

MINISTRY OF  
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PRESENTS

DOODLEBUGS  
&  
BOGEYMEN



Written by Joe Hobbs  
Musical Director Kit Morgan  
Performed by Kate Mc Nab & Ross Harvey



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# DOODLEBUGS & BOGEYMEN

April 3rd 1941 'My Day' by Brian Milton Age 11. Today we were evacuated. Now we live in the country. It's not like living in London. Daddy said the countryside was full of other children who have been evacuated as well. But I think that must be the other countryside because we are the only people here. Today I saw a cow with its fur on. A whole cow mind, not just half of it like Mr. Herbert the butcher carries on his shoulder into the shop. This one had a head and horns and everything. Mrs. Pike said that was where milk comes from. We all laughed. Everyone knows it comes from bottles. We now live with Uncle Ivor and Auntie Ivy. They aren't our real uncle and aunty. They are just pretending to be while the war is on. Tomorrow Uncle Ivor is going to show me how to kill rats.



April 3rd 1941 Jean Milton aged 14. Dear Diary. This is horrid. Today we had to leave home just because the bombs were getting worse. The first thing that happens here 'where it's safe' is that a German plane flies over and we had to hide under the table. They don't even have a proper shelter. We are staying on a farm which smells horrible. The family we have been billeted with smells horrible. Brian fell into a cow pat and now he smells horrible. They want us to call them Uncle and Auntie. I doubt they would like it if they knew my real uncle was in the 'Scrubs' for stealing car tyres. Tomorrow we have to go to school. I expect that will smell of the country as well. I miss mummy and I want to go home.

Brian and Jean are just two of tens of thousands evacuated from their homes during World War 2 – for some a time of happiness and discovery, for others loneliness and sorrow. A time when Firebomb Fritzes and Squander Bugs, Lord Haw Haws and Potato Petes fill children's heads with spitfires and shrapnel, doodlebugs and bogeymen. All set to music of the era and written from true stories, *Doodlebugs and Bogeymen* takes a light-hearted look at the lives of our two children and the community which received them.

Ross Harvey was born in Bristol and trained at the Bristol Old Vic Theatre School. Theatre work includes seasons with Royal Shakespeare Company, Bristol Old Vic and Haymarket Basingstoke. He has appeared with Kate in two Bristol Old Vic productions of *Up The Feeder – Down the Mouth and Back Again*. Ross has also voiced a variety of commercials for radio and has made a number of radio appearances for the BBC including the recent production of *The Fisherwomen of Black Tar*. He has appeared in several commercials and has forthcoming television appearances in *Magic Granddad* and *Down To Earth*.

Kate McNab began her career singing with jazz harmony group Sweet Substitute, touring *Hooray For Hollywood*, *Stardust Road* (with Georgie Fame) and, more recently, as the soloist in *Fabulous Fats Waller*. For Bristol Old Vic Kate played Gwen in *Up The Feeder – Down the Mouth*, Spot in the 2001 dockside version, Mrs. Fezziwig in *A Christmas Carol* and Lily in *Myrtle on the Mainline*. For Crisp Theatre she played Bet in Godber's *April in Paris* and, for Show of Strength, Avril in Peter Nichols' own production, *Nicholodeon*. Currently touring with *Basin Street to Broadway*, her voice was described by The Independent as having 'outstanding power'.

Both Ross and Kate have toured with The Ministry's first production *Keep Smiling Through* which has been performed over 100 times to packed houses. *Yes, We Have NO BANANAS* will complete the trilogy.