

Auto REVIEW



Fast forward: Local businesswoman Lynne Champion is ready to put her foot down.

Champion on track

DISTRICT businesswoman Lynne Champion is not just an entrepreneurial success but a motoring one, too.

The 50-year-old chef, who owns Fairways Guesthouse and the Excessories stores in Lancefield and Woodend, has found a passion in the world of motorsport, and her age has done anything but slow her down.

"At my age, to take up motor-sport is a huge challenge because it's really for the young kids, so to be here giving it a go is pretty amazing," Ms Champion said.

Ms Champion debuted at the recent Australian Performance Car Championship and was the only female race car driver at the Clipsal 500 in Adelaide.

She is the only female to compete at a national level in Australia.

Competing in the Australian Production Car Championship last year aboard a Ford Falcon, Lynne attacked the year with enthusiasm and determination and improved her results throughout the season.

"I think it's a big move to go from

one year of Production into Australian Performance," she said.

"I know I'm up against some serious drivers who have a lot of experience, so I'm definitely the new kid on the block, as they say."

Nevertheless, the new kid on the block has accrued 10 points. Granted, she is currently sitting in 21st place, but this isn't too bad for a first effort.

"I'm going from Ford to a Mitsubishi Evo so that's a big change," Ms Champion said.

She added that she probably needed a little more time in the car to get comfortable.

However, the Adelaide circuit was one she was familiar with since she made her racing debut there twelve months ago.

"I actually really liked it, I liked the circuit, it's tricky in a few different places and if you do have an off you can be in some big trouble," Ms Champion said.

"But it's a very good circuit, I'm looking forward to driving there again."