

Headlines: [WHO calls for greater health financing](#)

Search

You are here::

Lawrence of Arabia commemorative sculpture for Wales

MEE Newsdesk News - Art & Culture News



Artist David Williams-Ellis has been commissioned for the first 125th anniversary commemorative sculpture of Lawrence of Arabia in Wales.

Williams-Ellis will create an over lifesize bronze sculpture of T E Lawrence, to be unveiled on 16 August 2013, the 125th anniversary since Lawrence's birth.

The bronze will go on display at Snowdon Lodge, the birthplace of Lawrence, who was born in 1888 in the village of [Tremadog](#), North Wales. It is hoped that this sculpture will inject heritage and encourage tourism to the Porthmadog-Tremadog area.

Although there is a bust of Lawrence in the crypt at St Paul's Cathedral in London and a stone effigy of him in the church of St Martin in Wareham, Dorset, there is nothing in North Wales to recognize his place of birth.

The full size sculpture, dressed in British army uniform and a *keffiyeh* headdress, will be made in clay and cast into bronze. The initial plans are that Lawrence will sit on a plinth of either large slate or granite, which will then be surrounded by a shallow moat of possibly moving water and circled by a higher wall or wrought iron fencing.

Carl Borum and Anja Grunert, the owners of Snowdon Lodge, commissioned David since they both love his work. They were not to know that there was a personal link between Lawrence and David's grandfather which would make this commission all the more poignant for David.

His grandfather, Martyn Williams-Ellis, met Lawrence in Damascus just after he had taken the city in 1917. Whilst billeting themselves in the same hotel, they initiated a conversation after dinner which went "...and where were you born?" (MD-E to Lawrence) "*Tremadog, North Wales*" was his reply, to which MD-E replied, "*By God, so was I*".

"We are sure that there will be huge interest in this project," Carl Borum said. "Lawrence was an exceptional figure who gained international fame through the breadth and variety of his activities, as well as his ability to describe them vividly in writing – as shown in the highly acclaimed Oscar winning film *Lawrence of Arabia*."

"Lawrence once declared passionately: 'I was born a Welshman and will die a Welshman'. We are delighted that the work of David Williams-Ellis will undoubtedly do justice to such a proud statement," Borum added.

Carl and Anja have full planning permission for a hotel with training and leisure facilities to be built alongside the house where Lawrence was born. They have funded the initial maquette which has been cast into plaster, and are now looking into various ways of funding, including the sale of 10 limited edition small bronzes, to pay for the making of the life-and-a-third size bronze with landscaping and information displays.

David Williams-Ellis said, "I have spent years working on portrait sculptures, both busts and figures. The importance of this sculpture will be to achieve the essence of the man, whilst giving the viewer an understanding of who Lawrence was. My varied connections to Lawrence, as well as my interest in him, have made this commission an irresistible artistic challenge."

Williams-Ellis was born in 1959 into an artistic family. Both his parents were painters and his great uncle was Clough Williams-Ellis, the architect who designed the Italianate village of Portmeirion.

Encouraged with his art from an early age, David became fascinated with the human figure and in his late teens travelled to Florence. He studied drawing under the patronage of Signorina Nerina Simi, and won a scholarship to study in Carrara where he worked with the marble craftsmen. He later attended the Sir John Cass School of Art and was elected a member of the Royal Cambrian Academy.

Some of David's recent work has included a life and a third size sculpture of Ray Gravell for the Scarlets Stadium in Llanelli; the Guru for the Community of the Many Names of God in Skanda Vale; a life size Mother and Child for the NSPCC. Hargreaves Centre in Liverpool and a series of leapers for the new International Finance Centre in Shanghai. David lives and works between Cumbria, North Wales and London.

[Next >](#)

MOST READ ...

- [Goh Chok Tong joins NBK board](#)
- [WHO calls for greater health financing](#)
- [Amnesty points to 'global justice gap'](#)
- ['Firm deadline' for UK troop withdrawal from Afghanistan](#)
- [Juniper Networks helps Saudi e-Government programme](#)
- [Execution of Iranian footballer's wife condemned](#)



Stephenson Harwood opens Dubai office

International law firm Stephenson Harwood has opened a Dubai...

Libyans in Iraq: An urgent mystery

Iraq is holding several Libyans, yet there is very little co...



Germany to send troops to Turkey

The German Cabinet has approved deployment of Patriot missile...



UK rebukes Israel

Britain has rebuked Israel over its plans to build more on P...



Two-state solution salvaged, say Palestinians

The UN vote on Palestinian statehood, upgrading internationa...

EUROMONEY SEMINARS

12th Annual Islamic Finance Summit

15% Discount code: EAP15

Save 15% when you register as Middle East in Europe reader | Discount Code EAP15

26-27 February 2013

The Landmark London Hotel, London , UK



Trade, Treasury and Cash Management in the Middle East

12 – 13 March 2013, Dubai, UAE

Save 20% when you register as Middle East in Europe reader

• **THE UN VOTE AND PALESTINIAN IDENTITY**

In an article entitled The New Line on the State of Palestine Passport, Daoud Kuttab writing for Al-Monitor Palestine Pulse, outlines issues as of 10 January 2013:

• **THE UNPACKING OF SUDAN'S SELF-DETERMINATION ENIGMA: THE IMPACT OF SECESSION ON THE PEACE ORDER**

Former Sudanese diplomat Al-Harith Idriss Al-Harith, London-based writer and current affairs commentator, was recently honoured and designated Ambassador of Peace by the Universal Peace Federation, which has headquarters in New York.

• **FROM THE RED MENACE TO THE GREEN PERIL?**

Did the events of 9/11 instantaneously ignite the United States' nationwide fear of 'terror in the name of Islam' or was this perception of Islam already in the minds of powers that be in Washington, DC? Christine Heckman, in this study exclusive to *The Middle East in Europe*, argues that the nature of media and government coverage of Islam had already begun to shift prior to 2001.

• **PAVING THE WAY TO AFGHANISTAN'S FUTURE**

Afghan officials will meet with their international partners on Monday 5 December 2011 in Bonn, 10 years to the day when they came together under the aegis of the United Nations to lay down the foundations of the post-Taliban political system in Afghanistan.

• **THE GULF AND THE 'ARAB SPRING'**

Dr Christian Koch, Director, Gulf Research Center Foundation, analyses events generally defined as the 'Arab Spring' and their implications for the Gulf region.

• **PROTESTS AND CABINET RESHUFFLE IN EGYPT ARE CREDIT NEGATIVE: MOODY'S**

The unsettled political environment in Cairo has led to policy drift and a worsening of economic conditions, developments that reinforce the credit-negative conditions in Egypt (which is rated Ba3 with a negative outlook), Moody's rating agency said on 25 July 2011.