

# THE WAR 131 R1)

THE TRUE STORY OF A PIGEON AT WAR

THE WAR BIRD



Launching 'D Day 80'  
6,7th,8th June 2024

Launch Event

Emsworth Methodist Church

Emsworth Square

10am-4pm

written and illustrated by  
Emsworth Artist

## STEVEN MASSEY

Throughout the Second World War, thousands of carrier pigeons were used by the Allies to deliver messages. This is the story of one of those pigeons.

On the overcast and stormy morning of the 6th June 1944 a complete Allied radio blackout was in effect. On that momentous day Gustav, a carrier pigeon serving from RAF Thorney Island on Chichester Harbour delivered the first message back to England from the invasion beaches of Normandy. In a small capsule attached to his leg, Gustav carried a folded message stating that D Day had begun...

For more information:

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