

Bim and Pardeep Sandhu, The Sandhu Charitable Foundation

"Pardeep and I come from a working-class background and our immigrant parents instilled in us the fundamental value of education and the importance of hard work in helping change not only our lives, but also those around us. This is why we have decided to support two students through their business education at Cass."

Bim Sandhu EMBA 1992

Inspiring transformational change

The word philanthropy is early 17th century: via late Latin from Greek *philanthropia*, from *philanthropos* and means 'manloving'. It eloquently expresses exactly what philanthropists do: care for their fellow man to benefit, shape and enhance the world. Cass has a number of such individuals continually supporting the work of the School and our students.

Major donors are individuals who are keen to use their wealth to inspire transformational change. Our major donors change lives by funding scholarships for bright and deserving students. Their investment in Cass helps build our reputation. These donations improve our facilities and enrich the School's offering to create an environment that attracts the best students and staff.

Donor profile

Bim and Pardeep Sandhu The Sandhu Charitable Foundation

Cass alumnus and entrepreneur Bim Sandhu, EMBA 1992, is the CEO of the Santon Group, one of the UK's largest property developers. Earlier in his career Bim was a founder and former CEO of Raven Mount plc and cofounder of Raven Russia Limited, which he helped list on AIM for over £450 million. He served as Chairman and a co-founder of an assisted living business, Audley, which specialised in retirement villages, and has also held an MD role for the UK Operations for Hudson Conway, a publicly listed Australian developer.

Bim has been giving regularly to charity since 1988. Having just passed his Institute of Chartered Accountants exam he was in the mood to celebrate. When a street fundraiser approached him about sponsoring a child in Malawi, Bim decided to share his good fortune and agreed to a monthly sponsorship.

Now, 25 years later charitable giving is very much at the heart of Bim's work and future retirement plans. In 2006 Bim and his wife Pardeep established the Sandhu Charitable Foundation. His vision was to establish a charity on a small scale and build it over his working life.

With the aim to build up the capital of the Foundation to a £10 million fund, Bim contributes 100% of his salary to the Foundation. Currently the Sandhu Charitable Foundation gives £250,000 a year to projects that support children and young people, with a focus on education.

Bim and Pardeep enjoy seeing the change that their support brings about. In addition to making an impact, they hope to inspire the people and the organisations they support onto greater efforts. Both firmly believe that non-profit workers are at the forefront of helping people, and these organisations could not function without their dedication and commitment.

This year the Sandhu Charitable Foundation has generously committed to help two undergraduate students through their three years of studies at Cass Business School. When reflecting on his own education Bim shared,

"I have nothing but fond memories of my two years at Cass, or CUBS as we knew it then. My MBA helped provide a more rounded education and I had the privilege of being taught by some excellent teachers. In many cases, there was just as much to learn, theoretically and practically, from my fellow students, a number of whom have become lifelong friends."

