

For immediate release

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Brick Wonders at the Horniman Museum and Gardens

What would you build with half a million LEGO® bricks? Find out what's possible at the Horniman's new Brick Wonders exhibition, opening in February at the Forest Hill, south London attraction.

Brick Wonders has used 500,000 bricks to create amazing wonders from around the world, from an ancient Egyptian pyramid to Old London Bridge, and from the natural wonder of a coral reef to the modern marvel of the international space station.

More than 50 models will be on show, from individual pieces that will inspire visitors to build them at home, to awe-inspiring dioramas and mosaics. Visitors can build their own brick wonders in interactive play areas – including a graffiti wall, a tower-building challenge, a magnetic mosaic puzzle and big bricks for little hands – and the exhibition includes a mini-cinema showing short LEGO® animations.

Brick Wonders at the Horniman also features specially-made models of two of south London's own 'wonders' – a 1.2m-long LEGO® replica of the Horniman Walrus weighing a 'very solid' 19kg, and a 1:40 scale (Minifigure scale) cross-section of the Horniman's original 1901 building which recreates the Natural History and World Galleries, and the iconic Clocktower.

The Horniman is also displaying selected objects from its natural history and anthropology collections showing human beings' widespread fascination with miniaturising and modelling our world.

Robert Storrie, Keeper of Anthropology at the Horniman Museum and Gardens, says: 'Brick Wonders is a fun, colourful and interactive family exhibition. Visitors can take a tour around the world, through time and into space, and be inspired to build their own brick wonders. The focus on imagination and creativity is very much in tune with all the other things we offer at the Horniman Museum and Gardens – from our Aquarium, Butterfly House, natural history and musical instrument collections to our newly opened World Gallery.'

Brick Wonders is open from Saturday 16 February to Sunday 27 October 2019.

Tickets*: Child £5, Adult £9, Family (up to two adults and two children) £20. Horniman Members and Benefactors enjoy free, unlimited entry. *Prices include a voluntary Gift Aid donation which helps support the work of the Horniman. For more information and to book tickets go to www.horniman.ac.uk

Ends

Horniman Press Office - Tel: 020 8291 8166 - press@horniman.ac.uk

Pictured: Brick Wonders - Old London Bridge, © Warren Elsmore

Notes to Editors:

- **Brick Wonders** is a touring exhibition from Warren Elsmore. warrenelsmore.com/brickwonders/
- LEGO, the LEGO logo, the Minifigure, and the Brick and Knob configurations are trademarks of the LEGO Group of Companies. ©2019 The LEGO Group. Brick Wonders is not sponsored, endorsed or otherwise supported by The LEGO Group.
- The models of the Horniman Walrus and 1901 building have been created by Warren Elsmore.
- **The Horniman Museum and Gardens** opened in 1901 as a gift to the people in perpetuity from tea trader and philanthropist Frederick John Horniman, to 'bring the world to Forest Hill'. Today the Horniman has a collection of 350,000 objects, specimens and artefacts from around the world. Its galleries include natural history, music and an acclaimed aquarium. A new World Gallery of anthropology opened on 29 June 2018. Indoor exhibits link to the award-winning display gardens – from medicinal and dye gardens to an interactive sound garden, Butterfly House and an animal walk – set among 16 acres of beautiful, green space offering spectacular views across London. horniman.ac.uk
- The Horniman Museum and Gardens is core-funded by the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) and since 1990 has been governed by an independent charitable trust, registered charity no. 802725. The Horniman Museum and Gardens also receives funding from Arts Council England as one of its National Portfolio Organisations.
- **Opening times and admission.** The Horniman Museum is open daily 10.00am-5.30pm, except 24 - 26 December, when it is closed. The Gardens open at 7.15am Monday to Saturday and 8.00am on Sunday and Bank Holidays, and close at sunset. Entry to the Museum and Gardens is free but charges apply for the Aquarium, Butterfly House and some special exhibitions and events. Horniman Members and Benefactors go free – horniman.ac.uk/members.
- **Access.** The Museum and the Gardens are both wheelchair and pushchair friendly with accessible toilets. Limited on-site parking is available for Blue Badge holders.
- **Travel.** The Horniman is situated at 100 London Road, Forest Hill, London SE23 3PQ on the South Circular Road (A205). It can be reached easily by train to Forest Hill station (London Overground/Southern, travel time approx.15-20 minutes from east/central London or East Croydon) and by local buses (176, 185, 197, 356, P4).