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# great tea party

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Urban Coffee  
id: "Any event that  
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and incredibly worthwhile cause."

There was a prize for the best hat worn and a raffle with donated gifts, which included a cut and finish at Nicky Clarke, a signed picture from award-winning photographer Paul Arthur and a free race day and dinner at Wolverhampton Racecourse.

# Send in your food art pics

▲ THE Big Jubilee Lunch 2012 takes place on Sunday, June 3, and forms part of the official celebrations for the Queen's Diamond Jubilee in Birmingham.

To kick-start The Big Jubilee Lunch activity in the West Midlands, we're launching a "What does the Midlands bring to the table?" Competition, inviting local residents to create food sculptures or edible art representing local landmarks, famous faces and regional customs and culture - the very best of the Midlands!

To enter, readers can submit photos of their West Midlands-inspired food art creations to [foodartcomp@golleyslater.co.uk](mailto:foodartcomp@golleyslater.co.uk) and the winning entry will be chosen by head judge, Prudence Stalte.

Entries will be judged on creativity, artistic skill and community spirit. The closing date for entries is Friday, May 4, 2012.

The lucky winner will win entry for a family of four to the award-winning tourist attraction The Eden Project in Cornwall. Travel and accommodation will be included.

For more information about this year's Big Jubilee Lunch, visit [www.thebiglunch.com](http://www.thebiglunch.com). For competition terms and conditions, visit [www.birminghammail.net](http://www.birminghammail.net)

Prudence has created a Birmingham skyline food sculpture to launch The Big Jubilee Lunch competition.

## EMAIL

Email your pictures and stories to [esh.capelo@trinitymirror.com](mailto:esh.capelo@trinitymirror.com)

## TWITTER

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Colourful: Left, runners warming up before the race; above left, Richard Sharkey and Carl Pinkerton after the race; and above, Andrew Harper, winner of the prize for best costume.

# EX-PUPIL HELPS FUND £10m ARTS COMPLEX

By Kat Keogh  
EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

ONE of the richest men in the Midlands is giving pupils at his old school a helping hand by backing a new £10 million arts centre.

Sir Paul Ruddock, who is now worth nearly £300 million, is a key benefactor behind the new performing arts centre at King Edward's School, in Edgbaston.

The venue will be named the Sir Paul and Lady Ruddock Centre, in honour of the financier, who was knighted for services to the arts in the 2012 New Year Honours.

It will be shared with the neighbouring King Edward VI High School For Girls.

The project is just weeks away from completion, and will be officially opened by Sir Paul and education secretary Michael Gove at the end of this month.

Solihull-born Sir Paul revealed that receiving a scholarship to King Edward's in 1969 proved to be a turning point in his life. The hedge fund chief,



Benefactor: Sir Paul Ruddock (right) and the work going on at King Edward's School, Edgbaston.

who has also been the chairman of the Victoria And Albert Museum since 2007, said: "My father was a civil servant and my mother was a teacher, and I went to my local junior school.

"I got a scholarship, and the school for me was an inspiration. Not only did it help me to get into university and in my career, but it really opened up my mind to history and the arts.

"King Edward's has always been one of the great academic

schools this country has, and I just wanted to say thank you."

The new arts centre - which boasts a 400-seater concert hall and room for an 80-piece orchestra, plus a drama studio and dance studio - is part of a £20 million building programme at King Edward's.

Work is also set start in the summer on a new £5 million sixth-form and modern languages centre.

Half the cash for the new languages centre was donated by



an anonymous ex-pupil, in what is believed to be one of the largest single donations made to any UK school.

King Edward VI High School head teacher Sarah Evans said: "We have all these incredibly talented young people and we have had very limited facilities for them in the past. Suddenly, we are moving from that into a state-of-the-art space for them."



# MP supports boxing club's teen efforts

TAMWORTH MP Christopher Pincher is throwing his weight behind a boxing club which is working to turn troubled teens lives around.

MFA Fighter Management, set up last summer by brothers-in-law Simon Pearson and Dave Maskell, operates on a shoestring budget out of Bancroft Community Centre's gym in Glascoate. One success story is



MP Chris Pincher (centre) with some of the MFA members.

18-year-old Luke Cookson, who had a history of being in trouble with police but now wants to become a professional boxer. The MP said: "Some of these lads have had a difficult start in life. Together they can develop a positive camaraderie which is good for them and the community."

Father-of-two Mr Pearson said "It's great a local MP is sitting up and taking notice of what we're doing."



# BIRMINGHAM CANCER

Every two minutes someone in the UK is told they have cancer. Ladies, let's walk, jog or run 5k to help more of them survive.

Your local Race for Life is Cofton Park on 8 July and Cannon Hill Park on 22 July.

Enter now at [raceforlife.org](http://raceforlife.org)