



## **Giant Advent Calendar Begins at Auckland Tower**

An unusual Christmas attraction in Bishop Auckland this year will be a giant advent calendar opening up day by day in the town's shops between December 1st and Christmas Eve. Following the success of Bishop Auckland's first Advent Windows in 2017, the theme this year is Christmas Stories from Around the World. Participating shops are taking part, alongside 24 schools and other organisations who are designing the window displays.

The first window will open at Auckland Tower, Bishop Auckland Market Place at 11am on December 1<sup>st</sup>. Created by children from St Wilfrid's RCVA Primary School working with The Auckland Project, the window will show The Annunciation. The beginning of the Christmas nativity story, the annunciation describes a visit from the Angel Gabriel to Mary, telling her that she will be the mother of Jesus.

Auckland Tower's festive window will be opened by Jane Ruffer, Leadership Team Chair at The Auckland Project.

Several of the windows that will open later in the month will be opened by representatives of the nations whose stories are being illustrated. A Syrian refugee will open the story of the flight to Egypt.

By Christmas Eve the whole giant calendar will be revealed and the window displays will remain on view over the holiday period until January 1st. An attractive leaflet with a map is available so that visitors from far and wide can follow an Advent window trail around the town and be amazed at the creativity on display! See <http://bishopaucklandtownteam.org/2018/04/28/advent-windows-2018/>

The project is being organised by Bishop Auckland Town Team, assisted by Pam and David Pott who initiated Advent Windows in Stone in Staffordshire which is now in its tenth year.

For more information contact David or Pam Pott on 01388 600063 or email [badventwindows@gmail.com](mailto:badventwindows@gmail.com)

Auckland Tower.

Photo credit: House of Hues, courtesy of The Auckland Project



Advent window from 2017  
Photo credit: Teesdale Mercury

