

## TRIP CONTENTS

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Ten	BURSCOUGH BRIDGE – RUFFORD OLD HALL.	MEDIUM LENGTH, EASY, OPEN VIEWS TO WINTER HILL, ARCHITECTURE, GARDENS, CANAL,GOOD FOOD, PUB RAIL FARE – category two COST: Category six all included - fares, hall/ gardens entry, and dining.	16
Eleven	GATHURST – ASHURST'S BEACON.	MEDIUM LENGTH, MODERATE WALK WITH UPHILL STRETCHES. THERE ARE SOME MUDDY SECTIONS ON PATHS. WIDE OPEN VIEWS, COUNTRYSIDE, WOODLANDS, PUBS – REAL ALE AND FOOD, RAIL FARE – category one	18
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Twenty two	GLOSSOP – FOUR (or five) PUB STROLL.	EASY. SHORT WALK. PUBS, FOOD RAIL FARE: category one.	38
Twenty three	LLANDUDNO - Y GOGARTH (GREAT ORME CIRCULAR WALK).	LONG WALK, MODERATE DIFFICULTY. TERRIFIC VIEWS, SEASIDE, TEA ROOM PUBS, FOOD RAIL FARE: category <u>eight</u> . (no day return).	39
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Twenty five	SMITHY BRIDGE - PENNINE WALK TO SUMMIT LOCK.	A LONGISH WALK OF ONLY MODERATE DIFFICULTY. COUNTRYSIDE, GOOD VIEWS, PUBS, CANALS. RAIL FARE: category ONE.	43
Twenty six	MILLS HILL –CASTLETON via canal	AN EASY WALK OF MEDIUM LENGTH (Please note that the towpath can be rather muddy following a rainy period) COUNTRYSIDE, GOOD VIEWS, PUBS, CANALS. RAIL FARE: category ONE.	45
Twenty seven	MILLS HILL –CASTLETON via TANGLE HILL	MEDIUM LENGTH, MODERATE WALK. COUNTRYSIDE, SPLENDID VIEWS, GOOD FOOD, PUB, CANALS. RAIL FARE: category ONE.	46
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Thirty eight	LIVERPOOL –CLASSICAL CITY CENTRE	SHORT, EASY. HISTORIC RAILWAY, ARCHITECTURE, THEATRE, MUSEUM, LIBRARY, PUB, CAFÉS. RAIL FARE – category THREE	61
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Forty	HEBDEN BRIDGE - TOWN	SHORT, EASY. HISTORIC RAILWAY, numerous CAFES & PUBS, CANAL, OLD-FASHIONED SHOPS, PARK. CINEMA, ARCHITECTURE. RAIL FARE – category THREE	65
Forty one	TODMORDEN – A LOOK AT THE TOWN.	SHORT MODERATELY EASY ( <i>BUT ONE STEEP UP AND ONE STEEP DOWN – THIS COULD BE SLIPPERY WHEN WET</i> ). COUNTRYSIDE, VIEWS, ARCHITECTURE, MARKET, SHOPS, CANAL, CAFES AND TEASHOPS. RAIL FARE: category two.	67
Forty two	WEST KIRBY– DEE ESTUARY	<b>To the marina:</b> SHORT, A DODDLE. <b>To Little Eye:</b> SHORT, EASY. <b>To Middle Eye:</b> MEDIUM LENGTH, EASY. <b>To Hilbre Island:</b> MODERATELY LONG AND A MEDIUM CHALLENGE ( <i>ONE SHORT STEEP UP AND ONE STEEP DOWN AND ROCKS THAT WILL BE SLIPPERY WHEN WET</i> ) SANDY BEACHES, MARINA, GREAT VIEWS, SHOPS, BIRDWATCHING, CAFES, PUB. RAIL FARE: category three.	69
Forty three	EDGE HILL – SEFTON PARK.	EASY BUT A LONG WALK. GOOD CYCLE TRIP. ARCHITECTURE, GARDENS, PUBLIC OPEN SPACE, CAFES. RAIL FARE: category three.	71
Forty four	DARWEN – JUBILEE TOWER & SUNNYHURST.	A MEDIUM LENGTH WALK. EASY UNDERFOOT BUT STEEP UP AND DOWN STRETCHES. ARCHITECTURE, COUNTRYSIDE, PANORAMIC VIEWS, PUBLIC OPEN SPACE, CAFES, COUNTRY PUB. RAIL FARE: category two.	73
Forty five	HALL BANK – COAST and “ANOTHER PLACE”	A MEDIUM LENGTH WALK. EASY. BEACH, PANORAMIC VIEWS, STATUES, PUBLIC OPEN SPACE, CAFE, SHOPS, PUB. RAIL FARE: category three.	75
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Forty seven	CHESTER – A CIRCUIT OF THE WALLS	MEDIUM EASY. ARCHITECTURE, VIEWS, PUBS, CAFES, SHOPS, RIVER TRIPS, CANAL, MUSEUMS, CATHEDRAL. RAIL FARE: category four.	79
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Fifty	CHESTER- SOME REAL ALE PUBS.	SHORT EASY. ARCHITECTURE, SHOPS, PUBS, FOOD, MUSEUMS, BOAT TRIPS RAIL FARE: category four.	85

## TIMETABLE & FARE INFORMATION.

Eccles station is manned Monday to Saturday until 13.30. There are also timetable sheets on display just along from the booking office. Always check train times and connection times before going. At the ticket office you can get a printed journey plan on request.

Trains are currently hourly in both directions taking 10mins approx. to Manchester and 57mins to Liverpool Lime Street for example.

National rail enquiries (24 hour) tel. 08457 48 49 50 or [www.nationalrail.co.uk](http://www.nationalrail.co.uk)

Northern rail enquiries tel. 08450 000 125 or [ww.northernrail.org](http://ww.northernrail.org)

GMPTE public transport information tel. 0871 200 22 33. The service is 07.00 – 20.00 Monday to Friday and 08.00 – 20.00 Saturday, Sunday and public holidays. Or go on the web: [gmpte.com](http://gmpte.com).

## TICKETS.

Eccles station ticket office is manned Monday to Saturday until 13.30.

Outside these times book on the train or at your destination.

Tickets may be obtained online at [nationalrail.co.uk](http://nationalrail.co.uk) these are then sent by post.

The price categories quoted for each trip are based on the price of a Greater Manchester Rail Ranger. (This stands at £4.00 in May 2009). The categories are based on full normal cheap day return or saver fares. It is often possible to buy cheaper tickets by advanced booking, use of a railcard, or using cheap evening tickets.

For group-travel discounts (usually 10 or more people) ring Northern Rail directly to make your booking.

### PENSIONERS PLEASE NOTE:

At the time of publication **the pensioner's travel pass does not allow free or concessionary RAIL travel outside the Greater Manchester boundary.** Greater Manchester is the only region to grant this privilege.

The limits of its validity are the same as for the day ranger ticket and are given below.

**BOUNDARIES FOR GM DAY RANGER TICKET & PENSION CONCESSION.**

<b>LINE</b>	<b>VALID AS FAR AS</b>
Liverpool via Warrington Central	Glazebrook
Liverpool via Newton le Willows	Patricroft
Liverpool via Wigan NW & St Helens	Bryn
Preston via Wigan NW	Wigan NW
Kirkby	Orrell
Southport	Appley Bridge
Preston via Chorley	Blackrod
Blackburn	Bromley Cross
Leeds via Rochdale	Littleborough
Oldham & Rochdale loop	All stations
Leeds via Huddersfield	Greenfield
Hadfield	Hadfield
Rose Hill	Rose Hill
Marple	Marple
Sheffield via Marple	Strines
Buxton	Middlewood
Macclesfield	Bramhall
Crewe	Cheadle Hulme
Chester via Altrincham	Hale
Airport	Manchester Airport

**DISABLED TRAVELLERS.**

Disabled travellers should contact Northern Rail on 08456 008 008 or e-mail 'assistance@northernrail.org'. Textphone 08456 045 608.

The platforms at Eccles Station are reached by long flights of stairs only.

Some mobility-impaired travellers might find these difficult or impossible to negotiate.

Arrangements will be made for your travel if you contact Northern as above. Please give at least 24 hours notice of your needs.

Those with slight mobility impairment should read the trips carefully and make their own judgement – I have tried to mention all steps and steep slopes, and you know your own capabilities better than anyone.

Apart from this problem some of the walks are by their very nature not suitable for those who must use a wheel chair or mobility scooter. I suggest you examine the following trips as possibilities:-

One	two	three	four	five	six
thirteen	fourteen	fifteen	eighteen	twenty four	
twenty nine	thirty one	thirty two	thirty three	thirty five	thirty six
thirty seven	thirty eight	forty	forty two (a)	forty three	forty nine

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Copies of the individual walks can be downloaded free of charge from the FRECCLES Website.

## CLASSIFICATIONS:

For challenge of walk once arrived at destination DODDLE, EASY, MODERATE, DIFFICULT, HARD.

For length of walk once arrived at destination: DODDLE, SHORT, MEDIUM, QUITE LONG, LONG.

These are subjective – based on my own feelings about them. Judge them according to your own capabilities.

## ABOUT FRECCLES:

Freccles is short for ‘The Friends of Eccles Station’ – a group of volunteers working to improve the railway station, its image, its services, and its usage. To do this we work with Northern Rail, Greater Manchester Passenger Transport Executive, Network Rail, Salford City Council.

The group was founded by a small number of local residents who met at the station on September 15<sup>th</sup> 2005. (This date was the 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the official opening of the station on The Liverpool & Manchester Railway in 1830).

Freccles has since grown very successfully into an active group of campaigners, gardeners and station tidiers and has managed to attract over £7000 of extra funding for the station to date. Already the station is looking significantly better than the neglected state it had been left in since the early nineteen seventies’ arson attack. The next stage is to improve the car park and forecourt area to make the station more welcoming and prominent – this will be somewhat costlier of course.

## JOINING FRECCLES.

If you live locally why not join Freccles? It’s enjoyable and fulfilling work, whatever your skills and interests. We meet regularly at the station at 11.00 in the first Sunday of each month, and irregularly at each others’ homes as required.

To join please see our Website: [www.freccles.org.uk](http://www.freccles.org.uk). Or write to ‘Freccles’, c/o 2 Alma Street, Eccles, Manchester M30.