

## Three of a Kind

A broken kiln has led to a new way of fusing glass for Peter and Vanda Smyth. One night their kiln broke down and the large autumn piece inside didn't fully fuse. "But we thought it looked very interesting indeed with the many hand cut leaves standing proud of the surface," says Peter. "So we have returned to the idea and after some experimentation have perfected tack fusing. Each piece now gets an extra night in the kiln and the result is a wonderful texture that gives the pictures we create an added dimension and even greater perspective."

It is the striking Dartmoor landscape that has inspired Nicky Exell from Devon to produce her latest glass work. "Walks on Dartmoor are always inspiring because of the many moods the moor has, every time I visit it's different. I am fortunate to be surrounded by beautiful coastline and countryside."

Meanwhile, Kim Bramley from Stafford has romance in mind at this time of year. "I make glass hearts, which are affordable pieces for romantics and they always fly off the shelves."

[www.vandacrafts.com](http://www.vandacrafts.com)

[www.nickyexell.co.uk](http://www.nickyexell.co.uk)

[www.kimbramley.co.uk](http://www.kimbramley.co.uk)

Dartmoor by Nicky Exell



Kim Bramley

Kim Bramley



Vandacrafts

## Broadfield House

If you are interested in art and design, the process of glassmaking or collect contemporary craft, then Broadfield House Glass Museum is the place for you! Home to a world-renowned collection of glass dating from the 17th century onwards and housed at the heart of the famous Stourbridge Glass Quarter, the Museum not only boasts contemporary works by the likes of David Reekie and Gillies Jones, but also features an extensive collection of historic glass including the beautiful cameo collections.

There is a hot glass studio on site, home to resident artist Allister Malcolm, where visitors can watch the glass-makers at work or special guest demonstrators on event days. There is also an attractive gift shop selling an array of handmade gifts by British glass artists, second hand collectables and an excellent selection of glass books. The Museum is gearing up for the 2015 International Festival of Glass which will see a packed week of demos, events and family activities from 28 to 31 May, as well as an exciting new temporary exhibition. Cutting Edge: Contemporary Hungarian Glass, organised in collaboration with Prisma Gallery, will open on 9 May and feature bold, striking, colourful and sometimes witty artworks in a variety of techniques. [www.glassmuseum.org.uk](http://www.glassmuseum.org.uk)

Glass Games Baton, Bruce Marks. Image Ester Segarra

