

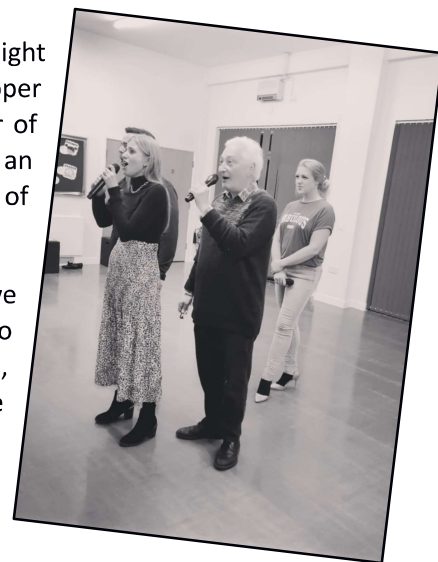


It sometimes seemed as if Nigel was involved in every other society too! EOMS, RAODS, New Milton, FYT, CPYT to name but a few. Characteristically restless in lockdown he started his own company Pinpoint Productions, with marvellous ally and confidante, Louise. He was so proud of it and it was going places. Nigel made it all happen, funded it completely and served as Musical Director, bringing all his skill, influence and long experience to bear. Pinpoint flourished in the few, short,

intervening years. Too few. Nigel had big plans for it and in March 2022 produced the magnificent *The Last Five Years*.

He was many things: An impresario, a connoisseur of rhubarb crumble, a night owl and party animal, a doting cat lover (a push over), a mystery shopper extraordinaire, a geocaching mega-enthusiast with an astonishing number of finds, an air traffic controller, an avid aviator with incredible stories to tell, an extensive traveller, the treasurer of seemingly every society in the south of England and, above all, a friend.

The last, sad, stirring chapter of Nigel's story was a difficult one. To say we were proud of him is mere understatement, to say we were honoured to know him is not enough. He faced his declining health head on, pragmatically, ever stoical and uncomplaining of his luck, thinking of the good of others more so than ever and his bravery was nearly impossible to bear.



He lived a rich, full and good life and was the generous genius who brought music to many, a formative figure to so many juniors and adults alike, the lynchpin of musical theatre in this region and an inspiration. Farewell to a friend who played more right notes with his talented little finger than most of us will ever sing properly in our lifetimes. Thank you for everything, more than we can say. For the fun, for the belief, for endlessly hammering out each vocal line when some of us just couldn't get it right.

Goodbye kind, worthy, Nigel Finch. We all want to do you proud tonight and we hope that this performance is one that you might just look upon with a smile from somewhere, taking off your specs as you always used to do, and nodding in your uniquely Nigel way, "awesome".

*Our thanks to Louis Spencer and Jonathan Fulcher for writing this fitting tribute.*

