

# YFA News

August 2017



## The Young Firefighters Association

The Young Firefighters Association (YFA) helps 13-17 year olds challenge themselves, make new friends, learn exciting firefighting skills and help their communities. A lot of their time is spent on the training yard, practising firefighting drills, but they also get involved in plenty of other exciting and challenging activities. Whether these young people go on to become firefighters or not, they will undoubtedly learn a range of vital skills that will help them in their everyday lives.

This newsletter gives an overview of the activities undertaken in the last three months by members of the YFA.



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## A colourful start to the summer!

The annual Go Bright for Sight Colour Run returned to Droitwich in June and saw joggers, runners and walkers journeying 5K through several paint stations. Whilst all of the participants were covered in coloured paint and smiles, the young firefighters were helping marshal the event and were covered in a spot of paint themselves! All money raised on the day went to Sight Concern, who support local blind and partially sighted people lead independent and fulfilling lives.



## The Redditch Cycle Race

Keen cyclists from across the UK sped through Redditch in May for the Tour Series 2017. Yet again, Redditch YFA was asked to support the event so came along with a fire engine and their expertise. The members were on hand throughout the exciting event, which attracted large crowds, to offer fire safety advice to the public and onlookers.



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## Pass out parade for Droitwich members

After a 15 week intensive training course, six young firefighters from Droitwich showcased their newly learnt skills during a pass out parade at Droitwich Fire Station in May. Proud friends, family and Fire Service personnel looked on as the new recruits carried out a hose running drill, ladder climbs and various exciting rescue demonstrations. This was followed by a presentation, where Certificates of Achievement were awarded to each of the six new recruits. Well done to all!



## Always ready for action

Members of the YFA always get stuck into an array of exciting activities and the last three months have been no different. The group from Droitwich have recently tackled indoor climbing walls and braved the outdoors

during a mountain walk in the Brecon Beacons National Park. The members of the Redditch branch have been just as adventurous and have enjoyed thrilling kayaking sessions on the river.



## Keeping up to speed with fire safety



All of the young firefighters have recently spent time with the Community Risk Department, who have trained them to use the smoke house simulator as well as briefed them on key safety messages. This input from the department will enable the young firefighters to safely operate the smoke house as well as deliver safety advice at community events such as station open days.

If you have any comments regarding this newsletter or would like to find out more, please visit [www.hwfire.org.uk/yfa](http://www.hwfire.org.uk/yfa)  
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