



Crufts Dog Show

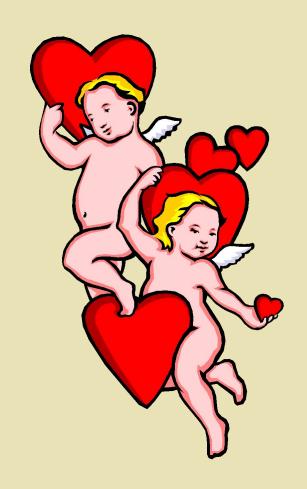
- In February.
- Valuable dogs from all over the world compete in Birmingham.
- The best dog gets the title Crufts Supreme Champion.





Saint Valentine's Day

- February 14
- Was started in the time of Roman Empire.
- Is dedicated to St. Valentine.
- People send a card to someone they love, like, fancy or admire.





The Boat Race

- In March
- A rowing race between the universities of Oxford and Cambridge.
- On the river Thames in London (7,2 km).





Pancake Day

- In March
- The last day before Lent.
- Pancake race-running while holding a pancake in a frying pan. Competitors have to throw it in the air and catch it again in the pan.





Easter

- In April.
- The celebration of the Resurrection of Christ
- Schools are closed for two weeks.
- People give each
 other chocolate eggs
 that are wrapped in
 silver paper.





The London Marathon

- One of the biggest marathons in the world.
- Each year about 30,000 people start the race and about 25,000 finish.
- Raise money for charity.





May Day

- May 1
- A pagan festival to celebrate the end of winter and welcome summer.
- Children dance around the maypole and sing songs.





Chelsea Flower Show

- In May
- Britain's most important flower and garden show.
- Thousands of people come to see the prize flowers and specially built gardens.





Midsummer Day

- June 24
- Summer solstice.
- People stay up until midnight to welcome in midsummer day.
- When the fires die down, men run or jump through it to bring good luck.





Trooping The Colour

- The second Saturday in June.
- Celebrates the Queen's official birthday.
- Lots of marching, military music and the soldiers are dressed in colourful uniforms.





Saint Swithin's Day

- July 15
- Saint Swithin was England's Bishop of Winchester.
- 40 days of bad
 weather will follow if
 it rains on this day.





Wimbledon

- The last week of July and the first week of June.
- At Wimbledon in South-West London.
- One of the four great world tennis championships and the only one which is played on grass.





Notting Hill Carnival

- The last weekend in August.
- Takes place in Notting Hill.
- People dress up in fabulous costumes.
- Steel bands play
 African and
 Caribbean music.





Halloween

- October 31
- A pagan festival celebrates the return of the souls that visit their former houses.
- People dress up as witches, ghosts etc.
- Houses are decorated with pumpkins.





Guy Fawke's Night

- November 5
- He was a terrorist.
- The day marks the discovery of a plot to blow up Parliament in 1605.
- People make models of him and burn them on big bonfires.





Christmas Day

December 25

 Religious ceremony commemorating the birth of Christ.

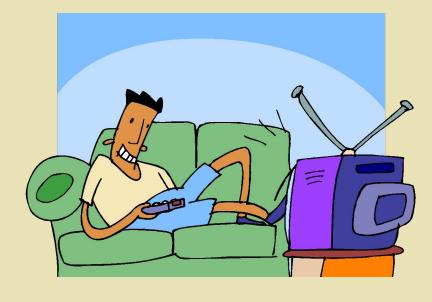
 Children wake up early to find presents in their stockings.

 Traditional Christmas tree and dinner.



Boxing Day

- December 26
- It is usually spent in front of the TV, recovering from Christmas Day.
- Servants go from house to house with collecting boxes.





New Year's Eve

- December 31
- Traditionally Scottish celebration.
- At midnight everybody joins hands and sings Auld Lang Syne.

