



10th LEGO® Fan Weekend Skærbæk

By Iluisgib

Pictures by Kevin Hinkle

The last weekend of September marked the 10th edition of the LEGO® FanWeekend. It promised to be a most interesting weekend. 360 fans from 24 countries and representatives from a total of 39 LUGs.

This year, in order to commemorate the 10th anniversary, a large number of activities had been planned, like a Speed Building contest, conferences, workshops, an auction like never before, a visit by Mr. Kristiansen (Owner and grandson of the founder of LEGO) and Mr. Knudstorp (CEO of LEGO)... But the atmosphere was soured when, a few days before the event, it was announced that this would be the last edition.

The exhibition of models was, as always, the star of the event. This year there were some models I would like to highlight, like an airport with reproductions of all the Airbus models that took up 20m2, another airport at minifig scale that was completely illuminated, the Nyhavn (Copenhaguen) bridge brought from Hong Kong, or some impressive sculptures by Schneider Cheung.

This year the LUG Lounge was full of activities, like a building challenge, a library with many books and magazines about LEGO (including HispaBrick Magazine®) and an internal market where you could buy some interesting parts for my collection.

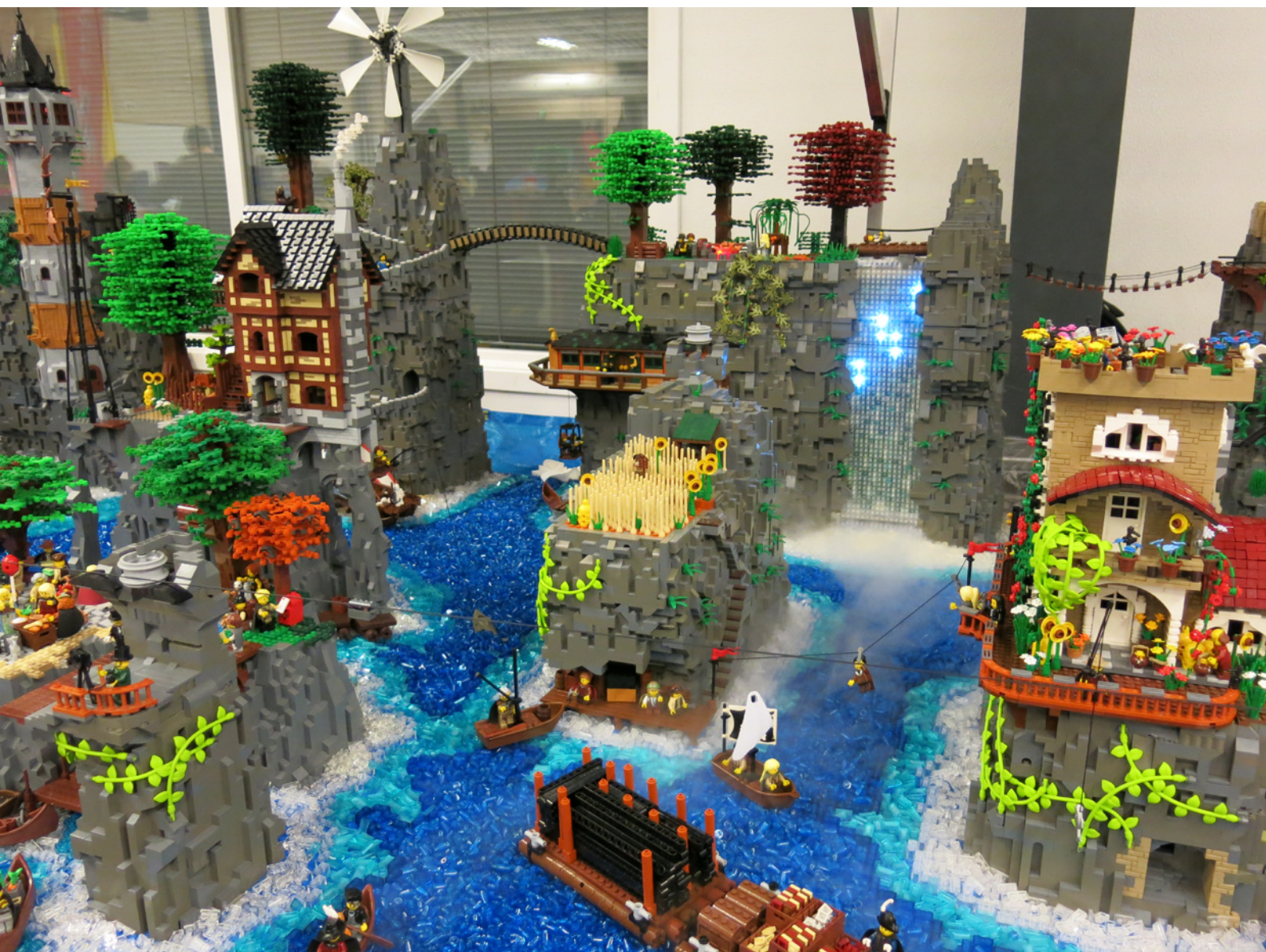
During dinner there was a small speech by Mr. Knudstorp, a





talk by Steen Sig Andersen about the design process of a set (incidentally, Mr Andersen was the designer of my first ever LEGO® house), and a delicious and unexpected desert: each participant received an exclusive set, a reproduction of the train in LEGOLAND Billund with reference number 4000014. The same model had previously been given to the participants in the LEGO Inside Tour, although with a different packaging. The one we received had "LEGO Fan Weekend" printed on the box. It just so happened that Steen Sig Andersen had explained the design process of this set in his talk...

On Monday there was a visit to the P-Shop (the shop for employees). It was a unique experience to see 300 people in such a small space "fighting" for sets that didn't even make it to the shelves...





The subject of conversations everywhere was the cancellation of the event. There were many conjectures and suppositions. In this edition of HispaBrick Magazine®, Keith Severson explains the reasons for this decision. Some actions were taken before and during the event, but it looks like the decision is firm.

This year I left the event feeling sad, as from now on it will be more difficult to meet up some of the fans I used to see at the Fan Weekend. Some members of the organisation are trying to keep the event alive without the collaboration of LEGO®. I wish them all the best luck and I hope that, with the effort of all, the best LEGO Fan event in the world won't die. "Save Fan Weekend. Save Skærbæk"

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