

Exhibition set to brighten winter

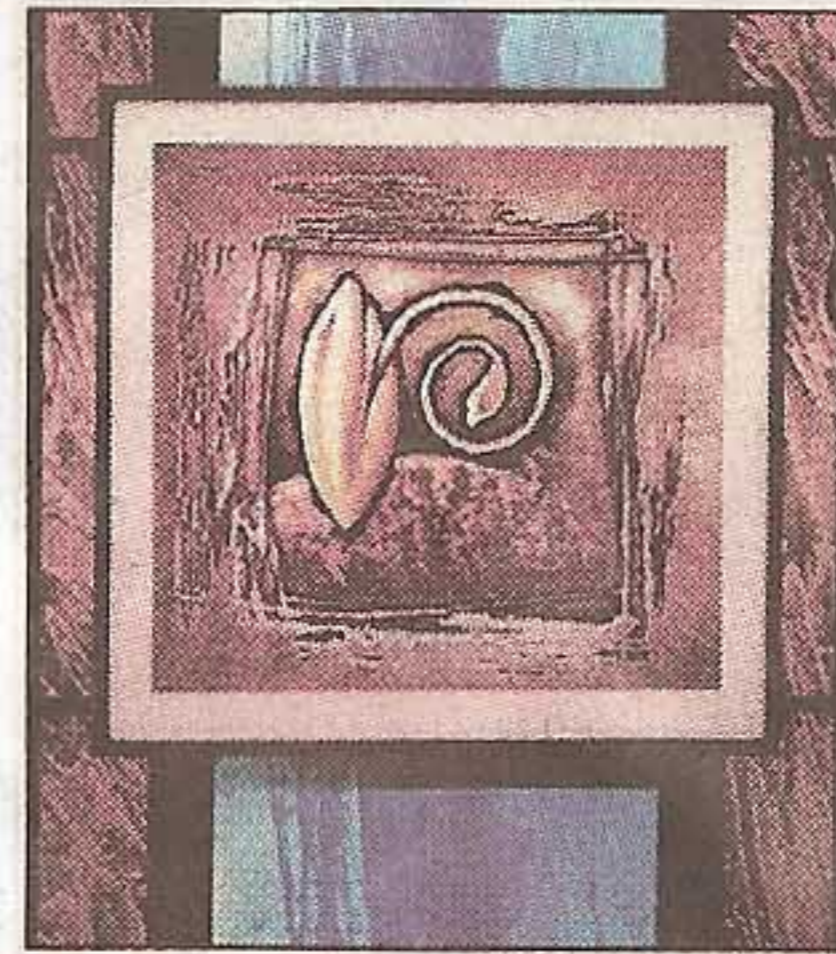
by Sheila Whitton

AN EXHIBITION of the work of two local artists is a dazzling display aimed at brightening up dark winter days.

Painter and printmaker Ian Burke and stained glass craftsman Alan Davis have collaborated to produce the Northern Light exhibition at Staithes Gallery comprising lighted glass, paintings and prints.

Ian started his working life with two years on North Sea oil rigs, like his father, but made a complete career switch and is now head of art at one of the country's leading public schools, Eton College.

He studied fine art at Newcastle University and then went on to Goldsmiths College in the 1980s.



One of the pieces of stained glass on show

A former Staithes resident he now lives in Lealholm, outside of term time.

Staithes Gallery spokeswoman Al Milnes said: "Ian's work is inspired by the fishing industry with very strong, masculine images.

"He is a dedicated teacher

but although he has to spend a lot of time at the college in Windsor he is still devoted to this area."

Alan trained in art and design at Sunderland University from 1994 to 1997, has a first-class honours degree and is also a visiting lecturer at Sunderland.

He has specialised in architectural glass for both private and public clients, much of it ecclesiastical work that can be seen in many churches across Yorkshire and Durham.

Locally, they include St Hilda's in Whitby, St Thomas's in Glaisdale, a Caedmon window in St Hilda's in Sneaton and a depiction of St Francis with birds in Whitby Hospital.

His work is influenced by nature and the environment.

The exhibition starts on Saturday and will run until mid-January.