best friend Marley had died. I am telling you he's dead because if Marley wasn't dead this ghost story wouldn't be true. Scrooge doesn't believe in Ghosts or Christmas but, worst of all, he doesn't believe in kindness only keeping all the money to himself.

**BOB CRATCHET:** Please Mr Scrooge can we put a coal on the fire?

**THE COUNTERS:** We are freezing!

*Bob Cratchet and the Counters creep towards the coal which is DSC.*

**SCROOGE1:** One lump.

*Bob Cratchet and the Counters run back to passing the money along except the frozen ones: because they cant move. A door bell is heard.*

**NARRATOR:** Scrooge was the meanest man ever. The thing that made him happy was taking other people's money for himself. He was happy to hear some customers at the door.

**SCROOGE1:** Customers.

*The frozen Counters move stiffly like robots to the door.*

**CHARITY WORKERS1:** Scrooge and Marley?

**SCROOGE1:** Marley is dead.

**CHARITY WORKERS2:** Money for the poor for Christmas. *He holds out a tin?*

**SCROOGE1:** Let them work.

**CHARITY WORKERS3:** There is no work.

**SCROOGE1:** Then they are surplus. Let them starve.

**ALL CHARITY WORKERS:** They are surplus? Let them starve? YOU MEANY.  
*They walk away with a hmpf.*

**NARRATOR:** The idea of giving money to help people made Scrooge angry. Nobody ever helped him. So, let them starve. What a meany! Lets give Scrooge a boo. *After some booing.* Then the door bell went again. It was Scrooge's Nephew.

*Enter Scrooge 2 and Nephew.*

**NEPHEW:** Merry Christmas Uncle.

**SCROOGE2:** Humbug!

**NEPHEW:** Come for Christmas dinner.

**SCROOGE2:** Christmas is a waste of money.

**NARRATOR:** Now that's it. Are we going to stand for this? Is Christmas a waste of money Say to Scrooge 'Oh no it's' not.. **Scrooge** says ' Oh, yes it is' (*pantomime style*). Then **Scrooge** ends with a...

**SCROOGE2:** Humbug! Get out.

**NEPHEW:** Well, you are still welcome to dinner. Merry Christmas everyone!

*Bob Cratchet and the Counters go to say Merry Christmas and leave for the night.*

**NARRATOR:** Scrooge hated giving them a day off for Christmas and so Scrooge went back to his house, his heart colder than the snow, mumbling to himself. (*Christmas... Humbug.... waste of money*),

**SOUND CUE: 4**

until he reached his front door.....

**SCROOGE3** gets out his key and the ghost of Marley pops his head through the door..

**SCROOGE3:** WOOOAH. He rolls back over onto a PE mat legs in the air DSC.He gets up opens the door.

**SOUND CUE: 5**

Humbug!

**NARRATOR:** Scrooge doesn't believe in ghosts and so if you see one shout out 'Behind you.' Lets have a practice... etc

*Scrooges3* looks around the house for any ghosts the ghost shadow him step for step turning as he does ..**SOUND CUE:6**

*Marley's Ghost* children connected with paper chains with white face paint, ghost veils, hanging around their necks are carboard, padlocks, money boxes and ledgers in a line US.

**NARRATOR:** Can anybody see anything?.....What do we tell Scrooge :It's behind you? **SOUND CUE: 7**

**ALL MARLEY'S GHOSTS:** oooooooh

**MARLEY'S GHOST1:** Hello Ebenezer. These chains are for all the money I took.

**SCROOGE3:** But you're dead!

**MARLEY'S GHOST2:** If you don't help people, the same will happen to you.

**SCROOGE3:** Bah, humbug.

**MARLEY'S GHOST3:** You will be visited by three ghosts.

**MARLEY'S GHOST4:** when the clock strikes.

**ALL MARLEY'S GHOSTS:** oooooooh. *They crowd around Scrooge.*

*They dance around with the chains Scrooge curls up in a ball and the music fades.*

**SCROOGE3:** Mummy, mummy. *He realises that the ghosts have gone.*

Bah, Humbug.

**NARRATOR:** Well if we see any ghosts we better tell Scrooge wont we.

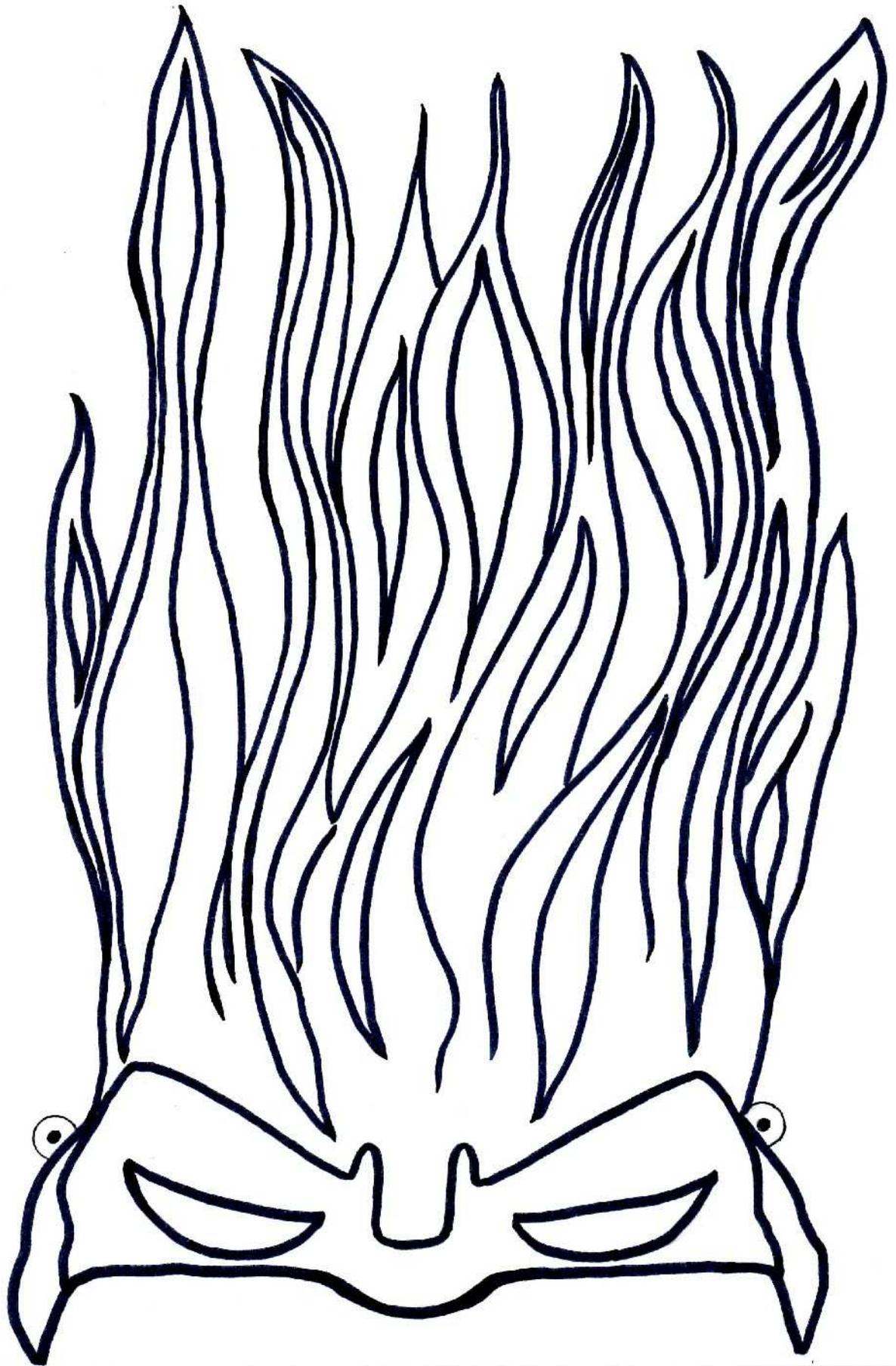
END OF ACT ONE.



**ACT TWO PROPS AND SCRIPT**

**Act 2 The Ghost of Christmas past**

Candle hats: White card  
Stove pipe hats black or white decorated card  
Bonnet

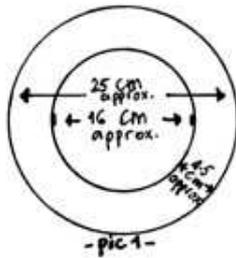


# How to make a stove pipe hat

## You will need:

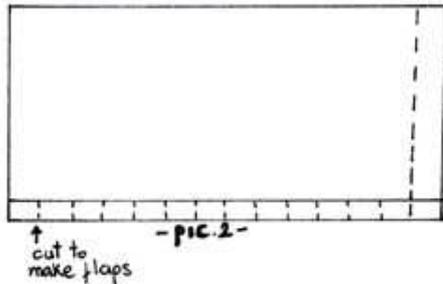
- Black cardboard (not too thick)
- Glue (PVA)
- Stapler (optional)
- Scissors
- Cutter

-1-



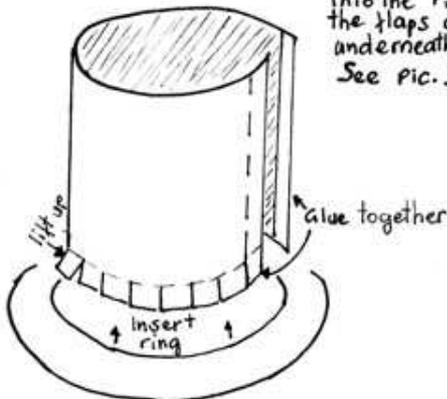
- Draw a circle on black cardboard
- Draw another circle inside the earlier one you made. This one should fit a child's head.
- Cut the inner circle with a cutter (an adult should help).

-2-



- Draw a rectangle and cut to form a cylinder as big as the inner circle of the ring in pic.1.
- Glue the short sides together to make a cylinder. See pic.3.
- On one of the open sides of it, cut all along short vertical lines (3cm) to make flaps. See pic.2.

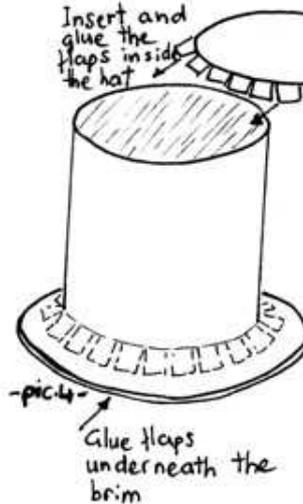
-3-



- pic.3-

- Insert the cylinder into the ring. Lift up the flaps and glue them underneath the brim. See pic.3 and 4.

-4-



- To close the top, use the open part of the hat as a pattern and trace another circle leaving a 3cm allowance. Cut with scissors. Cut short vertical lines around it to make flaps. Cover the top of the hat with this and glue its flaps inside the cylinder. See pic.4.

## ACT 2

### The Ghost of Christmas Past.

**NARRATOR:** Scrooge thought the ghost of Marley must be something he ate and so he went back to sleep only to be woken when the Church bell struck.

**SOUND CUE: 8**

*Scrooge wakes up and behind white cloth USC. He walks in front. **The Ghosts of Christmas Past** appears behind the cloth. There are a few of them. All the other children are sitting crossed leg in their first positions. **Ghosts of Christmas past** have candle hats etc.. and ghost vales. They should move with a flickery weaving move.*

**SCROOGE:** I can't see any ghost.

**SOUND CUE: 9**

**NARRATOR:** We can tell him.... it's behind you...etc..

**SCROOGE:** Help! Who are you?

**ALL GHOSTS OF CHRISTMAS PAST:** We are the ghost of Christmas past.

**SCROOGE:** What do you want?

**GHOST OF CHRISTMAS PAST1:** Look into my light and you will see your past.

**NARRATOR:** Scrooge starred at the strange ghost and in front of his eyes, he was transported to his old school he could see all his class but they couldn't see him or the ghost.

*All the characters wobble up into position, slowly like a candle light ..... they land and there is a crowd of children singing a carol The candles stand in a line at the back.*

**SCROOGE:** My school friends and there I am. *Scrooge is wearing a bald wig from when he was older.*

**GHOST OF CHRISTMAS PAST2:** These are things that have already happened to you.

*The children sing Jingle Bells and stop.*

**SOUND CUE: 10**

**HEADTEACHER:** You may go home with your parents, Happy Christmas.

**CHILDREN:** Hooray!

**HEADTEACHER:** Not you Scrooge. You stay at school for Christmas.

**YOUNG SCROOGE:** BAH.

**NARRATOR:** The ghost had special powers to make time pass in a blink and so Scrooge saw his next Christmas at School. The Ghost said to Scrooge. *All the children come back in place.*

**GHOST OF CHRISTMAS PAST3:** Your dad said he didn't want you home. He didn't have the money.

*The children move back into the same position in fast forward style and sing the same song.*

**HEADTEACHER:** You may go home with your parents, Happy Christmas!

**CHILDREN:** Hooray!

**HEADTEACHER:** Not you Scrooge. You stay at school for Christmas.

**SCROOGE:** Bah Humbug. *He is in a real mood now you can see older **Scrooge**.*

**SCROOGES SISTER:** *enters* Brother dad said you can come home...

**SCROOGE:** Hurray!

**SCROOGE'S SISTER:** ...and work.

**YOUNG SCROOGE:** Bah Humbug. I will show them.

**NARRATOR:** So the ghost took Scrooge forward in time to when he was working. They arrived at his Christmas party. *The children move in fast forward to their next positions.*

**SOUND CUE: 11**

*There is a party with everyone doing a country dance. **Old Scrooge** enjoys it.*

**SCROOGE:** There I am dancing with my fiancée.

**GHOST OF CHRISTMAS PAST5:** You both look so happy. What happened?

**SCROOGE:** Nothing.

**GHOST OF CHRISTMAS PAST6:** Lets see.

**NARRATOR:** Again they moved forward in time to when Scrooge had his own business.

***Young Scrooge** is in his counting position **fiancée** is facing out.*

**FIANCEE:** Your just interested in money.

**YOUNG SCROOGE:** Mmm Money. *Kisses his money and cuddles it.*

**FIANCEE:** You spend all your time counting money. You don't like me.

**YOUNG SCROOGE:** Mmm money. *Kisses his money and cuddles it.*

**FIANCEE:** You love money not me. I am leaving you. *She storms out.*

**YOUNG SCROOGE:** Mmm Money. *Kisses and cuddles it.*

**OLD SCROOGE:** I can't stand it. Leave me alone.

**MUSIC CUE: 12**

*The candle ghost start to dance around **OLD SCROOGE** with ribbons. SCROOGE raises his arms and as if sinking in the ghosts.*

**OLD SCROOGE:** Show me no more Aaaaahhhhhh.

END OF ACT 2

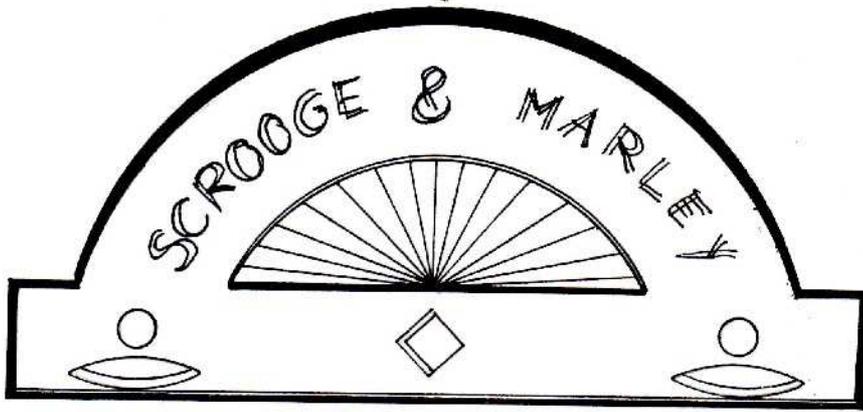


### **ACT THREE PROPS AND SCRIPT**

#### **Act 3 The Ghost of Christmas present**

A sign with Marley and Scrooge on white card  
Door with a paper tissue flap in. Larger the better. Can be card.  
Stove pipe hats black or white decorated card  
bonnets.

# Scrooge and Marley Door Sign



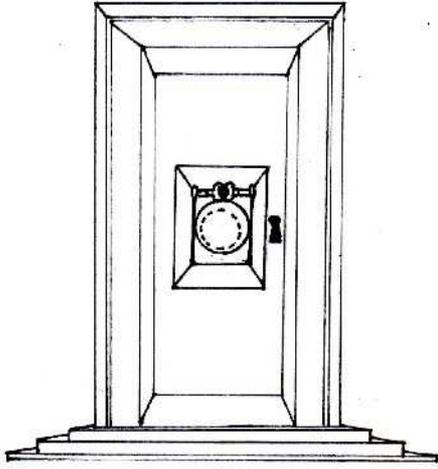
## Scrooge and Marley door sign

- Width = as your card board.
- Height: approx. the half of the width.

### You will need:

- Cardboard (white or the colour of your choice)

## HOW TO MAKE ENTRANCE DOOR



### Entrance Door to Scrooge's House

- Length: as your cardboard.
- Cut a circle in the middle (the size of a face) and cover it inside with tissue paper the same colour as the door. Marley's ghost will appear from here, cutting the tissue paper through.

### You will need:

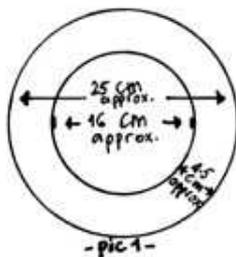
- Large cardboard (colour of your choice).
- Tissue paper (same colour as door).
- White glue.

## How to make a stove pipe hat

### You will need:

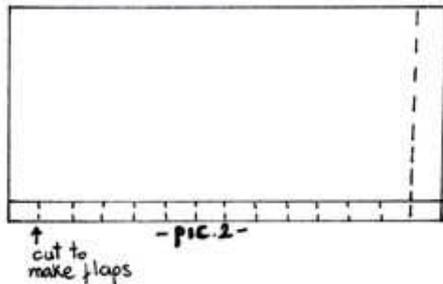
- Black cardboard (not too thick)
- Glue (PVA)
- Stapler (optional)
- Scissors
- Cutter

-1-



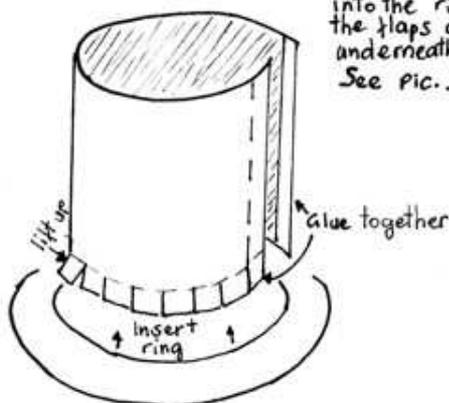
- Draw a circle on black cardboard
- Draw another circle inside the earlier one you made. This one should fit a child's head.
- Cut the inner circle with a cutter (an adult should help).

-2-



- Draw a rectangle and cut to form a cylinder as big as the inner circle of the ring in pic.1.
- Glue the short sides together to make a cylinder. See pic.3.
- On one of the open sides of it, cut all along short vertical lines (3cm) to make flaps. See pic.2.

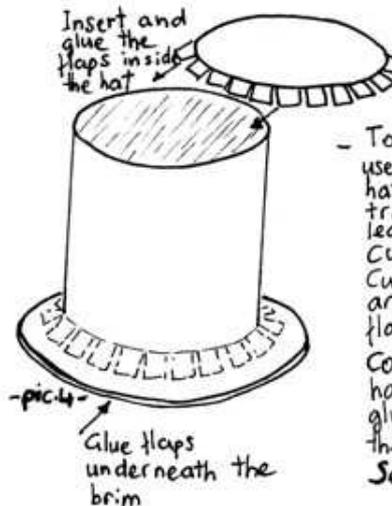
-3-



- Insert the cylinder into the ring. Lift up the flaps and glue them underneath the brim. See pic.3 and 4.

- pic.3-

-4-



- To close the top, use the open part of the hat as a pattern and trace another circle leaving 3cm allowance. Cut with scissors. Cut short vertical lines around it to make flaps. Cover the top of the hat with this and glue its flaps inside the cylinder. See pic.4.

-pic.4-

# ACT 3

## The Ghost of Christmas Present

**Scrooge1** wakes up disorientated. DSC. USR is the **Ghost of Christmas Present**. Who is 2 children under one sheet to look like a Giant. Either one pupil on the shoulders of another or sitting end on a vaulting box with the feet of another child sticking out.

**SOUND CUE: 13**

**NARRATOR:** Scrooge still didn't believe his first ghost and woke with a fright. He looked around.

**SCROOGE1:** I can't see any ghosts.

**NARRATOR:** We can tell him.... It's behind you...etc.. **Scrooge** where? Etc..

**SCROOGE1:** Screams help. (to audience)Why didn't you tell me. Who are you?

**SOUND CUE: 14**

*The **Ghost of Christmas Present** appears and dances with skipping arms linking jolly dance throwing glitter/confetti/sweets out to the audience shouts 'Merry Christmas' give presents to the teachers. They are like Santa's elves. They stop legs apart hand on hips.*

**ALL GHOST of CHRISTMAS PRESENT:** We are the Ghost of Christmas present and Merry Christmas to everyone!

**NARRATOR:** This was the largest jolliest ghost Scrooge had ever scene. Wherever he went his Christmas magic brought smiles to peoples faces.

**GHOST of CHRISTMAS PRESENT1:**Come fly with me over Christmas day.

**SCROOGE1:** Ghost show me.

we see the **Ghost of Christmas Present** takes **Scrooge** and fly .....  
*They see Christmas. They land at **Bob Cratchet**. house.*

**SCROOGE2:**Ghost where are we?

**GHOST of CHRISTMAS PRESENT:** We are at Bob Cratchet's house.

**SCROOGE2:** Show me.

**BOB CRATCHET:** Let us drink to Mr Scrooges health.

**SON1:** Old stingy.

**DAUGHTER1:** He keeps all the money for himself.

**MRS CRACHET:** He is the meanest man I have ever seen.

**SON2:** Stingy.

**BOB CRATCHETS:** Well he does pay me.

**MRS CRACHET CRATCHETS:** He doesn't pay us enough to look after Tiny Tim, poor thing.

**SON1:** He's too weak, he needs help.

**TINY TIM:** I say god bless Mr Scrooge. *He coughs.*

**SCROOGE2:** Ghost will Tiny Tim be alright?

**GHOST OF CHRISTMAS PRESENT2** Not if they stay so poor.

**SCROOGE2:** But I pay him.

**GHOST OF CHRISTMAS PRESENT:** As little as you can. Then he is surplus.  
*The ghost points her it's finger.*

**GHOST OF CHRISTMAS PRESENT3** Let him starve. *The ghost points it's finger.*

**SCROOGE2:** I didn't mean it.

**SOUND CUE: 15**

*Poor children shuffle slowly out with outstretched arms and WHITE PAINTED FACES.*

**SCROOGE3:** Who is that under you coat?

**GHOST OF CHRISTMAS PRESENT4** They are:

**GHOST OF CHRISTMAS PRESENT5:**Want. *The ghost points it's finger at Scrooge.*

**GHOST OF CHRISTMAS PRESENT6** Need. *The ghost points it's finger at Scrooge.*

**GHOST OF CHRISTMAS PRESENT7** Hunger. *The ghost points it's finger at Scrooge.*

**GHOST OF CHRISTMAS PRESENT8** All your children from keeping all your money. *The ghost points it's finger.*

**GHOST OF CHRISTMAS PRESENT9** and Tiny Tim is going to join us. *The ghost points it's finger.*

*They start to dance around **Scrooge** with ribbons like flames. He shouts help until they all collapse on the floor.*

**END OF ACT 3**

## ACT FOUR PROPS AND SCRIPT

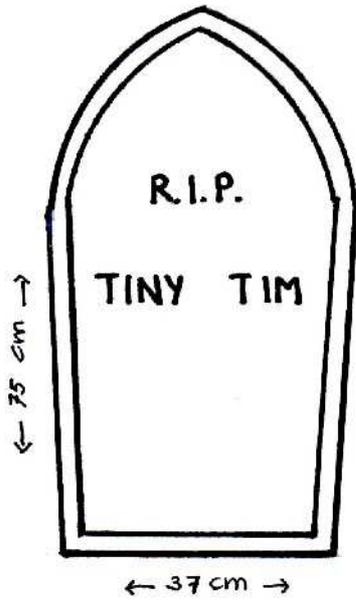


### Act 4 The Ghost of Christmas future

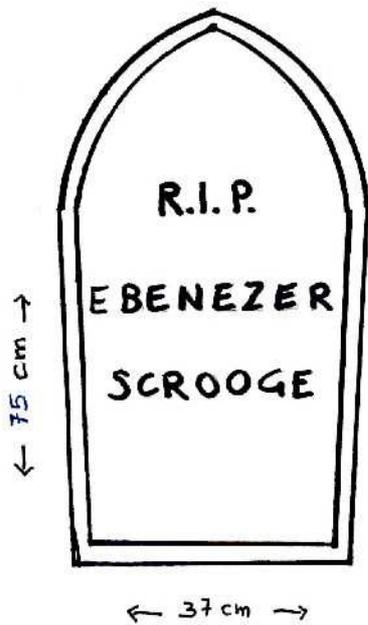
Card Grave stones: white card painted grey  
one with Ebenezer Scrooge written on it  
one with Tiny Tim written on it.

Stove pipe hats black or white decorated card  
*Bonnets.*

## HOW TO MAKE THE GRAVE STONES



Grave Stones



You will need:

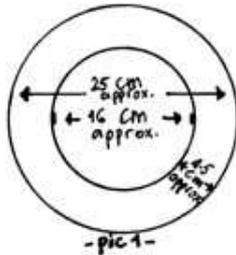
- White cardboard
- Grey paint

## How to make a stove pipe hat

### You will need:

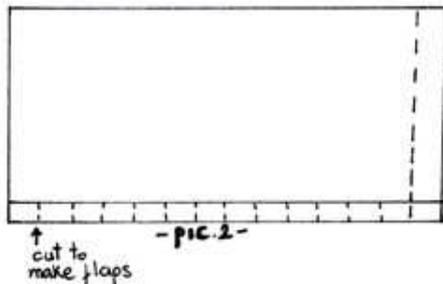
- Black cardboard (not too thick)
- Glue (PVA)
- Stapler (optional)
- Scissors
- Cutter

-1-



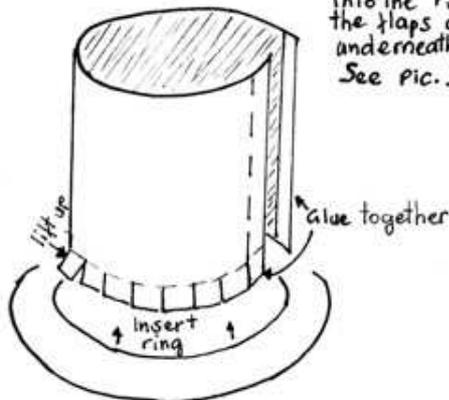
- Draw a circle on black cardboard
- Draw another circle inside the earlier one you made. This one should fit a child's head.
- Cut the inner circle with a cutter (an adult should help).

-2-



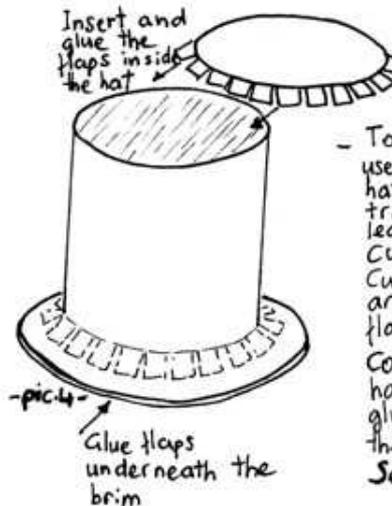
- Draw a rectangle and cut to form a cylinder as big as the inner circle of the ring in pic 1.
- Glue the short sides together to make a cylinder. See pic. 3.
- On one of the open sides of it, cut all along short vertical lines (3cm) to make flaps. See pic. 2.

-3-



- Insert the cylinder into the ring. Lift up the flaps and glue them underneath the brim. See pic. 3 and 4.

-4-



- To close the top, use the open part of the hat as a pattern and trace another circle leaving 3cm allowance. Cut with scissors. Cut short vertical lines around it to make flaps. Cover the top of the hat with this and glue its flaps inside the cylinder. See pic. 4.

# ACT 4

## The Ghost of Christmas Future

*The Ghost of Christmas Future looks like the grim reaper, it comes up onto the horse box and points. Scrooge is looking around confused. Crouched are the children dressed as grave stones, they are crouched with their backs to the audience, they get up and dance to Michael Jackson's 'Thriller' four or five moves. Then they stay still they like a grave yard angels and tombs. Mention the angels in DR Who for those who don't know what you mean.*

**NARRATOR:** Scrooge needs no help seeing this Ghost of Christmas future; it was the bad things that would happen unless he mended his ways.

**SOUND CUE: 16 Dance**

**SCROOGE1:** Why are we in a grave yard.

*The Ghost of Christmas Future points at two grave diggers.*

**GRAVE DIGGER1:** Well there goes old stingy.

**GRAVE DIGGER2:** Nobody liked him.

**SCROOGE1:** Who's grave is it?

*The Ghost of Christmas Future points to a grave stone Scrooge looks and it has a grave with TINY TIMS name on it and they are crying.*

**SCROOGE1:** No, not Tiny Tim.

**THE GHOST OF CHRISTMAS FUTURE** points to a grave stone with **EBANEZER SCROOGE** written on it where the grave diggers where.

**SOUND CUE: 17**

**SCROOGE** walks to the his grave USC and two children start shaking material either side and slowly rising it up to give the impression of him sinking into his grave. He moves as if sinking in with flailing arms. Angels become devilish and move towards him.

**SCROOGE:** Spirit, I will be good. Help me.

*As he sinks the music crescendos and stops and **Scrooge** is left in the sheets everybody runs to their sides. **Scrooge** looks around and realises he has just woken up he is alive and it is day time.*

**SOUND CUE: 18**

**SCROOGE:** I am alive hurray.

*Scrooge climbs onto the box.*

**NARRATOR:** Scrooge realised that he was alive and rushed to the window it was a beautiful sunny day. *Scrooge* he opens the window children and charity workers carol singers and crowds come onto the street. He saw some children on street throwing snowballs.

**SCROOGE:** You there what day is it?

**CHILDREN:** Christmas day.

**SCROOGE:** Hurray!

**SCROOGE:** Go and buy the biggest Turkey and send it to Bob Cratchet's house.

**NARRATOR:** So Scrooge kept Christmas in his heart for ever more. sharing his money and helping people all year around. *We see him throw gold coins to charity workers.* He paid Bob Cratchet three times more and helped Tiny Tim get the help he needed.

Everyone sings Jingle bells

**THE END**

**SOUND CUE AUDIENCE EXIT MUSIC**