

# The Oasis at Winyates report

The Oasis at Winyates- **"A place where people matter" and "a shop that's different!"**

Isaiah 25:4 **You have been a refuge for the poor, a refuge for the needy in his distress, a shelter from the storm and a shade from the heat.**

During the last 2 years, since we opened the doors at Winyates, we have experienced numerous memorable times and challenges. We have forged many friendships, amongst the staff, but especially, in the community and with the other traders in Winyates Centre. We now have many regulars who support us and are experiencing God's love, through our servant ministry. We continually receive excellent feedback and comments on how they are drawn back to the shop. The original vision God put on my heart, as in the heading above, was a shop that's different! Customers love the atmosphere in the shop and are being touched by God, in a loving gentle way, through the staff, sharing the good news of the gospel, but also subconsciously, through the music playing in the background and scripture verses around the shop.

We have gained support from the Council, which has led to us being able to open another shop in Woodrow, and other organisations, and developed partnerships, within the community and around Redditch. We are able to help many families' lives day-by-day, and through toys and food parcels over the Christmas period. More support in this area would be appreciated and food can now be taken to the shop.

On a personal level, I've matured as a person and in my walk with God. I have developed a deeper trust in God, and strength of character to handle many situations that arise in the shop, some distressing. I thank God, and the management team for the opportunity and their support in this post. I am excited about the opportunity to continue in God's work and his plan for my life at 'The Oasis at Woodrow.'

I am looking forward to reaching out to the community of Woodrow and bringing God's love through the shop. We do need workers who are flexible, hard-working, but especially have a heart for the lost. So please prayerfully consider if you could volunteer. All our volunteers have gained a great deal, and mainly love the experience of our mission field!

God bless.

*Katrina*