



Christmas shouldn't cost the Earth

Here's a few ideas from the Eco-church team to help make your Christmas celebrations good for people and the planet.

Reduce

Just buy less stuff. Avoid waste where you can. Make the most of our plastic free shop Scoop for some great festive ideas including hampers and vouchers or shop for an alternative charity gift online, you can invest in anything from tree planting, school kits, goats or vaccinations (and opt for an e-card rather than a printed one). For the bakers and crafters, why not use your skills and make your own gifts?

Re-use

Charity shops have a 'gift section' in the run up to Christmas or have a look at the swap shop board at the back of church. Make your own wrapping paper by decorating old paper or using fabric and re-use ribbon or string instead of tape. Don't buy new decorations, use your old ones or if you fancy a change swap with a neighbour. If you have a Christmas party or nativity to dress up for and nothing to wear, see what you can borrow from your friends or use the church Facebook page to ask.

Recycle

Did you know Fleet Scoop have a Christmas jumper swap? Bring your unwanted (clean) jumper on a hanger and get a token to exchange for a different one. Recycle as much of your Christmas as you can; trees, cards, packaging, food and any unwanted gifts!

Fairtrade

Fairtrade advent calendars, chocolate and other treats are all available from Livingstones in the high street. Asvanna Fairtrade has local events where you can source beautiful clothes and gifts (Hart Shopping Centre 13th, 16th and 21st Dec and at COTH 5th Dec 9-1pm). Or, you can shop online for Fairtrade cards and gifts at Traidcraftshop.co.uk.



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