Miriam Margolyes throws herself into this reading of *A Christmas Carol*, enriching it with both enthusiasm and humour. The Cratchits' eager enjoyment of their Christmas is contagious and Margolyes even manages to read the scene where one goose is ample among so many without a hint of arch cynicism. She contrasts Scrooge's visions of Christmas Past, Christmas Present and worst still, Christmas Yet to Come, making each vivid and different from the one before. Skip the book. As teachers well know, Dickens is best read aloud and Miriam Margolyes does it beautifully.