

CONSTRUCT

We all love Lego, right? You can make anything you want – castles, spaceships, your own house. Well, let's meet Chris Smith, the man who makes football stadiums out of Lego!

Kickaround: What made you want to build football stadiums out of Lego?

Chris Smith: I started building the stadiums after being inspired by some NFL and baseball stadiums online that had been made from Lego by people in the USA. I thought I would like to see some English grounds made with Lego and when I couldn't find any, I decided to have a go myself!

K: Whereabouts do you make them?

CS: Initially I was using the kitchen table but very quickly this caused tensions in the household. I found a studio nearby in Altrincham that I could rent to work in.

K: Where do you get all the bricks?

CS: Either from Lego or Lego dealers. The best one, coincidentally, lives around the corner so we've become good friends! It can cost a lot to build big stadiums but I take them apart and reuse the bricks.



CHRIS

K: How long does each stadium take?

CS: I find photos online to work from and can use up to 2,000 bricks. I take my time and a stadium can take weeks doing bits at a time.

The most fun stadiums are smaller ones such as Halifax, Altrincham and Tooting & Mitcham.

The most complicated were Port Vale and Bradford, both were an absolute nightmare given the lie of the land around the stadium.

K: We want to build our own! How do we get started?

CS: Just start off with whatever Lego you have and build things up gradually, which is what I did. I practised for hours

with different combinations of bricks before I was happy. It is very much a case of seeing how it goes and amending things as you go along.

Luckily I've never stepped on a brick, they're organised into drawers!

K: What made you start your new Lego football club, FC Brickstand?

CS: I felt there was much more I could explore with the mixture of football and Lego. Also working with figures is something new for me so it feels like I'm starting all over again which is exciting.

The aim with the club is for it to be something people can interact with and be something which is fun. Who knows, maybe one day FC Brickstand will be everybody's second team!

Thanks Chris!



ALTRINCHAM



ION ZONE



WEMBLEY



BRADFORD CITY

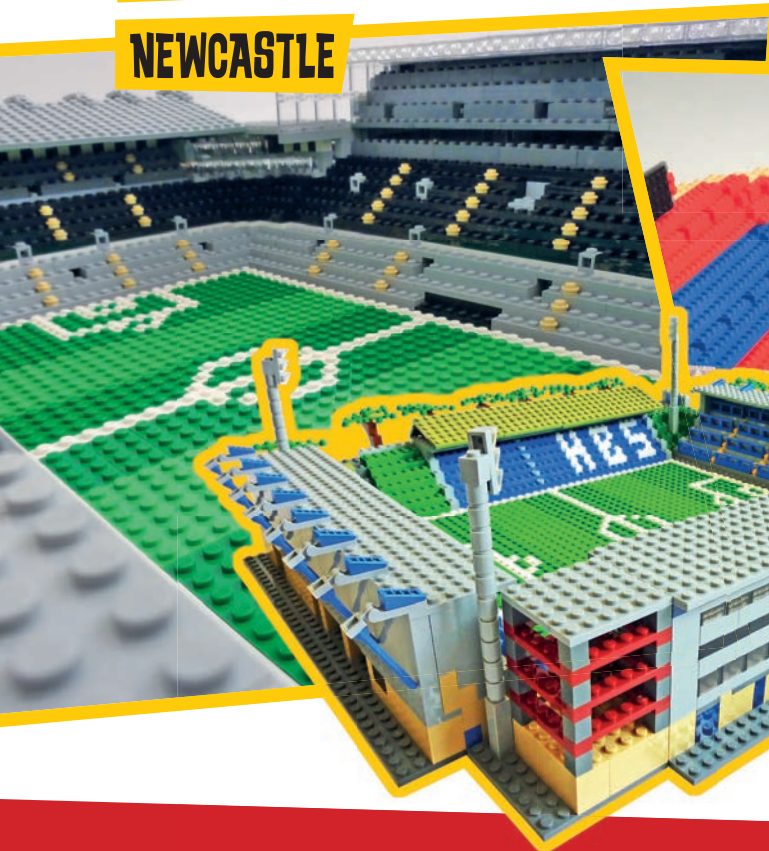


PORT VALE



EVERTON

NEWCASTLE



BARCELONA



HALIFAX

Turn the page to find out more about FC Brickstand!