

Press release

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[Philanthropy: the politics of giving](#)

Has the philanthropic role of individuals, governments and companies changed now that we live in an age of austerity?

That is a question which the **Manchester Salon** will be asking at its next monthly meeting, which seeks to examine how attitudes to giving evolve at critical points in history.

Leading the discussion will be **Inderjeet Parmar**, professor of politics at Manchester University, and **Dr Vanessa Pupavac**, lecturer in international relations at Nottingham University.

From the Portico Library on Mosley Street in Manchester to the Port Sunlight village on the Wirral, there has long been a desire by wealthy magnates to use their fortunes to have an impact in changing society for the better.

Although philanthropy may be associated in many people's minds with the industrialists of the 19th century, the likes of Bill Gates prove that giving is just as much a concern in the 21st century for powerful elites.

The world John D Rockefeller, Carnegie, and the Ford Foundations were established in seems a far cry from the world we find ourselves in today. So with foundations and philanthropy still widespread, it is worth considering what has changed - in terms of who is being 'helped', and perhaps more importantly, what drives those giving and helping.

The role of NGOs in distributing and negotiating aid from the West to developing nations – itself a form of philanthropy – will also come under scrutiny at the meeting.

Date: Monday, 16 July, 2012, at 6.45pm, £5 entry.

Venue: Blackwell University Bookshop, Oxford Road, Manchester

For further details on the event and Manchester Salon's activities, contact Simon Belt at events@manchestersalon.org.uk or ring 07809 669824.