

Transcript

Pushing the speed barrier: Trailblazing Women in Motorsports – Audio 5

Helen Owton

And what do you think you'll find in your research?

Lorna Stevens

I think it will find from the perspectives of the women themselves, quite a diverse, attitude to, to, to to what these young women do. I, I understand that some of them are vehemently against raising themselves. They don't want to be put into, a women's series. They want to be seen as a capable racer in their own right, regardless of being a woman.

And I get that, however, I, I think generally speaking, it's like the. Well, if what if it if, if it's going to progress, then there has to be a women's series and that's the only way women will move forwards. And, it's only a World Series that the only World Series that the moment. So there's nothing happening in this country just for women.

But I think there will be a level of frustration against that. And a level of frustration against sponsorship and money and is a huge one. How can you self sustain when you're not a professional in the job? Lots and lots of barriers to moving forwards without that, formal sponsorship. And, you know, here's a bike will support you and the bike that's, that's that's a big thing for a lot of women to get over.

They have to be self-funded, and spend a lot of their time asking people for money, which must be difficult. Yeah. Otherwise, I absolutely think they will talk to me at great length about the wonders of racing bikes, you know, putting all that stuff to one side. The actual experience of it is why they do it.

It's a bit like me. It's like, oh my God. It's just like, just an amazing thing to do. Yeah. I mean, we can jump out of airplanes or we can, do lots of crazy things like that, but that there's nothing quite like the skill involved, because I think anyone can jump out of the airplane and glide to the earth.

But the skill of actually, not only racing yourself, but, you know, competing with other people and negotiating every different which way around a circuit is an incredible skill. Yeah. I'm looking forward to it, I can't lie. Yeah, yeah, yeah.

Helen Owton

Yeah, I bet. I mean, I've been around a track myself on a motorbike and I think the first time I went round, it was so overwhelming. It kind of. It's it's like a shock to the system here. It's either do or die. Really? I just have to go for it. And then, Yeah. Then I went back on it, in the afternoon and, really then felt a lot more comfortable.

Helen Owton

And there were fewer people on the track because the amount of people on the track.

Lorna Stevens

Yeah, yeah. And when track days as well can be quite dangerous because people want to show off and they don't necessarily know how to overtake or undertake or anything like that.



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And so, yeah, but that's, it's the only way to learn really, and to, to follow advice rather than what you think you can do as a. Yeah.

Yeah. But it's track days are great. Yeah, yeah I still I still do. Yeah. Sorry. I was going to say I it even though I don't race my bike anymore, I still have quite a nice sporty car which I take on track days and. Yeah, yeah, yeah. So I haven't lost the, the, the, you know that buzz.

Lorna Stevens

But I just don't do it on a bike anymore. I'm just about to have my second hip replaced. It's safer in a car.