



FRECCLES Newsletter No 13 April 2025

Hello to all our Members and Supporters.

1)Gardens

Work continues to maintain the station gardens which have looked great recently due to the abundance of spring flowers. Thanks goes to Pat , one of our gardeners, who is responsible for much of the planting regime and to Jim for the new pots appearing on the station platforms. But there is always plenty to do and our next garden and clear-up session will take place on Sunday 4th May at 11am and so do come and join us – either to help with the work or to meet our team.

2)Community Event, 5th April

A successful event took place at Eccles Town Hall on September 5th where a number of community groups, including FRECCLES and FrOPS, came together to highlight all the community activities taking place in Eccles. It was encouraging to see the amount and variety of work being done in Eccles, largely the work of volunteers! There was a good visitor turn-out and several people asked to be added to the FRECCLES mailing list. Our Chair Steve Hopkins helped to organise the event and thanks go to him and the others involved in the organising and to Eccles Town Hall for hosting the event.

3)Eccles Town Centre

If you've been out and about in Eccles Town Centre recently, you'll have noticed demolition work on the shopping centre, car park and market hall has now begun.

This is all part of the regeneration plans to revitalise the town centre and create a modern, vibrant and fit-for-purpose town centre, a place where people can live, eat, meet, and play. It is an exciting step in the programme to improve the area.

But don't forget the demolition work only affects certain parts of the town centre. The shops and businesses on Church Street are still open for business and unaffected.

You can read more about the demolition of Eccles Shopping Centre, car park and Eccles Market Hall here - <https://www.salford.gov.uk/your-council/news/redevelopment-of-eccles-town-centre-gathers-pace/>

4) Timetable

Northern have introduced a revised timetable for Sunday services through Eccles in an attempt to produce a more robust service. The service is now more reliable but at a reduced frequency. However, it is still advisable to check with National Rail enquiries before travel but especially on Sundays.

5) Our Service to London?

The proposal by open access operator LUMO to run a service from Rochdale to London, calling at Eccles, has unfortunately not won government approval. However, LUMO and other open access operators, will continue to campaign to get approval for such services.

6) Next FRECCLES Meeting

The next FRECCLES members meeting will take place on Friday 25th April at Eccles Parish Church on Church Street Eccles at 2.30pm. Entry is via the side door, half way down the right-hand side of the Church. The agenda and minutes of the last meeting will be attached to the accompanying email, together with the latest station plan which sets out our targets for the coming year. If you are not a member but would like to attend, do come along and you can complete a membership form on the day.