



The George Padmore Institute Quiz: The Activism of John La Rose

All answers to Part 1 of the quiz can be found either on [the George Padmore Institute website](#) or the Resource Page: The Activism of John La Rose on the Haringey Council website.

All answers to Part 2 can be found on [the George Padmore Institute Instagram page](#).

Part 1

Questions

1. Who was John La Rose and where was he born?
2. Which publishing house and bookshop did John La Rose co-found in 1966 and why was it significant?
3. Who was George Padmore?
4. In which year was the George Padmore Institute (GPI) established, and what is its primary focus?
5. Where is the GPI located?
6. Describe one way in which the GPI preserves the legacy of John La Rose.
7. Can you name a collection held at the GPI?
8. From which parts of the world do the archival records at the GPI originate?

9. John La Rose played a significant role in which initiative aimed at improving the education of black children in Britain?
10. What was the Black Parents Movement and when was it established?
11. What significant action did John La Rose and members of the Black Parents Movement take on Stroud Green Road in 1985 and how long did it last?
12. What was the New Cross Massacre Action Committee (NCMAC) formed in response to?
13. Who chaired the New Cross Massacre Action Committee Fire Fund?
14. Which major event was organised on the streets of London on 2 March 1981?
15. What was the Caribbean Artists Movement?
16. Who were the three co-founders of the Caribbean Artists Movement?
17. Name two notable writers or artists who were active in the Caribbean Artists Movement from the beginning.
18. Name the former Tottenham resident and textile designer who was an active member of the Caribbean Artists Movement?
19. Which journal was published as part of the Caribbean Artists Movement?
20. When was the journal published by the Caribbean Artists Movement first issued?





Part 2

Image Section

1. Name the protest in this photo that occurred on 2 March 1981.



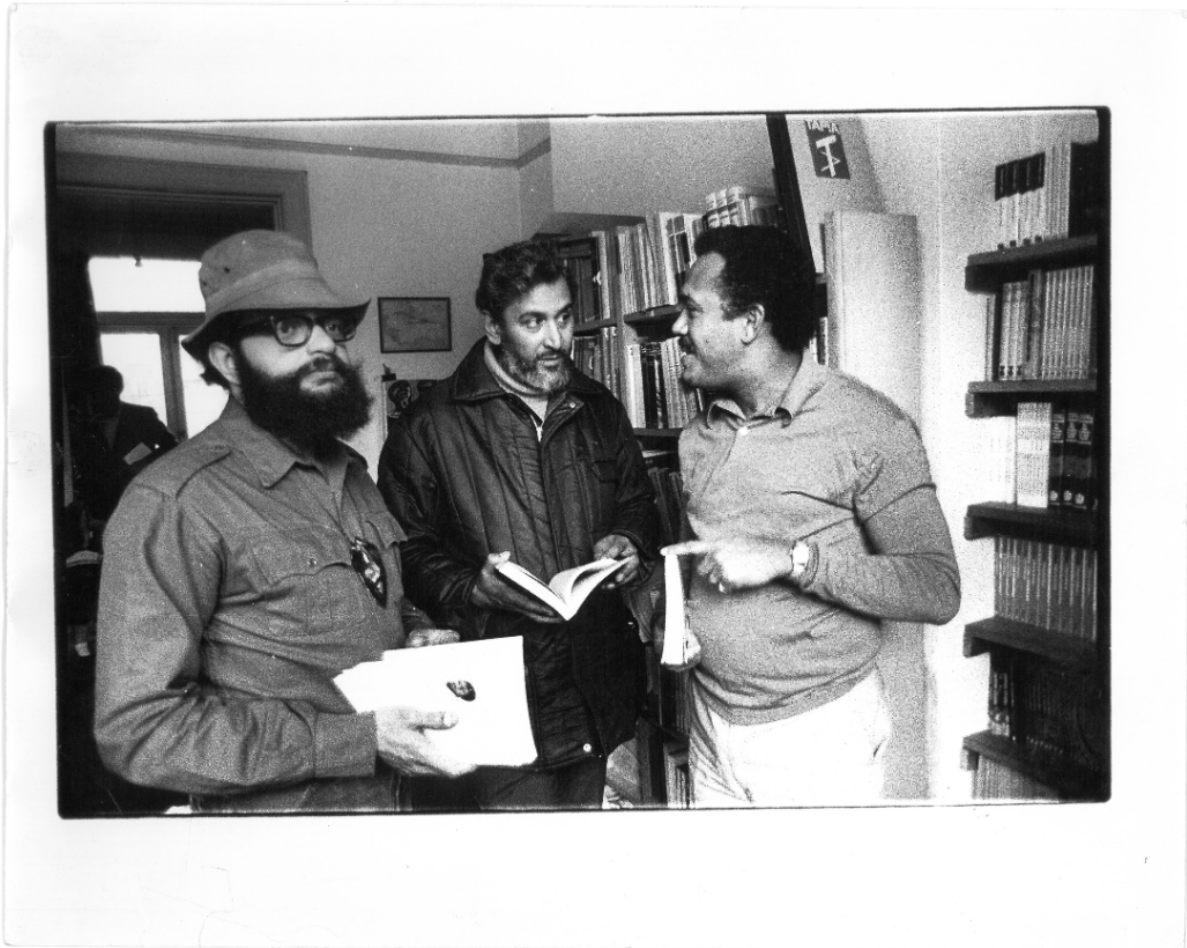
Unknown Photo Credit

2. Who is pictured here? Hint: This person co-founded both New Beacon Books and the George Padmore Institute.



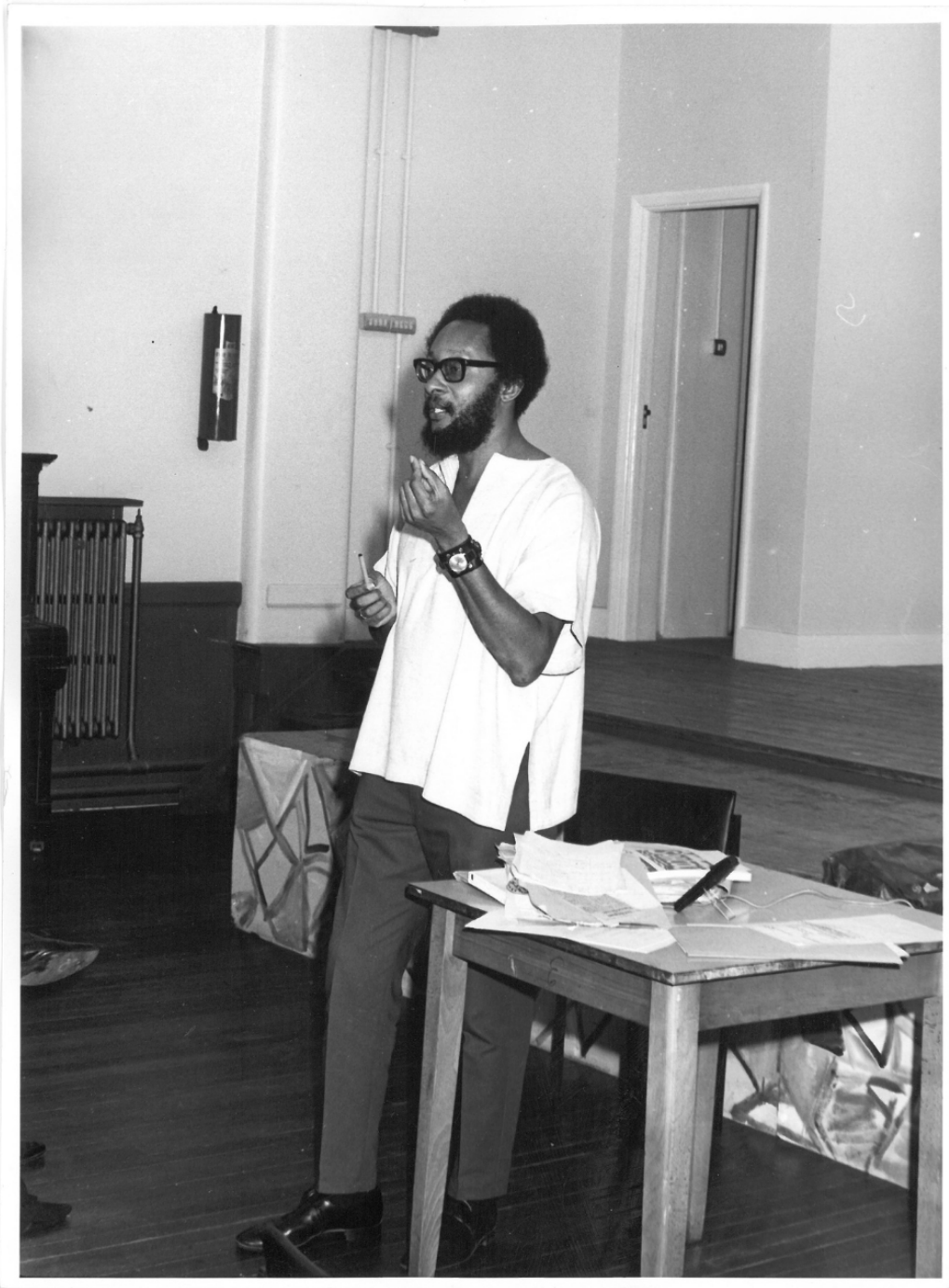
Unknown Photo Credit

3. Which co-founder and member of the Caribbean Artists Movement are pictured here (left and centre) next to John La Rose (right)?



Photograph by Horace Ové

4. Who is this famous poet and co-founder of the Caribbean Artists Movement?



Unknown Photo Credit

5. Where are Michael La Rose (left) and GPI trustee Roxy Harris (right) protesting in this photo taken in North London?



Photograph by Wole La Rose





Answers

Part 1

1. John La Rose was a Trinidadian-born activist, publisher and poet. He was a prominent figure in the struggle for racial equality and the promotion of Caribbean culture and literature in the UK.
2. John La Rose co-founded New Beacon Books with Sarah White in 1966, the first Caribbean publishing house and bookshop which aimed to provide a platform for Caribbean, African and Asian writers and intellectuals.
3. George Padmore (1903-1959) was a leading Pan-Africanist and writer. Born in Trinidad, he was an intellectual and an instrumental member of many anti-colonial movements throughout the world in the 1930s and 1940s.
4. The GPI was established in 1991, focusing on the preservation and promotion of the history of black communities in Britain and their cultural and political activities.
5. 76 Stroud Green Road, Finsbury Park, London N4 3EN.
6. The GPI preserves the legacy of John La Rose by maintaining an extensive archive of documents, publications and audio-visual materials related to his work and the broader black British history.
7. Answers could include: the Black Education Movement (Early Period) 1965-1988, Black Parents Movement 1969-1993, Caribbean Artists Movement 1965-1995, Carnival Material 1972-2006, Committee for the Release of Political Prisoners in Kenya 1975-1998, John La Rose's ephemeral material 1952-1996, European Action for Racial Equality and Social Justice 1980s-1990s, International Book Fairs 1970-2005, Joan Goody Archives 1934-2017, UK and Caribbean Journals 1961-1995, National Antiracist Movement in Education 1960-2006, National Association of Supplementary Schools 1979-2005, Negro Theatre Workshop 1962-1967, New Cross Massacre Campaign 1980-1985, UK and Caribbean Newspapers 1964-1999, Ngugi Defence Committee 1977-1978, Cultural Congress of Havana 1967-1968, and Personal Papers of John La Rose 1940s-2010s.
8. The archival records at the GPI originate from the UK, the Caribbean, Africa and Asia.

9. John La Rose contributed to educational initiatives such as the Black Supplementary School Movement (BSSM) which aimed to provide supplementary education for black children in Britain.
10. The Black Parents Movement was established in 1975 in response to police brutality and the unfair treatment of black children within the educational system in the UK. It aimed to address and combat systemic racism and supported the rights and welfare of black families.
11. John La Rose and the Black Parents Movement organised a boycott of South African goods and picketed outside the Tesco supermarket on Stroud Green Road, Finsbury Park in 1985. The action lasted from September 1985 to March 1986.
12. The New Cross Massacre Action Committee (NCMAC) was formed in response to the alleged firebombing of a home in New Cross, Lewisham, which resulted in the deaths of 13 young black people.
13. Alex Pascall chaired the Fire Fund established to support the families of the New Cross fire victims.
14. The Black People's Day of Action on 2 March 1981, a response to the New Cross fire tragedy.
15. The Caribbean Artists Movement was an influential cultural initiative, set up in London, England, in 1966 and active until about 1972. The movement focused on the works being produced by Caribbean writers, visual artists, poets, dramatists, film makers, actors and musicians.
16. The three co-founders of the Caribbean Artists Movement were Edward Kamau Brathwaite, Andrew Salkey and John La Rose.
17. Two notable writers or artists active in Caribbean Artists Movement from the beginning could include: C.L.R. James, Wilson Harris, Aubrey Williams and Ronald Moody.
18. Althea McNish.
19. *Savacou: A Journal of the Caribbean Artists Movement* was published as part of the Caribbean Artists Movement.
20. 1970.

Part 2

1. The Black People's Day of Action, 2 March 1981.
2. Sarah White.
3. Andrew Salkey and Sam Selvon (L to R).
4. Edward Kamau Brathwaite.
5. The Tesco supermarket on Stroud Green Road.

Follow the GPI's Social Media

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The Activism of John La Rose

You can find more information on [the George Padmore Institute's website](#).

John La Rose: An Overview

John La Rose was a Trinidadian-born activist, publisher and poet. He was a prominent figure in the struggle for racial equality and social justice and the promotion of Caribbean culture and literature in the UK. La Rose's significant contributions spanned activism, literature and education, profoundly impacting black communities in Britain and beyond.

New Beacon Books

In 1966, John La Rose co-founded, with Sarah White, New Beacon Books, an influential publishing house. Its purpose was to provide a platform for Caribbean, African and Asian writers and intellectuals, fostering a space for voices that were often marginalised in mainstream publishing.

George Padmore: A Key Figure

George Padmore (1903-1959) was a leading Pan-Africanist and writer from Trinidad. His work in the 1930s and 1940s was instrumental in various anti-colonial movements globally and he became a close adviser to Kwame Nkrumah who in 1957 became the first Prime Minister of Ghana after the end of British colonial rule.

The George Padmore Institute (GPI)

The GPI was established in 1991 at 76 Stroud Green Road, Finsbury Park, London N4 3EN. The Institute focuses on preserving and promoting the history of black communities in Britain, encompassing their cultural and political activities. It maintains an extensive archive of documents, publications and audio-visual materials related to John La Rose's work and broader black British history.

Collections at the George Padmore Institute

The collections at the GPI include the Black Education Movement (Early Period) 1965-1988, Black Parents Movement 1969-1993, Caribbean Artists Movement 1965-1995, Carnival Material 1972-2006, Committee for the Release of Political Prisoners in Kenya 1975-1998, John La Rose's ephemeral material 1952-1996, European Action for Racial Equality and Social Justice

1980s-1990s, International Book Fairs 1970-2005, Joan Goody Archives 1934-2017, UK and Caribbean Journals 1961-1995, National Anti-racist Movement in Education 1960-2006, National Association of Supplementary Schools 1979-2005, Negro Theatre Workshop 1962-1967, New Cross Massacre Campaign 1980-1985, UK and Caribbean Newspapers 1964-1999, Ngugi Defence Committee 1977-1978, Cultural Congress of Havana 1967-1968 and Personal Papers of John La Rose 1940s-2010s.

Educational Initiatives

John La Rose played a significant role in the Black Supplementary School Movement (BSSM), aimed at improving the education of black children in Britain. This initiative provided supplementary education to address the shortcomings and biases within the mainstream educational system.

The Black Parents Movement

Established in 1975, the Black Parents Movement was a response to police brutality and the unfair treatment of black children in the UK educational system. It aimed to combat systemic racism and support the rights and welfare of black families. In 1985, John La Rose and the Black Parents Movement organised a boycott of South African goods in protest against the white South African Government's racist apartheid system and picketed outside the Tesco supermarket on Stroud Green Road, a protest that lasted from September 1985 to March 1986.

Documented Events in the GPI's Archives

The GPI archives document significant events such as the Black People's Day of Action on 2 March 1981, which was a response to the New Cross fire tragedy. The New Cross Massacre Action Committee (NCMAC) was formed following the alleged firebombing of a house in New Cross, Lewisham on 18 January 1981 resulting in the deaths of 13 young black people. Alex Pascall, a well-known journalist and broadcaster who hosted BBC Radio London's *Black Londoners* programme, chaired the Fire Fund established to support the families of the victims.

The Caribbean Artists Movement (CAM)

The Caribbean Artists Movement (CAM) was an influential cultural initiative launched in London in 1966, active until about 1972. It focused on works produced by Caribbean writers, visual artists, poets, dramatists, filmmakers, actors and musicians. The co-founders of CAM were Edward Kamau Brathwaite, Andrew Salkey and John La Rose. Notable figures active in CAM included C.L.R. James and Wilson Harris. Althea McNish, a former Tottenham resident and textile designer, was also an active member. *Savacou: A Journal of the Caribbean Artists Movement* was published as part of CAM.



Timeline of John La Rose's Activism and Related Events

1903

- **Birth of George Padmore**

George Padmore, a significant figure in the Pan-Africanist movement, is born in Trinidad.

1927

- **Birth of John La Rose**

John La Rose is born in Trinidad.

1959

- **Death of George Padmore**

George Padmore passes away, leaving behind a legacy of activism and anti-colonial work.

1966

- **Founding of New Beacon Books**

John La Rose co-founds New Beacon Books, with Sarah White, providing a platform for Caribbean, African and Asian writers and intellectuals.

- **Launch of the Caribbean Artists Movement (CAM)**

The Caribbean Artists Movement is launched in London, co-founded by Edward Kamau Brathwaite, Andrew Salkey and John La Rose. Notable members include C.L.R. James and Wilson Harris.

1975

- **Establishment of the Black Parents Movement**

The Black Parents Movement is established in response to police brutality and the unfair treatment of black children in the UK educational system.

1981

- **Black People's Day of Action**

A significant event documented in the GPI's archives; the Black People's Day of Action occurs as a response to the New Cross fire tragedy, named the New Cross Massacre.

1985

- **Boycott of South African Goods**

John La Rose and the Black Parents Movement organise a boycott of South African goods and picket outside Tesco supermarket on Stroud Green Road. This protest lasts from September 1985 to March 1986.

1991

- **Establishment of the GPI**

The GPI was established at 76 Stroud Green Road, Finsbury Park, London N4 3EN, focusing on the preservation and promotion of the history of black communities in Britain.

Follow the GPI on social media

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