‘My Ordinary Life’ episode teasers

Episode 1

Welcome to " My Ordinary Life", a new radio miniseries exploring the lives and achievements of people who were born or are living with a disability. This series will explore their lives, the trials and the triumphs, the ordinary and the extra-ordinary.

Episode one will focus on 33 year old radio journalist Katie Brooks. Katie is a self confessed book lover, history buff and science nerd. She was born in Sydney in Crown Street Hospital, shortly before the hospital closed down. She inherited a bone disease from her mother, which has left her blind in one eye and with just 30% vision in the other eye. It also means that her bones, which contain too much calcium, are brittle.

Episode 2

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This episode will focus on Darien Brown, the self-titled autistic comic, a stand-up comedian who occasionally uses his disability to poke fun at assumptions made about people living with disabilities.

Darien also has a mild case of Asperger’s syndrome a developmental disorder which affects the way in which a brain process information.

Darien has dreamed of being a world famous comedian since he was in school, and has slowly been working his way through Australian comedy festivals and building up a fan base.

Episode 3

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This episode will focus on Emily Dash, an actress with sparkly blue eyes, a warm smile and a way with words that can either make you belly laugh or send shivers down your spine, depending on how she uses them.

Born with a superstar name, Emily has her heart set on Broadway, and in her ideal world, she will make it there in the next five years. She’s also a writer and has produced dramatic monologues, stage scripts and short film screenplays.

Emily was born with Cerebral Palsy, a condition that severely impairs her motor skills and means that her only options of moving around are either in a wheelchair, or being carried. This hasn’t dampened her dreams much at all though, and she is intent on showing the world that she can be creative and that her life does have meaning. Emily is currently working on a short film to tackle some of the assumptions that wider society make about people who have disabilities.

Episode 4

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This episode will focus on David and Tannia Smith, a paraplegic couple living in Matraville New South Wales. David and Tannia Smith both have paraplegia, but that has rarely prevented them from doing anything they want, be it skiing, attending football games, surfing or trips to the Gold Coast.

David grew up in Narribri in Northern NSW on a farm, he was born with spina bifida and has had decreasing mobility since he was a child.

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This episode will focus on Christopher Bunton, a gold-medal winning special-Olympian who has competed in both China and Greece. He loves to dance, do jigsaw puzzles, advocate for people with disabilities and he currently is sharing his sporting experience with the next generation, by coaching a kids gymnastics team.

Christopher was born with Down syndrome, an intellectual disability occurring in babies born with an extra chromosome, but he hasn’t let this get in the way of achieving exceptionally in sport, dancing or speaking up on behalf of people who are living with disabilities.

Episode 6

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This episode will focus on Lisa Slate, a young woman born on the mid-north coast of New South Wales. Lisa loves watching the footy, taking her little dogs to the park and occasionally doing something extreme, like skydiving, or a bridge climb.

Lisa was born with Cystic Fibrosis, a genetic condition which affects her lungs, liver and heart. Cystic Fibrosis is also the most common life-shortening chronic illness affecting young Australians.

Lisa was lucky enough to have a lung transplant ten years ago, and it has given her a new lease on life.

Before her lung transplant, Lisa had sticky mucous form on her lungs and constricts her airways, so every day she has to take a range of medication and perform a therapy which loosens the mucous and allows her to cough it up.

Episode 7

Welcome to ‘My Ordinary Life, a new radio miniseries which documents the lives and achievements of people who are born, or are living with a disability. This series will explore their lives, the trials and the triumphs, the ordinary and the extraordinary.

This episode will focus on Bart Bunting, an IT specialist and former Paralympic skiing champion.Bart was born blind, but he never really let that get in his way. He’s lived life like there is no tomorrow, travelling, skiing and performing in plays.

Episode 8

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This episode will focus on Leonie Jackson, the first female and first deaf CEO of the Deaf Society of Australia. I sat down with Leonie and her translator to discover how a little blonde, curly haired kid growing up in Queensland, landed this impressive job.

Episode 9 – I will email to you along with the episode and you can copy it in.

Episode 10

Welcome to ‘My Ordinary Life, a new radio miniseries which documents the lives and achievements of people who are born, or are living with a disability. This series will explore their lives, the trials and the triumphs, the ordinary and the extraordinary.

This episode will focus on John Silk, a golfing enthusiast who has long since retired from his job in the computer marketing industry.

John developed Parkinsons disease, a neurological disease which affects people’s movement, over a decade ago. Since then he has used his extensive negotiation and marketing skills to lead the Parkinsons NSW organisation and support people suffering from Parkinsons and fundraise on behalf of Parkinsons disease research.

But before he had Parkinsons, John had a very busy life, working in the fresh produce industry. It was during this time that he first met the woman who would become his wife, Becky.