

DBC Eco Church Newsletter

December 2024 – January 2025

Welcome to our Newsletter.

For more information about the Dronfield Baptist Eco Church Group contact – margaret.keen@talk21.com

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Have a Green and Sustainable Christmas

Wrap your gifts sustainably. Many stores are now selling recyclable wrapping paper and paper made from recycled paper. Look out for the Forest Stewardship Logo. If you have been given gift bags reuse them. Use paper tape to stick parcels or use string or ribbon. To test if wrapping paper is recyclable, do the scrunch test. If you scrunch the paper and it bounces back it's not recyclable.

Be a scrooge with glitter, its made from Microplastics. All Christmas card and wrapping must go in the black bin. It is NOT recyclable even if its biodegradable glitter.

Try using Reusable Advent Calendars. Wooden ones or material ones can be reused every year. Check out Hobbycraft to see what they have.

Have a clear out of your children's toys before the influx of all the new ones. Either try selling them on Facebook Marketplace, Vinted or put them on Freecycle (try our DBC Freecycle – See below) or take them along to a local charity shop – but do this before

Christmas so that families who are struggling to afford new toys can get

them at a reasonable price and are also helping local charities.

Do you really need that new dress for Christmas parties. Check out your wardrobe or again visit your local charity shop and see what they have. You could always try swapping with friends. Add a belt or brooch to a dress you have to make it different.

Buy a potted Christmas tree and plant in your garden after Christmas to be dug up again next year. If you have a cut tree check out various recycling options. Some charities will collect them. Make sure the Christmas tree is disposed of responsibly.

Buy Locally – Whether it is your meat, vegetables or presents try to support local makers and suppliers. Locally we have two butchers and a farm shop supplying meat, cheese, vegetables and salads plus much more. Keep the money you spend in the local economy.

If your Christmas lights don't work any more make sure they are disposed of safely. Take them along to the local recycling centre.

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Derbyshire Recycling Centres

Derbyshire County Council are implementing a system whereby you

now have to register your vehicle in order to have access to the Derbyshire Recycle Centres. Go to Derbyshire County Council Website and follow the link to recycling centres where you can register your vehicle. Here you will also find a full list of centres and their opening time along with what you can and cannot take.

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New Year's Resolutions

Maybe you make New Years Resolutions or maybe you don't. But here are some eco friendly ones, which will be good for both you and the planet.

Explore the natural world. Get out into nature. Not only is it good for your physical health but also your mental health. Wrap up warm and enjoy a wonderful sense of well-being being out in nature.

Reduce your Waste – from saving on energy to avoiding single use plastic. Avoiding things like plastic bags by using cloth shopping bags, reusable cups instead of plastic and paper cups and beeswax wraps instead of plastic bags. Go a step further by switching out plastic washing up sponges, nappies or face wipes for washable cloth substitutes and buying second hand goods from charity shops, car boot sales and online sites. Consider using a local zero-waste shop for your dry goods. Take along your own containers for pasta, cereals etc. Also take your own bottles to top up for laundry liquid and toilet cleaner etc.

If you have room try growing your own vegetables and salads. You can even grow them in containers, especially salad crops.

Make your garden wildlife friendly. Grow plants and flowers that attract pollinators, vital to all food production. Check out the Woodland Trust website – www.woodlandtrust.org.uk for ideas.

Join an environmental group or charity and volunteer. Why not check out our own Dronfield Baptist Eco Church Group.

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DBC Freecycle

Don't forget if you have anything that you need to get rid of we can always advertise it here on DBC Freecycle.

“One man's trash is another man's treasure!”

Get in touch with me with a photo and details of the items you want to include.

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