

Cllr. Roger Diamond founded various charities during the last four decades. The first was "18th Brocade Performing Arts Workshop" in 1979 in the borough of Haringey where he lived. The second was the popular education charity "Real Action" based in Westminster, founded over 30 years ago. Roger with ten other local residents and (education campaigner) Katie Ivens founded the charity initially to deliver the Butterfly Literacy programme. The original programme was conceived and developed by (prep school headmistress and educator) Irina Tyk. Our application of Irina's Literacy Mastery programme has been found to on average increase disadvantaged 5-12 year olds' reading ages by over one year in less than 18 hours of whole-class Butterfly teaching.

Roger has over 45 years' experience in youth & community work service in Haringey and West London. Taught to read classical music as a child, with a background of playing keyboards in successful British reggae bands (one of which reached number two in the UK charts). He still plays the piano, developing improvisation skills that enable him to perform, when he finds the spare time, as a solo artist or in jazz bands etc.

In Haringey Roger used to live next to the Broadwater Farm Council Estate and witnessed first-hand the horrific infamous riot there on 6th October 1985 - that sparked off other large riots throughout the UK. The social issues that fuelled that riot had been a concern of his for some time. Roger is writing a play with those and other social issues as the backdrop. Roger has also been a freelance performing arts journalist - focusing on Black Theatre and Film.

Roger enjoys working with others who seek to find and/or promote effective educational solutions for reducing the causes of youth criminality and anti-social behaviour that is abundant in some areas of London and the UK.... He served as a school governor for about six years (as Deputy Chair, Chair of Finance and Interim Chair of Governors) at a Westminster City Council Primary School. He is currently serving as a Community/Parish Councillor and Chair of Queens Park Community Council (QPCC) for the Queens Park ward of Westminster City Council.