

Roger Thomas

Broadcaster & Raconteur



Roger Started a love affair with radio and television at an early age, it flourished through an international career in freelance broadcasting, education and business from Britain to East Africa and the Far East.

He has worked with Hollywood legends Kirk Douglas and William Holden, a host of comedians from Billy Connolly to Peter Sellers and all of the Goons, Joan Collins to Sir Cliff Richard.

While presenting Uganda Television's coverage of the Munich Olympic Games in 1972, he felt the wrath of the then Ugandan president, Idi Amin, because he refused to endorse, on air, Arab terrorists who had massacred the Israeli athletes at the games. He was immediately thrown into prison and banned from broadcasting in that country.

Returning to Britain he joined the BBC. His presenting of a phone-in programme from Birmingham on the night of the IRA bombings in 1974 was much commended and led to his making programmes in Northern Ireland to boost the morale of our troops.

After several years as a successful presenter for Radio Television Hong Kong, Roger was headhunted by the world's largest duty free retailer DFS, and became their Public Affairs Manager for the Far East. During this time he gained considerable experience of major retail management and tourism. One of his more successful campaigns won the Tourism Industry a seat in the Hong Kong Legislature.

He is a County Councillor for Hailsham and is currently Chairman of the Sussex Inshore Fisheries Authority and Chairman of the Coastal Issues Interest Group. He is also Vice Chairman of the East Sussex Association for the Blind and partially sighted.

Roger lives in Heathfield with his wife Jenny. They have three daughters and six grandchildren