

I am a human being – what am I? My only source of Knowledge about that is whatever I have actually **experienced** in my BEING and BELONGING. Whether I'm studying books, conversing with others, running around or day-dreaming, what I know is what my mind and body have **experienced** – everything to which I have directed my Attention.

That knowing exists in both mind and body, but I am most aware of it in my conscious mind, situated within my material body, somehow, but ranging far beyond that through my interconnection with other things and processes. Though it recognises the material things, even within my own body, it is inherently more interested in processes (as I have been saying) and the way the things work together as a whole and thus have Meaning and Value.

We 'modern humans' have talked about this for almost a century (*Process and Reality* by Whitehead, popular Systems Theory, *The Web of Life* by Fritjof Capra, more recently *The Web of Meaning* by Jeremy Lent and *Everything Flows* (Eds. Daniel Nicholson, John Dupre).

Process differs from mechanism – the way things are connected in a machine – in that everything flows, no bit or whole is unchangeable, it never stops, and the causality is too complex to determine. At its core is an interdependent relationality whereby the parts act in the service of the whole and are in turn protected and managed by the whole. Materialistic science is out of its depth when the non-material (whatever can't be measured) becomes the greater interest of our conscious mind.

Thus we have – unlike indigenous humans – an uneasy tension between our awareness of a purely material world described by Science and the non-material world of our conscious mind. Our reality includes both. We can **appreciate** the special properties of human beings when we have the **breadth** of mind to respect a conscious non-materiality, in ourselves and everything else, as well as the solid structures we are accustomed to leaning on. I regard consciousness as the Real World **experience** – of myself and everything else.

Mainstream science suggests that we create consciousness from the material in our brain, or perhaps transmit it, if its source is elsewhere. The brain is certainly the organ we humans must have for our Attention, Perception, thinking and feeling, but that is not the case for everything else. I am attracted to the statements of several pioneering Physicists (notably Planck and Schrodinger) that consciousness is fundamental, cannot be reduced to anything else, and therefore our material world is derived from it.

I can't know that, but what I need to know is that I will **experience Inter-subjectivity** – as broadly or as narrowly as I choose. I believe that is the process whereby we BELONG, to everything, in ways both material and non-material, in our Real World. Our **breadth** of mind gives us this **appreciation**.

I have been saying throughout these Blogs that the miracle of Creation that is our BEING still depends, every day, on our BELONGING. As long as there are many parts working in the **service** of the whole, the wisdom of the whole will protect and guide them. I am one of those parts. To say this is to have a **sense of the Sacred**, which is probably the very core of what I am as a human being.

That **service** I describe is the Love that was gifted to us from birth and remains with us.