

## Philosophy Group – June 2020

The Philosophy group has started sessions via zoom. We had a trial run with some help from Bob Tuddenham (thanks to him!), and this month have had a presentation from James Dykes on '**Morals - a man-made myth?**' James gave us a history of mankind with distinctions from other animals' development, introducing the premise, 'As far as we know, Sapiens is the only animal which can imagine and talk about things they have never seen, never smelled, and never touched, indeed about things that only exist in our imaginations.'

He then went on to introduce the idea of religion and myths and proposed some thinking about Spiritual and Moral development. Finally, he asked us,

'But if I accept that concepts of morality, justice, human rights and the like are mythical, and that they were developed by Sapiens to deal with the wide variety of beliefs and cultures that have evolved: also that we have not just the ability, but the capacity to amend these concepts as we go along, and to do that at an extraordinary pace, how, then, can there be a stable justice, a firm and fixed morality, a real value. How can there be concrete human rights, or an invariable ethical position, when each is merely an ongoing reaction to man's development, a knee jerk to the fast-changing world we inhabit, and control?'

Wow! What do you think? Any suggestions, comments or interest in joining us online at our follow up discussion, please contact me. Our 'meeting' will be on the 4th Tuesday of July, 28th at 10am.

Ruth Sansom