

A letter from the editor

Welcome to your new-look Docklands. Our aim has been to produce a modern, easy-to-read newspaper that reflects the vibrant community we serve.

We have created a paper with more news and great new features to highlight all that is good about the area.

We have teamed up with the Docklands Museum to bring you a new series on a heritage that has seen great change down the ages.

Environment correspondent Tara Greaves provides a unique look at the sustainability legacy of the Olympic Park and we bring you two pages of London-wide news relevant to those living in the Docklands area.

We hope you enjoy it.

Malcolm Starbrook

Got a story to tell



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SUBJECT

Are women in business still kept down by a glass ceiling?

As the Sky Sports sexism row refuses to die down, we look at the related issues of women in business and whether an invisible barrier still exists.

Marina Thomas

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Sexism and The City

IN A time where women are told they can do anything they want to, the mere concept of a glass ceiling seems to be outdated.

But in 2009, only 12.2 per cent of directors of FTSE 100 companies were female.

And in the FTSE 250 companies, just 7.3 per cent of directors were women and nearly half of them did not have any females in the boardroom.

Are there still major obstacles to women reaching the higher echelons of business? Does sexism play a part? And do women even want to break through the glass ceiling?

We speak to three successful Docklands businesswomen to hear their views.



Sam Burlton, chief executive of Greenwich health and beauty store So Organic and mother of baby Lily.

SAM started So Organic and although she runs it with her husband Stuart, not everyone realises she is top dog at first.

She says some sexism remains in the workplace as well as an attitude about businesswomen. She believes it is hard to return to work after having children.

"When I have meetings with some men they think I'm Stuart's PA.

"I started my own business to be adequately recognised for how good I was."



Clare Murray is Managing Partner of CM Murray LLP in Canary Wharf.

She deals with a lot of cases of sexism in the workplace and has also experienced it herself with clients.

She believes a lot of women set up their own businesses when they reach the glass ceiling and they can no longer make headway in big businesses.

"While this is a good thing, on one hand it also means if women keep opting out of taking on senior management and climbing up further, the situation will never change.

"There are not enough women in senior jobs who can be role models and mentor others."



Rita Beckwith is managing director of City Cruises and was chair of the Docklands Business Club for eight years until she stepped down in 2010. She is a mother of two.

Rita doesn't believe the glass ceiling exists any more but says there is still a lack of confidence among women that they can reach the boardroom.

"It is not how far you can go, it's how far you want to go now. There are equal opportunities.

"It is very tough but women can have a family and career now and come back to a good job after having kids."

She said juggling both can be a big strain which leaves children feeling unsupported.

SUBJECT



■ Survivor Jonathan Ganesh

Honouring the victims of terrorism

Victims of terrorism will come together for a multi-faith service at South Quay on the anniversary of the IRA bombing there.

Victims of 7/7 will join survivors of the IRA attack that killed two people and injured many more on February 9 1996.

Chief Supt Paul Rickett of the Met Police and Tower Hamlets mayor Lutfur Rahman will attend the service next Wednesday.

IRA bomb survivor Jonathan Ganesh will speak at the event along with Ishan Bashir, who lost his brother.

Ganesh said: "I'm pleased to be attending this memorial service to remember JJ and Inam (Bashir), and also to remember all those who have been killed as a consequence of terrorism."

The service is at 12.30pm.

SUBJECT

East London regeneration 'could make the capital £21bn a year richer'



■ East London has the potential to grow even further

A fully regenerated east London could contribute an additional £21bn a year to London's economic wealth, economists have claimed.

The study by Oxford Economics also revealed that east London was responsible for creating one in every four new jobs in the capital and created more jobs over the past decade than Birmingham, Edinburgh, Leeds or Manchester.

The Docklands corridor of

Canary Wharf, London City Airport and the ExCeL have been principally responsible for the jobs increase, with the Olympic Park and Stratford City set to extend that area in years to come.

But the study also warned that future wealth generation depends on public investment in infrastructure, improving skills and marketing the area.

Alan Wilson, author of the

study, said: "From our analysis, and the lessons learned from successful regeneration elsewhere, it's clear that east London's potential will not be achieved by the market alone.

"Its perceived peripheral location and geography that comprises a number of local councils along with multiple land ownership - including in the public sector - are major barriers to pure market-led development."

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