

Community Festivals

Date	Festival	Description	Contact	MCC Contribution
Jan/Feb	Chinese New Year	Commences with Dragon leaving Town Hall and leading parade to Chinatown where there is a short ceremony, dragon and lion dances, Kung Fu display, folk music and dance performances plus street fair, stalls and workshops to demonstrate cultural arts & crafts. Attendance approx 50,000	Stewart Yip	Events Unit advice and marketing support plus £15k (06/07)
March	Irish Festival Parade and Launch	Parade of Irish associations, schools, groups and bands from the Irish Centre to Albert Square and back in celebration of St Patrick's Day. Has previously comprised Irish Festival Market, Irish Café, dance competitions and workshops in the Town Hall which are open to the public.	Ester Dolan	Events Unit advice, marketing support plus £15k event unit sponsorship and £5k civic hospitality funding towards cost of launch event.
April	St George's Day Parade	Parade from Miles Platting through Ancoats to City Centre comprising dancers, schools, floats, bands. Attendance approx....	Thelma McGrail	Events Unit advice and marketing support plus £9k (06/07)
June	Exodus Festival	Unique showcase of the arts and culture of Manchester's large and diverse refugee communities which takes place at Platt Fields Park during Refugee Week. Two main stages with high-quality music, dance, poetry and drama performances, interactive workshops, children's activities, vibrant site decoration, a world crafts, clothing and information market, food from around the globe and live radio broadcast. 300 performers, 800 workshop participants, 75	Faye Salisbury	Events Unit advice and marketing support plus £10k (06/07)

		organisation stall holders.		
July	Manchester Summer Mega Mela	Celebration of South Asian culture at Platt Fields Park for people from all communities and age ranges. Features main stage (with plans for a community stage in 2008) sporting events, stalls displaying and selling different artefacts and a funfair. Food stalls. Approx 1000 participants (inc volunteers) and approx 50,000 attendees.	Sajjad Hussein N Khan Moghal	Events Unit advice and marketing support plus £15k (06/07)
August	Caribbean Carnival of Manchester	The event takes place in and around Alexandra Park and comprises: Carnival Parade, Maas bands, masquerades, live entertainment, development workshops (eg costume making, steel pan training), educational awareness, Queen, Prince and Princess Show, youth promotion. 3600 participants, 20,000 attendees	Sonia Stewart Mike Bisson	Events Unit advice plus marketing support plus £15k (06/07)
August	Manchester Pride Parade	Celebration of the LGBT community and recognised as the largest carnival activity in the North West attracting over 200,000 people to the streets and over 80 organisations participating.	Sarah Rowland	Events Unit advice and marketing support plus £25k (06/07 ringfenced for the parade element only)
October	Dashehra Diwali Mela	Celebration of the Hindu festivals of Dashehra and Diwali taking place at Platt Fields Park. Workshops in schools eg dance and lantern making. Community artists, fire drawings and lights. Includes food and other stalls, music, dances and fireworks plus the burning of an 8m high ten headed demon king Ravan. Approx 200 participants and 5000 attendees.	Mrs Rajyashree Dutta	Events Unit advice and marketing support plus £15k (06/07)