



ECO CRAFTSMAN: Green woodwork teacher Guy Mallinson's West Dorset base in Holditch. He starred in the Mastercrafts BBC TV series which has now been turned into a book

Guy's skills are put into print

By **RENE GERRYTS**

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Eco woodworker on TV and in book

TELEVISION viewers have already been soaking up knowledge from six master craftsmen under the eagle eye of TV personality Monty Don.

Among those craftsmen was West Dorset's own green woodworker Guy Mallinson who supervised three students in their endeavours.

Now the book, pictured right, that accompanies the series has been published for those who want a more in depth look at the lives of the skilled men and women featured.

Written by Tom Quinn the book showcases the lives and the work of the master craftsmen and women in the series, and explains the techniques at the heart of their trades.

Mr Quinn is a writer, editor, author of several books on country matters, and a social historian. He is a former editor of *The Countryman* and is currently the editor of *Country Landowner* magazine.

The book, priced £20 is published by David & Charles and includes full-colour features on:

- Woodcraft with Guy Mallinson, who gave up running a highly successful London cabinet-making business to set up his own green wood furniture-making business and workshops teaching green woodcraft in a remote part of West Dorset, where he has created a unique camp under

wigwam-like tents heated by open fires. Here he practises his craft year-round.

- Thatching with Matthew Williams and David Bragg, determined to restore the tradition of long-straw thatching to their region of Oxfordshire.

- Stone masonry with Andy Oldfield, who changed career at the age of 31 and is now a stonemason at the National Trust's Hardwick Hall in Derbyshire.

- Weaving with Margo Selby, London-based award-winning textile designer.

- Metalwork with Don Barker, a blacksmith with a forge near York, who comes from a 200-year-old family tradition of blacksmithing.

- Glass making with glass artist Sophie Lister Hussain, creator of exquisite pieces from her London studio.

Mr Mallinson was shadowed for six weeks by the BBC camera crew for the series.

Mr Mallinson said: "Six weeks was quite intense. I absolutely loved the experience."

