

# ECCLES STATION

# NEWS

**AUGUST 2012**

The contents of this month's e issue are as follows:

**News section,**

**Articles.**

**Trip of the Month.**

*There is far too much news again this month. **Editor.***

## NEWS

**Freccles will be gardening again on Sunday August 5th at 11.00. We shall also be tidying up. Do come and help.**



***The National Football Museum***  
*opened in Manchester on 7<sup>th</sup> July. It is right next to Victoria Station in the former Urbis building. Here it is on a rainy day!*

*Entrance is free, although they do request a £4 donation. The home made sausage rolls in the cafe are hot, delicious, and £1.50*

**GO BY TRAIN FROM ECCLES.**

*Photo: J E Rayner*

**Opening hours:** Monday – Saturday 10am-5pm; Sunday 11am-5pm

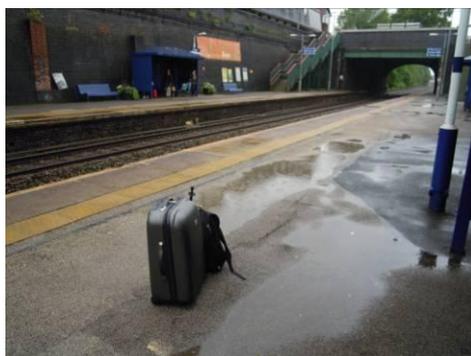
**Telephone number:** 0161 605 8200 . For website see

<http://www.nationalfootballmuseum.com/visit/at-the-museum/> but note the site still says it is at Deepdale in Preston!

***Perhaps summer is now here?** We have certainly had plenty of rain in the last few weeks, but it doesn't take that much rain to cause problems for passengers using the Manchester platform at Eccles.*



*Here are two views taken on different days in the last twelve months.*



*This problem has been reported but it seems to be taking a long time for anything to be done.*

***Perhaps it is time for some pressure from Freccles?***

*Photos: J E Rayner*

**It seems to be a month for writing in** and ESN's editor is not going to resist blowing the trumpet for Freccles. **Early in July we received an e mail from one of the Chat Moss line commuters.** The communication is reproduced here:

“Hello to all the kind and wonderful people that make up Freccles!

I pass through Eccles station twice a day travelling from Newton-Le-Willows to Media city for work and I've been meaning to write to you all for ages.

Thank you all so much for the interesting historical excerpts that have been on display - they've helped me pass many a long wait a little more easily - It feels much better being delayed when you have the chance for a fascinating and educational diversion!

Also, my sincere thanks for the flowers and plants you have so kindly provided

for the benefit of (often stressed and weary!) travellers. They are always worth a special trip along the platform! I've enjoyed them on scores of occasions and they never fail to bring pleasure. I think they serve as a wonderful reminder to stop and look around whenever you can because there is always something beautiful and fascinating to see.

Perhaps most of all, for me, they serve as a heart-warming reminder that there are countless lovely people out there doing great work for their communities. Thanks for all your hard work - it is greatly appreciated. “

Kind regards,

Damien Roberts

**EDITOR: and thank you to you Damien. It is nice that our work is appreciated and a real morale booster when someone writes to tell us.**

*Northern Rail has produced a leaflet of **money saving offers at various Southport venues**. The vouchers it contains are valid when presented with a valid rail ticket to Southport. The leaflets should be available at Eccles and Victoria stations.*

**There are two major flower shows during August and both can be visited by train:**

**The first is Shrewsbury flower show on the 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> August.** With appearances from James Martin, Oysterband, Chris Beardshaw, over three millions blooms, hundreds of trade stands and 12 hours of arena activity, it promises to be our best Show ever! Advance ticket prices are £20 adult and £18 over 60, but note the TIME VARIANT gate prices: 10.00 £24/£22, 14.00 £19/£17, 18.00 £10/£10

The show is held in the wonderful gardens in the loop of the River Severn, and Shrewsbury can be reached by the hourly Arriva Trains Wales service from Piccadilly. For details of show:

Tel. 01743 234 050 or see <http://www.shrewsburyflowershow.org.uk/>

**The second is Southport Flower Show from 16<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> August.** Advance tickets cost £16 and bought at the gate £21. The four day event features over a million blooms and spectacular displays from some of the country's top independent growers, as well as gourmet foods and entertainment. Victoria Park has wide walkways and a level surface providing access to all parts of the showground. With a great deal of

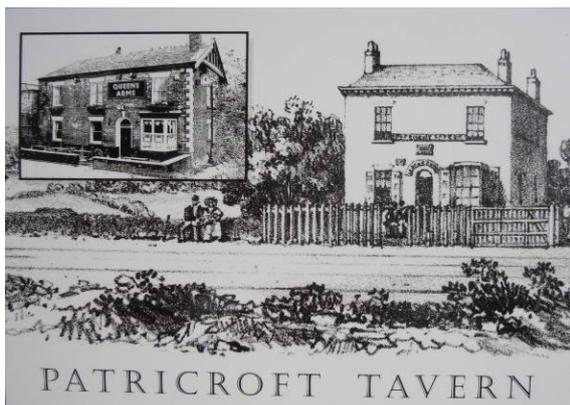
the show under cover it is designed to be enjoyed whatever the weather. Inspirational show gardens with unique features, exquisite furniture and plants will leave visitors buzzing with ideas on how to transform their own garden, whatever its size. There is also a dedicated allotment section for those who want their gardens to be productive as well as pretty. Celebrity garden experts and Southport Flower Show patrons Sir Roddy Llewellyn, Professor David Bellamy OBE and Professor Stefan Buczacki will also be on hand again this year to offer tips and guidance.

For full details see <http://www.southportflowershow.co.uk/index.html>

*There is a **campaign for a daily direct return service from Manchester to stations on the Settle and Carlisle line**. At present the only passenger trains between Clitheroe and Hellifield are the **Sunday Dales Rail Train** from Blackburn during summer (see articles section). Such a service would be **a great boon to walkers**, who could easily travel to the Yorkshire Dales and fells such as Ingleborough, Wharfedale and Penyghent throughout the year. Less energetic travellers could visit the **historic towns and villages along the line**. There is an online survey to gauge potential traffic for the proposed service. To find out more about the campaign group see: [www.foscl.org.uk](http://www.foscl.org.uk) **Then please do go to the survey site and fill it in:** <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/VKJ3CS5>*

**NB for journey numbers on this survey a return counts as two journeys.**

Not to be outdone by Freccles, the **Friends of Patricroft Station** group has produced a postcard. It is a **charming black and white drawing of the PATRICROFT TAVERN** next to the station. The original drawing was by H West (1830) and is the property of Mark Charnley of Freccles. The postcards cost 25p each or £1 for a pack of five. **They are available from The Queen's Arms, Patricroft** - ideal for dropping a line to people who live away from the area, and for having a drink while writing! Otherwise, available via FRECCLES members **Mark & Elizabeth Charnley (phone 0161 789 5016)**



*This was the first railway public house and is now known as The Queen's Arms (alias 'TOP HOUSE'). A more up to date image of the pub is inserted for you to play spot the difference. They cost 25p each or £1 for a pack of five.*

*Northern Rail's **Community Ambassadors Scheme** was started to promote the use of local rail services with Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) and socially excluded groups around four stations in the north: Blackburn, Brierfield, Rochdale and Farnworth. It has been supported by The Department for Transport, Transport for Greater Manchester and the East Lancashire Community Rail Partnership.*

*At the **Railway Industry Innovation Awards** (held in the London Paddington Hotel) the cross community initiative won the highest accolade for 'Small Scale Project' at the awards event. Judges applauded the ambassadors' dedication to make the railway relevant to all members of society and were impressed with Northern's eagerness to do everything possible to help groups which could easily be overlooked. It is hoped that the scheme can be extended to colleges and businesses. Michael Renshaw, TfGM's Bus & Rail Director, said: "The ambassadors themselves have actively gone into communities, engaged with them and helped them to appreciate how rail travel can connect them with the places they want or need to get to. It's fantastic that it has been recognised in this way and I'd like to congratulate everyone involved."*

Freccles committee members Steve and Janice Clapham have written in to say "Our daughter Jenny (Freccles Member), spotted **a significant publicity coup** for us on mainstream television last night. During Coronation Street (ITV 1 7.30pm), character Roy Cropper has the following line spoken clearly to camera:

**'Yes... Eccles does have a railway station.'**

As a result, 9 million people have now got the message!!! This is particularly timely as we still heard the age-old comment at the Open Garden Event - 'I didn't know Eccles had a station!'"

You can catch it on <http://www.itv.com/itvplayer/video/?Filter=321521>, about 4-5 min in.

*On 28<sup>th</sup> June, Freccles members undertook the **annual passenger count** at the station. All station users were counted between 5.30am and 11pm at night and leaflets were handed out explaining about Freccles. The count revealed **a 5% increase in passenger numbers** when compared to last year's figures. While*

*this was very positive for the future of the station, it did not represent as fast a growth rate as recorded in previous years. This may be due to the recession. The actual figures from the count are available on our [website](#). A significant number of cycles were noted and conversations with passengers revealed a strong endorsement of the cycle lockers due to be installed at the station.*

*The count provides a very good opportunity to meet station users and share their experiences and aspirations. It also enables Freccles to spread the word about its activities and get feedback about our work. As usual, the gardens and tubs were greatly appreciated!*

Here is a **photo mystery** for our readers to solve. **Brian Worthington** writes “My grandfather, Samuel Worthington is in the centre of the photograph kneeling and wearing the bowler hat. The person on the right is the Station Master, **but which station?**”



“I would like to be able to identify the location, especially if it is Eccles. I think this is likely as he lived in Vicars Street, only a short distance away, for most of his life. It may be possible to locate him via old railway staffing records. I imagine the photograph dates from the 1890's/1900's, judging by the clothing and his birth date of 1865. He looks as if he is 30-something!  
**Let me know what you think.**”

**To help Brian in his quest please e mail: [info@freccles.org.uk](mailto:info@freccles.org.uk)**

The Government has announced a **£9.2 billion investment programme** in Britain's railways over the next few years. There is the usual element of double counting here because it includes projects already announced or under way. The amount of new investment is probably in the region of four to five billion pounds, but this is very welcome. **The Northern Hub work will be carried out in full** – this is locally very important - and also significant extra electrification covering Sheffield to Southampton.

### **OUT AND ABOUT...**



This was spotted at Huddersfield Station. Work was being carried out to put in lifts to replace the boarded crossing over the lines.

*Photo: J E Rayner*

**...By TRAIN from ECCLES STATION.**

## ARTICLES



# 2012 PRESTON GUILD YEAR

The Preston Guild Week in September is preceded by a large scale event on the August Bank Holiday weekend:

**Preston Guild Canal Festival**  
**IMA National Campaign Festival 2012**

**BIRDS OF PREY**  
**WATER ZORBING**  
**FUNFAIR**  
**TRADITIONAL CRAFTS**

**BOAT FESTIVAL ON THE LANCASTER CANAL**  
**CANOEING**  
**TEDDY BEAR'S PICNIC ON SUNDAY**

**STEAM ENGINES**  
**DONKEY RIDES**  
**MORRIS DANCERS**  
**CIRCUS WORKSHOP**

*Plus :-*  
food,  
displays,  
hog roast,  
storyteller,  
trade stands,  
entertainment

*And :-*  
music,  
kite flying,  
dog agility,  
classic cars,  
horse and  
carriage rides,  
boating exhibits

**Saturday, Sunday & Monday**  
**25th, 26th and 27th August**  
**10am - 5pm. Free admission**

Haslam Park, PR2 1JD, Preston - on the Lancaster Canal

This event will see many boaters gathering on the banks of the Lancaster Canal at Haslam Park to celebrate Preston Guild and the 10th anniversary of the Ribble Link.

Haslam Park is a large green space not far from the town centre. This is a family event with entertainment, activities and catering.

Admission is free. 10 am to 5pm. Sunday will be dedicated to a "Picnic in the park" for teddy bears and their families

See: <http://www.prestonguild2012.com/?OBH=413&ID=903> for full details. **For full events list at the Preston Guild, see the website <http://www.prestonguild2012.com/whats-on>**

## DALES RAIL 2012.

ESN has been waiting for space to report on the Dales Rail trains, and feels this topic can wait no longer. They are a superb way of exploring on a Sunday, and the fares are really good value! Each year in the summer season the trains run over the famous Settle and Carlisle railway line through the fine countryside and fells – this ride alone makes the trip worthwhile.

Here are some ideas of places to visit:

**Settle, Kirkby Stephen or Appleby.** These are historic market towns in lovely countryside so there are shops, cafes and pubs. Appleby has a castle and is where the Gypsy Horse fairs are still held.

**Carlisle.** This red sandstone city has a castle, walls, and a fine cathedral. There are some good old pubs and a large market square. The Tullie House museum is exceptional and has many Roman artifacts because Carlisle was on Hadrian's Wall. Taking the train to Carlisle lets you see the complete Settle and Carlisle line through the Yorkshire Dales and then the gentler Eden valley.

**Langwathby.** This is a lovely Eden Valley village providing a number of walking opportunities.

**Ribblehead.** Here you will find the station with a small goods yard, a huge viaduct crossing Batty Moss and a pub. That is it, but The Station Inn has a beer garden with a good view of the viaduct, and when you see a train approach it's time to sup up and go up the station approach to get home!



This is not Royston Vasey, it is the station house at **DENT**. **The short station approach road goes right.** Be warned, the lovely village is nearly five miles away horizontally, and 600 feet lower!

Photo: J E Rayner.

You can visit more than one of the places because the ordinary stopping trains are running as well and you can use these to hop to another station on the route. As if that isn't enough on offer there are also connecting bus services from some of the stations to take you even further into the Dales (extra fare payable).

**If you have not been on this line then you are missing a terrific summer treat.**

The trains depart from Blackburn and there is a connecting service from Salford Crescent. Times and fares are given at the end of this article.

For full details of the very successful Dales Rail series of trains see:

<http://www.dalesrail.com/> and for some excellent pictures of the route see:

<http://www.dalesrail.com/gallery/dalesrail-country> \*ESN absolutely loves the little Northern train that runs along the top of the page!

Carlisle Cathedral – there are many fine old buildings in the city.

*Photo J E Rayner*



#### TRAVEL COSTS

Day return ticket prices from Manchester and Salford Crescent are:

*For Hellifield, Settle, Horton in Ribblesdale, Ribbleshead, Dent, Garsdale:*

Adult £16                      child £8                      Railcard £10.55                      Duo ticket £24 (two adults)

*For Kirkby Stephen, Appleby, Langwathby, Lazonby & Kirkoswald, Armathwaite, Carlisle:*

Adult £19                      child £9.50                      Railcard £12.55                      Duo ticket £28.50 (two adults)

#### TRAVEL DETAILS

**Outward Travel:** by connecting train to Blackburn (included in ticket price) to change onto Dales Rail train.

**A:** Depart Manchester Victoria at 08.01 or Salford Crescent at 08.08 to Blackburn, for the 09.27 Dales Rail train. This runs every Sunday until October 7<sup>th</sup>.

**B:** Depart Manchester Victoria at 09.00 or Salford Crescent at 09.08 to Blackburn, for the 10.22 Dales Rail train. This runs every Sunday until September 9<sup>th</sup>.

	A	B
Manchester Victoria	08.01	09.00
Salford Crescent	08.08	09.08
Blackburn (arrive)	08.48	09.48

CHANGE TO DALES RAIL TRAINS:

Blackburn	0927	1022
Hellifield	1015	1108
Settle	1035	1117
Horton-in-Ribblesdale	1044	1126
Ribblehead	1052	1134
Dent	1102	1144
Garsdale	1107	1149
Kirkby Stephen	1120	1202
Appleby	1134	1216
Langwathby	1148	1230
Lazonby & Kirkoswald	1154	1236
Armathwaite	1202	1244
Carlisle	1217	1305

**Return travel:**

**B:** Alight from Dales Rail train at Blackburn at 18.27 and transfer to the 19.03 train to Salford Crescent and Manchester Victoria. This runs every Sunday until September 9<sup>th</sup>.

**A:** Alight from Dales Rail train at Blackburn at 20.25 and transfer to the 21.03 train to Salford Crescent and Manchester Victoria. This runs every Sunday until October 7<sup>th</sup>.

	B	A
Carlisle	1535	1741
Armathwaite	1551	1755
Lazonby & Kirkoswald	1558	1803
Langwathby	1605	1809
Appleby	1620	1825
Kirkby Stephen	1634	1838
Garsdale	1647	1852
Dent	1653	1857
Ribblehead	1702	1907
Horton-in-Ribblesdale	1709	1914
Settle	1717	1921
Hellifield	1730	1931
Blackburn (arrive)	1827	2025

CHANGE TO MANCHESTER TRAIN

Blackburn	19.03	21.03
Salford Crescent	19.44	21.43
Manchester Victoria	19.52	21.52

## Changing trains 18

This month we look at stopping services that start out directly south from Piccadilly to Stockport and then branch from there. The first such service is to

**Buxton.** Trains run hourly through the day an evening, seven days a week, leaving Piccadilly at 8 minutes to the hour. The stations served are Levenshulme, Heaton Chapel, Stockport, Davenport, Woodsmoor, Hazel Grove, Middlewood, Disley, New Mills Newtown, Furness Vale, Whaley Bridge, Chapel en le Frith, Dove Holes, and **Buxton**.

Middlewood is aptly named, but many little walks can be taken from there; at Disley is the very grand Lyme Park; from Whaley Bridge there is an easy stroll to Bugsworth Basin, and of course there are the delights of Buxton. There are lots of things to do and see along the attractive Buxton line and our trip of the month is chosen from these possibilities.

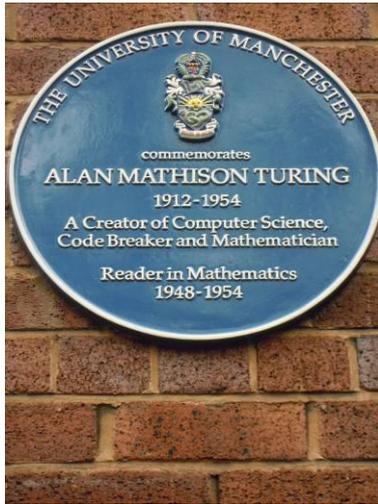
The next **stopping** service is to Macclesfield and Stoke on Trent with hourly departures, day and evening, from Monday to Saturday leaving Piccadilly at 12 minutes to the hour. (Of course Macclesfield and Stoke have many more express trains from Piccadilly.) The stations served are Stockport, Cheadle Hulme, Bramhall, Poynton, Adlington, Prestbury, Macclesfield, Congleton, Kidsgrove and **Stoke on Trent**. The Sunday stopping service is very limited indeed. Although Longton is on the timetable none of these trains appear to stop there.

One of the Freccles trips out is to Bramhall and its wonderful hall; Adlington Hall is well worth visiting, and Macclesfield is an old market town with much to do and see. The whole line provides opportunity to walk between stations using the Trent and Mersey Canal.

Heading south west from Stockport is the Crewe stopping service with hourly trains day and evening on Monday to Saturday at XX.04 minutes from Piccadilly. These serve Levenshulme, Heaton Chapel, Stockport, Cheadle Hulme, Handforth, Wilmslow, Alderley Edge, Chelford, Goostrey, Holmes Chapel, Sandbach, and **Crewe**. Some extra trains run as far as Alderley edge only. Wilmslow and Crewe have many express trains as well.

**The Sunday service to lesser stations on this line is rather restricted.**

**On Sundays** the trains from Eccles usually run direct to Piccadilly and on to the airport (but check – electrification will alter this on some Sundays). On weekdays take the train from Eccles to Victoria and transfer by tram to Manchester Piccadilly. From the tram platforms you can ascend to the main concourse for your train.



## EXHIBITION:

### **'ALAN TURING and LIFE'S ENIGMA.'**

Until 18<sup>th</sup> November 2012 at the  
**MANCHESTER MUSEUM.**

Open Tues-Sat: 10am-5pm and Sun, Mon, Bank holidays: 11am-4pm  
**Free entry.**

23<sup>rd</sup> June 2012 was 100 years after the birth of Alan Turing: mathematician, code breaker and computer pioneer. This is one of many events to mark the centenary of this very capable man who was ahead of his time in so many ways.

Turing was employed at Manchester University from 1948 until his death by suicide in 1954. It was during his time at the university that he began his mathematical investigation into one of the great mysteries of nature. This is morphogenesis – how complex shapes and patterns can arise from a simple ball of cells. He postulated a mathematical process that relied on the interaction of two theoretical chemicals of unknown structure that he called morphogens. Because of the Cold War he was not to know that Russian chemists had been carrying out such reactions in the laboratory.

The exhibition chooses to focus on this aspect of his work. The room is sombre and bare: the black walls seem appropriate for such scientific shots in the dark, and the sad end to his promising life. There is a clear time line of his work and personal life around these walls. Centrally there are notes, publications and computer printouts, along with biological examples of forms considered. There is a video of an interview with the ageing professor Richard Baker who worked under Turing, and of the Belousov/Zhabotinsky reaction producing rings in a Petri dish. <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PI2Y7wzhjVA>  
[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GEF\\_NtTNeMc&feature=related](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GEF_NtTNeMc&feature=related)  
(The patterns result from a mathematical instability and it has now been shown that animal stripes do move!)

The exhibition is small, straightforward and to the point dealing with only one area of his work. It is tucked away in a third floor room that is hard to find. As

such it would seem mean recognition of such a man, were it not for the fact that it is part of a series of events at various venues.



The '**computer machine laboratory**' where Turing worked while at the Victoria University of Manchester.

Photo: J E Rayner

## **A very successful fundraiser.**

On Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> July two houses on Westminster Road held an '**Open Gardens Day**' to help raise funds for Freccles. The event was a great success and raised almost £600. There was a second hand book stall, Freccles Members ran a tombola stall, a 'Guess the Weight of the Cake' competition and a plant stall selling very good specimens indeed. There was also a station information stall.



Setting up just being finished at the information stall, with visitors already arriving before 14.00

Entrance to the garden is on the right (various Freccles members blocking the way in!).

Photo: Chrissie Verduyn.

Volunteers served drinks **and the most amazing homemade cakes (yum)**. The weather was very kind to us, so over 100 people came to see the delightful gardens and these visitors included Julie Corke (Northern's station manager for Eccles) and her husband Steve.



The two gardens open to visitors during this very enjoyable event.



Important positions at the gates were manned by Eoan, Jim, Mark and Elizabeth during the day.



On the left is the plant stall, and on the right is the refreshment pavilion. Both were selling very high quality produce! *Photos on this page all very kindly provided by: Chrissie Verduyn.*

**Many thanks indeed to Freccles members Mary Eminson, Chrissie Verduyn and Lynne & George Meakin for opening their gardens to the public and for all the hard work in organising this event.**

## **TRIP OF THE MONTH.**

This month the chosen trip is number ninety four:

### **BUXTON – AQUAE ARNEMETIAE**

An elegant spa town in a lovely setting and it is almost on our doorstep. With its fine buildings and lovely parks Buxton is a worthy rival to Harrogate or Bath.



A Morgan hand-built car seen at Buxton.

*Photo J E Rayner*

Take the train to Manchester Victoria and from there a tram to Manchester Piccadilly Station. From here catch a Buxton train. *Option: - turn right as you get off the tram and on Fairfield Street use the lift on the left to the link bridge lounge.*

Alight at Buxton Station. *The elegance of Buxton used to start here. This LNWR station once had a fully glazed roof like a garden pavilion. Across a courtyard at the front was a mirror image 'pavilion' for the Midland Railway.*

Leave the station and walk to the right then turn left once outside the fence. *Across the road you can see the remaining corner of the Midland Railway Station.*

Turn left with the fence and walk past the Aldi supermarket down towards a railway viaduct. Cross Bridge Street and bear right in front of The Railway (*Cask Marque real ales and food*).

Bear left under the viaduct and onto Ashfield Road. *Sandbags ready for flood protection here!*

Cross Ashfield Road towards The Wye Bridge House - *J.D. Wetherspoon house selling real ales and food.*

Enter Ashfield Park. *It is a linear park along the River Wye with much shade and attractive range of trees. Morrison's is at the far end!*

Cross the little bridge over the Wye and leave the park.

Cross Bakewell Road, go under the viaduct and go straight ahead along Spring Gardens. *This is the main shopping street with many good cafes and a modern shopping mall on the right. Attractive buildings are spoilt by poor alterations to the ground floor frontages. Why has the name 'Winster Place' and a coat of arms been chiselled off the building on the right? There is a good view of The Crescent and the Baths ahead.*

Turn left up Terrace Road. On the left is The Buxton Museum & Art Gallery. *It is very good -with original paintings and displays of geology, palaeontology, and archaeology. There is an imaginative time tunnel including Roman artefacts and Bronze Age burials. The Ashford black marble collection is impressive. Open Tuesday to Saturday (Also on Sundays and bank holidays from Easter to end of September). Admission is free. Tel: 01298 24658 Website: [www.derbyshire.gov.uk](http://www.derbyshire.gov.uk)*

Next on left there is an old fashioned delicatessen and then you come onto the Market Place. *On your right is the impressive town hall building. There are three real ale/food pubs here: The New Inn (Robinsons), The Eagle (Hydes & guest beers) and The King's Head (Marstons and guest beers). Market days are Tuesday and Saturday*

However now continue ahead out of the Market Place and on the left is The Old Sun Inn *an impressive old establishment with an interior of tiny rooms. There is a range of good beers and food on sale.*

Further ahead is The Swan. *This also sells a range of real ales.*

Go to the right hand side of The Swan and take a look in the little St Anne's Church. *Reputed to be the oldest building in Buxton (despite the date carved outside), this is Anglican high church. It has the Stations of the Cross and an elaborate altar set. The font is Anglo-Saxon.*

Return along the Market Place on the other side by Eagle Terrace *with its real ale and food pub.*

Go to the left side of The Kings Head *(yawn...real ale and food again!)* and down Hall Bank. *What a view! Where are the tower blocks and the multi storey car park? Part way down Hall Bank, turn right onto The Slopes. Head straight across on the level to the Cenotaph. From here there is a good view of the Georgian Crescent, with the Pump Room at its focus.*

Descend towards the Baths and go left in front of the Pump Rooms. *The lovely pump room with its cool marble interior has been closed for far too long!*

Just beyond it is the St Anne's fountain *from which you can sample the warm mineral water from deep underground. The Romans established baths here using the spring water and called the town Aquae Arnemetiae.*

Go back to the Baths building. *It was once for bathing in St Anne's spring water - thought to cure various ailments. Now it is the attractive Cavendish Arcade with craft shops and cafes etc.*

Beyond the Baths turn left and curve along under the glass and iron canopy of The Quadrant *(solid Victorian letters on a similar building on other side!)* Notice the old chemist shop window on your left.

Just beyond the chemist shop cross right and go up Devonshire Road. Turn left into the University of Derby grounds and enter the domed building. *Wow – vast with a Foucault pendulum at the centre and an amazing echo effect too! Originally it was the Duke of Devonshire's stables!!!! The architecture of the whole town was influenced by successive Dukes of Devonshire whose family name is Cavendish.*

Return down Devonshire Road.

Cross the main road again and then go right. *The classical St John's Church is ahead.*

Turn left down Water Street to The Buxton Opera House *-with a splendid interior and entertainments all year. Tel:0845 127 2190. Website: [www.buxtonoperahouse.org.uk](http://www.buxtonoperahouse.org.uk)*

Enter the Pavilion Gardens on the left of it and walk through the palms.

At the cafe turn left to go outside. *You face the bandstand in Pavilion Gardens – a most lovely park with river and lakes & miniature railway. There was a really good brass band concert during my visit.*

Generally amble through the gardens towards the right and between the river and the lakes. *Finally you see the mansions and hotels on The Broadwalk across the last lake.*

Continue up to the end of the Pavilion Gardens to join The Broadwalk and go left along it on the other side of the lake.

At the end of the Broadwalk go left between the gardens and the Old Hall Hotel and back up to the main road.

Cross it once again towards Devonshire Road but this time go to the right and up the drive to The Palace Hotel. *A great big, grand Victorian hotel - I went in for coffee and afterwards browsed around the Morgan Sports Car rally. There were literally hundreds of these hand-built machines around town & on this car park. They must be getting a little common!*



A load of Morgans parked at The Palace Hotel, Buxton. *Photo J E Rayner*

Turn right at the front of the hotel and down towards the railway station *with its semicircular window in the end wall.*

Cross the road and go back in to catch a train to Manchester Piccadilly

CLASSIFICATION:

MEDIUM EASY

PARKS, RIVERS, LAKES, GARDENS,  
ARCHITECTURE, MUSEUM & GALLERY, VIEWS,  
SHOPS, CAFES, PUBS, SUPERMARKETS, SPA.

RAIL FARE: £9.20 adult return. (or use a Peak  
Wayfarer ticket @ £10 or £5)

MAPS: OS 1:50 000 sheet 119

Philip's Street Atlas Derbyshire.

*\*This is a very good trip indeed but the connection times can be more than ample – I suggest a shop or a coffee in Manchester. If it doesn't suit you, consider buying a Peak Wayfarer to let you use the tram to Piccadilly. It will be a little dearer but more flexible. If you go on a Sunday, check as the train from Eccles mostly goes into Piccadilly.*



In The Pavilion Gardens  
at Buxton.

*Photo J E Rayner*



***Why not join freccles?*** It is only £5 a year and this contribution helps us to improve the gardens and tubs at the station as well as to campaign for a better station and services.

To find out more about **FRECCLES** or to make contact see our **website:** [www.freccles.org](http://www.freccles.org) or e mail us at [info@freccles.org.uk](mailto:info@freccles.org.uk)

