

MONMOUTHSHIRE 40p Wednesday, August 29, 2012

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Thought for the weak



with the Rev Preben
Andersen

AS I am writing this, good progress is being made with the Churches Together Cafe in Caldicot. We have a charity name – The Mighty Bean – and we have trustees onboard. We have great support from the council, community and outside organisations, and we are hopeful that all the necessary funding is not too far away either.

I cannot help thinking how The Mighty Bean has been developing thanks to the young people of our denominations rather than the clergy.

Although we have always been there for advice, the leg work has been done by lay people, and thank you to them.

Just like the mustard seed, it all began humbly, the seed was planted and nurtured, until now we can see another stage in the process coming to fruition.

Or perhaps, the following illustration is better: It started with a coffee bean, then water at just the right temperature was added, the contents stirred, a little milk put in and perhaps a spoonful of sugar, and here we are, with everybody ensuring now that the kettle remains on the boil.

In the Bible we hear Jesus say the mustard seed is or was the smallest of all seeds. And from that small seed great things could develop. This is as true about life today as it was then.

When The Mighty Bean opens its doors, the place will be about much more than a cup of coffee.

It will be about a secure and friendly environment, a library, a place to relax, to talk, to listen, or just be quiet.

It will be about helping those not as fortunate as we are, or – where we cannot help personally – refer to those who can.

Some of what I have said may sound like old hat, I hope not all of it.

For we are moving forward, in trust and confidence, and nothing is static for people and a vision constantly on the move.

If we love our village and community, rather than put up a petition trying to ban those we feel we cannot get on with, let us create a place for everybody to meet and engage.

And may The Mighty Bean be such a place.