

## PRESS RELEASE

1 August 2011

### **It's picnic time for Teddy Bears**

If you go down to Piccadilly Gardens on Sunday you'll be in for a big surprise. The first 100 youngsters that bring a bear at 12pm for the annual Teddy Bears' Picnic will get a Build a Bear Workshop goodie bag.

A host of free family fun has been organised by the Piccadilly Partnership and CityCo through-out the afternoon from 12pm – 6pm to keep everyone entertained including a guest appearance from Twinkle the Bear, who will be doing Baby Ballet activities all afternoon.

There's also a best-dressed bear competition and at 4pm Twinkle the Bear will judge the picnic's best-dressed bear and the winner will receive a 5 person family tent from Go Outdoors worth £170 plus a selection of family camping games.

The Teddy Bear's Picnic is the closing event for this year's Manchester Picnic Weekend which will see Piccadilly Gardens transformed with 60 wooden picnic tables and speciality market stalls from well-known Manchester restaurateurs including Harvey Nichols, Abode Hotel, Aumbry, The Mark Addy and Mint Hotel, in a specially created Gourmet Garden styled and dressed by Curve Interiors.

Across the three-day event will be a host of entertainment from DJ and musical entertainment. Forever Manchester is the chosen charity for this event.

Councillor Pat Karney, city centre spokesperson for Manchester City Council said: "The Teddy Bear's Picnic is as much about the adults having fun as it is about entertaining the children. There was a great turn-out last year and we

are confident Piccadilly Gardens will yet again play host to one of the biggest family-friendly city centre events this year.”

Alexandra King, Piccadilly Partnership Director said: “The Teddy Bear’s Picnic was extremely popular last year so were keen to bring it back and make it the main focus of our Sunday activity. We’re grateful to Go outdoors for providing the prize for the prize for the best-dressed bear competition and can’t wait to see the creative costumes the children will come up with.”

For more information on The Manchester Picnic and competition T&Cs visit [www.piccadillymanchester.com](http://www.piccadillymanchester.com). 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 3260 or M: 07967 800395 or Laura Dyson on T: 0161 838 3250 or M: 07917 261177

#### **Notes to editors**

Piccadilly Partnership and CityCo work in partnership to manage and market city centre Manchester. They are independent, not-for-profit, companies funded by both public and private sector.

