

## Berners-Lee statue marks birthday



Press Association – Thu, May 28, 2015

A sculpture of internet pioneer Sir Tim Berners-Lee has gone on show to mark his 60th birthday.

The computer scientist, whose work underpins the world wide web, is the subject of an almost life-size painted bronze sculpture.

The work by artist Sean Henry shows him carrying a leather rucksack in which he keeps his laptop and came about after Sir Tim and his wife said they wanted to get away from standard portraits showing him behind his computer.

Sir Tim said: "The web connects people, not just computers. It belongs to all of us and its future will be shaped by the energy and creativity of all who use it.

"So, I hope that this sculpture will start conversations - our work is not done. What kind of web do we want and how best can we build that together?"

Mr Henry said Sir Tim was "a very dynamic person to sculpt", adding: "Above all what came through was his strong sense of purpose and it felt important to try to capture this in the work."

Rosie Broadley, associate curator at London's National Portrait Gallery, which commissioned the work, said: "Henry was interested in the paradox inherent in the impact of Berners-Lee's invention and his self-effacing demeanour.

"Henry's sculpted figures are usually anonymous and in this portrait he has retained the idea of his subject as everyman, through the casual pose and clothing.

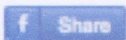
"The depiction of his sitter is resolutely contemporary, but the use of bronze has a timeless and permanent quality appropriate for a sitter with such a significant legacy."

The sculpture goes on display in the gallery tomorrow.

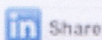
## Berners-Lee statue marks birthday



Press Association – Thu, May 28, 2015



2



[View Photo](#)

Press Association - Artist Sean Henry unveils his painted bronze sculpture of Sir Tim Berners-Lee at the National Portrait Gallery in London

28/05/15 12:13