



## Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> August 2021

There is a feeling of excitement that comes with anticipation, all your body and mind focuses intently on that moment when the wait turns to reality and the so longed for day is finally at hand. As those following the Christian faith, we sit with that anticipation for the day the Lord will draw all things to Himself, the moment when God will bring forth the new heaven and the new earth and his kingdom will have no end. The apostle Pauls tell us that this is the source of hope (Rom. 8:24-25) and that this hope encourages within us endurance and perseverance (Rom. 15: 4).

We stand as a church family eagerly anticipating that hope set before us. For a long while now, for many our eager walk with God has had to be a solitary one, worshipping by ourselves in our living rooms, or on our computers. The pandemic which has swept the world has taken many things from us including our ability to worship together as a church family, praising God in prayer and song alongside one another.

But this is not the case for too much longer. On 5<sup>th</sup> September we are delighted to say we will be joining together again as a church family welcoming friend old and new through our doors so that we might worship God together again. We stand now in eager anticipation for that time where we may be able to share together again in that hope which the Lord provides, to share in the fellowship of those who trust in this hope and proclaim it with their whole hearts. We are ready as a church community once more, to declare the praises of God.

Is this to say that God has not been with us as we have isolated in the pandemic? Not at all. We have so much to be thankful for during this strange time. God has opened up new possibilities of serving our community. We have delivered food parcels for those in need and provided laptops for those who have needed to continue their education at home. The Star café has provided a centre for the community, one where they can eat and drink together in safety and comfort. God has moved in and through the people of this church and we praise him for that. As restrictions eased, we were able once again to open the church for our 9:00am service which has given us a foretaste of meeting again in our fullness. But there existed an unavoidable sadness for not being able to join together for both services, to be with one another as we praise.

The wait for this this moment is soon over and so I encourage you to practice eager anticipation, not only for the hope of eternal life, but for the joining together of this family of God with whom we share this great eternal hope. We look forward to seeing you, Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> September.

*May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. (Rom 15: 13)*

Tom Owen



*You're invited to a party!*

MULTI-GENERATIONAL WORSHIP  
SUNDAY 5TH SEPTEMBER 10:30AM  
BACK IN THE BUILDING  
AND STREAMED ONLINE

ST ANDREW'S SNEYD GREEN  
FACEBOOK.COM/STANDREWSSG

St Andrew's  
SNEYD GREEN

## Food Donations



We are still accepting donations of food to give to those in need – requests have increased in recent weeks. We can accept any non-perishable food (tins, packets, and cartons) and drinks like jars of coffee, tea bags, long life juice etc. Donations can be brought to church on Sundays or during café opening hours, or please contact James or Sue to arrange another time.

## Groups for Children and Youth

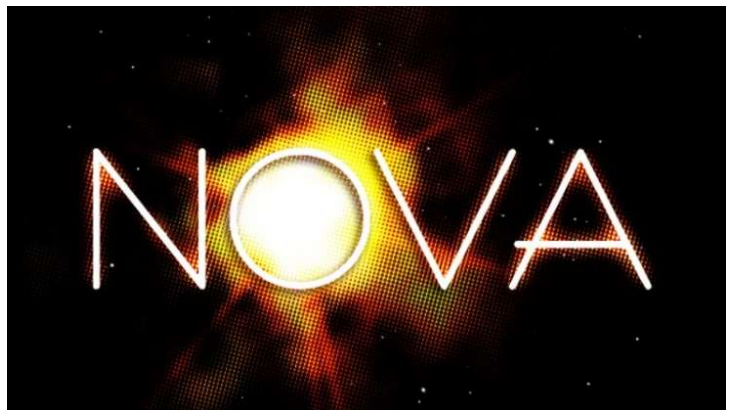
September also sees several groups starting or restarting for the children and young people in our church and community.

**Giggle and Grow** returns on Thursday mornings but at slightly different time – now 10:00-11:30am. Starting Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> September.



**Encounter** is a new group for children in school years 4, 5 and 6. Friday evenings, 6:00-7:15pm in the hall, admission £1. Starting Friday 17<sup>th</sup> September

**Nova** is our new youth café for those in school years 7-11, Fridays 8:00-9:15pm in the hall. No admission but bring some change for the café. Starting Friday 17<sup>th</sup> September



## Parish Boundary Prayer Walk

Tom is planning to walk and pray the parish boundary this summer and would love some folk to join him. It will take a couple of hours and a date has not been set yet. Please contact Tom if you'd be interested in joining him: [tom@standrewsneydgreen.com](mailto:tom@standrewsneydgreen.com) or 07383 920702

## Potter's 'arf



Rob Littler is walking the Potter's 'Arf marathon on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> September in aid of local charity The Donna Louise Hospice and Watoto, a charity which brings hope and healing to vulnerable women and children in Uganda and South Sudan. If you would like to sponsor Rob and make a donation to these wonderful charities, please contact Rob directly or via the church office.

## The Star Café

The Star Café has been so popular over the summer our customers are asking if it will continue! We will be open into September for as long as the weather allows. Please get in touch if you could spare a few hours to keep this fantastic outreach ministry running, either via the office or directly to Pam, Lynn, or Steve



James

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