

ECCLES STATION NEWS

JULY 2010

Here is the first copy of our new monthly newsletter. In it we shall tell you about **bargain fares**, ideas for **days out by train** and other news connected with the station. Each month's issue will include also a copy of the **FRECCLES 'Trip of the Month' itinerary**.

FIVE YEARS OLD.

This year **FRECCLES** is five years old. The group was started on September 15th 2005 and we think we've made quite a difference to the station in that time. There is still plenty for our inspired gardening group to do of course! If you fancy some easy exercise and good company come along to one of our **tidy up days**. These are held at the station on the first Sunday of each month starting at 11.00am and finishing when you've had enough!

180 YEARS OF ECCLES STATION.

On September 15 this year, Eccles station will have been open for 180 years. We are celebrating this by holding a **station open day on Saturday 11th September between 11.00 and 14.00**. We would like to hear from you if you want to help us on the day or in the preparation and publicity.

To find out more about **FRECCLES** or to make contact see our **website**: www.freccles.org or e mail us at info@freccles.org.uk

JULY FARE BARGAIN:

GREATER MANCHESTER RAIL RANGER TICKET.

This takes you anywhere on the Greater Manchester Rail Network for the day and evening. It also covers travel on the tram in Manchester city centre.

Use it for travel after 09.30 in the morning or all day on Saturday, Sunday and Bank Holidays.

You can buy this ticket at Eccles station when you set off, or on the train if the booking office is closed.

***The price is only £4.00 for adults and £2 for children.
Children under 5 travel free.***

You can visit places at or near Stockport, Rochdale, Wigan, Ashton, Stalybridge, Altrincham, Bolton and Glossop.

For some ideas of where to go see 'Trips Out from Eccles Station' on the Freccles Website (www.freccles.org.uk) or ask to see the book at Eccles, Winton or Hope library.

Travel as far as Patricroft, Glazebrook, Hale, Manchester Airport, Cheadle Hulme, Bramhall, Middlewood, Rose Hill (Marple), Strines, Glossop, Hadfield, Greenfield, Littleborough, Bromley Cross, Blackrod, Appley Bridge, Orrell or Bryn.

See www.gmpete.com for full details.

FARE TIP!!

Whenever you are going off peak for a day to somewhere outside the Greater Manchester travel area, consider buying a ranger ticket and also a return from the boundary to your destination. To be valid your train must actually stop at the boundary station. You can check this out at the station before you travel.

Example: Off peak day return Eccles to New Mills costs **£8.00** and doesn't include the tram crossing in the centre of Manchester.

For £6.50 – buy the Rail Ranger at £4 and also a Marple to New Mills off peak return at £2.50. This also includes the tram in the city centre!

A DAY OUT BY **TRAIN!**

JULY

This month The Friends of Eccles Station recommend:

No. Twenty three

LLANDUDNO – GREAT ORME CIRCULAR WALK

This is an extremely rewarding walk for the practised walker. Good brisk exercise with tremendous views and all that Llandudno has to offer afterwards.

**LONG WALK, MODERATE DIFFICULTY. TERRIFIC VIEWS, SEASIDE,
TEA ROOM, PUBS, FOOD**

RAIL FARE: £24.50 advance return (£30.40 open return)

Get a copy of the itinerary and a ticket at Eccles station and off you go.

The itinerary can be obtained on request at your local library.
Free copies are available at the station, or they can be printed off from www.freccles.org.uk

**Twenty-three LLANDUDNO - Y GOGARTH
(GREAT ORME CIRCULAR WALK).**

This is an extremely rewarding walk for the practised walker. Good brisk exercise with tremendous views and all that Llandudno has to offer afterwards.

Catch the Liverpool stopping train to Newton-Le-Willows and change there to catch the Llandudno/North Wales train soon after on the same platform. Alight at Llandudno Station. Outside the station walk straight ahead to the sea front. Turn left along the front towards the Great Orme. *Notice all the elegant hotels on the way.*

Just past the way onto the pier, curve right taking the road between the Grand Hotel and the colonnade on your left.

At the circle (*with the impressive lamp post*) bear left into Happy Valley.

Follow this road uphill - or *alternatively meander up the very pleasant park parallel to it.* The road and park rejoin just before a cattle grid. Cross the cattle grid.

Ahead is the 'ski resort' but go immediately right onto the stony stepped path uphill.

Half way up it bends right onto some steps. Take a few steps up and then go on to the steps left off this. *This is typical limestone scenery and vegetation.*

Follow the path through a small nick in the hill and up to the finger post. Go straight ahead towards St Tudno's Church (signed).

Go right through a gate and follow the path towards the church that you can see ahead.

Facing the churchyard gate the walk continues to the left. (*But you might want to look in the church and yard before continuing.*)

About a quarter mile up the hill, at a finger post, fork right over the grass – *you can see the cable car station ahead of you – don't go to it.* Turn immediately right along the stony road and follow this.

Where the track and wall start to curve left go straight ahead between two limestone boulders and keep straight on passing two more. *This area is liberally scattered with limestone rocks and boulders.*

Continuing ahead you will gradually meet the original track and wall. The wall does a right angle bend to the left but you keep straight on towards the car parking area.

Go through the right hand side of the car park and up to the edge. *Here you have splendid views of the mountains of Snowdonia (and beyond), and of Puffin Island and Anglesey.*

Go left along the broad mowed grass track. After two to three hundred yards, take the fork right onto a narrower track. This track goes steeply down the hillside. *Below is a narrow flat coastal strip with some very large houses and gardens on Marine Drive.*

At the road go left and then take the first fork left onto a minor road. This eventually becomes a narrow path with a garden wall on its right. It clings to the hillside (*just*) going up and down.

At the crenulated gatehouse take the tarmac path left. *This is known as Invalid's Walk.*

Follow it into Haulfre Gardens. *Here you will find a delightful tearoom that is probably very welcome by now!*

Continue out of the Gardens at the same level until you come to the Great Orme Tramway. Turn right and follow it down to the Victoria Tram Station.

Cross straight ahead along Old Road and keep ahead down to opposite the splendid 'Palladium' *this is a Wetherspoon House offering real ales and food at reasonable prices.* Cross this road, go right and then immediately left. Follow this road until you come to the railway station on the right.

CLASSIFICATION: LONG WALK, MODERATE DIFFICULTY. TERRIFIC
 VIEWS, SEASIDE, TEA ROOM, PUBS, FOOD.

Maps: OS 1:50 000 sheet 115