

The

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Beatles

MONTHLY

BOOK



The Beatles Book

The Beatles' Own Monthly Magazine

No. 75, OCTOBER 1969

EDITORIAL

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Mal Evans

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Do you remember the period during 1966 and 1967 when the Beatles did a bit of a disappearing act? For well over a year they kept right away from the public eye. Photographers were not welcomed and reporters came up against an almost blank wall of non-committal silence.

But even they have never matched the stone-wall tactics of their old mate, Bob Dylan, who has been putting reporters down for over five years. His answers to the Press are usually one word sentences, although, occasionally, he has been known to expand to three. When the Press have managed to corner the Beatles, they normally explain exactly what they are trying to do.

The reason they did withdraw from the public eye was quite simply that they wanted time to re-think their future. Nowadays, of course, they are still re-thinking all the time, but they don't find it necessary to go into retreat completely in order to do so. In fact, almost anyone can see the Beatles regularly.

And now they've started to turn the tables on the photographers by taking pictures themselves. The recent photographs of Paul, his wife Linda, and their little baby girl Mary are some of the most delightful that have ever been reproduced anywhere of the boys and their families, but the photographer this time was . . . Paul himself.

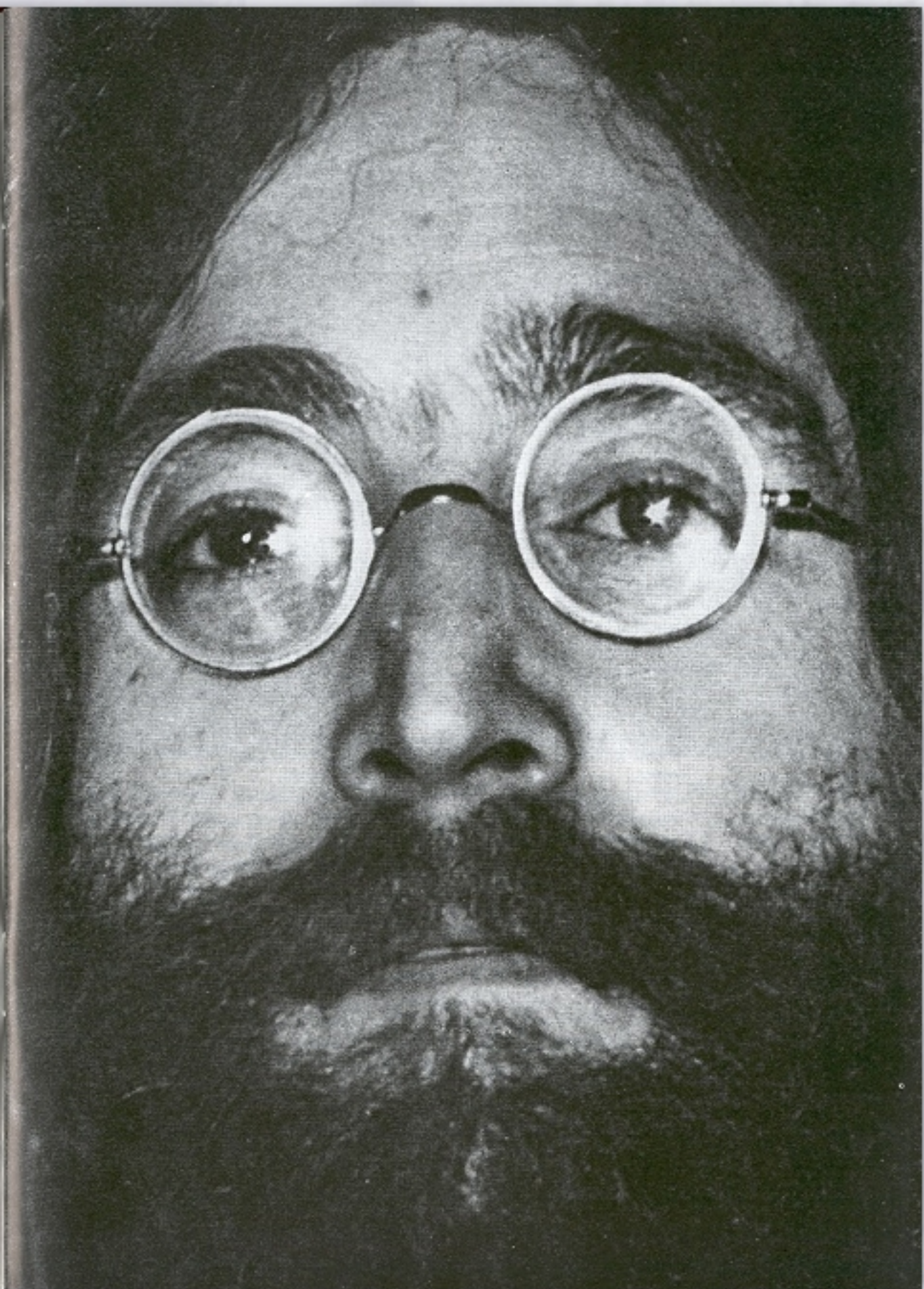
All it needs now is for their daughter to press the button on a camera for the McCartneys to become a complete family of photographers.

In a way, the Beatles have already taken things a step further because they normally help a great deal when it comes to promoting the recording artists they handle. Paul is almost always with Mary Hopkin when she gives a Press reception. George helps Billy Preston and John, of course, is never far away from Yoko.

If the Beatles start writing features and articles on other pop artists then the wheel really will have turned a full circle! But, somehow, I don't see that happening in the very near future. All the same, it's a fascinating idea.

But, although the Beatles may not actually be with us in person as much as some Beatle fans might like, their music is never far away. I don't know whether it's a fact or not, but I am almost certain that it's true to say that there isn't a minute of the day which passes without a Beatle tune being played somewhere in the world. Certainly no self-respecting pop station in Australia, America, Canada or our own BBC for that matter, ever lets a day go by without featuring at least one of their—dare I now use the word—"historic" recordings.

Johnny Dean Editor.





National Secretary
FREDA KELLY

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OCTOBER NEWSLETTER

DEAR BEATLE PEOPLE,

There's been a lot happening during the past few weeks—PAUL and LINDA's baby arrived . . . details of the new BEATLE album *Abbey Road* have been revealed . . . and APPLE is one year old. But more about that later because first of all . . .

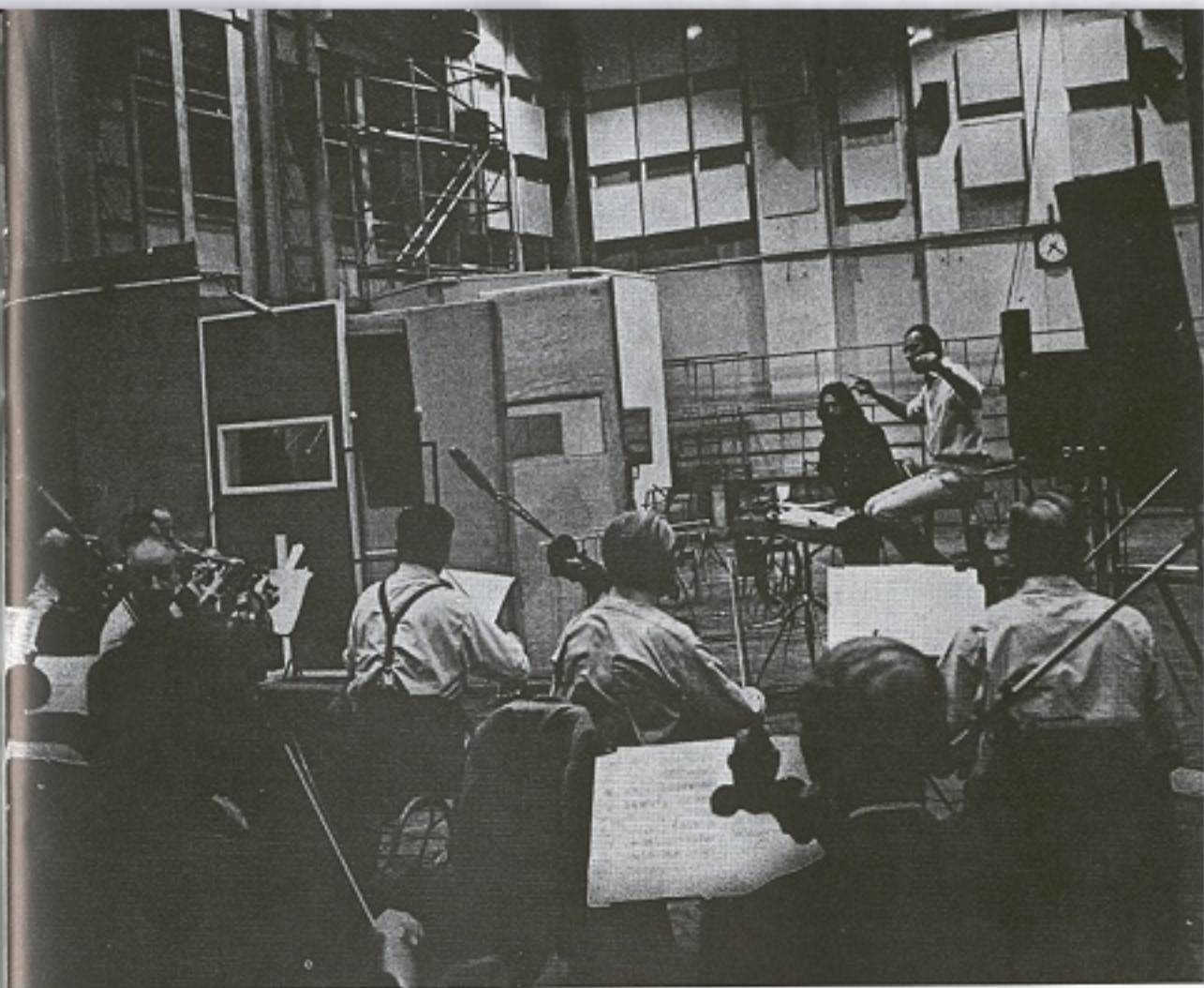
FAN CLUB NOTES: JUDITH DONKIN, Area Secretary for Durham, who got married recently, has a new address as well as a change of name. So, in future all correspondence should be addressed to: MRS. JUDITH PARKINSON, "CESTRIA", NORTH END, DURHAM. New Secretary for Leicestershire is MISS DIANE PASKIN who'll be looking after Rutland as well. And two new secretaries for ITALY—EMY DAL CHELE and MR. GIULO VIGANO, c/o VIA PONCHIELLI 8, 1-20129 MILANO, ITALY. The original secretaries, Ricky and Italia Marongiu, will still look after Sardinia.

BEATLE NOTES: As you already know PAUL and LINDA are now the proud parents of a new baby girl. She has been named MARY after PAUL's mother. MARY weighed 6 lbs. 8 ozs. and was born at 1.30 a.m. on Thursday, August 28. Photographer LINDA has informed the world's press photographers that she will take her own pictures of herself, PAUL and baby MARY . . . PAUL, incidentally, has gone back to his old hairstyle which is reminiscent of 1964 . . . only it's longer!

Now that the new BEATLE album is on sale, GEORGE is spending time with JACKIE LOMAX and is producing several new records for him. A new Apple signing is DORIS TROY, who has got together with JACKIE to do some songwriting . . . we'll be hearing the product of this new partnership very soon.

GEORGE and PATTI are currently looking at the property scene and are very keen on a large country house in Gloucestershire. If they decide to take it, they'll have to find a London flat as well, because the distance is too great for easy commuting.

Apple's first birthday was celebrated on Friday and GEORGE and PAUL dropped in to say hello and drink a glass of champagne. Twelve bottles had been kindly sent to Apple by EMI. Other guests at the party included DORIS TROY, WHITE TRASH and DONOVAN's father and brother.



George Martin and George working on "Something", one of his new songs in EMI's huge No. 1 studio in Abbey Road.

JOHN is now in his new 18-roomed mansion in Ascot. "Instead of a gardener," jokes JOHN, "we have two donkeys—one of them pregnant." JOHN and YOKO's nearest neighbour is Norman Hartnell, the Queen's dressmaker, and the Queen, too, has a house quite nearby, Windsor Castle.

RINGO is selling his house at Elstead, but has no other house in mind yet. RINGO, with JOHN and GEORGE, attended the Bob Dylan concert in the Isle of Wight, along with NEIL ASPINALL, MAL EVANS and Apple girl, CHRIS O'DELL.

RINGO is much in demand as always with newspapers and magazines and has been chosen to feature in the new *Daily Mirror* colour magazine—the first edition appears in October. RINGO also was involved in a colour picture session recently for the leading pop German magazine *Bravo*. It is the first of a series of "Fantasy" sessions, in which famous people, who have almost everything one could wish for, have been asked to choose anything in the world as background "props" for the pictures. RINGO's list of things included colour televisions, a juke-box, cats, a bed, pictures, flowers, trees and a cuddly lion cub which was only 11 weeks old and weighed 30 lbs.!

Much respected BILL PRESTON and JAMES TAYLOR both plan to return to England in the Autumn.

Tarrah for now and Lots of Good Luck,

FREDA KELLY,

National Secretary of The Official Beatles Fan Club.



SINCE his hit-making sessions with Billy Preston, George has been working very hard on other recording projects and so we were very pleased to accept his invitation to come and meet his latest protégées, the members of the Radha Krishna Temple, whose first record, the *Hare Krishna Mantra*, he had just produced.

MARQUEE

The scene of our introduction to the members — or devotees, as they call themselves — was a marquee erected for the occasion in the back garden of a large house in South London. When we arrived, we were greeted by George and the devotees, who, after a brief prayer, told us a little about their sect before introducing their record.

BEGAN IN '66

The International Society for Krishna consciousness, which is the organisation behind the Radha Krishna Temple in London, was founded in July 1966 by a man referred to as His

GEORGE INTRODUCES HARE KRISHNA

*'A sort of magical
vibration to bring about a
spiritual awareness'*

Divine Grace A. C. Bhaktivedanta Swami, a member of Bhakti Yoga, who came over here from India to teach the people the meaning of real love.

FOUR PRINCIPLES

The idea behind the society is the training of men and women in the process of self-purification in order to find out how to love their spiritual master. In the course of their beliefs the devotees have to follow four principles: they must not eat meat; they must not have illicit sex; they must not gamble; and they must not take any intoxicants, including drugs, coffee, tea

or cigarettes. Otherwise, they believe, they are not in a pure enough state to worship.

Following a brief discourse on the reasons behind the devotees' adherence to their faith, during which almost the entire company sat, lay or squatted on the grass, the members of the temple sang us a version of their song, minus the guitar and bass guitar heard on the record.

BASIC CHANT

The song starts very simply, with one devotee singing the basic chant—
*Hare Krishna, Hare Krishna,
Krishna Krishna, Hare Hare
Hare Rama, Hare Rama,
Rama Rama, Hare Hare.*

George pictured singing *The Hare Krishna Mantra* with members of the International Society for Krishna Consciousness at the press reception held to introduce the record.

The whole assembly then joins in with vocal support, and the remainder of the record alternates with solo and harmony singing of the same basic chant. The rhythm of this record is a basic three-beat clap, augmented by drums and bells of various descriptions.

Both the rhythm and the melody of the chant are quite infectious, and many of the assembled company joined in without invitation.

When the temple members finished their chant, George joined us in a typical devotee meal, a combination of very spicy and very sweet food washed down with coconut juice, which he seemed to enjoy immensely.

When I questioned George about his interest in the Krishna temple, he told me that he was becoming more involved in devotional songs — songs which have some meaning. Not that he is deserting pop. "Far from it," he assured us. "I don't prefer one to the other — they're both different fields."

MEANING

Commenting on the temple's record, George told us that it was basically a devotional chant. "While the words don't alter, the tune it is sung to doesn't matter. You could sing it to *Coming Round The Mountain* if you wanted. All I've done on this is shorten it. The actual meaning of the words is not important, although there are various forms of addressing the spiritual Lord

—God, if you like. They are more a sort of magical vibration to bring about a spiritual awareness.

"God has many names, and, while I've always believed in the existence of a God, I never knew what to call him. This is just another way of finding spiritual communion."

NOT JOINING

Asked if he would join the sect, George looked a bit dubious. "No, I'm not putting these people forward as being the only right ones in the world. I'm just bringing them to the attention of the public. If they like them, well and good; if not, it's not for me to say they're wrong.

"Anyway," he added, wryly, "they are not allowed to touch stimulants, and though I don't take spirits or wine, I drink coffee and smoke."

George also believes that if everyone attempted to become more spiritually conscious there would be more chance of having a peaceful world, but he says that it's up to the individual to find his own way of achieving this awareness.

And does this mean that George has forsaken the Maharishi?

"No, we're still great friends," he replied. "I'm not forsaking him at all. This is just another way of reaching God. I don't think it matters that it's not the same way. Each person must decide for himself the way that best suits him."

When I asked about the unusual dress of the devotees, and why some of them shaved their heads except for a small topknot, I was told that this was a kind of uniform, in the way that a policeman wears a uniform, to identify himself immediately and make himself available for any kind of emergency.

Ironically enough, this very point had to be explained to two policemen at a later stage in the proceedings when the devotees' departure aroused considerable interest from passers-by.

Despite their unconventional appearance, the devotees seemed to think it odd that people should take note of them in this way, and one of them said to me: "Anyone would think we were gipsies!"

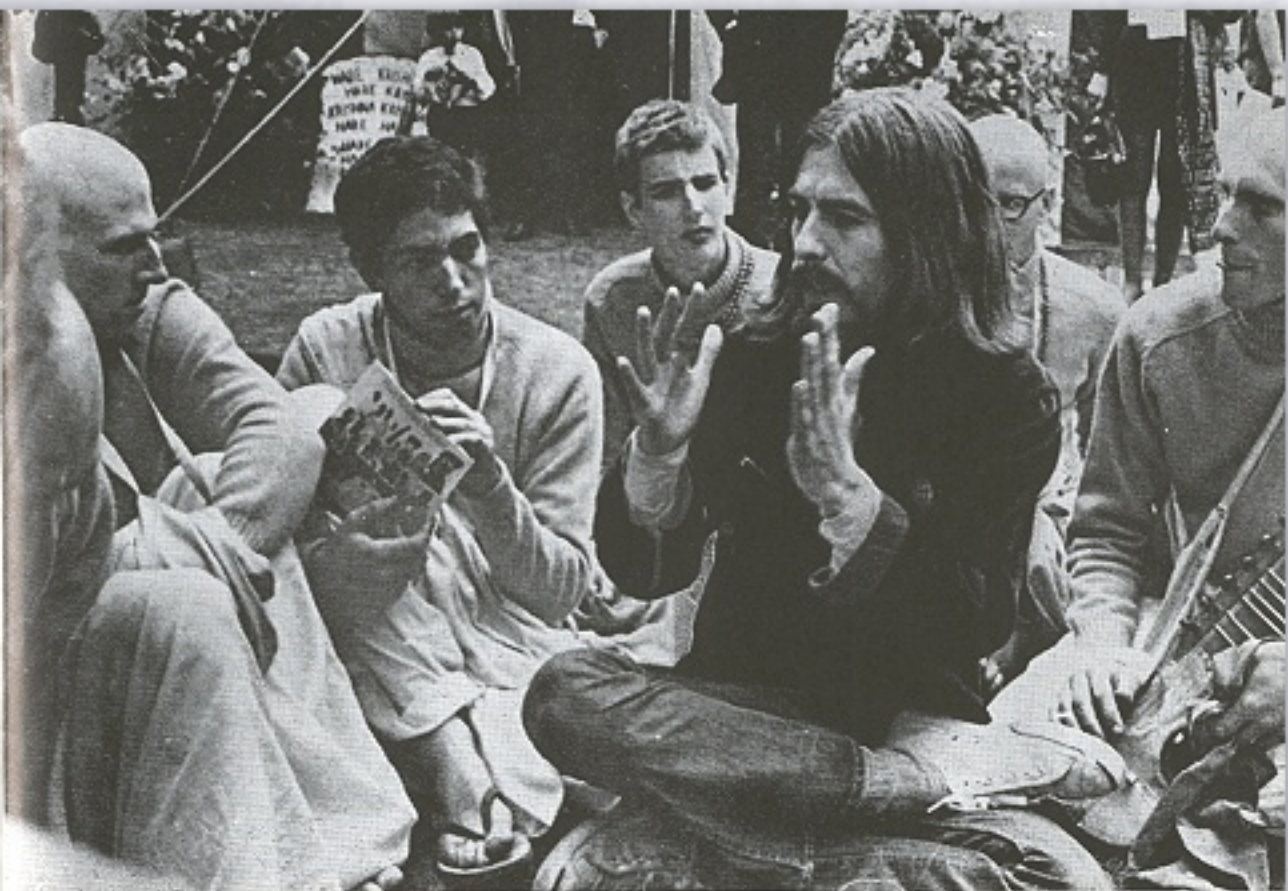
RETURN

The return to London by coach was as eventful as the rest of the day. When one of the female devotees asked the driver if they were permitted to sing on the way back, he agreed, probably thinking he was going to get a few choruses of *Show Me The Way To Go Home*.

The look on his face was a treat when the girl replied: "All right, *Hare Krishna* all together, but only with one drum."

For a final comment on the temple, I asked George what the rest of the Beatles thought of them.

"Oh, they love them," he laughed.



*ABOVE: George involved in a deep discussion with members of the temple.
BELOW: Another shot of George singing The Hare Krishna Mantra.*



ONE PAIR OF EYES

GUEST WRITER

STEVE TURNER

LOOKS AT THE
BEATLES AND
CONCLUDES:—

*'The Parents
who said "Ooh,
you'll grow out
of it" in 1963
are wondering
about growing
into it them-
selves in 1969.'*

GIVEN a typewriter and the subject of "The Beatles" is rather like being asked to give a brief summary of life or to reconstruct a kaleidoscopic pattern after a moment's glance. I'm sure that very informative articles could be (and probably have been) written on such subjects as "The Beatles And Their Influence On The Male Hairstyle Of The 'Sixties", "John Lennon As The Saviour Of The Steel-Rimmed Spectacle Industry" or "My Friend George" by one of Maharishi's chauffeurs.

There are so many aspects to these four men whose influence has spread from the music world outwards through dress, religion, morals (immorals?) and general lifestyle that it is an impossible task to give an all-round picture of the Beatles in one article or even one series of articles.

HUMOROUS

Now it would be almost humorous to call them "show-biz personalities" although this was the world which gave birth to them as a unit at the beginning of the 'sixties. Their main commodity for sale being "beat" music with such inspiring titles as *Love Me Do/She Loves You* or the rather more promiscuous *I Want To Hold Your Hand*. Nobody laughed though, you didn't listen to the words — you just shook or twisted.

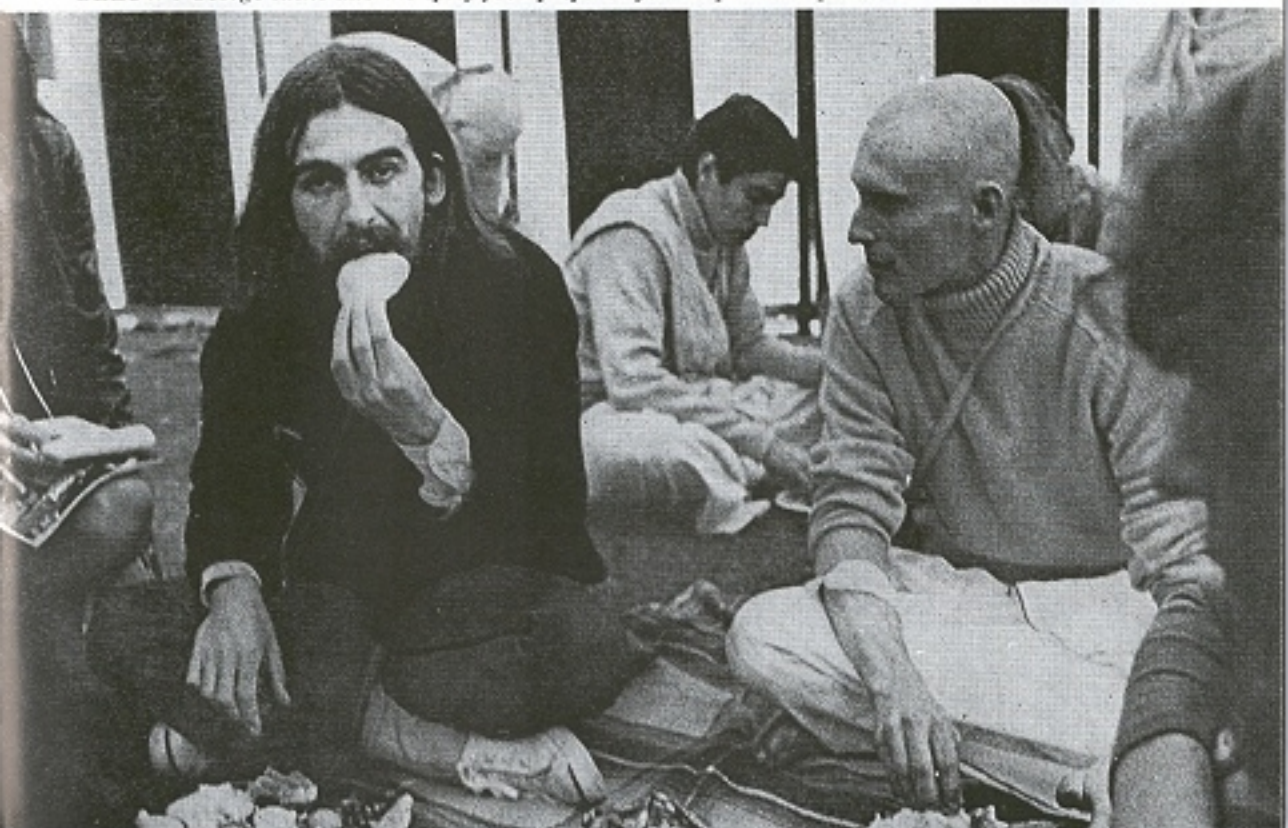
BIG BEAT

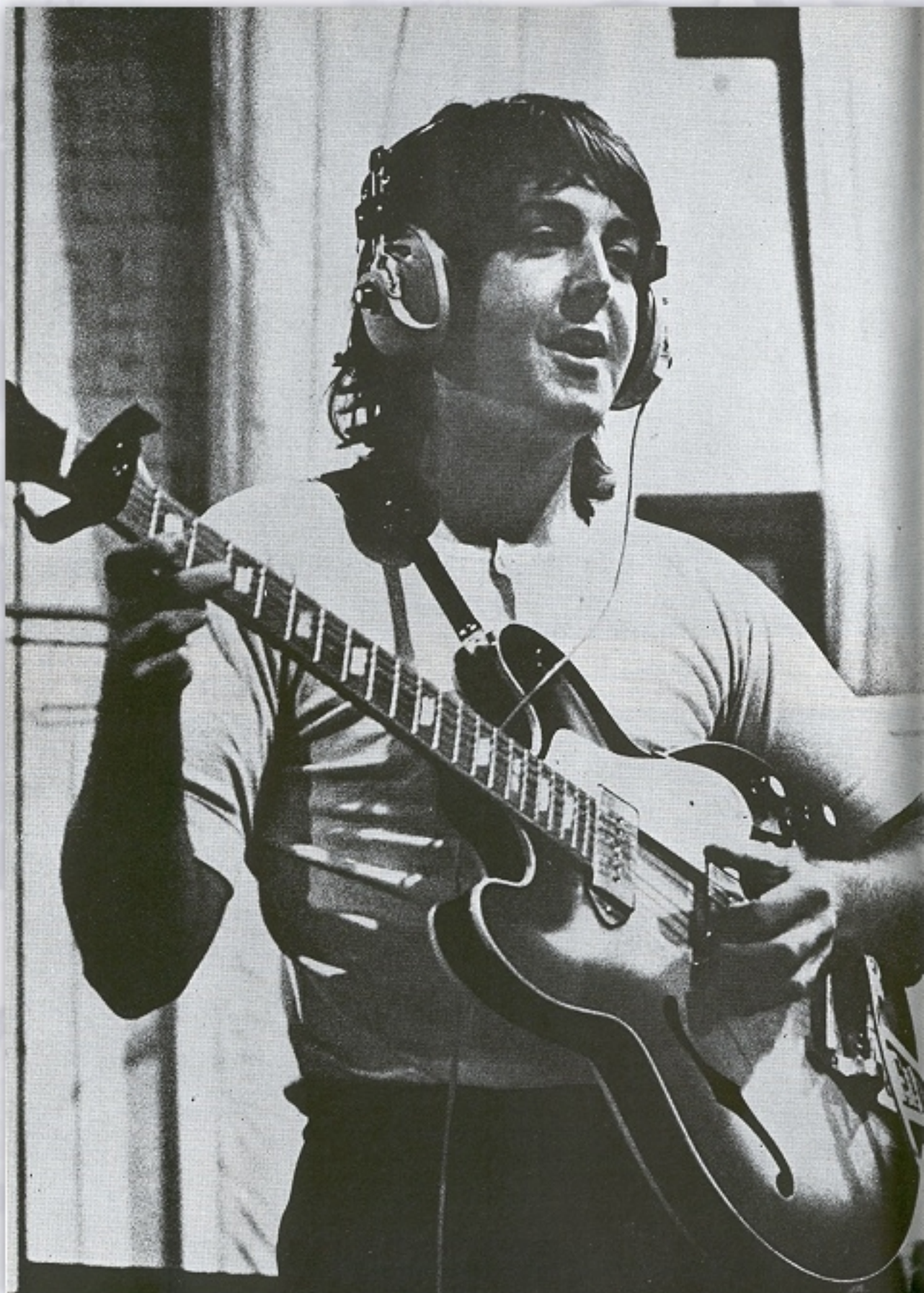
I mean — this was the big beat, so for goodness sake just do the shake. With smiles as innocent as their lyrics the four mop-tops showed us that they were human. They made us laugh with their down-to-earth, working class, honest and unrehearsed answers to the standard



ABOVE: Many members of the sect shave their heads, leaving only a small top-knot, as you can see in the picture above. So far George hasn't adopted this hair-style.

BELOW: George tucks into the spicy food prepared for the press reception.





questions. They weren't told to say that they didn't touch women or cigarettes and only drank milk. Real human pop stars! Soon their clothes and hairstyles were being copied by teenagers all over the world (like me), and as they've changed and grown up so the fans who first combed their little bit of hair forward in imitation have grown up and changed too.

70,000 JOHNS

That's why when you walk through any university town today, you come home thinking that you've just passed John Lennon 70,000 times in the street. The hair's still there but it's longer. The parents who said "Ooh, you'll grow out of it" in 1963 are wondering about growing into it themselves in 1969. I mean — dad's never had his hair so long (you can see it sometimes) and he's wearing those gusset-side suede shoes that he swore he'd never be seen dead in! The hairstyles sported by the four in 1963 are the sort that *respectable* people wear now. I dread to think what respectable people in 1975 will look like. Disgusting!

MASTERPIECES

Lyrics have, of course, progressed and have been hailed as everything from ?%!* to masterpieces. When everyone else said that they were ?%!* they said that they were masterpieces and when everyone said they were masterpieces they revealed that they were in fact ?%!*, but they thought that everyone would think that they were masterpieces, so there! (?%!* t' the lot o' yer.) The accompanying music has also progressed into string bands, elastic bands and

plastic ono bands, etc. When this is edited, speeded up, reversed and played through a distorted echo chamber it makes you wonder whether Schubert was any good at it anyway.

OWN FIELD

Today, each Beatle is experimenting in his own field (don't forget to close the gate) and at the same time gaining experience from it which will go into the joint ventures of the Beatles. Ringo is acting in films, Paul producing Mary Hopkin, George making electronic hari krishnas and John campaigning for world peace in bed. There are rumours that they will make a film together, the current favourite being Tolkien's *The Lord Of The Rings*, but as usual there have been no confirmations. Another startling headline which crops up about five times in every musical year is "Beatles For Live Show?"

QUESTION MARK

The question mark is essential because there is never any truth behind it — it's just a straightforward question to fill up a front page. "Beatles For Free Concert? — Buy Your Tickets Here" — it's all a big con really. They're all booked up for a hotel in Las Vegas in about 10 years' time when people will give samples of Mars rock to get in and everyone will be saying how they're still the kings and that the old excitement is still there.

I wrote this article because I felt that there is not enough serious journalism written on the subject of the Beatles and their influence on contemporary culture. Roll over John Lennon and tell McCartney the news.



BEATLE Pen Pals

(Addresses are in England unless otherwise stated)

Hiroshi Suzuki (18), 178-4 Kitatsunashima-cho, Kohoku-ku, Yokohama, Japan, wants girl p.p. anywhere.

Josef Necas (18), Kriskovshelio 33, Blansko, Czechoslovakia, wants girl p.p. anywhere.

Anna Fascar, Budapest V.K., Stollar B.U. 3/a, Hungary, wants p.p. anywhere.

Brenda Williams (13), 146 Halton Mansions, Halton Road, Islington, London N.1, wants boy p.p. anywhere.

Margaret Raymond (13), 106 Catherall Road, Highbury, London N.5, wants boy p.p. anywhere.

Frances Raymond, 106 Catherall Road, Highbury, London N.5, wants boy p.p. anywhere.

Sian Raymond, 106 Catherall Road, Highbury, London N.5, wants boy p.p. anywhere.

Gigliola Simpson (16), 43a Seven Acres, Wickford, Essex, wants p.p. from Italy.

Louie Shitkin (18), 1206 Ave., H. Brooklyn, N.Y. 11230, U.S.A., wants girl p.p. anywhere.

Cristina Rafanelli, Superi 3554 Dto 9 Cap. Fed. Buenos Aires, Argentina, wants p.p. anywhere.

Rosemary Williams, 257 Bedford Avenue, Garden City, Park, L.I., N.Y., wants p.p. anywhere.

Slavica Rosic (17), Karadordevo, Backa Topola, Yugoslavia, wants p.p. anywhere.

Gilles Dion (18), 476 de la Carardiere, St. Charles de Limoilou, Quebec 3, Canada, wants girl p.p. anywhere.

Mie Iseki (19), 11-36, 1-chome, Hirata-cho, Sumaku, Kobe City, Hyogo-ken, Japan, wants p.p. in U.S.A.

Mr. Hiroyuki Nakazato (19), 1-5-1 Chome, Sasazuka, Shibuyaka, Tokyo, Japan, wants girl p.p. anywhere.

Catherine Leys (15), 62 Thurso Crescent, Menzieshill, Dundee, Scotland, wants boy p.p. anywhere.

Pamela Stewart (15), 13b Carwoustie Court, Ardler, Dundee, Scotland, wants boy p.p. anywhere.

Bogdan Srdanovic (18), Lujza Adamica 13-8, Novi, Beograd, Yugoslavia, wants p.p. anywhere.

Frederick La Penn, 1609 North Shore Road, Revere, Ma., U.S.A. 02151, U.S.A., wants p.p. in England.

Lisbeth Sunderfeldt (14), Karlavagen 113, 11526 Stockholm, Sweden, wants p.p. anywhere.

John H. Staley III (15), 7 Ashmount Way, Oakland California 94610, U.S.A., wants p.p. in London Liverpool or Paris.

Alex Caldwell (17), 26 Shandwick Street, Glasgow E.4, Scotland, wants girl p.p. in Wales or England.

Irene Ray (16), 7 Springwell Road, Sunderland, Co. Durham, wants p.p. in England.

Winni Horlyek (13), Junghansvej 103, 6000 Kolding, Denmark, wants p.p. anywhere.

Barbara Leatham (14), 66 Lambeth Road, London S.E.1, wants boy p.p. anywhere.

Maureen Taylor (15), 9 Langfaulds Crescent, Fifeley, Clydebank, Dumbartonshire, wants boy p.p. anywhere.

Ellen Whitehead, 15 Saville Street, Emley, nr. Huddersfield, Yorkshire, wants p.p. anywhere.

Valerie Baunton (17), 31 Caerou Road, Ely, Cardiff, Wales, wants girl p.p. from France, New Zealand or South America.

Julia Spells (16), "Faiken", Hill Crescent, Wrattling Road, Haverhill, Suffolk, wants p.p. from U.S.A. or Australia.

Bernadette Santos Silva (17), Rua Padre Biten-courth, 245 Sao Jose dos Pinhais, Parana, Brazil, wants p.p. from England.

Antonio M. Mantoan Fillio, Ben. Nogueira-364 — Araras — SP — Brazil, wants p.p. from England.

Miss Bjorg Persen (15), Baukop, 9710 Indre Billefjord, Norway, wants boy p.p. from England.

Boe Lojze (16), C. Tacev 47, Kranj, Slovenija, Yugoslavia, wants p.p. in London.

Sean O'Connor (13), St. Brendan's, St. Brendan's Road, Limerick, Ireland, wants p.p. in America and London.

Lars Petersen (16), Nyvej 21, 8340 Malling, Denmark, wants p.p. from Sweden.

Mr. P. McGuigan, 96 Ardencraig Road, Castlemilk, Glasgow S.5, wants girl p.p. anywhere.

Betty Harris (17), 1 Norma Villas, Townhall Approach Road, Tottenham, London N.15, wants p.p. anywhere.

Gina Thomson (16), 24 High Drive, Bergestate, Basingstoke, Hampshire, wants girl p.p. in Japan, Italy, Germany or Austria.

Derrick Harrison (16), 36/13 Pennywell Place, Edinburgh EH4 4ND, Scotland, wants p.p. in Germany, Norway, Sweden, U.S.A. or Finland.

Barbara Feilden (16), 6 Walton Street, Barrowford, nr. Nelson, Lancashire, wants p.p. in London.

Margaret Jackson (17), 12 Billson Street, Uitenhage, Cape Province, South Africa, wants boy p.p. from U.K. or U.S.A.

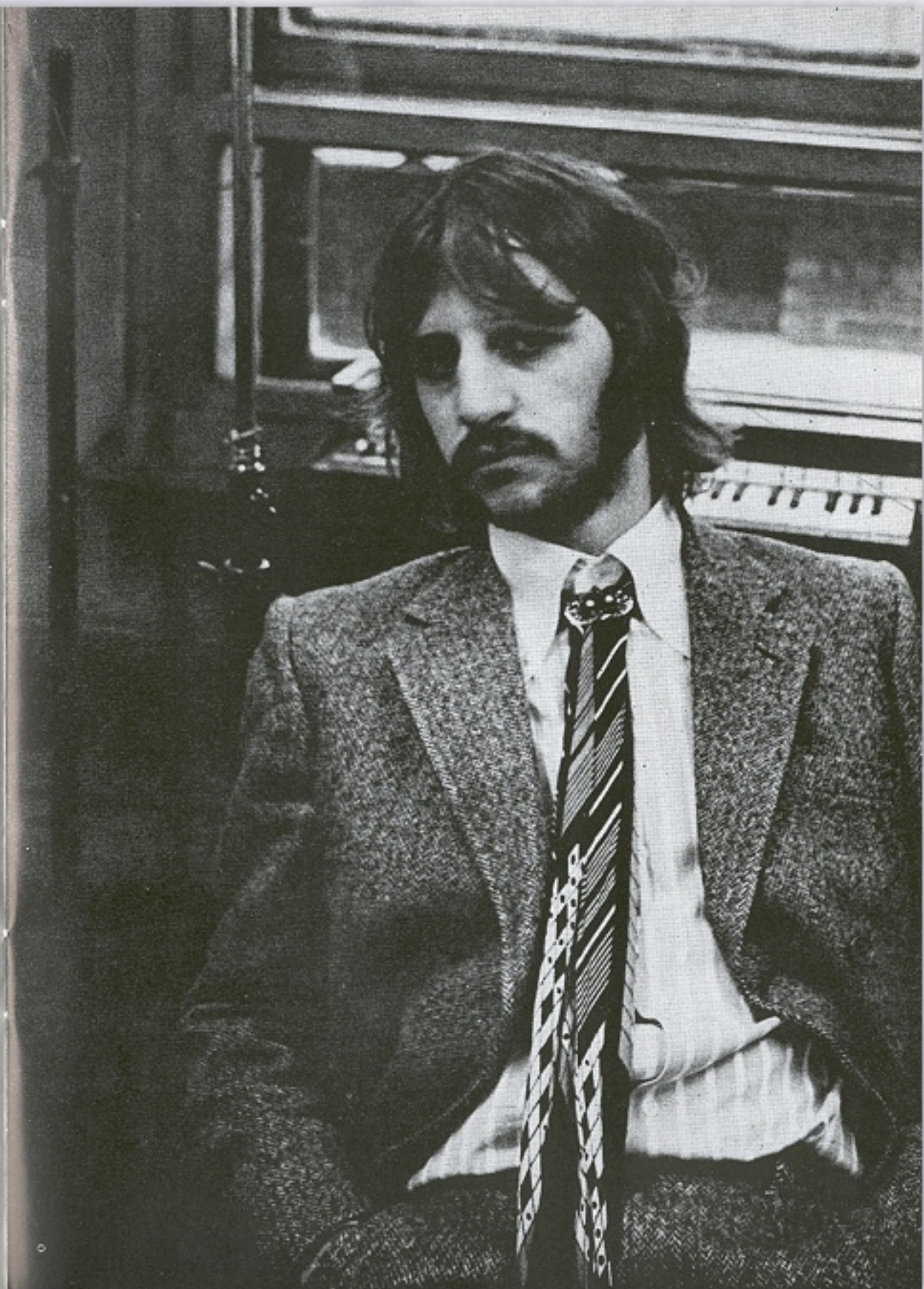
Sandra Wheeler (19), 69 Beech Avenue, Brentford, Middlesex, wants boy or girl p.p. anywhere.

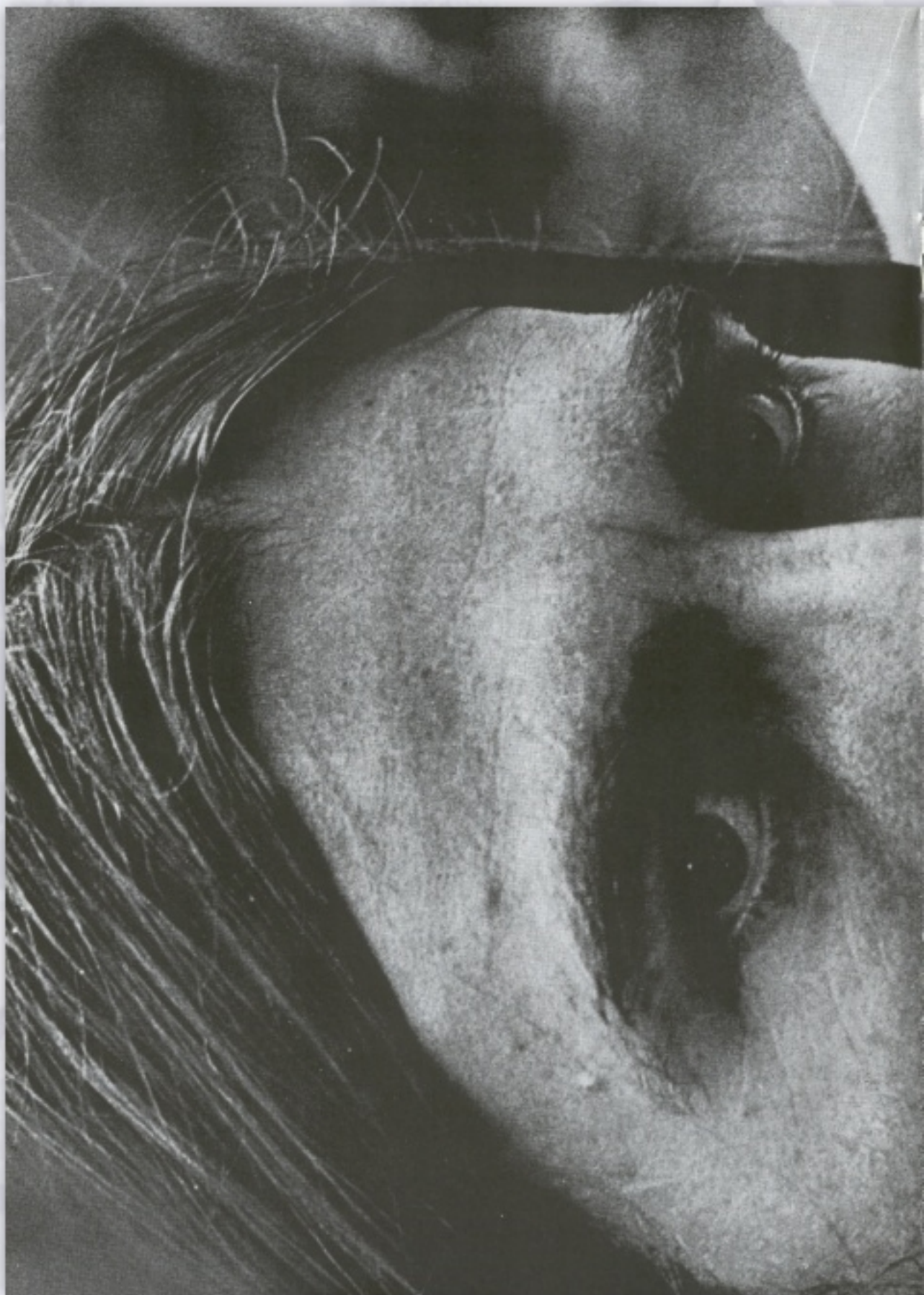
Jeanette Franklin (17), 93 Horsham Road, Littlehampton, Sussex, wants boy p.p. from U.S.A.

Shirley Gardiner (10), 1 Portobello Close, Chesham, Bucks., wants girl p.p. anywhere.

Peiro Gallo (18), Edf Humbolth 2nd Fl. No. 6, Plaza Sur Altamira, Caracas, Venezuela, South America, wants p.p. anywhere.

Maruja Suarez (16), Av. San Juan Bosco, Edf. Zenith No. 33, Altamira, Caracas, Venezuela, South America, wants p.p. anywhere.









LETTERS from Beatle PEOPLE

Dear Sir,

I have been a reader of *The Beatles Monthly* for just over a year now, but in all this time I have not seen anything to match this month's issue. Among the 32 pages there is only one photograph of the great *George Harrison*, which I think is absolutely unfair, both to him and his fans. When you publish a magazine and it's entitled *The Beatles Monthly* you should deal with that subject only and not publish photographs of people that are not directly associated with the Beatles. A magazine about the Beatles should be just that and it should be divided fairly between the four of them.

George is always settling quietly in the background, so see if you can do something about it, and drag him back.

Yours faithfully,
James Clarke,
42 Vicaridge Road,
Wollaston,
Stourbridge, Worcs.

P.S.—And make it quick.

Dear Sir,

In reply to S. C. Blake's letter I would like to say that the Beatles started not as a rock 'n' roll group, but as an ordinary pop group.

Of course they played rock 'n' roll, but they still did an awful lot of other songs, as they do today. So why is there all this big fuss over the Beatles doing a few Rock 'n' Roll numbers on their LPs instead of weirdy numbers.

Plenty of groups do weirdy numbers, e.g. Pink Floyd, Fleetwood Mac, Blind Faith, Nice, etc., so why should the Beatles explore into the future when these groups are going strong and, in my opinion, are getting near the stage of boredom and trashy noise. At the Jazz and Blues concert the Pink Floyd bored the audience with their music.

The point of this letter is to make the group and fans think again before producing another LP like *Sgt. Pepper*, which contained only four good records. They are *Sgt. Pepper*, *A Little Help From My Friends*, *She's Leaving Home*, *A Day In The Life*, although the words to *Within You, Without You* are magnificent.

Yours hopefully,
Jim Crowh,
10 Third Avenue,
Clipstone, Notts.

Dear Sir,

It is a sad fact that many people still think they know more about the Beatles' music than the Beatles themselves. Letters are constantly being written to try and urge the Beatles to change their music—to stop becoming complicated and going electronic, or to stop doing rock and roll, or to stop any Eastern influences, etc. For those of us with ears to hear and minds to evaluate, it is a basic fact that the Beatles are always a few steps ahead of everyone else. If they strictly followed the opinion of others then they would be on everyone else's level and wouldn't be the giants and leaders of music that they undoubtedly are.

The Beatles are always changing. Their first recordings have an exciting and new atmosphere about them; *Sgt. Pepper* has something else, and, in turn, their *Get Back* album will be elsewhere—far from *Sgt. Pepper* maybe, but also far from *She Loves You*, *I Feel Fine*, etc. The beauty in simplicity and subtlety of *Get Back* cannot be compared with the earlier music. It is all different.

And describing the latest sound as "the simple run-of-the-mill sound of three guitars and a drum kit" (S. C. Blake; *B.M.* 73) is being somewhat unaware of the refinements of rhythms and many, many other excellent and new sounds.

Isn't all their music marvellous and wouldn't it be better to accept the fact (after all this time) that they know much more about what to do than we do?

Yours sincerely,
Roy Brown (No. 111048),
218 Dewsbury Road,
Leeds LS11 6EX.

Dear Johnny,

I would like to comment on the letter that was sent in by S. C. Blake. I completely agree with him (her).

To me, THE BEATLES are the leaders of the Pop Music world. And most of the "big" people in Pop always have a good word for John, Paul, George and Ringo.

Suddenly, THE BEATLES have decided to go back to 1963 rock and roll. This appalls me. I'm hoping that it is just a passing phase.

When *Hey Jude* came out a year ago, I said to myself, "Now THAT'S THE BEATLES!" I anxiously waited for their next single to be released thinking, "Since *Hey Jude* was so fantastic, the next should be even more super."

Then they released *Get Back*. I fell over in embarrassment. THIS is the same group that made *Rubber Soul*? The four geniuses that wrote *Sgt. Pepper*? The master-minds that recorded *Hey Jude*? I simply couldn't believe it.

Please don't take me wrong. I love THE BEATLES, this is why I am saying this. Please John, Paul, George and Ringo go forward, not backward. Give your fans more *Sgt. Peppers* and less MEET THE BEATLES. Don't you think we deserve it?

In closing, I would like to address the following to John Lennon;

Here is a foolproof idea to make you money.
Cut your hair and shave your beard and look as sexy as you did in 1965. I guarantee double the record sales.

If you insist on turning back in music, you might as well go all the way.

Rick Tindall,
408 Dunbar Drive,
Cumberland, Indiana 46229,
U.S.A.

Dear Johnny,

I wrote this poem whilst trying to imagine the world of pop and the world in general without our qualitative quartet (God preserve us all!);

Where would we be now, I ask myself,
As I humbly pick up my pen,
And look at the pix on the mantleshelf,
Of the Beatles, now and "then".

Where would we be if Ringo had
Still worked for British Rail?
There'd be no ending—good or bad—
To this, my humble tale.

And so with all their songs to sing
And melodies untold,
I think of all the good they bring
And all their records sold.

With Elvis and Haley in comparison
They haven't done badly at all!
With John and "little" Harrison,
Short Ringo Starr and Paul.

And after everything they've done,
The things they see and say,
Their records still reach number one
After only one play.

"And so" I say as I put down my pen
And look at the pix on the wall,
"I don't think the story will ever end
Of George, John, Ringo and Paul."

Much love,
Nawal Gadalla (No. 145684),
Berkhamsted, Herts.

P.S.—I think "little Harrison" is the loveliest bloke of all time.

Dear Johnny,

The Beatles have released from their very first *Cry For A Shadow* to their last *Ballad Of John And Yoko* about 193 songs. To have all these songs on records, you must collect:

10 LPs 2 EPs 171 Singles

These do not include *Love Me Do* or *Please, Please Me* because they are on a LP.

To play all Beatles' records without a break would take 8 hrs. 36 mins. 48 secs. or 17,750 revolutions of the turntable.

The longest album is, of course, *The Beatles* (1 hr. 30 mins. 45 secs.). And the shortest is *A Hard Day's Night* (29 mins. 5 secs.).

The three longest playing songs are:

- (1) *Revolution 9* (8 mins. 30 secs.)
- (2) *Hey Jude* (7 mins. 10 secs.)
- (3) *It's All Too Much* (6 mins. 10 secs.)

The three shortest playing songs are:

- (1) *Wild Honey Pie* (55 secs.)
- (2) *Sgt. Pepper (Reprise)* (1 min. 15 secs.)
- (3) *Why Don't We Do It In The Road* (1 min. 35 secs.)

There are 34 songs which last under 2 mins. The average Beatles' song is 2 mins. 40 secs. Of the 193 songs are:

- 138 (Lennon-McCartney)
- 18 (George Harrison)
- 1 (Ringo Starr)
- 1 (Harrison-Lennon)
- 1 (Lennon-McCartney-Harrison-Starkey)
- 1 (Lennon-McCartney-Starkey)
- 33 (Perkins, Berry, Bacharach, etc., etc.)

Yours ever with the Beatles,
Graham Pratchett (No. 138030),
28 Howard Road,
Cricklewood,
London N.W.2.

Dear Johnny Dean,

If the Beatles no longer plan to perform live on the grounds that they don't wish to resort to three-guitars-and-drums music again, why are they doing so on record? And if they want to go back to simpler music, what is to stop them performing live? I personally think they owe the fans at least a live concert in London.

I'm not saying they should tour again. I agree with George and Ringo there; it would be ridiculous for them to go back to the old days of being "on the road", one-night stands and exhaustive commitments. But please, Beatles, think of those appreciators of your music who have never had the chance to see you perform live.

I'm not suggesting a free concert in Hyde Park; for a start, there would be a major crush in London and serious traffic blockages. But, please Beatles, why restrict your latest talented compositions to the recording studio when you are quite capable of performing them on stage and making a few thousand fans very, very happy in the process?

Yours sincerely,
Sheila Skillman,
134 Felstead Road,
Orpington, Kent BR6 AF9.



ABOVE: The happening when several of the people who had come to see Dylan's Isle of Wight concert joined in a foam bath.

BELOW: Close-up of Dylan in action on stage during his 65-minute performance.



DYLAN

in the Isle of Wight

Full report on the Beatle visit to the big August Happening

THE boys have been admirers of Bob Dylan for a long time now. Nobody's quite sure when they first became conscious of his compelling songs with their searching lyrics, but it was soon after they themselves became international stars.

INTRODUCED

They were first introduced by Al Aronowitz in 1964 in New York during their first U.S. trip, and the mercurial Beatles hit it off very quickly with the slow-talking American folk-singer. They had both changed their image somewhat to get noticed and they all soon became close friends.

George and Mal Evans met Bob in 1968 and stayed

with him in his home in Woodstock on Thanksgiving Day and the rest of the week. Mal sums up Dylan by recalling the line from *Julia* which goes: "Half of what I say is meaningless, Julia." As Mal explains: "Dylan doesn't bother to say the half that's meaningless."

There have been regular meetings ever since so it was only natural that George should get in touch with Bob as soon as he heard that he was coming over for his Isle of Wight concert.

MEETINGS

Like the Beatles, Dylan has always worked very hard to keep his private life hidden from the harsh spotlight of publicity and newspaper photographers and reporters. He is really just a normal family man, loves his four kids and prefers to spend his time at home — a

big rambling house in Woodstock.

George arranged to meet Dylan at London Airport and was told by the airline that the 'plane would be 40 minutes late. So he and Mal got to the airport around a quarter to nine, only to find that the 'plane had arrived 15 minutes earlier. TWA had whisked Bob and his wife Sarah through the special services block and away in a car long before George had even got to the airport.

FARMHOUSE

Dylan went straight to his farmhouse in the Isle of Wight. On Tuesday, August 26, George rang Mal at his home and said: "I'm driving down to see Bob on the Isle of Wight — do you want to come?" Mal immediately chucked a few things into a case and dashed off to meet George, and they drove

down to Portsmouth together.

Mal had a bit of an accident while they were in Portsmouth. George and he went into a milk bar to get a cup of tea and whilst they were waiting to be served, Mal decided to go back to the car and check that everything was alright. When he opened the boot, he hit his head against the corner and cut himself quite badly.

PAIN

He was in a lot of pain and wanted to wash the blood off the cut so he walked back into the cafe and aimed straight for the first door which seemed to say "washroom" or "toilet". He went in, washed the cut and then, when he was drying his face, began to realise that he was in the "wrong" small room. He beat a hasty retreat and as he came out a woman who was sitting at a nearby table gave him a very odd look. He turned round to check and, sure enough, the sign on the door said "Ladies".

MET BY BOB

When they arrived in the Isle of Wight they were met by Bob and the man who originally introduced them, Al Aronowitz. They stayed with Bob Dylan on Tuesday night and came back to Esher on Wednesday evening.

Patti and George returned

to the Isle of Wight on Thursday and Mal and his wife, Lil, and their two children drove down on Friday and stayed at a local hotel.

John and Ringo also wanted to see the show, but they had worked out a new and trouble-free method of transport.

It's very simple. All they did was to ring up and order two helicopters to appear in the sky over their houses at a certain time. Then they just sat back until the appointed hour came round, taking things easy, waiting for the helicopter pilots to put their machines down in their back gardens.

SKY-BIRDS

Then John and Ringo and Maureen and Yoko, of course, climbed aboard their private sky-birds and were lofted up over the south of England to the Isle of Wight.

Mal and George knew they were coming, of course, and duly collected some sheets which they laid out on the ground so that the pilot would know where to land. They also waved at the helicopters when they came clattering into view.

The only trouble was that pretty well every other visitor to the Isle of Wight had the same idea. They all had tents, sheets and blankets lying all over the place and they also liked waving at the odd helicopter which ap-

peared over them, so the poor pilot got a bit confused for a time as to precisely which group of waving people on the ground was the right one.

LANDING

But both pilots quickly got their bearings, landed, and Ringo and Maureen, John and Yoko hurried off to Bob's house to meet him.

Bob Dylan had taken over Forehands Farm in Bembridge and, contrary to expectations, the Beatles and the Dylans got down to a good game of tennis. This was followed by a unique jam session in the farm barn where Bob had been rehearsing for the previous four days with his Band.

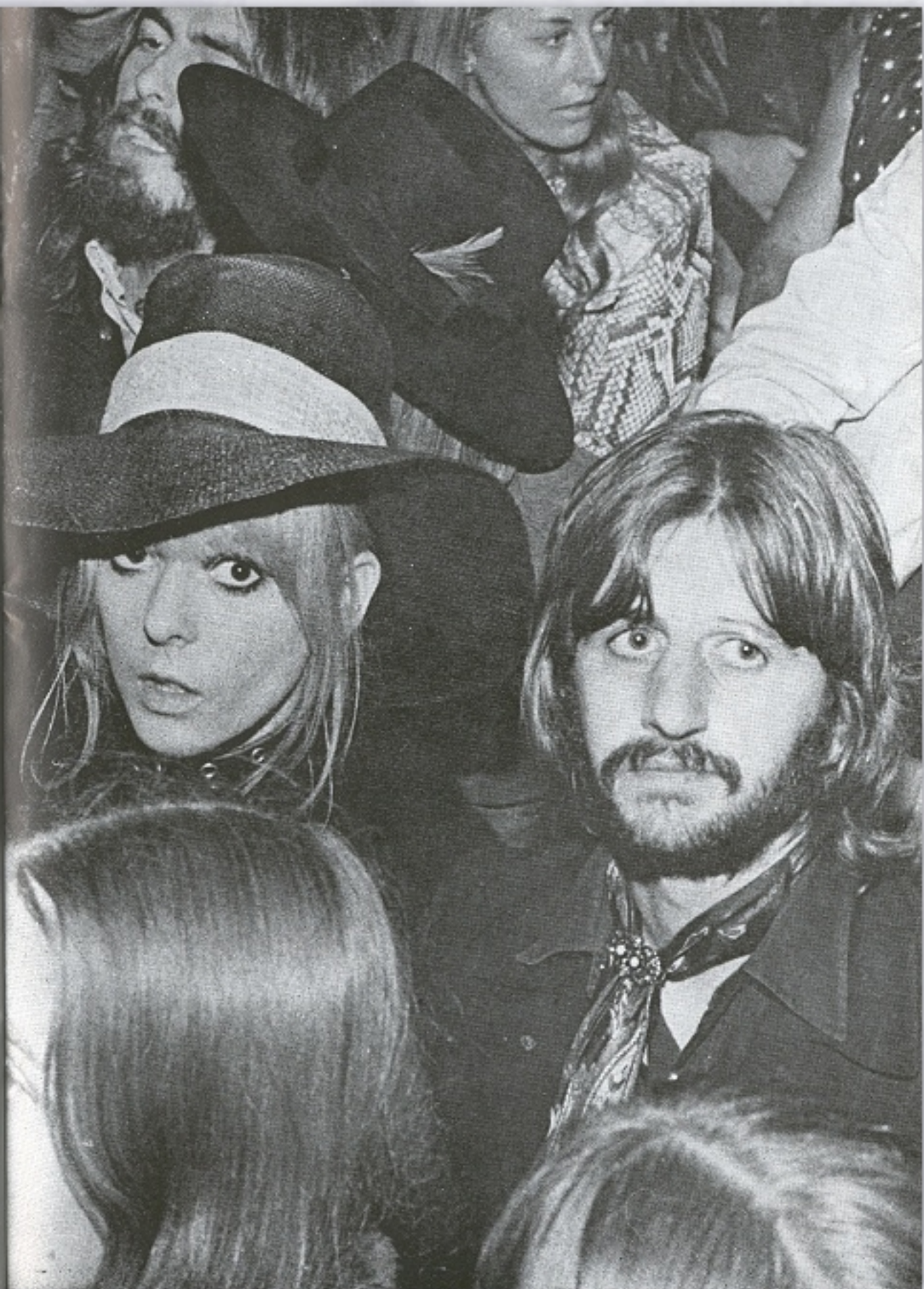
Bob told the party that he had not intended to do more than his normal 60 minute show and claimed that the rumours that were put about that he was due to appear for three hours were just that—rumours!

GREAT SHOW

When he finally made it on to the stage his performance was a knockout! The Beatles thought that his singing was absolutely beautiful and that Dylan and the Band really got it together.

It was marred by one or two unfortunate incidents. The Press, as usual, got in the way and lots of photographers at the front stood up and started taking shots when he first appeared on

George (half-hidden behind a hat), Maureen and Ringo pictured together in the audience at Dylan's concert.





stage. Quite naturally, the people behind got very annoyed by having their view of the stage obscured and so they started chucking beer cans at the Press to make them sit down.

PARTY

After the concert was over, Bob and the Beatles went back to the farm and they all had a party.

John and Ringo came home by plane on Monday. The rest of the party hired a hovercraft.

Bob Dylan seems to delight in teasing reporters and photographers who worry him constantly. He has only recently, of course, made it known that he is

married. The Beatles must have envied his ability to keep the secret for so long.

He also goes to great lengths to avoid photos of him being taken with his wife, but he was not completely successful during this visit and many of the national papers did carry pictures of Bob Dylan in dark glasses with his wife Sarah.

Beatle fans may be interested in knowing what Sarah is like. Apparently she is very similar to Bob. Very quiet, doesn't say a lot. Mal Evans describes her as "a really sweet person".

Will the Beatles follow Dylan's example and give an open-air concert of their own in some suitable loca-

tion? The answer, for the moment, seems to be definitely no.

The boys all agree that Dylan and the Stones have given really marvellous performances and that their concerts have gone off tremendously well, but they still believe that it is not the sort of thing that they should do at this time.

BIG CROWD

If, however, they change their mind, then I am absolutely certain that they would have the biggest crowd ever and also that there would be two old friends there in the audience to see them — Bob and Sarah Dylan.

LEFT: A shot of all four Beatles for a change taken in the grounds of John's new home.

BELOW: Paul signals to the control room to let him hear a play-back of the number through his ear-phones, or cans as they are called.



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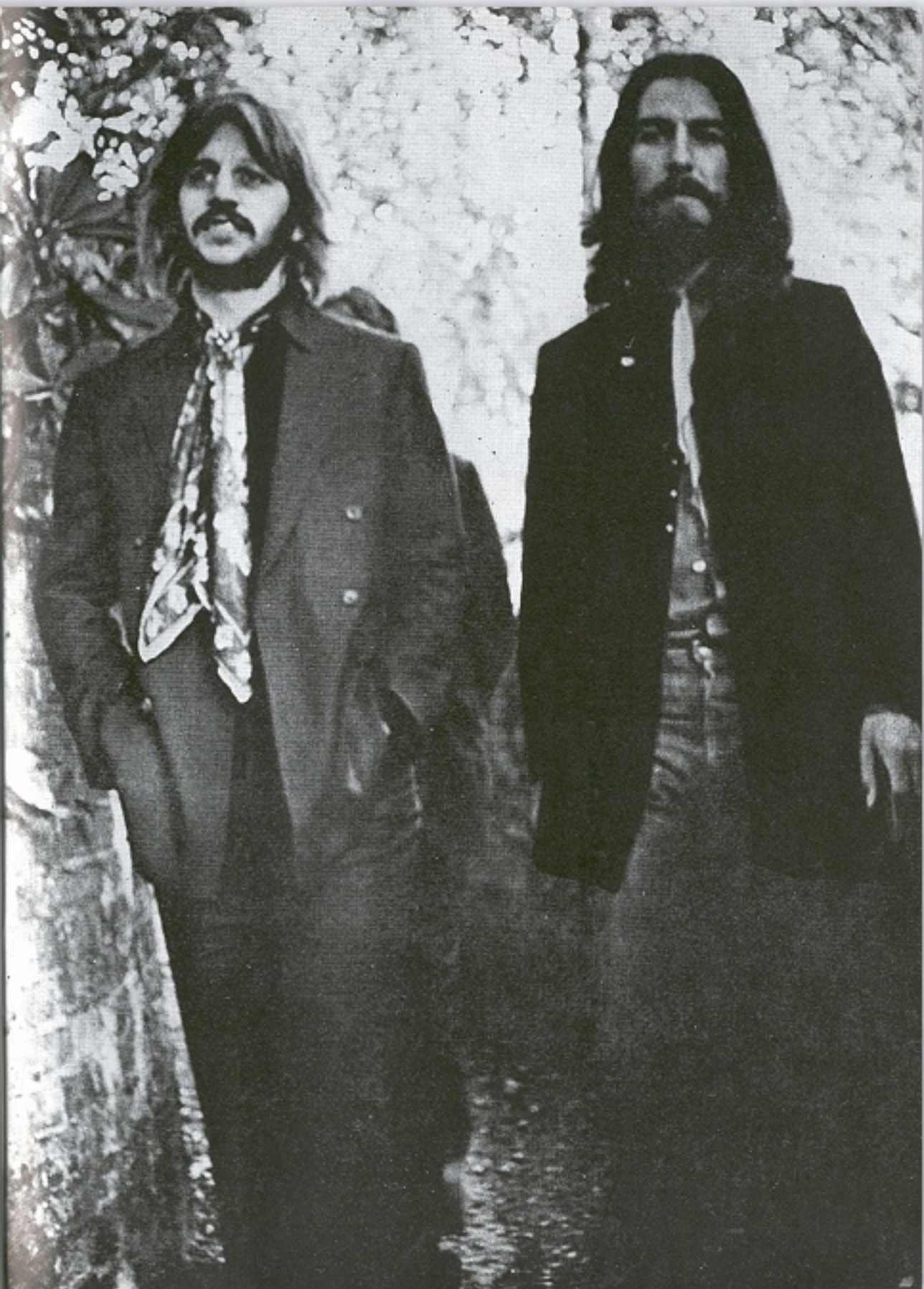
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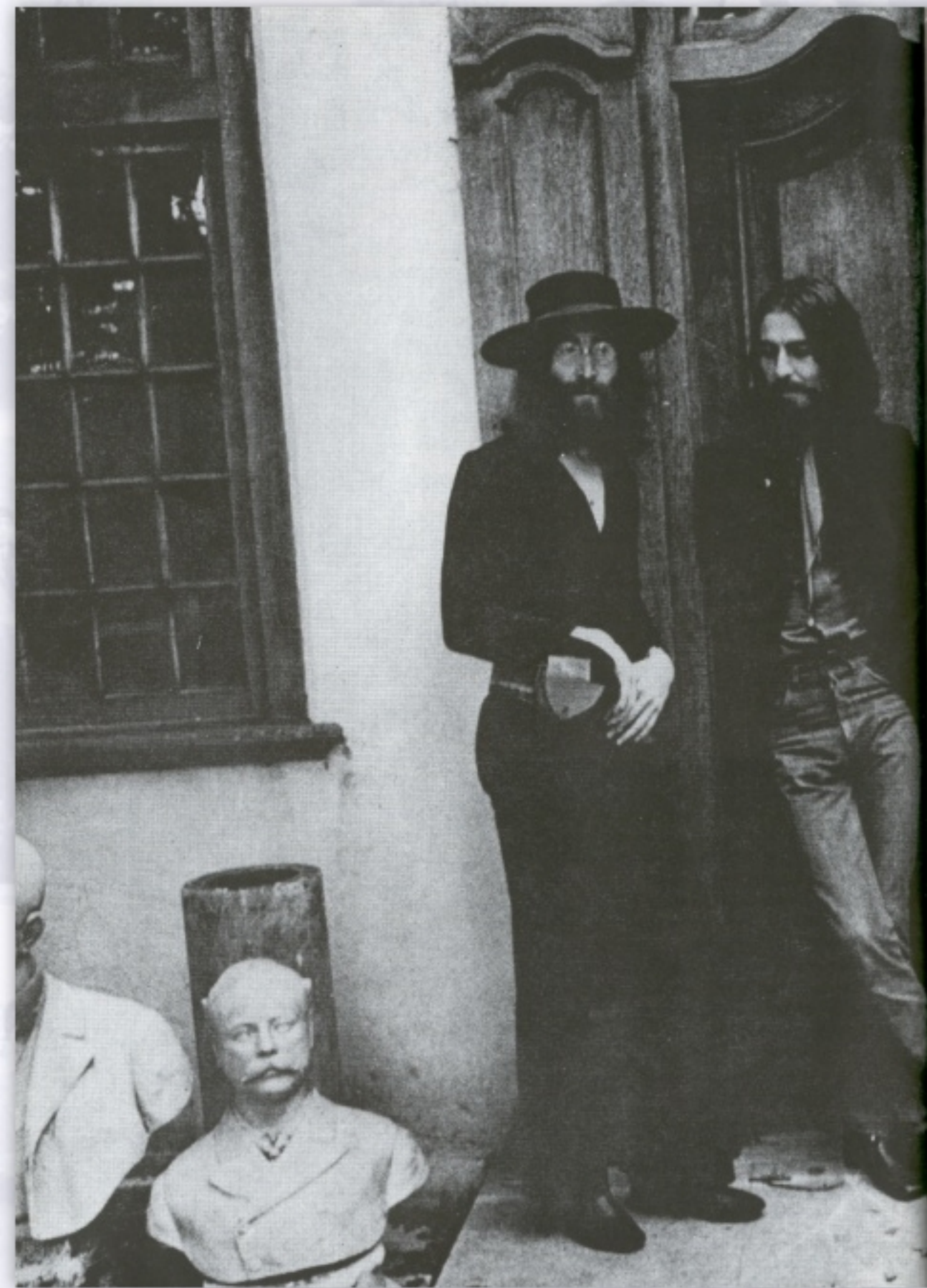
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BEATLE NEWS

HOWLING, NOT BOOING, SAYS JOHN

John did not agree with the early reports that there was a lot of booing from the 20,000 audience at the weekend festival held in Toronto, Canada, on the weekend of September 13th-14th.

"There may have been a few people who didn't understand what we were doing," he said, "but most of the people there were cheering."

John and Yoko introduced a new type of music at the festival which they are calling Howling. He also said that he intends to appear on stage as often as he can in future.

In a television interview on September 16th, John said that he didn't see any reason why he should not appear with lots of other groups. If he wanted to, he would. And they ended their television interview by giving a demonstration of Howling.

BEATLES BUY ADVANCED TAPE RECORDER

A new 16-track recorder is currently being installed in the Apple studio in the basement of their headquarters in Savile Row. The man in charge is, of course, ginger-haired Geoffrey Emerick who left EMI to work for the boys.

A 16-track machine will enable the Beatles to record 16 separate sounds or instruments and then mix them afterwards. So it does appear that they are not going to "get back" in their recording activities in future but will produce more progressive and advanced type Beatle music which will please the majority of their fans.

HIRSUTE TRIO

Paul is now really the odd one out as far as hair-style, moustaches and beards go. As you can see from the photographs in this issue, his hair-style is very similar to that of three years ago. No trace of any hair on his chin or upper lip.

The other three Beatles, however, are now sporting massive moustaches and beards. Winner of the grow-some-hair competition is undoubtedly John, who has almost disappeared behind a huge apostle-type growth.

George's hair, beard and moustache is very similar. Ringo keeps his fairly neat, although his drooping moustache does give him a rather sad look in these photographs.

NO DECISION ON NEW SINGLE

The boys have not yet recorded a new single at the time of going to press but they are working on several ideas and it is possible that a release date will be announced later this month.

Their Get Back LP is still scheduled for release in December to coincide with the showing of the special film which shows the day-to-day activities of the boys and their personalities who run their Apple empire in Savile Row.

You will remember that several months back a camera team spent several weeks in the Apple building filming every activity in the office (well, almost) and every visitor who entered the front door.

Well, do you like John with beard or without? The photo opposite is just to remind you what he looked like without it!

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