John

John is a retail assistant at our Nisa Kimberlow store and we asked him to tell us a little bit about what it's like to work for YCL, what his favourite parts of the job are, and what advice he'd give to anyone thinking of applying for a role here.

John was born and brought up in London, but after several years he found London life too busy, so he and his partner moved to rural Ireland for 11 years to enjoy some peace and quiet. After a while, 'God's own country' beckoned and he made the move to Yorkshire to get the 'best of both worlds'. He's now been working for YCL for 18 months.

What's your average working day like?

I normally start work early, about 6am. In the mornings we have our all our deliveries so we've got the job of checking them, unpacking them and putting them on the shelves.

If you're not doing that, you'll be on the tills serving customers. You might think the mornings would be quite quiet but we're lucky that we're busy all the time. We have plenty of people stopping in on their way to work so there's never a quiet part of the day.

I prefer to be busy so this works really well for me, there's always something to do! There's nothing worse than standing around doing nothing.

I get to do a bit of everything here, putting all the products out, pricing, working on the tills, the whole lot!

What's your favourite part of your job?

I like to keep things in order and I hate mess so I love sorting out messes. If I come in and see the shop looking a bit empty or untidy, filling it up and making it look nice and tidy makes me really happy.

I think making sure the shop looks good is the bit I enjoy the most. I like it to look its best for our customers.

What do you think of working for YCL?

I've worked in retail all my life. In all my experience I think most people are fine, if you treat them nicely they'll do the same to you. I do have to say that people here are all very friendly. They say the Irish are friendly but I can definitely say that here the customers and the staff are all really lovely.

What tips would you give anyone thinking of joining the team?

I'd say come in with a positive attitude and be interested in what you're doing. Life's too short to be miserable! If you're working with the public, I'd say try and treat your customers in the way you'd like to be treated. If you treat people properly you won't have many problems. I've got to say the people here are just so friendly. I think anyone thinking about working here would feel very welcomed. I think sometimes you can start somewhere new and people might give you a bit of a cold shoulder but that's not true at all here. It's real Yorkshire hospitality.