

# ECCLES STATION

# NEWS

2017

Festive Issue

**Season's Greetings from FRECCLES to**  
**all our members, readers and travellers to and from Eccles**



The steam looks a bit snow-like, so we have gone for this as an arty shot for our festive edition:

Flying Scotsman thundering through Eccles

photo by Tony Oldfield

Readers may remember the hole being dug for the new style ticket machine:



Well here is our latest picture of it:



It's been filled in beautifully, and looks quite nice. It seems that there was not enough depth for the base of the machine at that point because it is on the bridge over the line. The machine has been placed adjacent to the ticket office instead.



As such the screen faces east, so if there is any sunshine in the mornings then the sun's rays are directly on the screen. Here is Sean, a FRECCLES member, using the machine soon after it was installed:



For the festive season, Eccles railway travellers have been given a sunshade canopy to improve things. It will also keep the rain off while you buy your tickets:



In fact, keeping the rain off purchasers will certainly be its purpose. The shot below has been adjusted to more accurately reflect the weather since the canopy appeared:



*Well here is a bit more festive news for you, and a festive puzzle too. ESN was delighted by this little article on the BBC red button news:*





*Before looking at the next (and very informative link) can you fathom out how the carriages have been designed?*

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2017/dec/15/world-steepest-funicular-rail-line-open-switzerland>

**Transport for Greater Manchester has published the changes to services over the New Year. Zoom in on the poster on the following page:**



Transport for  
Greater Manchester

# Christmas services

Sunday 24 December 2017 – Friday 5 January 2018

This poster shows a summary of public transport services over the Christmas holiday period. Please check your journey before travelling on these days.

Phone Transport for Greater Manchester Customer Services on 0161 244 1000

7am – 8pm Mon to Fri, 8am – 8pm Sat, Sun & public holidays.

Or visit our journey planner at [www.tfgm.com](http://www.tfgm.com)

## Buses

**Sunday 24 December, Christmas Eve**  
Sunday services. Buses will stop running from 6pm onwards.

**Monday 25 December, Christmas Day**  
Stagecoach will run special daytime buses on service 43.  
No other buses will run.

**Tuesday 26 December, Boxing Day**  
Special buses will run on these services: Arriva 245 and 247  
First 8, 17, 36, 37, 68, 81, 83, 93, 98, 100, 135, 163, 184, 409, 471 and 502.  
Stagecoach 23, 42, 43, 50, 76, 85, 86, 101, 118, 192, 201, 203, 204, 216, 219, 250, 256, 330 and X50.

Special buses will also run between Manchester city centre and Old Trafford for Manchester United v Burnley match. Diamond 126, 132 and 300.  
Transdev X41, X43 and City Zap.  
EasyBus will run a normal service.  
No other buses will run.

**Wednesday 27, Thursday 28 and Friday 29 December**  
Buses will run a normal or modified weekday service, or Saturday service with additional early morning buses on some routes.  
PMH Motors will not run.

**Saturday 30 December**  
Normal Saturday service.  
PMH Motors will not run.

**Sunday 31 December, New Year's Eve**  
Buses will run a normal Sunday service. Most buses will stop running from 6pm onwards.  
Stagecoach 42, 43, 86, 192, 201 and 219 run until approximately 4am on the morning of New Year's Day.

**Monday 1 January 2018, New Year's Day**  
Special daytime buses will run on these services:  
Stagecoach 42, 43, 86, 101, 192, 201, 203, 219 and 250.  
EasyBus will run a normal service.  
No other buses will run.

**Tuesday 2 January to Friday 5 January**  
Normal service except a modified weekday timetable will run on some Stagecoach routes.

**Saturday 6 January onwards**  
Normal service.

## Metroshuttle

Manchester Metroshuttle buses will run every day except Christmas Day. Services 1, 2 and 3 will run a Sunday timetable on Boxing Day, Tuesday 26 December, and New Year's Day, Monday 1 January.

Bolton and Stockport Metroshuttle buses will not run on Christmas Day, Boxing Day or New Year's Day.

All Metroshuttle services all run normally on other days.

## Metrolink

**Sunday 24 December, Christmas Eve**  
Normal Sunday services with last trams departing Manchester city centre at approximately 9pm.

**Monday 25 December, Christmas Day**  
No service.

**Tuesday 26 December, Boxing Day**  
Sunday service with extra trams for Manchester United v Burnley match.

**Wednesday 27, Thursday 28 and Friday 29 December**  
Normal weekday service.

**Saturday 30 December**  
Normal Saturday service.

**Sunday 31 December, New Year's Eve**  
Sunday service with later trams. Last trams depart from Manchester city centre at approximately 1am.

**Monday 1 January 2018, New Year's Day**  
Sunday service.

**Tuesday 2 January onwards**  
Normal service.

## Local trains

**Sunday 24 December, Christmas Eve**  
Sunday service with changes due to engineering works between Manchester Piccadilly and Oxford Road.  
Trains will stop running from 7pm onwards.

**Monday 25 December, Christmas Day**  
No service.

**Tuesday 26 December, Boxing Day**  
No service.

**Wednesday 27 December**  
Weekday service excluding some early morning trains. Services are also affected by changes due to engineering works at Liverpool and between Manchester Piccadilly and Oxford Road.

**Thursday 28 and Friday 29 December**  
Normal weekday service with some late night alterations.

**Saturday 30 December**  
Saturday service with changes due to engineering works at Liverpool and between Manchester Piccadilly and Oxford Road.

**Sunday 31 December, New Year's Eve**  
Sunday service with changes due to engineering works at Liverpool and between Manchester Piccadilly and Oxford Road.  
Trains will stop running from 7pm onwards.

**Monday 1 January, 2018, New Year's Day**  
Altered service with changes due to engineering works at Liverpool and between Manchester Piccadilly and Oxford Road.

**Tuesday 2 January onwards**  
Normal service.

For details of changes due to engineering works visit [www.northernrailway.co.uk](http://www.northernrailway.co.uk) or [www.tpexpress.co.uk/your-journey/changes-to-train-times](http://www.tpexpress.co.uk/your-journey/changes-to-train-times) or phone 03457 48 49 50

## Ring & Ride

**Sunday 24 December, Christmas Eve**  
Normal Sunday service until approximately 9pm.

**Monday 25 December, Christmas Day**  
No service.

**Tuesday 26 December, Boxing Day**  
No service.

**Wednesday 27, Thursday 28 and Friday 29 December**  
Normal weekday service.

**Saturday 30 December**  
Normal Saturday service.

**Sunday 31 December, New Year's Eve**  
Normal Sunday service until approximately 9pm.

**Monday 1 January, 2018, New Year's Day**  
No service.

**Tuesday 2 January**  
Normal weekday service resumes.

## Local Link

**Sunday 24 December, Christmas Eve**  
Normal service until approximately 9pm.

**Monday 25 December, Christmas Day**  
No service.

**Tuesday 26 December, Boxing Day**  
No service.

**Wednesday 27, Thursday 28 and Friday 29 December**  
Normal weekday service.

**Saturday 30 December**  
Normal Saturday service.

**Sunday 31 December, New Year's Eve**  
Normal service until approximately 9pm.

**Monday 1 January, 2018, New Year's Day**  
No service.

**Tuesday 2 January**  
Normal weekday service resumes.

## Customer Services opening times

**Sunday 24 December, Christmas Eve**  
8am – 6pm.

**Monday 25 December, Christmas Day**  
Closed.

**Tuesday 26 December, Boxing Day**  
8am – 6pm.

**Wednesday 27, Thursday 28 and Friday 29 December**  
7am – 8pm.

**Saturday 30 December**  
8am – 6pm.

**Sunday 31 December, New Year's Eve**  
8am – 6pm.

**Monday 1 January, 2018, New Year's Day**  
Closed.

**Tuesday 2 January onwards**  
Normal opening hours.

## Travelshop opening times

**Sunday 24 December, Christmas Eve**  
Altrincham and Piccadilly Gardens  
10am – 4pm.  
All other Travelshops closed.

**Monday 25 December, Christmas Day**  
Closed.

**Tuesday 26 December, Boxing Day**  
Closed.

**Wednesday 27, Thursday 28 and Friday 29 December**  
Normal weekday opening hours.

**Saturday 30 December**  
Normal Saturday opening hours.

**Sunday 31 December, New Year's Eve**  
Altrincham and Piccadilly Gardens 10am – 4pm.  
All other Travelshops closed.

**Monday 1 January, 2018, New Year's Day**  
Altrincham 9.20am – 4.50pm  
All other Travelshops closed.

**Tuesday 2 January onwards**  
Normal opening hours.

Transport for Greater Manchester uses reasonable endeavours to check the accuracy of information published and to publish changes to information in a timely manner. In no event will Transport for Greater Manchester be liable for any loss that may arise from this information being inaccurate.

*On December 10<sup>th</sup> a new SUNDAY hourly stopping service was introduced at Patricroft station. These are the same trains that serve Eccles station and run between Manchester Oxford Road and Liverpool Lime Street. It seems that not all the drivers remembered to stop at Patricroft on that first day, but not unexpected as no-one in FRECCLES or FrOPS can remember when the trains last stopped at Patricroft on a Sunday..... The photo shows a small group of our enthusiasts (and one general passenger) who cheered the train in and caught the 09.00 departure from Patricroft bound for Eccles & beyond. Several stalwarts then popped over the bridge to catch the 09.10 back to Patricroft from Eccles to mark the first train stopping at Patricroft in the opposite direction.*



(Photo by Neil Stapleton of Friends of Walkden Station)

Network Rail will be doing engineering work between Oxford Road and Manchester Piccadilly during the holiday period. At Lime Street the work is to complete the new platforms and relevant signalling.

<https://www.networkrail.co.uk/spotlight-christmas-2017-liverpool-lime-street/>

*The Ordsall Chord opened on 10<sup>th</sup> December with a limited train service using it. Trains from Leeds via Bradford use it to Oxford Road between about 0830 to 1600 at about XX40 on weekdays; on Sundays almost all of these trains do so. The return journeys are hourly from 0938 to 1638. See table 36 which now also includes the Manchester to Blackburn via Burnley trains. (Burnley is a town much derided by The Rochdale Herald which is published on Facebook.)*

See:

<https://be803fe5c416e39d38ae-aa21086260d3bd4e072d597fe09c2e80.ssl.cf3.rackcdn.com/images/timetables/2017-10/winter-timetables/Northern-36-Leeds-to-Manchester-1017.pdf>

### **TIMETABLES FOR ECCLES TRAINS**

*The timetable can be found in brochure 15. The full official timetable can be printed out from or viewed at:*

<https://be803fe5c416e39d38ae-aa21086260d3bd4e072d597fe09c2e80.ssl.cf3.rackcdn.com/images/timetables/2017-10/winter-timetables/Northern-15-Liverpool-to-Manchester-1017.pdf>

*The service pattern is as before but some trains have moved by a few minutes, so please do check!*

**Eccles Station News** welcomes feedback from readers. Please do not hesitate to send in your own views, photos or snippets of news to the e-mail address below.



**FRECCLES**

[info@freccles.org.uk](mailto:info@freccles.org.uk)

tel: 0161 789 5016

Visit our website: [www.freccles.org.uk](http://www.freccles.org.uk)

