CUTTING AND SHAPING

TUNNEL MOUTHS AND BRIDGES

These come in all shapes and sizes in real life and although some arched castings are in the Linka System range, there are many occasions when a different curvature is required. When creating your own arches, it is best to work from a template, for freehand cutting of the castings into a symmetrical curve is hazardous!



 DRAW AND THEN CUT OUT A CARD TEMPLATE TO THE DESIRED SIZE OF THE ARCH. Use this as a pattern for cutting a second, identical template if needed.



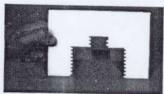
3. WHEN THE ASSEMBLY HAS SET, ROUGHLY CUT THE LINKA TO THE CURVATURE OF THE TEMPLATE



 GLUE A STRIP OF 'DAS' CLAY AROUND THE CURVE TO DISGUISE THE ROUGHNESS AND ACT AS FACING STONES. SMOOTH DOWN, using water as necessary.







 BUILD A LINKA SYSTEM 'WALL' (engraved side down for flushness) TO THE SIZE OF THE TEMPLATE, OVERLAPP-ING ON THE ARCH. GLUE THE TEMPLATE TO THE SMOOTH SIDE OF THE 'WALL' FOR EXTRA STRENGTH.



 SAND AND CARVE THE CUR-VATURE UNTIL IT IS QUITE CLOSE TO THE TEMPLATE.



 WITH A CRAFT KNIFE, CUT OFF ANY EXCESS CLAY AND ETCH IN THE MORTAR LINES ON THE FACING STONES. LEAVE TO SET.



 ADD SIDEWALLS AND ABUTMENTS AS REQUIRED. The first picture shows the tunnel with some features added, the second shows the effect of painting, flaw disguise and weathering and the final picture is another tunnel, using standard castings (S3 or B5).