

News

Newsdesk ☎ 01603 772443

Jobs for the girls

As a woman in a male-dominated workplace, Caroline Lake was subjected to a rough ride when she began work as a mechanic.

But she was determined to overcome prejudice and went on to set up Norfolk's first female-run garage. Now the 37-year-old mum is helping other women starting out in the business by taking on two female apprentices.

Miss Lake, who owns Caroline's Cars in Ashwellthorpe Industrial Estate, recently appointed 17-year-olds Kelly Clarke, *left* and Nicola Ades from Norfolk Training Services.

Miss Lake, who opened her business two years ago, has always believed that women suffer inequality at the hands of male mechanics, and said she had to battle to achieve success.

She said: "I've heard stories of young women starting out in this business who aren't given any responsibility and are left with menial tasks, such as putting tools away and making tea. It even happened to me, and it was only down to my persistence, passion and self-learning that I managed to progress.

"They will benefit most from hands-on experience and I can't wait for them to see what an exciting time this is for women to be working in this industry."

PHOTO: STEVE ADAMS

