

Model-making Magnificence!

STUDENT INTRODUCTION

- ▶ The Model Village Godshill is an ideal place to visit if you want to see examples of how using design and technology enabled the creation of a miniature village that can withstand the ravages of the weather!

Why study here?

- ✓ By prior arrangement, students can see first-hand how models are structured and maintained, as well as understanding the thatching process that is used for the individual buildings.

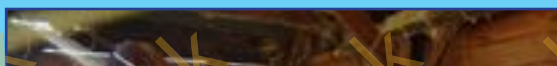
DESIGN & CONSTRUCTION

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the original model village was built in 1952 and in the following years the weather took its toll. In 1970 the new owner restored the original buildings and planned a new section for construction.

One problem was that the many thatched roofs needed to be replaced, and that substitute materials were not suitable, and so it was decided that the art of thatching in miniature using straw had to be mastered!

Many thousands of tiny straw bundles had to be made, and this is still done today in the workshop.

The buildings are made in panels or sections. First each piece is modelled in clay, then a waste mould is made of this in plaster, finally this is cast in concrete, and the mould broken off. Some roofs and small walls are made by rendering a former, and then sculpting whilst still soft.

The church on the hill was over 600 hours in the workshop, before being assembled. It has over one hundred separate mouldings, and weighs over two tons. The smaller houses have taken from 200 hours upward each to construct.

Buildings are out in all weathers all year round, but models of people are brought in for protection and re-casting or re-painting over the winter months.