

## **Astronomy Talk 12<sup>th</sup> January 2021**

### **Neutrinos**

This was a “Zoom” talk given by Mark Gibbons, a frequent visitor to BNSS.

Neutrinos are produced by the most elementary nuclear processes in stars, in unimaginably vast numbers. Neutrinos hardly interact with the environment, passing through matter like it wasn't there. If you wanted to be sure to stop a neutrino, you would need a lead shield 100 light-years thick!

We are pervaded by neutrinos – trillions pass through our bodies every second of the day and night. This talk examines these particles in some depth, and asks if they deserve their place as one of the candidate particles for dark matter.

Mark adeptly took us through some of the complications surrounding both the nature and detection of neutrinos. We also looked some of the cosmological implications.