## Tudor Roof Tile Co. Limited

## **Clay Roof Tiles**

In this ever changing world of fashion, what a remarkable resilience clay has within the building materials sector.

From the humble beginnings of mud huts, to the present day energy saving structures, clay products continue combine trusted performance, longevity and aesthetic appeal.

Clay roof tiles are now available in three distinct categories:

<u>Genuine hand made</u> ... using the traditional forming method of a hand operated mould, the clay is shaped, then each tile is hand finished.

<u>Hand crafted</u> ... using a simple flow production process, the tiles are formed using automated machines, then each tile is hand finished.

Machine made ... automation coupled with mass production.

The main difference between each category is that of its closeness in appearance to preexisting roofs, and price. It is rapidly becoming a fact that clay tiles can compete in price with all other roofing products, with concrete tiles increasingly under pressure from the machine made clay tiles.

The current rising fuel costs plus the increasing costs imposed by legislation, are adding to the demise of the true 'Hand Made in the UK' manufacturer, forcing the conversion of resources towards machine made and/or imports.

Fortunately, roof tiles are not sold on price alone and so there remains a solid customer base, which values the unique qualities of genuine handmade and hand crafted roof tiles. Many buyers also want the long-term benefits of 'made in England' quality controlled products, backed by local after-sales support.

So whatever the source, clay roof tiles have both formed and preserved character within our buildings and architectural landscapes. Clay tiles are viewed as durable, possessing lasting visual effect, are a plentiful natural resource and offer energy efficiency from use. Accepting all the above facts, the most important reason for specifying clay roof tiles, is that they form part of the local character and attributes that define our heritage and our future.

Paul Lythgoe Managing Director Tudor Roof Tile Co. Limited