

MRFC Response

RE: ALMAIL: NO HOPE FOR OUR SPORTING FUTURE Jul 8 2004

Fiona Grogan shouldn't worry about the sporting future in Canary Wharf.

For the past 18 months, Millwall Rugby Club has been working extremely hard with our sponsors Canary Wharf Plc, to grow the sport in Tower Hamlets.

Along with our championship winning 1st team, we have a young and thriving Youth section designed to teach youngsters the finer points of the game.

Although we play our home games at Victoria Park, Millwall Rugby Club is very much based on the Isle of Dogs and providing opportunities for the local youth is a high priority of the club.

Millwall RFC and Canary Wharf Plc have recently formed a partnership with George Green School (Manchester Rd) that will see rugby back in the school curriculum after a period of absence. The club also provided them with brand new kit, which was presented to them before a school rugby tournament held on Millwall Park in May.

While the International team may have faltered since winning the World Cup, the hard working volunteers at Millwall Rugby Club are putting in the effort to ensure that future little Jonny Wilkinson's make the best of the opportunities available to them.

Matthew Shorrocks
Press Officer
Millwall Rugby Club

Original Letter

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WINNER OF £10 LETTER OF THE WEEK
Fiona Grogan

ANOTHER summer full of sporting hope has ended once again with nothing but dreams of what might have been.

We were let down by our football team, our tennis players, our cricketers and even our World Champion rugby side. Yet is it surprising that we fall down in the sporting arena?

With so much money and wealth in Canary Wharf, surely the sports facilities would match the estate's high-class inhabitants.

Instead we have a splattering of ridiculously over-priced gyms and a couple of sailing centres for those that like to play games on the water.

Where are the football pitches, the tennis courts or the clubs to develop young players? East London is a deprived, poor area with little to nurture young talent.

With all the money that wafts through the Canary Wharf air, is there no-one that can put it to use and make this new hub of London a hub of national sport?

Fiona Grogan
South Quay