



## PRESS RELEASE

9 August 2010

### The Manchester Picnic weekend attracted ten thousand picnic-goers

The Manchester Picnic, the city's biggest ever picnic, saw 10,000 picnic-goers descend on the city centre at the weekend of family-friendly foodie fun. Organised by Cityco, Manchester's city centre management company, the three day event took place across open spaces in the city centre.

In addition more than 200 children joined a Teddy Bear's Picnic yesterday (Sunday 8 August) at Piccadilly Gardens in Manchester city centre with the Build-A-Bear Workshop's, Bearemy, making an appearance.

Piccadilly Gardens became a picnic oasis for, with the grassed area transformed with benches and bunting. There were 50 wooden picnic tables complete with red and white gingham table cloths and speciality market stalls selling everything from soup, cup cakes, Caribbean and deli-style food. There was also an ice cream van, BBQ, pig roast and smoothie-and-milk shake bar. Virgin Active was on hand doing free face-painting and other children's activities.

Other specially themed picnic sites included St John's Gardens near MOSI and the Roman Gardens at Castlefield. In addition, a Manchester Twitnic was held at Spinningfields, the Triangle shopping centre hosted an indoor Great British Picnic on the Saturday and Sunday, Harvey Nichols' ran a Gourmet Picnic Garden all weekend and Barbirolli Restaurant and Bar hosted a BBQ near the Bridgewater Hall.



Vaughan Allen, chief executive of Manchester city centre management company, Cityco said: “This weekend was a massive success. Despite the less than perfect picnic weather, 10,000 people visited the main site at Piccadilly Gardens alone. It was amazing to see everyone walking around with smiles on their faces. This is just the start of our work to revitalise Piccadilly Gardens and the other city centre open spaces, making them safe, family-friendly places to be.”

For more information on Cityco visit [www.cityco.com](http://www.cityco.com)

**- Ends -**

For further information please contact Roz Hughes on T: 0161 838 3262 or M: 07967 800395 or Laura Dyson on T: 0161 838 3250 or M: 07917 261177

**Notes to editors**

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.

The Manchester Picnic is a partnership between Cityco and Moorfield Media.