Special Constables – Female Volunteer Officers Share Their Experiences

[British Transport Police - Special Constables - Female Volunteer Officers Share Their Experiences - YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6OxsxbXuDwo&t=2s)

One-time I felt that I really made a difference was when I attended my first fatality. I went home from that shift feeling that I’d really achieved something, that I’d done the best for that individual and I’d supported the family

Georgina – Special Constable

Annika – Special Constable

Tamsin – Special Constable

**What is your favourite thing about being a BTP special?**

I think the whole experience has taught me a lot about myself, things that I would never consider before just came out by being a police officer.

The training that we receive as Specials is phenomenal and it's really made me feel more resilient, more confident. I feel I have a toolbox of different skills where if I’m in a situation where I might feel that I need to pull on those tools I know exactly what I’m doing.

It is literally your colleagues, I have never felt part of something where it's a real family feel, so whenever we go to an incident, we know each other well enough, even just look at each other and we know what we're thinking.

**Do you think it's important to increase female representation in the police, why or why not?**

I think it's super important to have a really good balance of male and female officers.

I think it's really positive, we're seeing more and more females now going into higher ranks, I think it's really encouraging to young people coming through the force and actually for young people looking at a career within police surface, to see that actually as females, anything is possible.

**Have you ever had to deal with a particular motive or tough situation?**

I particularly remember one shift; we were called to a possible person at risk on the railway, and she was looking to end her life and to be a part of arriving in time to such a raw situation, you go home feeling you've really made a difference, and that you you've changed what could have been an awful outcome.

I’ve come across lots of different scenarios that has really tested me as an individual and you get a real tough skin, so rather than going away and shying away from a situation, now I will go head on and deal with what's in front of me and that's something that I’ve massively learned about myself which I like about myself.

There's a lot of reason why being a BTP Special is really really great, when I put on that uniform, I feel the sense of responsibility that comes with it.

When I put that uniform on it is a real sense of pride.

You never quite know what you're going to be going to, but that's part of the attraction of the role, every shift is different.