



## All the fun of the Piccadilly Gardens' Family Fair

Piccadilly Gardens is to become home to a traditional family fair throughout the festive season, as part of the 'Manchester's Magical Christmas' campaign.

The Piccadilly Gardens' Family Fair will run from Thursday 09 December 2010 until Monday 03 January 2011 inclusive, excluding Christmas Day and will host a range of traditional and affordable family rides and attractions including galloping horses, a helter skelter, chairoplanes, swing boats, hookaduck and a coconut shy.

Councillor Pat Karney, city centre spokesperson for Manchester City Council said: "Piccadilly Gardens is at the heart of the city centre and it will be great to see it come alive this Christmas with this new, family-friendly attraction. The family fair is a great addition to the host of festive activities available in Manchester this year. It looks like 2010 is set to be our best Christmas ever."

Alex King, Piccadilly Partnership manager for Cityco, the city centre management company said: "This traditional family fair and the Big Top Bar in Piccadilly Gardens will appeal to both families and those just looking for something special that's a bit different this Christmas. The funfair will create a really festive atmosphere and we're sure this part of the city centre will prove more popular than ever before as a place to have fun and meet up with friends and family."

Visitors can also enjoy the Piccadilly Big Top Bar, in place for the duration of the fair and operated by Kro Events. The Big Top Bar will be serving hot cocktails, traditional ales, warming hot cider, mulled wine and winter cakes, with entertainment from Band On The Wall every Thursday, Friday and Saturday leading up to Christmas.

The fair will be open daily 11am – 8pm and the Big Top Bar will be open daily 11am – 10pm.

Mark Ruby, managing director of Kro commented: "Christmas is a time for families and we're looking forward to having a brilliant fun-filled event in Piccadilly this year. There's something for all the family at the Big Top Bar and we hope everyone will enjoy what we have to offer."

More chalet-style stalls will be serving delicious hot food such as soups, stews and homemade pies which can be consumed inside the Big Top Bar.

'Manchester's Magical Christmas' campaign aims to attract visitors into Manchester city centre to enjoy a host of festive events, food, drink and entertainment in the run up to Christmas.

For further information visit [www.piccadillymanchester.com](http://www.piccadillymanchester.com)

### ENDS

For further information please contact Katy Ratican on 0161 238 4593 [katy.ratican@cityco.com](mailto:katy.ratican@cityco.com) or Roz Hughes on T: 0161 838 3256 or M: 07967 800395

Notes to editors

- The Piccadilly Partnership is a strategic and pioneering alliance of public and private sectors, bringing together key landowners, Manchester City Council, Cityco - Manchester's city centre management company, other public sector services and local occupiers.

- The Partnership provides an important forum for consultation, discussion and debate on all issues influencing the Piccadilly area. One of the key objectives of the Partnership is the positive promotion of the area to both business and the general public.
- Cityco works in partnership to manage and market city centre Manchester. It is an independent, not-for-profit, company funded by both public and private sector.