

# Picnic in the Park

**Saturday, 7 August 2021 from 3 pm**  
**Alderbury Recreation Ground**

(Subject to Government guidelines/ restrictions current at that time)

Planning for this village event is now well under way and the following arrangements are in place:

Alderbury and West Grimstead School children are preparing posters for use around the village to publicise the event. Village children who do not attend the local school are also welcome to create posters. These should include the title – Picnic in the Park – the date, time and place, and take the theme of CELEBRATION. Posters should be taken to the school as soon as possible.

Bunting will be put up around the venue on the weekend of the event and removed on the day after it.

People are invited to bring their own food and drinks for their picnic. They should also bring their own chairs, rugs, etc. Where, possible, people are asked to walk to the event to reduce vehicle traffic. There will be an ice cream van and a 'retro' burger van selling hot snacks at the venue. Tea and coffee will be available for purchase in the village hall and other drinks will be on sale in the Social Club. Toilet facilities will be available in both the village hall and the Social Club.

Backing music will be played from a small stage during the afternoon, and the Salisbury Pluckers will play two 30-minute slots. There will be bouncy castles (available both for children and adults), and a variety of free games organised by St Mary's Church. There will also be activities funded from the Southern Area Board Community Engagement budget– specific details to follow, but likely to include organised small-scale sports activities for children, and possibly face-painting.

Children will be invited to bring along cakes they have baked which will be judged in the village hall during the afternoon.

At 6 pm a bagpiper will play and everyone will be asked to observe a minute's silence in memory of people who have died during the pandemic. This will be followed by a round of clapping in thanks not only for the work of NHS staff and carers, but also for the help and support given by our own villagers to their neighbours.

This will mark the division between the Picnic event and the evening entertainment based on the Social Club which will remain open and where there will be live music from 8.30 pm until closing time. The burger van may also be present. Arrangements for the evening are in the hands of the Social Club.

People will be encouraged to take home their own rubbish from the picnic, but the organisers will also collect rubbish during the afternoon and a final check will take place on the following day.

First Aiders will be on hand during the afternoon.

The local PCSO is aware of the event, although he personally is on leave that day.

In the event of bad weather, as much of the event as possible will take place in the village hall and Social Club.

**Councillor Barry Sloan**

5 June 2021