

Family events – February 2019

**Solihull Family
Information Service**

As well as the events below, don't forget to check out further activities and things to do on www.solihull.gov.uk/familyinfo

Please note: The below activities are not registered or regulated by Solihull Family Information Service. It is your responsibility to ensure you are happy that the activities are safe and appropriate for your child.

North Solihull (and surrounding areas)

Date(s)	Activity	Price	Time	Suitable age
Marston Green Parish Hall Elmdon Road, Marston Green, Solihull B37 7BT Website: www.marstongreenparishhall.co.uk				
Sat 9 Feb	Family Valentine's Disco Our ever popular Family Disco is back again but this time in honour of St. Valentine's Day! Come along and enjoy a drink from the bar while the kids burn some energy on the dance floor playing games and winning prizes! Chips and hot dogs will be on sale. There will also be a special visitor!	£6.00 per child ticket £1.50 per adult ticket	5.30pm - 8.30pm	All ages
Tues 19 Feb	Kids Movie Come along and enjoy a real movie experience without paying the hefty price tag! We will be showing a new kids movie on our big screen during this half term! On sale will be hot and cold food and drinks and refreshments including popcorn! Tickets available closer to the time so check back for details or subscribe and we will let you know when tickets go on sale!	Tickets £3.50 per person	1pm (doors open 12:30pm)	All ages
Chelmsley Wood Shopping Centre Chelmsley Wood, Solihull B37 5TS Tel: 0121 770 1775 Website: www.chelmsleywoodshopping.co.uk				
Sun 24 Feb	An Autism Friendly Environment! On the last Sunday of every month, we help to provide a more comfortable shopping experience for anyone with autism or other special needs, by turning off the centre music and asking our retailers to do what they can to help support our sensory visits. Sensory Sunday's allows shoppers with sensory impairments to access the centre in a more comfortable atmosphere and in a way that their needs are either met, or at least understood by the centre and retailers.	N/A	10.30am - 5pm	All ages

Castle Bromwich Hall and Gardens Chester Road, Castle Bromwich, Solihull, B36 9BT

Tel: 0121 749 4100

Website: www.castlebromwichhallgardens.org.uk

18th - 22nd Feb	Unplug and play February half term family event. See website for further details.	See website	12:00pm - 3:00pm	All ages
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Libraries...

Date(s)	Activity	Price	Time	Suitable age
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Castle Bromwich Library Hurst Lane North, Castle Bromwich, Solihull B36 0EY

Tel: 0121 747 3708

	Story time. Starting Tues 12th Feb	FREE	2.15pm - 2.45pm (Term time only)	Under 5s
	Rhyme time on Mondays. Alternating between either a morning or a afternoon session. A short interactive session for babies and very young children, which includes finger and action rhymes and songs.	FREE	10.45am - 11.05am or 2.30pm - 2.50pm	0 - 2 years

Chelmsley Wood Library 10 West Mall, Chelmsley Wood Shopping Centre, Solihull B37 5TN

Tel: 0121 788 4380

Fri	Rhyme time Free stories, songs, rhymes and toys. Drop-in session, term time only on Fridays	FREE	10am (term time only)	Under 5s
Mon	Code Club. Do you have a favourite computer game? Would you like to learn how to make your own computer games? At Code Club you will learn how to make cool games, animations and websites too! Drop-in session, Contact library staff to find out more details.	FREE	4pm - 5pm term time only	8 - 12 years
	Owlets - Play & Stay A children's drop-in session. Monthly on Tuesdays. Contact library staff to find out more details.	FREE	10am	Under 3s

Kingshurst Library Marston Drive, Kingshurst, Solihull B37 6BD

Tel: 0121 770 3451

	Rhyme time – A short interactive session for babies and very young children that includes finger & action rhymes and songs. Also a chance to meet other mums and carers. Once a fortnight on Tuesdays.	FREE	10.15am - 10.45am	0 - 2 years
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Marston Green Library Land Lane, Solihull B37 7DQ

Call: 0121 779 2131

	Story Time - On Mondays, term time only. No need to book. Just pop along with your little ones for half an hour of stories, rhymes, songs and colouring.	FREE	2.30pm - 3pm	Under 5s
SPECIAL EVENT Mon 25 Feb	Monsters and Dinosaurs Craft Activity. Come along to our children's craft activity and make something to take away with you. Limited places available, contact Marston Green Library to book.	£1.50 per child	2.30pm-3.30pm	4 - 7 years

<p>Mon 4, 11, 18 and 25 Feb</p>	<p>Solihull Striders & Strollers Meeting at 10.15am for a 10.30am departure. These free walks are in the Marston Green area and are led by trained volunteers.</p> <p>No need to book, just turn up. Refreshments provided afterwards. Walks last up to an hour. The routes are mostly flat, even and accessible to all participants regardless of physical ability.</p> <p>All age groups are welcome, even little ones in pushchairs.</p> <p>The walks are suitable for everyone but if you are unsure, please come along and find out more details. The volunteers will be available to answer any questions or concerns you may have.</p>	<p>FREE</p>	<p>10.15am</p>	<p>All ages</p>
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South Solihull (and surrounding areas)

Date(s)	Activity	Price	Time	Suitable age
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The Core Theatre Solihull Theatre Square, Touchwood, Homer Road Solihull B91 3RG
Tel: 0121 704 6962 (Box Office)
Website: www.thecoretheatresolihull.co.uk

<p>1 & 2 Feb 8 & 9 Feb</p>	<p>Goldie Locks and the Three Martians Combining traditional pantomime elements with space age excitement and original humour the show is presented by local mixed aged group Harlequinade.</p> <p>When Goldilocks goes into the woods, she doesn't find the three bears but ends up on a spaceship to Mars... how on earth did that happen and how does she get back!</p> <p>Containing fabulous fun and silliness this light hearted show in the ground floor Studio space is suitable for all, with popular songs for young and old!</p>	<p>£12 Adults £10 Children</p>	<p>11am</p>	<p>4 years +</p>
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<p>SPECIAL EVENT Wed 20 Feb</p>	<p>The Exciting Science Show This brand new, exciting and educational show will amaze and astound.</p> <p>Featuring silly, fun, factual Science experiments, it's the perfect way to engage the mind and imagination during a dull and boring half term holiday!</p> <p>Step into their 'shock - hazard - danger zone' in this mix of learning and laughter... a show full of wiz, bang, pop...and splurt!</p>	<p>£10</p>	<p>11am</p>	<p>4 years +</p>
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Solihull Christian Fellowship The Bridge, 234 Stratford Road, Shirley B90 3AG
 Website: www.scfchurch.org.uk

Mon 4 Feb	<p>Next Steps - First Monday of the month An informal drop-in group where parents and carers will have opportunity to meet with NHS health visiting and infant feeding teams. A relaxed café style group where you can ask questions about all aspects of feeding (breast or bottle), starting solid food, returning to work, sleep and other baby and toddler-related issues. We meet in the Children's room (access via entrance opposite the park play area). Siblings welcome and refreshments provided.</p>	FREE	9:30 am – 10:30 am	Babies and Pre-school
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Libraries...

Date(s)	Activity	Price	Time	Suitable age
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Balsall Common Library 283 Kenilworth Road, Balsall Common CV7 3EL
 Tel: 01676 532590

	<p>Rhyme Time - on Tuesdays. An interactive session sharing rhymes and songs for babies and very young children.</p>	FREE	2.15pm - 2.45pm	Suitable for pre-school children
Mon 4, 11, 18 and 25 Feb	<p>Tales and Time to Make. Join us for a story, followed by a simple craft and messy play. Warm water to wash hands is provided, but we recommend wearing clothes that can get messy..</p>	FREE	11.00am – 11.30am	Suitable for pre-school children
Mon 4, 11, 18 and 25 Feb	<p>Tales and Time to Make. These sessions include a story, followed by a chance to play, sing, chat and relax with other young families. Suitable for preschool children.</p>	FREE	2:15pm – 3.00pm	Suitable for pre-school children
21 Feb	<p>Half Term Family Crafts Drop In. Get creative this half term with a selection of fun crafts. This activity is free and there is no need to book. Sponsored by Balsall Parish Council.</p>	FREE	10am - 4pm	4 - 11 years

Dickens Heath Library Old Dickens Heath Road, Dickens Heath, Solihull B90 1SD
 Tel: 0121 744 6078

	<p>Rhyme times on Mondays, term time only. A fun session of action rhymes and songs.</p>	FREE	2pm - 2.30pm	0 - 2 years
	<p>Tea & Tots - Every other Thursday of the month A chance for mums, dads, grans and carers to meet for a cuppa and a chat whilst the toddlers play. Occasional guest speakers may also attend.</p>	FREE	2pm - 3pm	Under 5s
	<p>Lego Club - Last Saturday of the month. Come along for some Lego fun.</p>	FREE	2pm onwards	5 - 9 years

Hampton in Arden Library 39 Fentham Road, Hampton in Arden, Solihull B92 0AY
Tel: 01675 442629

	Story times - Fortnightly on Tuesdays. Stories and crafts for all pre-school children. Please call for dates.	FREE	1.45pm - 2.15pm	Under 5s
	The Great Storybook Journey - Fortnightly on Fridays. A story for under 5's about a new place or environment, followed by painting pictures for our Great Storybook Journey wall display. Contact the library for dates. N.B. Warm water is provided to wash hands, but wearing clothes that can get messy is recommended.	FREE	1.45pm - 2.15pm	Under 5s

Hobs Moat Library Ulleries Road, Solihull B92 8EB
Tel: 0121 743 4592

	Under 5s Story Session 'Little Hobbits - Thursdays. Join the 'Little Hobbits' and sing along with rhymes before listening to stories and enjoying colouring with your pre school children.	FREE	10am - 10.45am (term time only)	Under 5s
Sat 16 Feb	Daddy Rhyme Time - Monthly on Saturdays. This is a special time of enjoyment and bonding for you and your child. Come along and meet with other fathers and male carers for a chat. Refreshments are provided. Please contact for more details.	FREE	10.30am - 11am	Under 5s
Feb 4	Animal Antics First Monday of the month. Staff will read stories about a new animal. Children can then colour in a picture of the animal and collect them. Every time you come to the library you can collect a paw print for your Animal Collector Card.	FREE	10.15 - 11am	Under 5s
Fri 8 Feb and 22 Feb	Striders and Strollers Meeting at 10.15am for a 10.30am departure. These free walks are in the Hobs Moat area and are led by trained volunteers. No need to book, just turn up. Refreshments provided afterwards. Walks last up to an hour. The walks are suitable for everyone all age groups are welcome, even little ones in pushchairs, but if you are unsure, please come along and find out more details. The volunteers will be able to answer any questions or concerns you may have.	FREE	10.15am	All ages

Knowle Library Chester House, 1667-1669 High Street, Knowle, Solihull B93 0LL
Tel: 01564 775840

	Monday Story time - This new activity will run fortnightly. It is aimed at preschool children. Join us for stories and rhymes. Please contact library for dates.	FREE	10.30am - 11am	Under 5s
	Rhyme Time - Every Friday afternoon, term time only. Bring your little ones along for a fun half hour of songs, action rhymes and musical instruments.	FREE	2pm - 2.30pm	Under 5s

Meriden Library Arden Cottage, The Green, Meriden CV7 7LN Tel: 01676 522717				
	Reading Zoo on Mondays. Our weekly story and painting session where we read a story about an animal and then all paint pictures of that animal. Please note: warm water to wash hands is provided but wearing clothes that can get messy is recommended.	FREE	2.30pm - 3pm (Term time only)	Under 5s
Olton Library 169A Warwick Road, Olton, Solihull B92 7AR Tel: 0121 706 3038				
	Story time on second Tuesday of the month. Come along and enjoy listening to stories for your pre-school child in the company of other children and their families.	FREE	2.15 pm - 2.45pm (Term time only)	Under 5s
Shirley Library 22 Parkgate, Stratford Road, Shirley, Solihull B90 3GG Tel: 0121 704 6300				
	Rhyme Time - For babies and toddlers on Tuesdays.	FREE	10am - 10.30am (Term time only)	Under 5s
	Rhyme Time - For babies and toddlers on Wednesdays.	FREE	2pm - 2.30pm (Term time only)	Under 5s
	Rhyme Time - For babies and toddlers on Saturdays.	FREE	11am - 11.30am (Term time only)	Under 5s
	Children's Code Club on Thursdays. Code Club runs as a 6 week course. Booking is essential as there is a maximum of 8 children per course. In each session children will use various coding websites (depending on their level of coding) to make their own cool computer games, animations and websites. All children will receive a certificate at the end of each completed course! We currently run courses in Scratch 1 & 2 and HTML 1 & 2, so lots of room for progression! N.B. Limited places are available so please either speak to a member of staff at Shirley Library or call for more information or to get a spot on the waiting list!	FREE	5pm - 6pm (Term time only)	9 - 13 years
The Core Library Theatre Square, Touchwood, Homer Road, Solihull B91 3RG Tel: 0121 704 6965				
	Homework Club - Tuesdays with designated staff to support children.	FREE	3:45pm - 5.15pm (term time only)	8 years+
	Story Times - Mondays.	FREE	2pm - 2.30pm (term time only).	Under 5s
	Rhyme Time - Wednesdays. A short interactive session that includes finger & action rhymes and songs. Come along and meet up with other parents/carers and discover what the library can offer your child.	FREE	10.15am - 10.30am (term time only)	0 -2 years

	Meet and Play - Fridays. A session for families to meet up, relax, chat, play, sing or make music together. Instruments and toys are provided.	FREE	10.15am - 11.15am (term time only)	0 -2 years
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Parks...

Date(s)	Activity	Price	Time	Suitable age
Brueton Park Solihull B91 3HA				
18-Feb	Nature Families - The Parkridge Centre, Drop in sessions for babies and toddlers, for messy and sensory play both indoors and outdoors.	£3.50 per child.	10.30am to 12.00pm and 1.30pm to 3.00pm	0-4years
19-Feb	Teeny Tiny Den Building Why should den building be just for the older kids? Head out and help to make dens for teddies and maybe even a toddler or two	£3.50 per child	10.30am to 11.30am	2 - 5 years
19-Feb	Frosty Fairies and Wintry Wizards Come with us as we journey to help the frosty fairies in our magic woods, and have a go at making a wintry wizard magic potion.	£3.50 per child.	12.30pm to 1.30pm	2 years +
20-Feb	Den Building Would you be able to survive outside this winter? Come and find out as you discover how to make a survival den in the woods, to keep warm and sheltered away from the cold. Suitable for children aged 5+. Entrance costs £3.50 per child.	£3.50 per child.	10.30am to 11.30am	5 years +
20-Feb	Hibernating Hedgehogs Find out more about hedgehogs and their night time lives, what they eat and where they go in winter. Make a mud hedgehog too!	£3.50 per child.	12.30pm to 1.30pm	6 years +
22-Feb	Exploring outdoors Enjoy exploring the outdoors with your five senses, making smelly potions, playing fun games and hunting down different textures.	£3.50 per child.	10.30am to 12.00pm and 1.30pm to 3.00pm	2 - 4years
22-Feb	Nature tots - Sensory explorer Enjoy exploring the outdoors with your five senses, making smelly potions, playing fun games and hunting down different textures.	£3.50 per child.	10.30am to 12.00pm and 1.30pm to 3.00pm	2 - 4years

Birmingham City Centre & other areas...

Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery Chamberlain Square, Birmingham B3 3DH

Tel: 0121 348 8038

Web: www.birminghammuseums.org.uk/bmag

Mon 18 Feb - Fri 22nd Feb	Incredible Inventions - Junk Modelling. Create your own incredible invention inspired by the work of Leonardo da Vinci in our special half term junk modelling session. Join us in the Education Space.	£1 per participating child	Drop in 11am to 3pm	All ages
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Mon 18 Feb - Fri 22nd Feb	Too Cute or Not? Object Handling. Discover and enjoy objects from the museum's handling collection presented in the style of Rachel Maclean's weird and wonderful world. Our visitors will interrogate our historical artefacts and vote with their emotions to decide if our objects really are Too Cute or Not! Donations welcome.	FREE	Drop in 11am and 3pm	All ages
Tues 19 and Thurs 21	Marvellous Machines: Helicopters take a closer look at Leonardo's amazing drawings and using a variety of craft materials, construct & decorate your own automaton to take home. This session is designed for ages six plus and for families to work together in a creative environment. places are limited and we recommend booking in advance.	£2 per participating child	Sessions start at 11am, 12pm, 1pm and 2pm and last around fifty minutes.	6 years +
Wed 20 Feb	Too Cute Mask Making. Create your own fun mask to take home in the playful style of artist Rachel Maclean ! Explore bold shapes, bright colours & cute images to make your own art. Why not bring along your amazing mask to our photo studio for a souvenir photo with a difference!	£1 per participating child	Drop in 11am and 3pm	All ages
Town Hall Birmingham Victoria Square, Birmingham B3 3DQ Tel: 0121 780 3333 (Box Office) Website: www.thsh.co.uk				
Wed 6 Feb	Midweek Explorer Take time out in a relaxing and friendly space with your little ones. Explore music, dance and story-telling whilst making new friends.	FREE	10.30am	Under 5s
Botanical Gardens Westbourne Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham, B15 3TR Tel: 0121 454 1860 Website: www.birminghambotanicalgardens.org.uk				
18th – 22nd Feb	February Half Term Fun Join us for arts and crafts, story walks, bug hunting and live animal presentations during February half term.	FREE	11am – 3pm (doors open at 10am)	All ages
Birmingham Cathedral Colmore Row, Birmingham B3 2QB Tel: 0121 262 1840 Web: www.birminghamcathedral.com				
Feb	Little Pip Become a Little Pip and enjoy special events, community activities, learning programs all with a warm and unique welcome!	FREE	For more information phone 0121 262 1840	All ages
Kenilworth Castle and Elizabethan Garden Castle Green, Off Castle Rd, Kenilworth, Warwickshire CV8 1NE Tel: 0370 333 1181 (English Heritage) Website: www.english-heritage.org.uk/visit/whats-on/kenilworth-christmas-at-the-castle-dec-2018/				
Sat 16 - Sun 24 Feb	Knights and Princesses Join us for a truly historic half term. Step back in time over 400 years and imagine life at Kenilworth's Tudor palace. Test you steel with sword skills, show us your best Tudor moves and experience the best bits of life as a young Tudor royal.	Adult £11.30 Child, 5-17 years £6.00 Family £29.40	10.30am - 3.30pm	Child, 5- 17 years

Sat 16 – Sun 24 Feb	<p>Castle Quest Take your family on a castle adventure to celebrate the release of the new film The Kid Who Would Be King. Join Merlin, Alex and his band of knights on an epic quest to save England from an evil medieval menace. Track down questions across the castle – and answer them to claim your royal reward.</p>	See website	10am – 4pm	Child, 5-17 years
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Birmingham Hippodrome Hurst Street, Southside, Birmingham, B5 4TB
Call: 0844 338 5000 (Tickets & Information)
Website: www.birminghamhippodrome.com

Sun 10 Feb	<p>Chinatown, Birmingham Hippodrome & The Arcadian, Southside The streets in Chinatown and around the theatre come to life with acrobatics, circus, dance performances and karaoke on two stages, market stalls and a fun fair. Escape the cold for a while with FREE performances in our Patrick Studio or FREE family craft workshop in our foyers.</p>	FREE		All ages
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Fridays	<p>Drama Adventure Energetic and highly interactive drama adventures for pre-school children including movement, music imaginative play and crafts. This session is run by Toni Midlane. Book online or call Information and Sales on 0844 338 5000*. There are 30 spaces available per session. You only need to book spaces for your little ones, not yourselves. Drama Adventures is part of our Open Doors programme – term-time fun for pre-school kids (and their adults).</p>	£2 per child	10.30am - 12pm (Term time only)	2 - 4 yrs
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mac birmingham Cannon Hill Park, Birmingham B12 9QH (Foyle Studio)
Tel: 0121 446 3232
Website: www.macbirmingham.co.uk

Sun 17 Feb	<p>Sourpuss Sourpuss is a very grumpy, ginger cat. When shut out of the house he feels lost and confused, but the beautiful garden soon intrigues him. Watch Sourpuss on his journey of discovery and enjoy learning the secrets of the great outdoors. From buzzing bees to a chirpy robin, stinky rubbish and vibrant flowers this visual show is a feast for little eyes. This playful adventure for featuring string and shadow puppets beautifully crafted by hand.</p>	£8 per child	11am and 2pm	3 - 8 years
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Mon 18 Feb	<p>Spectacular Science You think Science is boring? Think again; this is science like you have never seen it before. Explore the strange and magical properties of matter with fireballs, fire tornadoes and explosive chemical reactions. Mark Thompson has been enthraling audiences for over 20 years with his fascinating journeys around the Universe. Now he's turning his attention to things a little closer to home.</p>	£9 - £10 per child	10.30am - 12pm (Term time only)	5 years +
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Thinktank Millennium Point, Curzon Street, Birmingham B4 7XG Tel: 0121 348 8000 Website: www.birminghammuseums.org.uk/thinktank				
Mon 18 Feb - Fri 22 Feb	Family LEGO Sessions LEGO Family Session where you and your family build together using Duplo and LEGO kits. The Session is designed to allow everyone the chance to build and be creative. Family competitions will include designing, making and testing the ultimate vehicle either in Duplo or LEGO, but there is a third option to free build with Giant Duplo, Duplo and LEGO as well.	£2 per child	Sessions run at 12:30pm, 1.30pm and 3pm. Each session is 45 minutes long	All ages
Blakesley Hall Blakesley Road Road, Birmingham B25 8RN Tel: 0121 348 8120 Website: www.birminghammuseums.org.uk/blakesley				
Wed 20 Feb	Animal Mania. The animals can include lizards, snakes, chinchillas, hedgehogs, giant bunnies, tortoises and creepy crawlies! Animal Mania usually consists of around 8 to 12 small animals that children can see and interact with in slots of 30 minutes. Please choose your preferred time slot when booking.	£3 per child	Time slots: 11:00am, 11:30am, 12:00pm, 12:30pm, 1:00pm, 1:30pm, 2:00pm, 2:30pm, 3:00pm & 3:30pm	3 years +
Sarehole Mill Cole Bank Road Birmingham, B13 0BD Tel: 0121 348 8160 Website: http://www.birminghammuseums.org.uk/sarehole				
Mon 19 Feb - Sun 24 Feb	Crafty fun. Craft kits will be available everyday. And for the adults, we have our popular Tolkien introduction guided walk around the local area There and Back Again.	£2 per child See website	11am - 4pm	3 - 15 years
Fri 22 Feb	Family Baking Day: Pancake Day Join us for a day of family fun making pancakes! Where you can make pancakes! Pre-booking required.	£2	Time slots: 11.30-12.15pm, 12.30-1.15pm, 1.45-2.30pm & 2.45-3.00pm	3 years +
The Arcadian Southside, Birmingham B5 4TD Website: www.cnybirmingham.org.uk/chinese-new-year-2018/ Website: www.birminghamhippodrome.com/calendar/chinese-new-year-2018/				
Sun 10 Feb	Chinese New Year is fast approaching and there will be FREE celebrations in Birmingham. This year will be the Year of the Pig. This year's Chinese New Year celebrations are in and around the Arcadian centre in Hurst Street. This will feature authentic Chinese street food, music and dancing - along with activities and workshops for children. Friends and family will gather in the Southside area of the city to enjoy the vast entertainment – including lion and dragon dancing, fireworks and other performances, as well as local Chinese cuisine available to all passers-by. A number of different celebrations take place in Birmingham including events at Colmore Row and St Philip's Cathedral; Bullring and Grand Central; and in Chinatown itself (with festivities spread across Southside Square, Hurst Street, Inge Street, The Arcadian and Hippodrome).	Free entertainment	11.30am - 4.30pm	All ages