MANCUNIANITY FLOWS
FOLLOW THE SPIDER'S WEB

A riverside adventure through Manchester and Salford

N

UPSTREAM / NORTH

5 BRICK-LATTICE MYSTERY AND PINEAPPLE LINE
These patterned bricks allowed air to circulate.
What does the pattern remind you of?

THE RAILWAY'S REAL HORSE POWER
The railway remembers the Pine Apple Inn that once stood on Water Street.

4 FAUCHER'S DILIGENT SPIDER
In 1844, Léon Faucher imagined Manchester at the centre of a great web.
How many connections can you spot?

"MANCHESTER, LIKE A DILIGENT SPIDER, IS PLACED IN THE CENTRE OF THE WEB..."
– LÉON FAUCHER, 1844

RIVER IRWELL

3 BRIDGES THROUGH TIME

STEPHENSON'S RAILWAY BRIDGE 1830
Part of the pioneering Liverpool and Manchester Railway, the world's first steam-powered inter-urban railway.

ORDSALL CHORD 2017
A modern railway chord joining routes. Rust by design!

PRINCE'S PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE 2023
Walk beneath the trains and over the river into Salford.

1 & 8 AVIVA STUDIOS AND RIVER SQUARE
START AND FINISH HERE
A green gathering place beside the Irwell.
Goods once moved through this district. Today artists, audiences and ideas meet here.
What shape does Aviva Studios remind you of?

2 THE RIVER IRWELL
A 39-mile river flowing from the hills near Bacup to the Mersey and onward towards the sea.
It has an industrial past and a living future.
It is recovering.
but still needs our care.

Please look after my river.

DOWNSTREAM / SOUTH
Towards the Ship Canal, the Mersey and the sea.

6 CROSS INTO SALFORD
Trains above. River below.
How many steps between two cities?

MANCHESTER
SALFORD

7 SIT INSIDE THE WEB
These terraces name the canals and railways that connected towns and cities.
What did they carry?

People · Coal · Cotton · Food · Letters · Stories

BRIDGEWATER CANAL
MANCHESTER RAILWAY
MANCHESTER, BOLTON & BURY CANAL
MANCHESTER SOUTH JUNCTION & ALTRINCHAM RAILWAY

TURN AROUND HERE

NEARBY: MIDDLEWOOD LOCKS
The Manchester, Bolton & Bury Canal once connected with the Irwell here.
Look for Bloody Bridge, the tunnel entrance and Middlewood Deep Lock.

NOT ON THIS ROUTE
Explore another day.

THE RAILWAY THAT CHANGED THE WORLD
In 1830, the Liverpool and Manchester Railway opened nearby at Liverpool Road Station. It helped create the blueprint for modern railway travel.
You might say that every railway in the world is effectively a branch line from here!

A GREAT CONVERGENCE
Rivers, canals, railways and roads came together around this landscape, moving people, goods and ideas. Downstream, the Ship Canal turned inland Manchester into an international port.

Manchester looked at the sea and decided it wasn't close enough!

WEBSTER THE WEAVER
I'll help you find stories, connections and fun facts along the way.
Let's weave this journey together!

THANK YOU, WEAVERS!
This walk was co-created with our ten older local Weavers. Their memories, knowledge, humour, music and creativity bring these stories to life.

SCAN TO FOLLOW THE THREAD
Digital walk, audio stories, schools resources, access information and project updates.
mancunianity.uk/map

ROUTE KEY
SOLID RED LINE Outward walk
DOTTED RED LINE Aviva Studios

ACCESS AND ROUTE NOTES
Compact riverside route.
Approximately a quarter to third of a mile. Allow 10 to 15 minutes of gentle walking, broken by interpretation stops and a seated section.

Map concept, route, text and creative direction by Nakib Narat.
Original illustration created exclusively for Mancunianity Flows.
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This map belongs to: _____ I followed the Spider's Web on: _____

A place, story or moment I want to remember: _____