



For more information about the Knife Angel visit [visitstoke.co.uk/knifeangel](http://visitstoke.co.uk/knifeangel)

# KNIFE ANGEL

APRIL 2022

## SMITHFIELD, STOKE-ON-TRENT



Genr8



## Stoke-on-Trent is proud to welcome the Knife Angel to the city throughout April 2022.

The Knife Angel is an arresting 27-foot tall statue made up of 100,000 knives and blades that have been confiscated by police forces up and down the country. The sculpture comes to the city as part of a national tour, alongside a month of education and awareness activities on knife crime, and a knife amnesty.

## The history of the Knife Angel

The iconic statue was the brainchild of British Ironwork Centre's Clive Knowles, and was crafted by artist Alfie Bradley. It aims to raise awareness of knife crime and give people a place where they can hand over knives safely.

Clive's ambition was to create an angel sculpture made completely out of recovered dangerous knives, to seize the country's attention and bring the issue of knife crime to the very forefront of society's agenda. Clive contacted and met with families tragically effected by knife crime and together presented his vision to the Home Office, accompanied by several mothers. He requested permission to collect knives from all of the UK's police forces, all 43 constabularies.

So far over 80 families have contacted the British Ironwork Centre in the hope that their message can be included on the sculpture.

Messages of love and remembrance feature on the angel's wings, messages not only from families but also perpetrators who have seen the error of their ways and now fight knife crime and violence in a bid to stop it happening on our streets.



# #knifeangel The Facts

The Knife Angel is made up from **100,000 knives**



## 1800 knives

used in the statue were provided from previous knife amnesties in **Stoke-on-Trent and Staffordshire**



## 34% of all reported knife crime involves a victim aged between 18-29

**"My daughter was involved with gangs, drugs, youth violence and weapons.**

**This kind of thing can happen to anybody.**

**If you do think there are concerns with your child, even if it's a slight indication that somethings not right, speak to somebody**

**You really aren't on your own."**

*Parent of a child involved in knife crime.*