

TWO GIRLS AND A BOY

Once upon a time, there were three children who loved the stories of Hans Christian Andersen.

^(just recently)
~~Then~~ One day, they won a "Danish Quiz" competition, organised by "Zip" ^{at} Liverpool Street Station began a fairy story that came true for Philomena O'Leary of Liverpool, Virginia Calmus of Colchester and Leslie Wells of Portsmouth.

They were bound for Denmark, the home of Hans Andersen, ^{and} sailing from ~~Hawthorn~~ on the ferry "Crown Princess Ingrid". ~~Their adventures began almost at once.~~ On board they met a real Princess. ^{She} was Princess Benedikte of Denmark, returning home from School in England. /5

Every meal on board was a bumper feast. But perhaps, the biggest thrill ^{SEE THE BRIDGE AND} of all was an invitation from the captain to take the wheel of the ship.

On arrival ^{in Esbjerg} at Esbjerg, there was more excitement. ~~Look!~~ Look! That's King Frederik - coming on board to meet the Princess. /

Now the fairy-tale tour really began. The ^{youngsters} young travellers were representing British children at the Hans ~~Christian~~ Andersen birthday celebrations. They visited the house in Odense, where ^{he} the famous ~~author~~ of tales was born, 153 years ago.

Here he spent his boyhood years, dreaming perhaps of the ^{"little tin soldier"} ~~little tin soldier~~ and "the Fir Tree" that were, on day, to delight children ^{all over the} ~~everywhere~~ world. /

There were visits to ~~the~~ ^{the charming} ~~the picturesque~~ harbour at Svendborg... AND

~~the~~ the old town of Faaborg. ~~And~~ here, the children's arrival was heralded by the local ^{one-man newspaper} ~~newspaper~~ - the Town Crier... ^{with} ~~his~~ own.

No tour of this fairytale ^{land} would be complete without a visit to the ^{old} ~~old~~ ^{where} ~~Hans Andersen~~ Manor House, where Hans Andersen wrote one of his best-known stories, the "Ugly Duckling". ^{He} you may remember, lived happily ^{near} ~~near~~ ^{Philomena, Virginia & Leslie} ~~Philomena, Virginia & Leslie~~ ever after.

~~And just like that lovable character, we wish that the young travellers~~ ~~will live happily ever after.~~ ~~And so we hope,~~ ~~will~~ ~~Philomena, Virginia & Leslie.~~