

This month, our Editor, Katharine Jewitt, caught up with Glass Artist, Kathryn Abrahams of Lazy Daisy Glass. Visit this fantastic website at www.lazydaisyglass.co.uk



About Kathryn and [Lazy Daisy Glass](http://www.lazydaisyglass.co.uk)

Lazy Daisy Glass is run by Kathryn Abrahams from her studio in rural Banffshire, NE Scotland and she loves all things glass, especially warm glass. Originally from Cornwall, Kathryn spent a large part of her working life as a personal assistant to Directors, in corporate companies and local government. After spending six years in London dealing with its constant fast pace, she felt that it was time to move.



[Sunset Meadow Curve](#)

After a couple of holidays in Scotland, Kathryn and her husband chose the North East of Scotland and settled in a rural hamlet in Moray.

Kathryn has always liked art and crafts and started glass painting many years ago, then moved on to the real thing - stained glass, as a hobby. She attended a stained glass course in Aberdeenshire, then set up a studio at home. It became apparent to Kathryn that less people were buying stained glass products at craft fairs, so she decided to try fused glass - her true passion. She eventually gave up with 'office' job, when expecting her first child and she invested her maternity money in her first kiln and started experimenting and creating individual pieces. These proved very popular within Moray and has since gained many retail outlets for selling her work by attending trade shows. The business

grew fairly quickly and she decided to invest in her second, and larger kiln in order to keep up with demand.



[Snake Bangles](#)

Inspirations

A lot of people comment on the 'sea-like pieces and wave forms, and being a Cornish lass, she believes that the ocean is a huge influence. Kathryn produces many items with fish, even using driftwood in some of her creations. The studio is based in a very rural area, surrounded by rolling hills and forests, these too play a part in her creations.



[Sanding Stones](#)

Studying Craft

Kathryn is self taught in the technique of fused glass. After investing in her first kiln, she spent six months experimenting with glass and making a lot of errors, but as glass is an expensive material, she soon learnt that mistakes should be kept to a minimum. It helps to have some form of creative flair!



[Wave retro clock](#)

Techniques

Kathryn works in fused glass which is all kiln work. Glass fusing is a process of using a kiln to join together pieces of glass. If you apply heat to glass it will soften. If you continue to apply heat, the glass will become more fluid and flow together. Two or more pieces of glass will stick (or fuse) to each other. When the right kind of glass is heated and then cooled properly, the resulting fused glass piece will be solid and unbroken. Many people also use the word 'fusing' to include bending and shaping glass using the heat of a kiln. This manipulation can take many forms, but the most common is 'slumping', where a mould is used to create already fused glass to take on the shape of a bowl, plate or similar object.

How long as a glass artist?

Kathryn has been working with glass since 2004; firstly stained glass, moving on to fused glass in 2006.



[Wedding Favours and Gifts](#)

The best and worst

The best things are being self-employed, working from home and creating lovely bright coloured glassy objects. "It does not feel like a job as I love it so much!" Working from home allows Kathryn to look after her four year old and do the 'mother' chores. Having a separate studio, away from the house is also great, if it's a mess, she does not have to tidy it up, everything can be left and

the door closed! The downside to working with glass, it hurts! Kathryn has suffered some injuries, albeit minor, but has a stash of plasters at the ready. The isolation can be an issue, so Kathryn has joined local business networking groups. Kathryn is self-employed so she has to find her own retail outlets by attending trade shows. "Being a 'one man band' is tough, you have to work at marketing, publicity, sales, accounts, well, everything really". This is a full time business, but restricted to the amount she can achieve, as she has to consider her daughter as well.

Future Plans

Kathryn now has over 60 stockist throughout the UK, but always looking for new outlets. Kathryn will continue to attend the trade shows and retail shows and hopefully get to exhibit in a few galleries during 2012.



[Recycle Bottles](#)

Where can we buy?

Lazy Daisy Glass has an online presence; www.lazydaisyglass.co.uk, www.facebook.com/lazydaisyglass and does open the studio during the annual North East Open Studios. Generally, it is a working studio, but if people had a desire to visit, this can be arranged.



[Brooches and Scarf Clips](#)

What can we buy?

Lazy Daisy Glass produces coasters, clocks, hangers, sculptures, jewellery and wall art through to individual commission pieces, such as windows. Glass goodies can be purchased online at

www.lazydaisyglass.co.uk, https://www.facebook.com/lazydaisyglass?sk=app_315512301799054, and check out the Stockist list on the website, there may be a supplier near you!



Coasters

Kathryn's favourite piece?

Kathryn particularly likes the True Blood Wall Art, featuring a big red fused glass heart, which appears to be bleeding (named after the tv vampire series), plus Colin and Justin (interior designers) have one too. It is so different and has a strong image.