

= Eccles , Greater Manchester =

Eccles (/ ˈɛkəl / ; pop . 38 @ , @ 756 (2011)) is a town in Greater Manchester , England , 2 @ . @ 7 miles (4 @ . @ 3 km) west of Salford and 3 @ . @ 7 miles (6 @ . @ 0 km) west of Manchester city centre , between the M602 motorway to the north and the Manchester Ship Canal to the south .

Historically part of Lancashire , Eccles grew up around the 13th century Parish Church of St Mary . Evidence of pre @ - @ historic human settlement has been discovered locally but the area was predominantly agricultural until the Industrial Revolution , when a textile industry was established in the town . The arrival of the Liverpool and Manchester Railway , the world 's first passenger railway , led to the town 's expansion along the route of the track linking those two cities .

Eccles cakes , first produced and sold in the town in 1793 , are now exported across the world .

= = History = =

= = = Toponymy = = =

The derivation of the name is uncertain , but several ideas have been proposed . One is that the " Eccles " place ? name is derived from the Romano @ - @ British Ecles or Eglys , itself derived from the Ancient Greek Ecclesia . Following the arrival in AD 613 of the invading Anglo @ - @ Saxons at Lancashire , many existing British place ? names , especially rivers and hills (the River Irwell for example) , survived intact . The root " Ecles " , found in several village names , is an exception to this . A popular theory is that the word denoted the site of a building recognised by the Anglo @ - @ Saxons as a church and feature of the landscape . Eccles appears to have been such a village , and Ecles may be the likely source of the modern name . In Kenyon 's " Origins of Lancashire " (1991) however the author suggests that this may not be the case as there is not an exact correlation between " Eccles " place ? names and pre @ - @ Domesday hundreds in south Lancashire .

= = = Early history = = =

Pre @ - @ historic finds in the parish of Eccles include dugout boats found at Barton @ - @ upon @ - @ Irwell , an arrowhead , a spear and axes at Winton , which taken together appear to suggest the existence of a hunting and travelling society . Human habitation in the area may extend as far back as 6000 BC , with two separate periods of settlement on Chat Moss , the first around 500 BC and the second during the Romano @ - @ British period .

The village may have been founded by refugees from Manchester (Mamucium) during the Diocletianic Persecution in the early 4th century , although excavations in 2001 ? 05 revealed that the civilian settlement at Manchester had probably been abandoned by the mid @ - @ 3rd century . Throughout the Dark Ages the parish appears to have been remote enough to be untouched by any local conflicts , while absorbing successive waves of immigrants from nearby towns .

The Manor of Barton @ - @ upon @ - @ Irwell once covered a large area ; in 1276 it included townships such as Asphull , Halghton , Halliwelle , Farnword , Eccles , Workedele , Withington (latterly Winton) , Irwelham , Hulm , Quicklewicke , Suynhul and Swinton . Before this date it would appear to have been even larger , but by 1320 the manor boundaries were described as " Tordhale Siche descending to Caldebroc , then to the pit near Preste Platteforde and then to another pit , then to the ditch of Roger the Clerk , then to the hedge of Richard the Rimeur , then following the hedge to Caldebroc . " The manor was originally controlled by the Barton family until about 1292 when by marriage it came into the ownership of the Booth family , who retained it for almost 300 years . In 1586 the Trafford family assumed control of the manor , and established themselves in 1632 at Whittleswick , which was renamed Trafford Park .

The parish of Eccles contained the townships of Barton @ - @ upon @ - @ Irwell , Clifton , Pendlebury , Pendleton and Worsley . Toward the end of the Middle Ages the parish had an estimated population of about 4 @ , @ 000 Communicants . Agriculture remained an important local

industry , with little change from the Medieval system due to a lack of adequate drainage and fertiliser . No evidence exists to demonstrate the layout of the area , but it would likely have been the same as the surrounding areas of Salford , Urmston and Warrington where oats and barley would have been grown . Local cottage industries included blacksmiths , butchers , thatching , basket weaving , skinning and tanning . Weaving was popular , using linen and wool . Merchants traded in corn and badgers bought and sold local produce .

Although the local gentry supported the Royalists , the English Civil War had little effect on the area . Troops would occasionally pass through the parish and there was a skirmish at Woollen , but the only other mention of local involvement was the burial of two (probably) local soldiers in 1643 . The Jacobite army passed through in 1745 , in its advance and subsequent retreat .

= = = Textiles and the Industrial Revolution = = =

In 1795 John Aikin described the area :

The agriculture of the parish is chiefly confined to grazing , and would be more materially benefited by draining ; but the tax upon brick , a most essential article in this process , has been a very great hindrance to it . The use of lime ? imported from Wales , and brought by the inland navigations to the neighbourhood of our collieries ? has become very general in the improvement of the meadow and pasture lands .

During the 18th century the predominance of textiles in the region is partly demonstrated in the parish registers of 1807 , which show that 46 children were baptised with 34 fathers employed as weavers . In Memoirs of seventy years of an eventful life (1852) Charles Hulbert wrote :

The principal employment of the working population of Eccles and vicinity at that time , was the manufacture of Cotton Goods on the home or domestic plan . These were not then , according to my present recollection , more than two Spinning Manufactories in Manchester , Arkwright 's with its loft chimney , and Douglas 's extensive Works , on the River Irwell , near the Broken bank ... At the period of my first residence in Eccles Parish , I believe the above Mills chiefly supplied the Weavers of Eccles and other parishes with twist for warps , which were purchased by the Master Manufacturers .

During the early 19th century the growth of industry meant the majority of the area 's inhabitants were employed in textiles or trade , while a minority worked in agriculture . The factory system was also introduced ; in 1835 1 @, @ 124 people were employed in cotton mills , and two mills used power looms . Local hand @-@ produced specialities included striped cotton ticks , checks , Nankeens and Camrays . Two cotton mills are visible on the 1845 Ordnance Survey map of the area . The area also became renowned for its production of silk , with two mills at Eccles and one at Patricroft . Many factory workers were children under 12 years of age .

In 1830 James Nasmyth (son of Alexander Nasmyth) visited the newly opened Liverpool and Manchester Railway , and on his return to Manchester noted the suitability of a site alongside the canal at Patricroft for an engineering works . He and his brother leased the land from Thomas de Trafford , and established the Bridgewater Foundry in 1836 . The foundry was completed the following year with a design based upon assembly line production . In 1839 Nasmyth invented the Steam Hammer , which enabled the manufacture of forgings at a scale and speed not seen before . In the same year the foundry started to manufacture railway locomotives , with 109 built by 1853 . Nasmyth died a wealthy man in 1890 .

The Eccles Spinning and Manufacturing Company came into being following a meeting called by the Mayor of Eccles , in which concern was expressed at the decline in local industry . Two earlier Eccles mills had been destroyed by fire , resulting in significant local unemployment . Designed by Potts , Son and Hennings of Manchester , Bolton and Oldham , it was opened in 1906 . The imposing mill contained a multi @-@ storey spinning mill , engine house and extensive weaving sheds .

Early housing in the village consisted of groups of thatched cottages clustered around and near the parish church . The influx of workers from areas around the village accompanied an increased demand for extra housing . Even after the establishment of the local board of health new properties

were often built in the gardens of existing dwellings , leading to severe overcrowding . In 1852 the streets were paved with boulders , sewerage was non @-@ existent , and water supply was a local well . During the latter half of the 19th century new housing was erected alongside the railway , and large areas of open land were soon occupied with new housing estates built for the area 's more wealthy residents .

The construction of the Manchester Ship Canal provided many local residents with jobs . 1 @,@ 888 people were employed on the section of the new canal at Barton . A stone aqueduct over the River Irwell dating from 1761 and designed by James Brindley was demolished and replaced by a new moveable aqueduct : the Barton Swing Aqueduct .

= = = Post @-@ industrial history = = =

Eccles was not immune to the general decline of the textile industry in the 20th century . The Bridgewater Foundry ceased operations in 1940 , taken over by the Ministry of Supply and converted into a Royal Ordnance Factory . The factory closed in the late 1980s , and is now part of the Nasmyth Business Centre .

Eccles is included in the City of Salford 's Unitary Development Plan 2004 ? 2016 as part of the western gateway , a major focus for economic development during the plan period . Areas to be developed include the Barton Strategic Regional Site , Dock 9 at Salford Quays , Weaste Quarry near Eccles , and remaining land at Northbank , and the plan provides for improvements which include the A57 ? Trafford Park link at Barton and provisional support for a further expansion of the Metrolink system through the area and a link between the A57 and M62 at Barton . Under this plan the town 's retail environment would also be maintained and enhanced .

= = Governance = =

In 1854 the Barton , Eccles , Winton and Monton Local Board of Health was established for the northern part of the township of Barton . Eccles was incorporated as a municipal borough in 1892 , part of which was in Barton poor law union , an inter @-@ parish unit established to provide social security , and in 1933 this was expanded to include most of Barton Moss civil parish , and part of Worsley Urban District . A small part of the borough was transferred in 1961 to the County Borough of Salford . In 1974 the borough was abolished and its area transferred to Greater Manchester to form part of the City of Salford .

The Eccles area incorporates the wards of Barton , Winton , and Eccles .

Following its review of parliamentary representation in Greater Manchester , the Boundary Commission for England recommended that Eccles be split between two new constituencies ; Salford and Eccles , from the existing Salford constituency and the central / eastern part of Eccles , and Worsley and Eccles South , from the existing Worsley constituency and the southern / western part of Eccles .

= = Geography = =

Eccles is situated 4 ¾ miles west of Manchester , on the north bank of the Manchester Ship Canal . The area is along a gentle slope from 160 feet (49 m) above sea level to the north , to 60 feet (18 m) above sea at the south , near the Irwell . The underlying geology is made up of New Red Sandstone and pebble beds . The coal measures of the Lancashire coalfield extend south to Monton and Winton . On the surface deposits of clay and loose sands are prevalent throughout the area , along with vegetable moulds formed by rotted vegetation from the previous ice age . These areas have , when drained , provided fertile soil for local agriculture , benefited by the 19th century practice of dumping nightsoil from nearby Manchester .

Parts of the area are within an indicated floodplain . Eccles ' climate is generally temperate , like the rest of Greater Manchester . The mean highest and lowest temperatures (13 @. 2 ° C (55 @. 8 ° F) and 6 @. 4 ° C (43 @. 5 ° F)) are slightly above the national average , while the annual

rainfall (806 @. @ 6 millimetres (31 @. @ 76 in)) and average hours of sunshine (1394 @. @ 5 hours) are respectively above and below the national averages .

= = Demography = =

= = Overall = =

At the time of the United Kingdom Census 2001 , according to the Office for National Statistics , the Urban Sub @-@ division of Eccles was part of the Greater Manchester Urban Area and had a total resident population of 36 @, @ 610 , of which 17 @, @ 924 (48 @. @ 96 %) were male and 18 @, @ 686 (51 @. @ 04 %) were female . The settlement occupied 812 hectares , compared with 783 in the 1991 census . Its population density was 45 @. @ 09 people per hectare compared with an average of 40 @. @ 20 across the Greater Manchester Urban Area . The median age of the population is 37 , compared with 36 within the Greater Manchester Urban Area and 37 across England and Wales .

The majority of the population of Eccles was born in England (91 @. @ 94 %) ; 2 @. @ 61 % were born elsewhere within the United Kingdom , 0 @. @ 70 % within the rest of the European Union , and 2 @. @ 99 % elsewhere in the world .

Data on religious beliefs across the town in the 2001 census show that 77 @. @ 07 % declared themselves to be Christian , 12 @. @ 05 % said they held no religion , and 2 @. @ 26 % reported themselves as Muslim .

Eccles is within the Manchester Larger Urban Zone , and the Manchester Travel to Work Area .

= = By ward = =

The Eccles area consists of the wards of Barton , Winton , and Eccles .

According to the Office for National Statistics , at the time of the United Kingdom Census 2001 , the ward of Eccles had a population of 11 @, @ 413 , of which 5 @, @ 546 were male , and 5 @, @ 867 female . The ward of Winton had a population of 12 @, @ 752 , and the ward of Barton had a population of 10 @, @ 434 , giving the larger administrative area of Eccles a total population of 34 @, @ 599 .

Eccles is the ninth most densely populated ward in Salford , and has the highest number and proportion of people aged 75 and over of all wards in Salford . Levels of crime are below the average for the city . The adult population tends to be more qualified than the city average , and primary and secondary education results are also slightly higher than average for Salford . Unemployment is below average , with people tending to work longer hours . More residents live in purpose @-@ built and converted flats than do in the city as a whole , with a minority occupying detached houses or bungalows . Between 1994 and 2004 , 367 homes were added to the ward , above the average for Salford .

Neighbouring Winton is the sixth most densely populated ward in the region and in 2001 had proportionally more children than the city as a whole . Crime is generally below average , with falling rates of burglary in 2005 . Education standards for both adults and children are below city average with minor improvements to GCSE results between 2005 and 2006 . Unemployment is higher than average for Salford , with areas of severe income deprivation both to the north and south of the ward . Residents are on average more likely to live in semi @-@ detached housing , with 208 homes added between 1994 and 2004 .

To the south , the ward of Barton is the third most densely populated in Salford with little population change between 1991 and 2001 . It has proportionally more over @-@ 85 @-@ year olds than the city as a whole , with low adult and primary school education standards , but significant improvements in GCSE results of late . Some parts of Barton are amongst the worst 20 % of areas in the country for child poverty , with below city @-@ average childcare provision . Unemployment is higher than average for Salford . Almost half the homes in the ward are terraced housing , with an

extra 300 properties built between 1994 and 2004 .

= = Economy = =

To the east of the town centre , the West One retail park was opened in November 2001 at a cost of £ 53M . It is in competition with the nearby Trafford Centre and Lowry Outlet Mall , and as a result has suffered a loss of trade . Most of its units were abandoned but following the decision by Tesco to scrap plans for a £ 30m Tesco Extra store in 2013 a number of new openings have improved the retail offering ; The Range , Home Bargains and Smyths Toys Superstore . A Morrisons supermarket is near the town centre ,

Until shortly after its closure was announced on 9 May 2006 , the Great Universal Stores group used the former Eccles Spinning and Manufacturing Company building in Winton . Operations have since been transferred to a site in Shaw and Crompton . The town still has a manufacturing industry . Ackros Chemicals , a leading chemical additive supplier and its predecessors have occupied a site on Lankro Way since 1937 , the Global HQ in Eccles employs more than 100 people working in manufacturing , research , administrative and business management roles . Americhem Europe manufactures colouring for plastics and nylon fibres , employing 75 staff with a turnover of £ 10M . The Eccles @-@ based insurance broker and financial services specialist CBG Group , which worldwide employs 180 people , has its head office near the town centre . The employment agency Morson Group has its headquarters in Eccles and supplies thousands of employees to various hi @-@ tech employers .

= = = Population = = =

= = Landmarks = =

The Parish Church of St Mary the Virgin is the only Grade I Listed building in Eccles . There are two Grade II * listed buildings in the Eccles area . The Church of St Andrew was completed by the architect Herbert Edward Tijou in 1879 . Monton Unitarian Church was completed in 1875 by Thomas Worthington .

The town 's war memorial was erected in 1925 . Local sculptor John Cassidy was commissioned to design the structure . Built from Portland stone and topped with a bronze figure , it was unveiled by Lord Derby in August 1925 . It is now a Grade II listed building . Eccles Library was built on a slum clearance site in the town centre . The building was funded by Andrew Carnegie and designed by Edward Potts (who also designed the canalside mill picture above) , and opened on 19 October 1907 . Designed in the Renaissance style , it is now a Grade II listed building . Potts had hoped that the building would become " the Eccles University " .

Salford City Council is currently bidding for the Liverpool and Manchester Railway to be included in UNESCO 's list of World Heritage Sites . Eccles railway station has recently undergone restoration work by the Friends of Eccles Railway Station , including clean @-@ ups , renovation of the station garden , and a mural . Both Monton Green and Ellesmere Park are designated conservation areas , and a Site of Biological Importance is located near Rutland Road and Chatsworth Road .

= = Transport = =

The Salford to Warrington turnpike trust was formed in 1752 and assumed control of the road from Pendleton to Irlam . Opinions as to the quality of the road were mainly negative ; writing in 1795 , John Aikin said " Much Labour and a very great expense of money have been expended on the roads of this parish , but they still remain in a very indifferent state , and from one plain and obvious cause , the immoderate weights drawn in carts and waggons . " On the poor quality roads , the Liverpool to Manchester stagecoach took almost an entire day to make the journey . Matters appear to have improved by the 19th century , along with the opening of several more trust roads

throughout the parish . In the early part of the 19th century some existing routes were widened and straightened , including the modern A66 day Regent Road in Salford . All the roads except one were surfaced with boulders . In 1832 a daily omnibus service from Manchester reached Eccles and Pendleton . In 1877 , following the laying of tracks in the road , horse A66 drawn trams were used ; these eventually gave way in 1902 to electric trams under the control of the Salford Corporation . Motorised buses were introduced in 1938 .

The opening of the Liverpool and Manchester Railway on 15 September 1830 was a pivotal moment in transport history . The world 's first railway constructed to carry passengers as well as freight , it signalled the beginning of the end for both the turnpike trusts and the canal system . Stagecoach services ceased as passengers started to use the faster railway . The opening day was historic for more than one reason though ; Eccles became a part of an early railway accident . During a stop at Parkside railway station near Newton A66 ie A66 Willows , Member of Parliament for Liverpool William Huskisson was seriously injured by an approaching locomotive . He was taken to the vicarage in Eccles for treatment , but died of his injuries . There have been two further serious railway incidents in Eccles , the first in 1941 , and the second in 1984 . The line was widened in 1882 , and improvements were made to the station infrastructure , however in 1971 a fire destroyed the wooden station building , which has never been rebuilt .

The Tyldesley Loopline was opened by the London and North Western Railway on 1 September 1864 with stations at Monton Green (opened 1887) , Worsley , Tyldesley , and Leigh . The railway provided a link between Eccles (located on the existing Liverpool and Manchester line) , and Wigan . In 1870 an additional branch line from this , the Roe Green Loopline , was opened to Bolton to support the surrounding collieries , the largest of which was at Mosley Common . The London and North Western Railway also built a line from Patricroft railway station to Molyneux Junction , via Clifton Hall Tunnel (built in 1849) . The line connected with the East Lancashire Railway to Radcliffe and Bury . Clifton Hall Tunnel collapsed on 28 April 1953 . The Tyldesley Loopline was closed on 5 May 1969 under the Beeching axe , and the closure of the Roe Green branch line followed in October 1969 .

In 1851 the Earl of Ellesmere hosted a visit to Manchester by Queen Victoria and Prince Albert . They stayed at Worsley Hall , with a view of the canal , and were given a trip between Patricroft railway station and Worsley Hall , on state barges . Large crowds had gathered to cheer the royal party , which apparently frightened the horses drawing the barge so much that they fell into the canal .

The M602 motorway was opened throughout on 3 November 1971 . The Borough Council had previously formed the Eccles Borough Council 's General Purposes Committee , which from December 1962 began to purchase land for the route of the new road , while overseeing a powerful public relations scheme . A demolition programme commenced in January 1967 , with some residents re A66 housed in newly built housing stock . The council also had to arrange for the purchase of land at the interchange with the present A66 day M60 , and to re A66 route part of the Thirlmere Aqueduct . Construction began on 8 December 1969 , along a route limited by the existence of housing estates , the Liverpool and Manchester Railway , the M62 junction at Worsley , and the Bridgewater Canal . Consideration was given to the route of the disused Eccles A66 Tyldesley A66 Wigan railway line ; the height of the motorway was lowered to accommodate a new railway bridge in case the line was ever re A66 instated . The nearby bridge for the Clifton Junction branch railway was demolished with explosives .

In addition to the Liverpool and Manchester Railway , the town is now served by the Eccles Line of the Metrolink light rail system which , along with regular bus services , terminates at Eccles Interchange . Work on the Metrolink branch to Eccles began in July 1997 and was completed by July 2000 , with the official opening ceremony in January 2001 ; trams leave every twelve minutes .

= = Education = =

One of the early schools in Eccles was the 18th century day school in the parish of St. Mary 's , south of the Irwell on the de Trafford estate . A Catholic Sunday school was opened in Eccles during

the 19th century , in a building in Back Timothy Street (now the location of Eccles Library) . Another Day School was also opened in cottages on Barton Lane . The first substantial school in the area however was opened in 1851 along Church Street . A Boy 's School was opened in 1888 .

St Patrick 's RC High School is currently the best performing secondary school in Salford , with one of the highest scores in England . The Eccles area contains a number of primary and secondary schools , including (but not limited to) St. Mary 's R.C. Primary School , Branwood Preparatory School , New Park High School , and Monton Green Primary School .

Eccles College is a further education college . It opened in 1973 and provides a wide range of A @-@ level and vocational course for school @-@ leavers .

= = Religion = =

As the population of Eccles increased during the Industrial Revolution the medieval parish of Eccles was gradually divided into smaller parishes , and surrounding townships gained their own churches . Roman Catholics living in Eccles originally attended worship at a chapel on the de Trafford estate , south of the Irwell , however the chapel was demolished and replaced by All Saints Church . The first Rector of the Roman Catholic Parish of Eccles parish was , from 1879 , a Father Sharrocks . The first public Catholic procession in Eccles since the Reformation of the 1530s took place on 18 August 1889 .

The Grade II * listed St Andrew 's church in St Andrew 's Parish was built in the 1870s and opened in 1879 (the tower was added in 1889) . Over the next 40 years various decorative improvements were made to the building , including stone carvings , stained glass , and wall paintings (covered in 1965) . Four months after the church was consecrated a church school was opened , the forerunner of the present St Andrew 's Primary School . A second school in Monton (then part of the parish) opened in 1881 . In 1912 Monton became a separate parish with its own church , St Paul 's .

The area has a variety of other churches , including the Church of St James at nearby Hope , and a Baptist church , Other denominations catered for include Methodist New Connexion , Zion Methodist New Connexion , and Wesleyan .

= = Sports = =

The amateur rugby league club Salford City Roosters , formerly known as the Eccles Roosters , are based in Eccles .

Eccles Rugby Football Club (rugby union) is on the inside of the circular M60 motorway , south of the railway . The club 's first registration as a member of the Lancashire County Rugby Football Union was in 1886 . To the west of Eccles lies the City of Salford Stadium , along with new transport infrastructure around the motorway and Trafford Centre . Immediately west of the new stadium site is Boysnope Park Golf Club , an 18 @-@ hole par 72 parkland course with floodlit driving range .

Eccles is home to City of Salford Volleyball Club [https : / / sites.google.com / site / cityofsalfordvolleyballclub / home](https://sites.google.com/site/cityofsalfordvolleyballclub/home) One of English volleyball 's premier women 's teams , the club competes in Volleyball England 's Women 's SUPER8 's competition as well as having a number of development teams

= = Public services = =

Eccles became the first municipal corporation in England to operate a motorised fire engine in 1901 . It was supplied to Eccles Corporation by a local firm , the Protector Lamp and Lighting Co . , also known for manufacturing Miners ' Safety Lamps . Barton Aerodrome , the first municipal aerodrome in the UK to be licensed by the Air Ministry , was opened on 29 January 1930 on a site at Barton @-@ on @-@ the @-@ Moss .

The first Power Station in Eccles was built along Cawdor Street , and opened on 14 December 1896 by Alderman W. D. Kendall . The second and much larger Barton Power Station was built in 1920 alongside the Manchester Ship Canal and Bridgewater Canal . It was opened on 11 October

1923 by the Earl of Derby , and supplied electricity to Manchester and the South East Lancashire Electricity District . It ceased generation in March 1974 , operating from thereon only as a switching station , and was demolished in June 1979 .

Salford Royal hospital opened in 1882 as the Salford Union Infirmary , a hospital for sick paupers , in association with the union workhouse . It was later renamed as Hope Hospital , taking the name of the nearby medieval Hope Hall , demolished in 1956 . The hospital was given its current name in 2007 .

= = Notable people = =

Edward Potts was a renowned architect born on 2 March 1839 in Bury . He moved to Oldham and designed many of the town 's mills and was ranked with P. S. Stott as the greatest mill architect of Victorian Lancashire . He moved to Eccles in 1891 and was responsible for the design of the town 's library . He was a Liberal member of the borough council from 1902 to 1905 , the first chairman of the town 's library committee (1904) , and a Justice of the Peace in 1906 . He inaugurated popular Saturday @-@ night concerts during the winter months and , keen to reduce the incidence of infant mortality , gave a sovereign to the mother of every child who reached the age of one . He died on 15 April 1909 and was buried at Chadderton Cemetery .

The hymn @-@ writer William Cooke was born in Eccles in 1821 .

= = Culture = =

Eccles is perhaps best known for the Eccles cake . Dating from the 18th century , they were first sold from a shop owned by James Birch in 1793 . Traditionally made in the town from a recipe of flaky pastry , butter , nutmeg , candied peel , sugar and currants , they are sold across the country and exported across the world . They are sometimes referred to as " dead fly pies " .

Eccles Wakes (a holiday to celebrate the dedication of the Parish Church) were celebrated annually until 1877 , when the tradition was abolished by the Home Secretary .