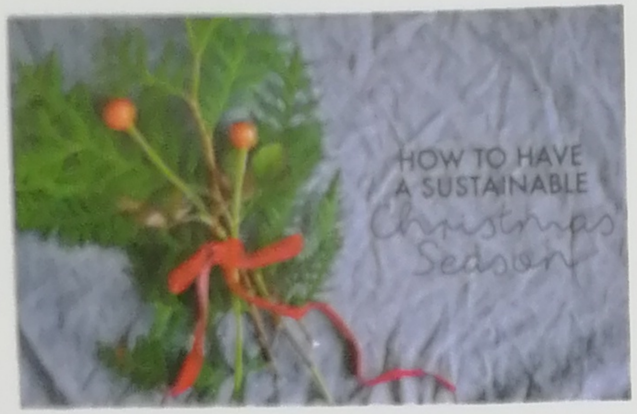

It's a wonderful time of the year, but are YOU ready to do YOUR bit towards a more sustainable Christmas??

As the Christmas season approaches, the South Kerry CoDesRes team are beginning to look at how we all can look to embed the sustainable development goals within the context of still enjoying the yuletide festivities. With wrapping paper, décor and consumption it is hard to walk the tightrope between the wonders of Christmas and the waste, and the stress of it all can lead to a difficult balance to achieve.

The festive season offers a great opportunity to embed the sustainable development goals in our daily lives, and one of CoDes aims is to promote a circular economy where we consider potential waste as a resource. The circular economy aims to move away from the 'make use dispose' approach by keeping materials in use for longer, therefore maximising their value as well as recovering and regenerating materials. At the core of CoDesRes is their arts / design-led methodology so many of our projects, actively aim to reconsider how we can re-use waste materials such as plastic, bottles, and packaging. Festive activities such as Halloween, St. Patrick's day and Christmas become occasions not only to explore these ideas further but also, raise awareness of the issues surrounding waste by gathering materials locally and sharing ideas for reuses and our consumption by adding value to materials we may other wise send to landfill.

Over the next six weeks they will be popping up at the various Christmas markets in and around South Kerry to share information about their projects and fun ideas about re-using plastic and packaging to bring creativity into the holidays and keep these materials in circulation for longer. As part of our efforts we will also be using recycled and up cycled materials to create Santa's Grotto for Cahersiveen's on the 8th of December. Cahersiveen has been hosting an event on that date for a number of years now, evolving from the traditional start of Christmas and the Feast of the Immaculate Conception. These days the 8th of December in Cahersiveen is also an ideal opportunity to celebrate communally while encouraging sustainable practices such as shopping local and a social family event. CoDes are looking forward to creating a beautiful and magical grotto with waste materials as part of the message of connecting with the season, our planet and each other.

Cahersiveen 8th December 2018 activities include:

Visits to Santa in the Grotto 11.30 – 5pm, Cahersiveen Community Centre, includes arts and crafts to create décor for the parade.

6pm Family light parade through town with Santa and the live Nativity 6pm

Christmas Tree Light countdown immediately after parade with refreshments to follow.

For details visit https://www.facebook.com/christmasincahersiveen/about/ or call Deirdre Garvey 087 416 5574