First day back at work after parental leave and I need something to keep me busy. I found this thing. Apparently it's free online, but if you want to be a "street player", you have to pay 3 quid. I think I will check it out - it kicks off at 15:00 and goes on till 21:00.

*Uncle Roy All around you is where exploitation movies become interactive, where the conceited game breaks into the streets. It is a game that pitches online players around the world alongside players on the streets of a real city.

Street players use handheld computers to search for Uncle Roy. They use the map and incoming messages to move through the streets to find a secret destination. Online players can cruise through the virtual city, listen in to the street players and assist them to find the office. As you play, you are introduced to a new interactive landscape in which you are less passive than you think: would you put your trust in a stranger?

Using the latest wireless technology, Uncle Roy All around you overlays a virtual city onto the real city and allows communication and cooperation between the two. It uses this as a metaphor for the intimate, secret city that exists as traces within the mundane urban world. Over the course of the game, players are introduced to a new experience of the city.

Uncle Roy all around you premiered at the Institute of Contemporary Arts in London in June 2003 and will be presented at Cornerhouse in Manchester in collaboration with digital summer in April 2004. It is a collaboration between Blast Theory and the Mixed Reality Lab, University of Nottingham, with support from IET Exact, Arts & Humanities Research Board, Equator and the Interdisciplinary Arts Department of Arts Council England through the national touring programme.

Edit: added game times

That looks intriguing. So, the online players know exactly where to send the street people to, and are there prizes up for grabs? Even if not, it's an interesting exercise in how far you can trust a complete stranger to give you accurate directions. Have absolutely no knowledge of Manchester myself though, so I'll leave it for now.