



Ready, teddy, go: picnic will be bear necessity

Steven Deare

IF YOU go down to the woods in Forestville, you're sure of a big surprise.

On Monday, March 25, children are invited to hold a teddy bear's picnic in the "woods" of Forestville Lib-

rary. The event will include singing, games and author Aleesah Darlison reading her book *Bearly There*.

The Seaforth mother has had several of her stories published and her latest is based on Whinnie, the ragged but cherished toy of her

son Blake. It was his commitment to his teddy that inspired the picture book.

"My son loved this bear and took it absolutely everywhere," Darlison said.

His fascination with the object stirred his mother's interest in how toddlers inv-

est themselves in toys. "I think it's about comfort, love and loyalty and a very special friendship when they're just starting to learn about emotional attachment," she said.

The free event is at 10.15am.