# SPIRIT OF MANCHESTER

### Mike Heath

The City of Manchester is regarded by many as the world's first industrial city and where the industrial revolution began. Today many of the trademark Victorian buildings still stand and much of the canal, road and rail infrastructure constructed during the nineteenth century remains. However Manchester has always had the ability to embrace change throughout its history and in recent years has undergone much development and regeneration. New public spaces have been created around modern imaginative buildings with their cuttingedge architecture set side by side with fine examples of the more traditional Victorian buildings, many of which have themselves been internally transformed to meet the needs of today's Mancunians. In fact it is the imaginative thinking on the refurbishment of old and often derelict buildings that sets Manchester apart.

But buildings are just a small part of what is now one of the most dynamic cities in Europe. Year on year there is an ever growing programme of events and festivals held in and around the city centre attracting visitors from all corners of the world to say nothing of the cream of international graduates attracted to the first class university.

Master photographer Mike Heath, having recently celebrated this vibrant city after dark in the acclaimed *Manchester Illuminated*, now retraces his steps during predominantly daylight hours. He captures the true spirit of Manchester in 60 lively and candid images in a handy pocket-sized format, which will be an ideal souvenir for both locals and visitors alike.



## **ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

For nearly thirty years Mike Heath has been combining his hobbies of photography and visiting preserved railways all over Britain, amassing a vast collection of stunning images which have formed the basis for the nine railway titles he has produced for the Halsgrove Railway series. Having developed an expertise in night-time photography Mike recently published the highly successful Manchester Illuminated also for Halsgrove.

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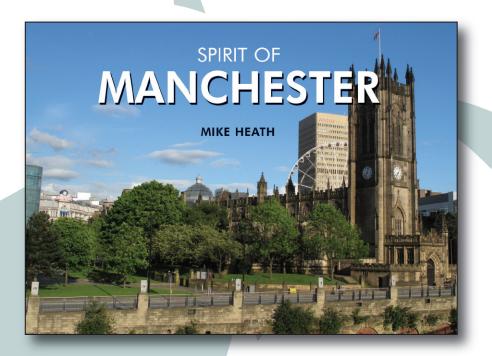
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Above: In the midst of all the Victorian splendour is the 'new' Merchants Bridge. This tubular steel structure was erected in 1996.

Right: Exchange Square, the location of the Manchester Wheel which despite its size is not a permanent structure. It is however a wonderful subject for photography, especially after dark.



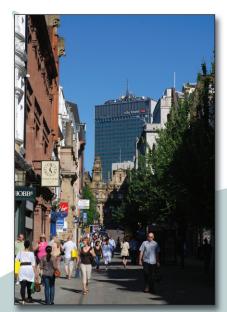


The area also boasts one of the world's oldest railway stations. Liverpool Road Station. This now forms part of the Manchester Museum of Science and Industry where the workshops have constructed "Flanet", a fully appenditional replica of the first locomotive on the Liverpool to Manchester line.



Victoria Station, once one of the largest passenger railway stations in the world. The Edwardon frontage retains the armate inon and glass concey bearing the names of original destinations served by the Lancashine & Yorkshire Railway.





Above: King Street is lined with some of Manchester's most exclusive shops and leads to the city's financial district with its imposing former banking buildings.

Above right: The River Irwell is the natural boundary with the adjacent city, Salford.

Lower right: The angular-shaped building with its massive glass façade is Urbis. This museum of urban life was opened in 2002.





Below: The Manchester skyline. A telephoto shot taken from the viewing gallery of the Imperial War Museum at Salford Quays.



Example of a double-page spread.