



Celebration: Mike Coles in Marseilles... virtually.

Mike makes it all the way to Marseilles

Archer photo editor Mike Coles used his daily exercise allowance during lockdown to do a virtual walk from East Finchley to the south of France. Here he reveals the unforgettable reason he chose Marseilles as his destination.

From the end of March, my aim was to walk 10 km per day around East Finchley and tot up the distances on a map of the virtual journey, checking each day to see how far I had got and where to 'virtually' stay and eat. Fast forward to Saturday 18 July and I arrived at the Old Port in Marseilles at a quarter to four in the afternoon. It had taken 124 consecutive days at 9.5 km per day.

Drugs and low life

People have asked, why Marseilles? I hope the reason is not too offensive! After leaving college in the 1970s, one of my first jobs was as an assistant film cameraman to slightly eccentric producer John Tiffin at the London base of American company CBS News. The first foreign job I worked on with him was a documentary about the illegal heroin drug factories in the hills around Marseilles, known in drug enforcement circles as 'The French Connection'.

While there, having established that I was vaguely competent, John let me do some of the filming. One night when he had an 'important meeting' at an expensive restaurant with the presenter Morley Safer he dispatched me to the red light district to get some general shots of the low life around La Canebière.

P... off, in French

Off I went enthusiastically. Things were going well and I was getting some good shots when a 'lady' tipped the contents of a chamber pot over me from an upstairs window. This has somehow stuck in my mind. I only found out when I read John Tiffin's obituary in The Guardian a few years ago that the film had won an Emmy, although I don't think I was mentioned in dispatches!

Of course, looking back, I was very naive and was lucky to get away with an extra shower and a laundry bill, given that shootings and stabbings were a weekly occurrence, and the media was distinctly unpopular.

So in memory of those times, I made it to Marseilles. And I'm

still walking. Now I'm heading for the heights of the Pyrenees and then either Barcelona or Santiago de Compostela.

Geoffrey Hanson

9 December 1939 – 21 July 2020

By Daphne Chamberlain

Geoffrey Hanson, who died in July, was a music man: organist, teacher and composer. He brought the annual Arts Festival to East Finchley for 22 years, and was organist and choir leader at All Saints' Church in Durham Road for 30 years.

In his funeral eulogy last month, church trustee Nick Starling said: "We have so much to be thankful to Geoffrey for: for coming into our lives, for writing music for us, for being such a delightful company. We shall miss the kindness, the warmth, the sense of humour, even the occasional irascibility..."

"People came pouring through the doors of All Saints' for his memorable 80th birthday concert last December. We are so lucky that he made his recording *Odyssey* for us to treasure his music by."

Geoffrey composed in many genres: organ music, masses, anthems, songs, chamber music,

choral and orchestral works, concertos and operas. He wrote for choirs, orchestras and friends, who gave the first performances. Often the premieres were for the London Ripieno Society, which he had founded in 1962, or the London Mozart Players, who appeared regularly at the Arts Festival.

Born in Eastbourne, Geoffrey seems to have been energised by the sea air. He was learning the piano by the age of five, and was appointed a church organist at 17. He studied at Trinity College of Music, becoming a professor there in 1964. In the next six years he was appointed organist at St Mark's, Regent's Park, and Director of Music at the Polytechnic of Central London, now the University of Westminster.

In 1986 he came to All Saints', and he staged the first Arts Festival there 11 years later.

Speaking to *The Archer* in 2007, he said "Variety is the spice of life", and the festival programmes reflected that.

At various times, they brought us jazz, brass bands, opera, choirs, poetry, readings by local writers, storytelling, a one-man drama about Dr Johnson, two actors from *The*



Music man: Geoffrey Hanson

Archers, linked films at the Phoenix Cinema, and a guided walk around Camden and Islington Cemetery. And that's just a selection.

The art exhibition, which ran throughout the duration of each festival, raised healthy sums for the North London Hospice, Noah's Ark and the Harington Society.

Geoffrey believed it was important for performers, artists and writers, whether just starting out or internationally acclaimed, to have all the encouragement and support they could get. And credit must go to him and his dedicated and hard-working committee for 'keeping the show on the road' when funding and resources were being cut.

His funeral service included a reading by committee member and renowned poet Fleur Adcock of John Donne's *Death Be Not Proud*, a poem that Geoffrey had set to music.

Tributes described him as "A gentle man with a steely reserve to get things done as he saw fit" and "A dear, generous and kind brother, uncle, companion and friend."

Choose your own route for Big Fun Walk this year

By David Melsome

Postponed from its usual date in May, North London Hospice's flagship fundraiser of the year, the Big Fun Walk, is set to go ahead in September but with a new feel.

My Big Fun Walk will take place across the weekend of 12-13 September and will enable supporters to personalise their own route or choose a pre-planned walk to complete across one or two days.

Sign up by noon on Friday 11 September to take part. You can register at www.bigfunwalk.co.uk



Who will lift the curse?

There's an old Chinese curse: 'May you live in interesting times', and oh boy we sure as hell are right now. It doesn't matter if you're being locked down, locked up or quarantined for going to France to get your eyes tested, the new normal just ain't the same as the old. Someone needs to explain the new rules.

Let's start with schools and the mass return to education. For our young people, this is not going to be about what they did on their holidays and who they did it with. No, it's going to be about the length of their bargepole and where they managed to get hold of a Gucci-labelled haz-chem suit.

They will only have been able to chat up the object of their desires by semaphore and there will have been no teenage sex without a Covid-19 test certificate signed by their parents and at least two teachers.

And don't think allowing fans in to watch football will be like the old days either. Not when you have to keep quiet, wear a mask and stay at least two metres from the next person. And that's just the players. Which kind of rules out rugby.

Getting married? Just think of the chaos a 30-person limit will cause as the mass infighting starts over which weird relative to leave off the guest list. That's before you get to the church, put on your matching face masks and throw socially distanced confetti at each other. You're going to need a long train to keep your bridesmaids apart, and don't forget singing is still banned.

Well, not banned entirely, not with socially distanced gigs coming back. Which is fine if you are Ed Sheeran and your guitar, but a bit of a problem if you are a symphony orchestra. The need to keep two metres apart means that by the time you've got 70-odd musicians together for the Last Night of the Proms there will only be room to let an audience of one into the Royal Albert Hall.

But don't worry, everything will be all right by next summer and we'll have been tested and vaccinated in time to go to Glastonbury. The weather gods are already excited and making preparations. They are planning a six-day thunder storm to make us feel at home.

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Holy Trinity Parish Church
67 Church Lane, N2 0TH

Our church building is now open for worship.

Sundays: Holy Communion @ 9.30 am

Wednesdays: time for private prayer 5.00 - 7.00 pm.

We continue to meet online for prayer and mutual support:

Morning Prayer: Monday to Friday, at 9.00 am

Bible Readings and Prayers: Sunday at 11.00 am

If you would like to join in prayer or send us prayer requests, please contact us via our website: www.holytrinityeastfinchley.org.uk

For more information please contact us at:

Email: maris.mirt@htef.org.uk

Tel: 202 3565 4430

Licensing Act 2003: Notice of Application for a variation of a Premises Licence

Notice is hereby given that NIHAL YILDIRIM has applied to the London Borough of Barnet for a Variation of a Premises Licence to permit: **THE SUPPLY OF ALCOHOL FOR CONSUMPTION ON THE PREMISES FROM 11:00AM TO 23:00PM MONDAY TO SUNDAY** for the premises **CUP OF JOY** situated at **117 HIGH ROAD, EAST FINCHLEY, LONDON, N2 8AG**

A register of licencing applications can be inspected at Building 4, North London Business Park, Oakleigh Road South, London, N11 1 NP. Appointments to inspect the register can be made by telephoning 020 8359 7995 during office hours.

Any person wishing to submit relevant representations concerning this application must give notice in writing to the London Borough of Barnet, Licensing Team at the address above, giving in detail the grounds of the representation no later than: **28 / 09 / 2020**

The Council will not entertain representations where the writer requests that his identity remains anonymous. Copies of all representations will be included in the papers presented to the Licensing Authorities Sub Committee and will therefore pass into the public domain.

Representations must relate to one or more of the four Licensing Objectives: the prevention of crime and disorder, public safety, the prevention of public nuisance and the protection of children from harm.

It is an offence liable on conviction to a fine up to £5000 under section 158 of the Licensing Act 2003 knowingly or recklessly to make a false statement in connection with an application.

Dated this 31st day of August 2020