

The Beatles

MONTHLY BOOK

No. 26

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The Beatles BOOK

The Beatles' Own Monthly Magazine

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EDITORIAL

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Editor: **JOHNNY DEAN**

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LESLIE BRYCE, A.I.B.P., A.R.P.S.

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Hi!

THE BEATLES WERE IN A TERRIFIC MOOD on the day they appeared on that "Blackpool Night Out Show" laughing and gagging their way through rehearsals as though they were preparing for a private Beatle People Telly Show for the fan club rather than for a national networked performance to millions of viewers. Everytime one of them stepped up to the mike to deliver an announcement it came out different. I think most producers have realised by now that it's a waste of time giving the boys a script—they never stick to it!!! Good thing too—it makes it more interesting when you don't know what they're going to say. That's the way we get all those funny Beatle quotes.

I KNOW YOU'D ALL like to see what they got up to during rehearsals and in their dressing rooms so your Beatles Book this month is full of pics taken in the A.B.C. theatre on that Sunday.

JUST BEFORE THEY LEFT FOR AMERICA Paul asked me if readers had shown a preference for any particular track on their new long-player. Which more or less gave me the hint that it would be a good idea to hold a HELP L.P. POPULARITY POLL to find out just which is the most popular song on the boys latest album. So, I'd like every reader to send me a postcard with your choice marked on it. Just put your name, address and your song title. And while you're doing that could you also add the title of the Beatles song which you think is the best they've ever recorded. O.K. That's your name and address, THE BEST HELP L.P. SONG, and BEST SONG EVER, all on a postcard please to The Beatles' Book Song Pop Poll, 36-38 Westbourne Grove, London, W.2. We'll divide the poll into two sections. The first section will be for all Beatle People in the British Isles who must send their postcards in by October 1st and the second section will be for all Overseas Readers, who must post them to us by December 1st.

IF YOU'RE GOING to London Airport to welcome the boys home, don't forget to give the fan club a ring BEFORE you leave as the boys tell me it is just possible that they might not all fly back at the beginning of September.

WE'VE HAD SO MANY REQUESTS recently for the Beatles paperback "THE TRUE STORY OF THE BEATLES" that we've had a reprint done. All you have to do if you want a copy sent direct to you by post is to send us a 5/6d Postal Order and we'll get it back to you as quickly as possible.

Johnny Dean Editor.

"No you certainly can't say that on the telly" was Ringo's answer to one of John's suggested alterations to their "Blackpool Night Out" script.





The Official Beatles FAN CLUB

First Floor, Service House, 13 Monmouth Street, London, W.C.2.

Fan Club Telephone: London COVent Garden 2332

Beatles (U.S.A., Ltd) Box 505, Radio City Station, New York, N.Y. 10019.

Canada: Miss Trudy Metcalf, 7 Stratton Ave., Scarborough, Ontario, Canada

NEWSLETTER

September 1965

DEAR BEATLE PEOPLE,

Visitors to the fan club H.Q. often remark how small the offices are. I decided that a few facts and figures would show people what a complex organisation this really is. Besides the two first floor offices—which all guests see—we occupy the entire second floor. Freda Kelly manages an office in Liverpool, dealing with thousands of letters from all over the world. Add to this little lot forty area secretaries and some thirty-six foreign clubs. There's more than meets the eye at Monmouth Street! It's the small heart of a worldwide network.

Although small, I must admit we have been in need of a coat of paint. It's not surprising after three years constant use. Day and night for some months. We've had sacks of mail piled ceiling high! Newspaper reporters, television camera crews and fans have all packed themselves in at Monmouth Street at sometime or another. A certain four boys have a habit of leaning against walls which doesn't help any. At long last we have managed to get a firm who guarantee not to stop our work while they do the decorating (this being the only reason we haven't tackled it before!). On our fresh walls I am going to put a few of my own personal pictures of the boys. Most of them will be off-duty snaps.

I can now confirm the boys' plans for the next two months. Brian Epstein has told me that their next film will now not be made until next spring. Two months holiday have been prescribed for September and October. A new single will be made in early November for release later the same month. There will be an L.P. around this time too—in good time for Christmas.

The two areas of Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire plus Westmorland and Cumberland need new area secretaries. Although four counties are involved only two applicants are required as they are both combined areas. In each case you can live in either county to be considered. Please apply to me in writing marking the outside of your envelope "AREA SECRETARY APPLICATION".

Lots of good luck,

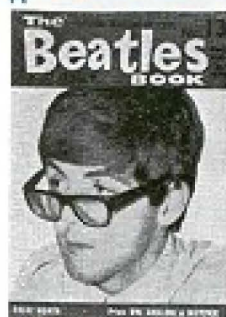


ANNE COLLINGHAM . *National Secretary of The Official Beatles Fan Club*

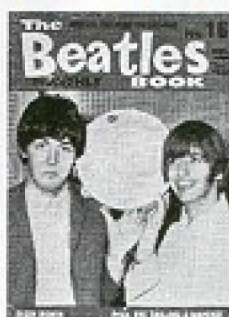


George and Ringo deep in discussion about their American trip sitting in the stalls of the A.B.C. Theatre, Blackpool.

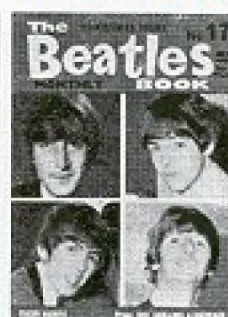
DID YOU MISS ANY OF THESE ISSUES OF THE BEATLES BOOK???



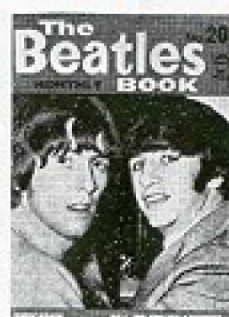
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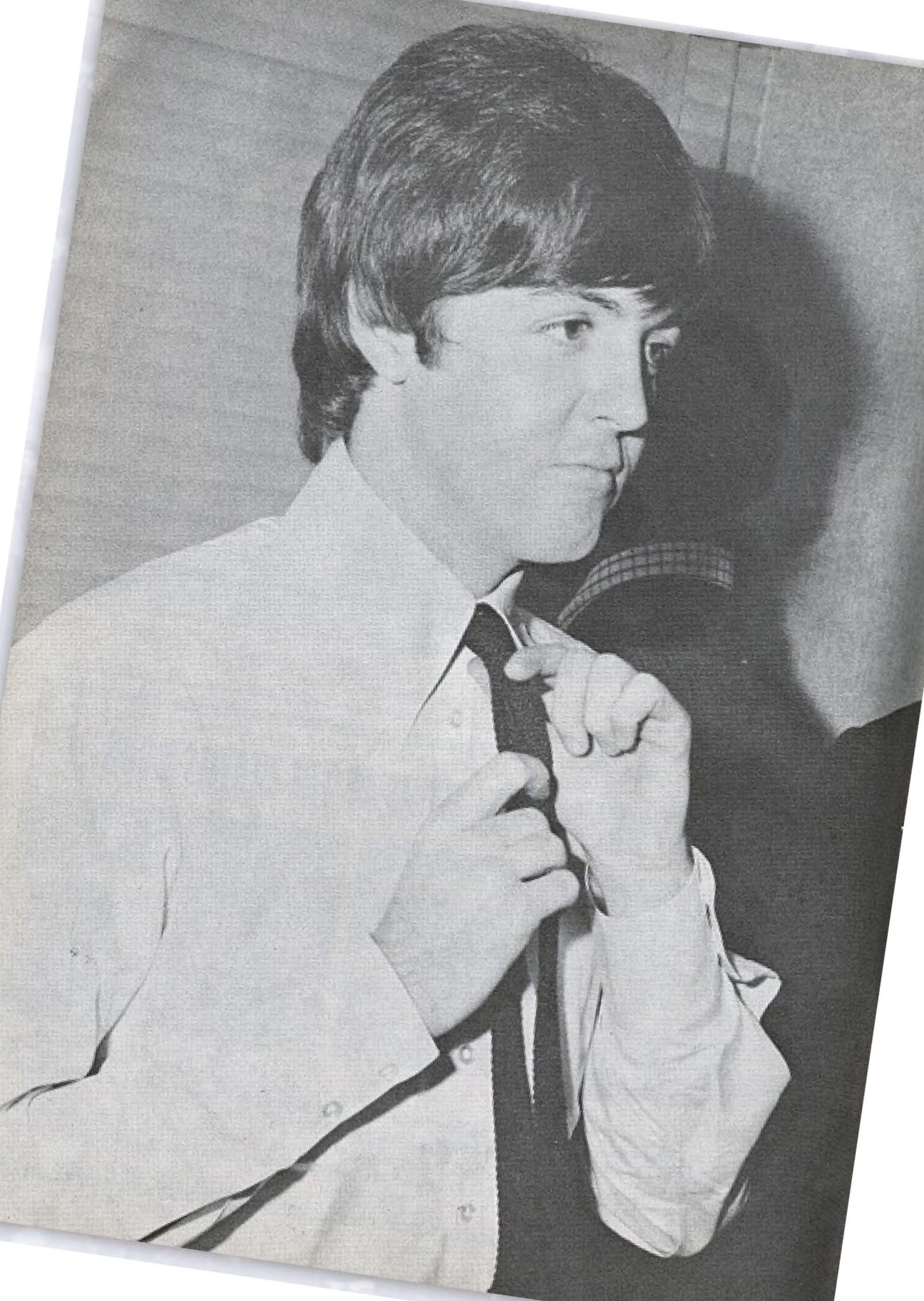
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No. 23

If you did, and you would like to make up your collection, just send us a Postal Order for 2/- for each copy you want and we'll get them off to you as soon as possible.

Send P.O.'s and details to Beatles Book Back Issues, 36-38 Westbourne Grove, London, W.2. (We regret that issues 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 and 15 are now completely out of stock and CANNOT be supplied.)





BEATLES TALK

JOHN: *The following programme is brought to you live via Late Bird and is transatlanticed from the American through the courtesy of Mr. Richard Dimple and Miss Goonhilly Downs.*

RINGO: *I'm surprised this tape recorder works O.K. over here. Remember that American disc jockey who blew up his tape recorder when he tried to work it in London?*

JOHN: *This one runs on gas.*

GEORGE: *And anyway we're keeping well in to the right-hand side of the tape.*

JOHN: *Excuse me, do you have an international driving licence for this machine?*

PAUL: *We're in America.*

GEORGE: *That's obvious, isn't it?*

PAUL: *Well it may be to us and to Fred Jim but it won't be to Beatle People reading it in the Book, will it!*

GEORGE: *We're coming home soon, Beatle People!*

PAUL: *He can't wait to get back to his swimming pool!*

RINGO: *Pool! That reminds me—Before we left for the tour we were getting stacks of letters asking if the "channel swimmer" in "Help!" was really Mal Evans. Well it really was and here is Mal who would like to say "Thank You" for writing.*

MAL: *Thank you*

RINGO: *Thank you, Mal.*

GEORGE: *Mal makes gear tea, don't you, Mal?*

MAL: *When?*

GEORGE: *Now. Put the teabags on. Tea grows in bags in America, folks. You never see a proper packet of Yoo-Hoo or anything.*

Another in the special series in which FREDERICK JAMES lets his tape recorder listen in on informal conversations between John, Paul, George and Ringo.

JOHN: *By the way, Beatle People, we're all watching telly at the moment. Makes a change seeing American telly. I mean there's "The Man From U.N.C.L.E.", "The Beverly Hillbillies", "Danger Man" . . .*

RINGO: *Only they call him "Secret Agent" . . .*

PAUL: *What can we tell you about the tour? Well, it's all been going great. We started off by doing "The Ed Sullivan Show" in New York with Cilla. Then we started the actual tour the following day at Shea Stadium. Oh yes, and Sounds Incorporated are with us on all the concerts. All the weird noises they're making behind us on this tape won't show up in the Book but I just thought you'd like to know that they're here.*

GEORGE: *So is Brian Matthew and various British journalists and about twenty thousand American disc jockeys. Well, not actually here but they're about most of the time.*

JOHN: *And the weather's too hot and someone's pinched three of my shirts.*

GEORGE: *It was probably Ringo.*

RINGO: *Don't look at me! I've nothing to do with the weather!*

JOHN: *Oh, yes—Somebody wrote in to ask who taught me to play the organ with my elbow. Well, I didn't learn. It was just that my elbow was itchy.*

RINGO: *If you're a customs officer and you're listening to this tape, please put it back in the envelope very neatly and send it to Johnny Dean or somebody very quickly or it will get there too late for the September Book.*

PAUL: *And if you're a Beatle Person and you're reading a blank page in the September Book it means the tape is still in the customs officer's pocket!*



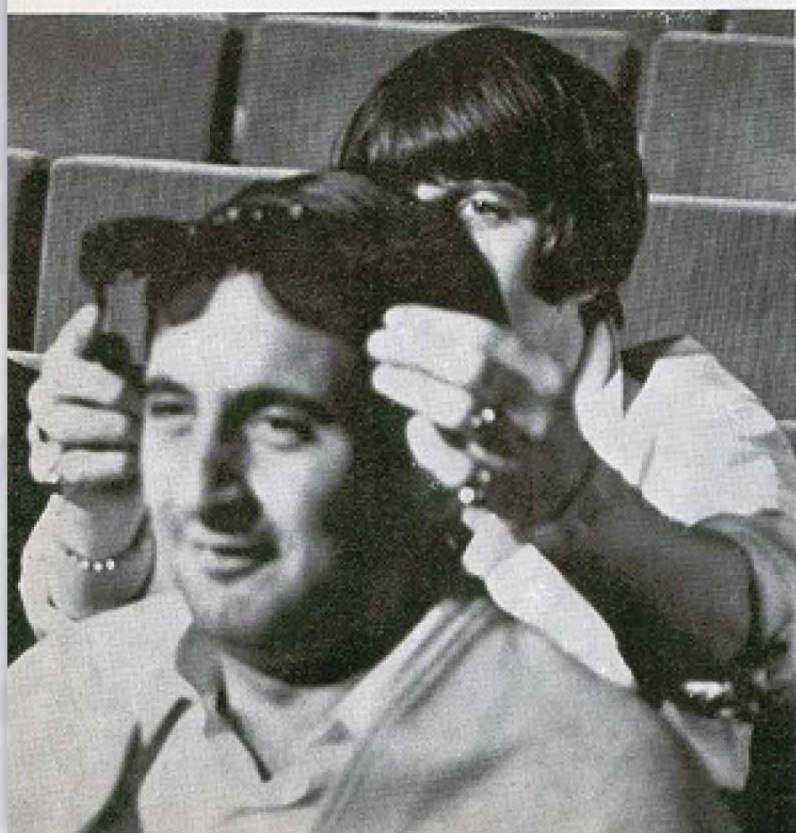
BLACKPOOL PIX

Above:
Two of Lionel Blair's dancers
join in an early Beatles rehearsal.

Left:
"With those rings on your fingers
I'd know who it is any time" said
Bernie Winters, when Ringo slip-
ped some sunglasses over his eyes
while they were sitting in the stalls.

Right (top):
Mike and Bernie Winters and
The Beatles discussing that pro-
motion spot they did for the show.
Suggestions ranged from going to
sleep to laughing hysterically,
throughout the minute or so it
was expected to last. Anything
but to do it straight.

Right:
Final dress rehearsal line-up with
Ringo leading the dancers.







George rehearsing with his first guitar in the front room of his Liverpool home.

"YOUNG GEORGE"

The second article on the Beatles' childhood days

George is often reported as being the Beatle who is less photographed and talked about than the others. This may well appear to be true when one first meets him but it bears very little relation to the George his friends know. He is very friendly and very natural. But he can be changeable. One day he acts as if he is a member of some odd group and cannot understand why anyone should want to interview or photograph him and the next he seems to positively enjoy talking to anyone and everyone.

According to his mother, he certainly hasn't changed much. She recalls, "George was always full of fun when he was a child. He never caused any big trouble and even the neighbours liked him a lot, which is unusual with little boys.

"I was very proud of the way he liked to help old people. I have always been interested in this sort of work myself and used to take George around with me when I went visiting elderly people in our district.

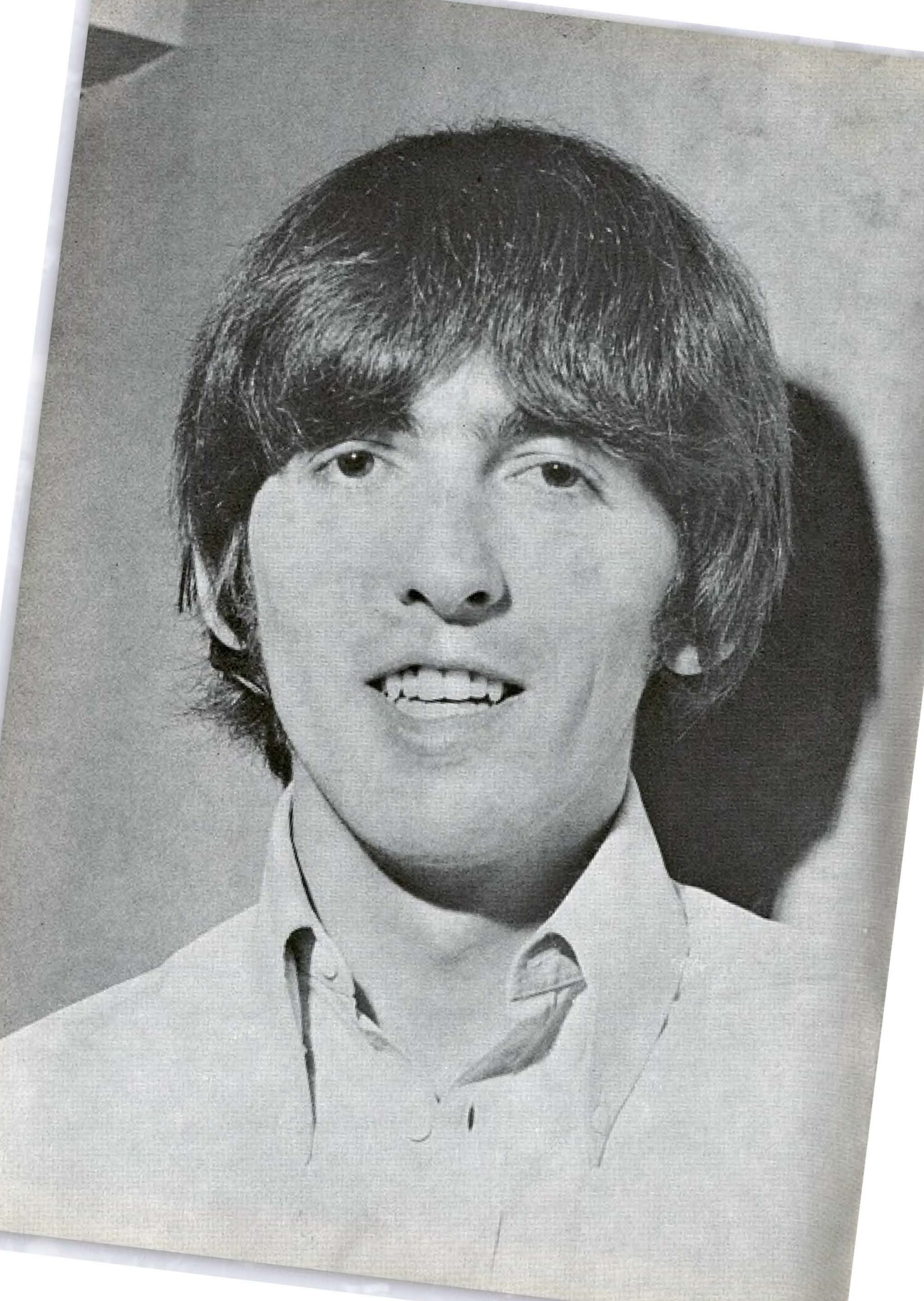
"I remember one day, when I took him to the pictures with me. He was only eight years old at the time. When we came out of the cinema there was an old tramp sitting on a wall. George immediately suggested that we give him half-a-crown. Money meant nothing at all to him then and he could not see why I shouldn't give money to every old person we met.

"He has always been fond of entertaining other people. When he was 10 years old, his Dad

gave him some hand-puppets for Christmas. From then on, whenever we had visitors, he always insisted on giving a little show kneeling behind the settee.

"The first time he ever got a big urge to play the guitar was when he was 13 years old. His brother Peter bought one and George promptly tried to learn to play it. Eventually, he formed a small group with some friends and they went along for an audition at the Speke British Legion Hall. The main act did not turn up, so George's group played instead. They only knew two songs and once they had done both of them, they started again with the first and went on playing the same two over and over again. The audience loved it and they were given the regular artist's fee. I remember noticing, when they walked into our house afterwards, that the bass guitarist's fingers were bleeding, he'd played so hard."

George's father is very proud of his son's achievements and he and his wife spend a lot of time answering fan mail and writing thank-you letters to people who



send presents to George's home. He remembers, when he and his wife used to M.C. local old-time dances, George used to have a big laugh at the wide-bottomed trousers the dancers wore. "He decided to do something about his own because he said he did not want to be old-fashioned," George's father told me. "So one day, when I bought him a new pair of flannels for school, he sat up till late at night and altered them on his mother's sewing machine until they were narrowed to his satisfaction.

"He was always very fond of cycling. I never knew where he used to get to, but I suppose he travelled all over the place. He also loved hitch-hiking and I remember one day he turned up with Paul McCartney and announced that they were going to hitch-hike to the South of England. That night they packed their bags and the next day they disappeared. We didn't see them again for three weeks, but all during the time they were away we kept getting postcards from places like Southampton and Torquay. I remember they really loved that holiday and although they were only 14 at the time, I felt that they were a lot older in their attitude to everything when they returned. As far as I remember, they took their guitars with them."

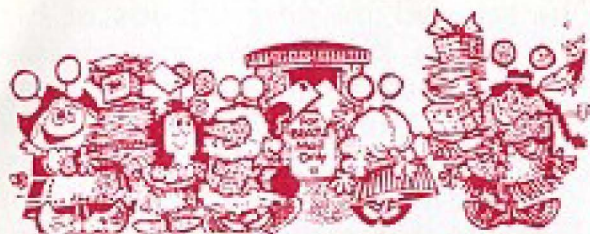
Singer Shane Fenton's wife, Iris, knew George very well when he was 15. She says, "I met George through Rory Storm. George used to rehearse in a cellar, in a house near where we lived. After a time

he started inviting friends of his to 'come down and use his rehearsal room'. I remember that one of the groups who took advantage of his offer were the Quarrymen, which was John Lennon's original outfit. Later on, Rory needed another guitarist and asked George Harrison if he would join him. Everyone thought that George was a very good guitarist at that time. I think the main reason was, that he was one of the very few people in Liverpool who could play 'Guitar Boogie Shuffle' all the way through. Anyway, George decided that he would stick with the Quarrymen.

Iris's mother, Mrs. Caldwell, remembers George as: "The boy who used to come round and watch television three nights a week. He and Iris used to sit there holding hands. As far as I remember, it was the first time that either of them had ever taken any interest in someone of the opposite sex. At Iris's 14th birthday party, I remember George turned up in a brand-new, Italian-style suit with covered buttons. He looked very grown-up. As in most teenage parties, they kept on playing kissing games and somehow or other, George and Iris always ended up together."

George's own style of humour is, and always has been, the sort of dead-pan, tweak-your-right-toe-while - he - is - looking - you - sensibly-in-the-left-eye, kind and here is a card that he sent to Iris's mother when the Beatles were in Hamburg in 1962.

Continued on page 31



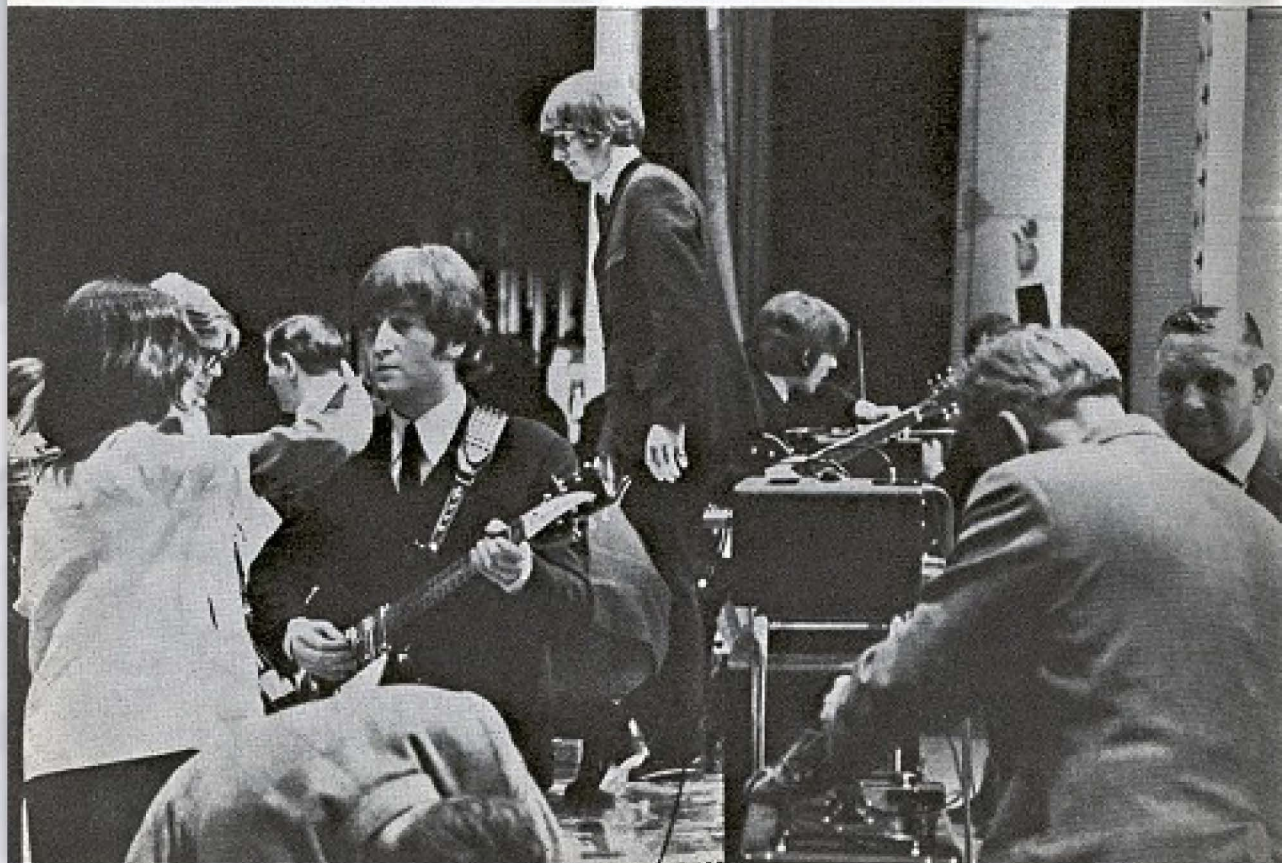
BEATLE Pen Pals

(Addresses are in England unless otherwise stated)

Moirá Kearns (11), 61 Fountainbleau Drive, Dundee, Angus, Scotland, wants p.p. anywhere.
Birgit Herold, Frederiksberg Alle 801, Copenhagen, Denmark, wants p.p. anywhere.
Miss S. Victorine (14), 343 Whalebone Lane, South, Chadwell Heath, Romford, Essex, wants p.p. Canada, America.
Fenella Bennett (13), 112 Cliffs Road, St. Clair, Dunedin, New Zealand, wants p.p. England.
Marilyn Parker (17), 18 Tomswood Court, Mossford Lane, Hainault, Ilford, Essex, wants p.p. anywhere.
Arlene Beaver (15), 416 Lexington Drive, Rochester, Illinois, U.S.A., wants p.p. England.
Marilyn Gladwin, 4 St. Stephens Crescent, Brentwood, Essex, wants p.p. anywhere.
James S. Donato (17), 75 Alley 1, Project 6, Quezon City, Philippines, wants p.p. anywhere.

Grace Redden (14), 2089 Westdean Crescent, West Vancouver, B.C., Canada, wants p.p. England.
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Jenny Hall (15), 341 Manor Road, Bishopstone, Herne Bay, Kent, wants p.p. America.
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Bonnie Hamey, Box 101, Welch, Oklahoma, U.S.A., wants p.p. England.
Janice Bilsborough (15), 21 Hazelhurst Road, Moor Nook, Preston, Lancs., wants p.p. America.
Calire Desrochers (14), 88 Carruthers, Ottawa, 3, Ontario, Canada, wants p.p. England, Sweden.
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Jill Jackson (16), Fan Clubs International, Box 323, Oakland, New Jersey 07436, U.S.A., wants p.p. England.
Norma Patterson (16), 113 Oxford Road, West Hartlepool, Co. Durham, wants p.p. Switzerland, Scotland, Australia.
Shirleen Hoare (15), 21 Arnold Street, Rockhampton, Queensland, Australia, wants p.p. Liverpool.
Margaret Tumelty (19), 30 Norwich Road, Middlesbrough, Yorks., wants p.p. Australia, New Zealand, America.
Dale Hoover (15), 6029 Malcolm Drive, San Diego, California 92115, U.S.A., wants p.p. England.
Helen Guy (16), 4289 Belanger, Montreal 36, Quebec, Canada, wants p.p. England.
Glennis Badour, 809 Jessie Avenue, Winnipeg 9, Manitoba, Canada, wants p.p. anywhere.
Judy Cook, 67 McArthur Road, East Ivanhoe, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia, wants p.p. Germany, America, S. Africa.
Anita Ng, Flat 610, Larkspur House, So Uk Estate, Kowloon, Hong Kong, wants p.p. anywhere.

Comments heard just before the curtain opened for their Blackpool show: "Dab the powder on", "Move that amp over to the right a bit", "Your tie is crooked", "Wait a minute, I'm not in tune".





Paul and George discuss their next film with Brian Epstein in the dressing room between rehearsals.

Mercedes Toledano, Calle del Cardenal Cisneros No. 58, Madrid, Spain, wants p.p. anywhere.
 Brenda Lavendon (15), 16 Heath Gardens, Twickenham, Middlesex, wants p.p. France, America, Sweden.
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 Rita Montgomery (17), 12 Boswall Gardens, Granton, Edinburgh 5, Scotland, wants p.p. America.

Kelli Kidman (16), 9025 Reading Avenue, Los Angeles, 45, California, U.S.A., wants p.p. England.
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 T. Crate (16), 56 Orchard Road, Sanderstead, Surrey, wants p.p. France.
 Brenda Poeter (13), 1 Caxton Road, Southall, Middlesex, wants p.p. anywhere.
 Lynette Eldridge (14), 8 Sindel Street, West Ryde, Sydney, N.S.W., Australia, wants p.p. anywhere.
 Janine Le Couffe (15), 377 Victoria Street, Valleyfield, P.Q., Canada, wants p.p. England, Spain, Belgium, Italy.
 Marie Matrat (15), Lycee, 8 Rue de Cury, Chateaudun (E et D), France, wants p.p. England.
 Ann Bartlett (12), 189 Rushgreen Road, Lymm, Cheshire, wants p.p. Sweden.
 Janet Flemming (16), The Cottage, Enodhdhu, By Blairedwrie, Perthshire, wants p.p. America, Canada.
 Isobel Brewer, Kennet House, Kennet, Clackmannanshire, wants p.p. Australia, America, Iceland, Sweden.
 Dianne Lalme (16), 67-50th Avenue, Lachine, Quebec, Canada, wants p.p. London.
 Mary Stokes (17), 11 River Road, Rydalmere, Sydney, N.S.W., Australia, wants p.p. England, America.
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 Shirley Payne (16), 7584 Querbes Avenue, Montreal 15, Quebec, Canada, wants p.p. England.
 Margaret Holden (15), 26 Stamfordham Drive, Allerton, Liverpool 19, wants p.p. Sweden.
 Derek Maunder (16), 82 Grenville Road, St. Jutes, Plymouth, Devon, wants p.p. America, Canada.
 Yvonne Crow (13), 44 Way Cross Road, Cranham, Upminster, Essex, wants p.p. America, Canada.
 Agneta Jacobson, Kobergsgatan 19, Gothenburg 0, Sweden, wants p.p. England, America.







LETTERS from Beatle PEOPLE

Dear BEATLES and Johnny Dean,

Thanks for sending me RINGO'S fabulous drumstick I'll treasure it 4 ever cos it's just great. Ta RINGO. Thanks also 4 the £10. I bought a suit which I wore to the Première of "HELP!" The remainder I'll use to get your new L.P., JOHN'S BOOK, and BEATLE SHOWS. I must be one of the luckiest BEATLE fans alive 'cos I and my friend have seen "HELP!" right from the beginning. At Twickenham we actually watched the BEATLES shooting some scenes and even a photo being taken of GEORGE with his top hat and gear on which is now being shown all over the country on stations etc. advertising "HELP!". It's the one where he's standing on top of the letter H. At Twickenham Studios we also managed to hear the song "HELP!" about 4 or 5 times while listening round the back of the studios with our ears pressed to the wall. This was in April so we can claim to have heard it about 3 months before other BEATLE fans. We also managed to speak to JOHN and this was a moment I'm sure that I'll Never forget. Even if it was only a few words. We went to Twickenham on 5 different occasions and saw THEM every day. I have also seen 2 fabulous unforgettable BEATLE shows and been to London Airport to welcome the BEATLES home from America.

Thank you BEATLES for everything and all the pleasure you've given us and all your true fans.

Yours 4 Ever BEATLEY,
Gill Evans,
16 Anthony Road,
Boreham Wood, Herts.,
BEATLE Land.

Dear Paul,

I figured out that I need 8,433 pix of you to have a picture for every day of your life up to today, July 26, 1965. Trouble is, I'm a bit behind, and have only 6,509 pix of you. But never fear I'm still buying, begging, and stealing every picture I can. Those from microscopic size to so big they won't fit in my room. Speaking of my room, even I can hardly get into it, with Beatle pix, records, dolls, jewellery, clothing, etc., filling the space.

WKNX of Saginaw Michigan was first in this area to play your latest record. Millions of kids were writing, coming, and calling in, all excited about it. It made No. 1 immediately.

All my love,
Judy Sim,
4401 Ashlawn Drive,
Flint, Michigan, 48507.

To Paul, George, Ringo and John,
"HELP!"

What's wrong with me? Where did I lose out?

I came to England, June 11.

You go to the Continent.

Now that you're back, I'll be leaving for the Continent.

You go to America, August 13. I'll still be on the Continent.

And of all things you'll leave America, September 1. September 1 is the day of my homecoming in the States.

Why are you running from me?

"HELP!"

Carol Burina (age 16)

520 S. Creek Road,
Racine, Wisconsin, U.S.A.

PS.—Good luck on the American tour!

Ringo answers:—

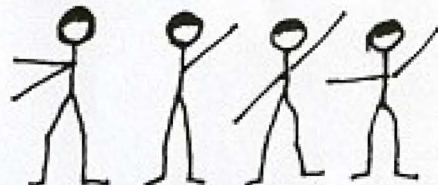
You dash about just like we do, Carol. Never mind we'll make it one of these days.

Dear Sir,

This morning I saw a picture of the cover of the "Help!" L.P., and I read that the Beatles on the cover are supposed to be signalling the word "Help" in semaphore.

The only correct letter is the last one, it means "Erase all that has gone before". The other letters being signalled are "R", "U", and "J".

It should be:—



Paul, I think, was a Scout, if he learnt any semaphore then, perhaps he ought to revise it.

Please don't think that I am "getting at" the Beatles, I just don't want them to be "got at".

Sheila de Boer,
13 Brook Lane Field,
Harlow, Essex.

Paul answers:—

I don't know "RUJ AND ERASE ALL THAT HAS GONE BEFORE", sounds like a pretty good title for the film—wish we'd thought of it ourselves—but wait a minute—we did didn't we!

Dear Johnny,

I must congratulate the boys on their second film. I saw it on the 1st of August, the day it was released. It was really funny. I know the Beatles didn't get a very good write up about the film, but who cares! I think that the public's opinion is the most important thing that matters not what a few middle-aged idiots, who hate the Beatles anyway, think. When I saw it, girls were even screaming! My favourite bits in the film were 1. When Paul shrunk. 2. When they were in the restaurant and John found a pair of glasses and a season-ticket in his soup.

I hope the boys enjoy themselves in America, but tell them to hurry home to us again. I hope they aren't superstitious, 'cos they're flying to America on FRIDAY 13TH!

Good luck to them, anyway.

Lots of Love (to the Beatles, esp. Paul!)
Margaret King (Miss)
7 Upper St. Michael's Road,
Aldershot, Hampshire.

PS.—I would like to send a message to Lyn Knight, whose letter is on page 18 of B.M. No. 25, who claims she is the world's most devoted Beatle Fan. Tell her she can't be 'cos I AM!!!!!!!!!!

Dear Paul, John, George, Ringo,

I just couldn't resist writing a few lines to thank you for HELP! your fabulous record that's just been released.

When I heard this I went straight out and bought it and I played it through all day. I nearly wore it out!

I am also looking forward to your film. And I certainly will see it through twice at least if I'm lucky enough to.

Best wishes,
Doris Minching,
81 Barking Road,
East Ham, E.6.

PS.—Thanks once more.

Dear Johnny and Beatles,

I want to say thank you for the prize money and the drumstick. I almost died when I opened the package and saw it. I was so glad I was a winner and everyone else was too. I never really expected to win, and it was a very nice surprise. Please tell the boys, I wish them every success with their new record "Help", and the film "Help". I love the record and I think it's fab!

Lots of love,
Karen Minton,
17 George Road, Gourrock,
Renfrewshire, Scotland.

PS.—Give my love to John, and the rest of "the Boys".

PPS.—Please, Please, come to Gourrock one day Beatles. I'm sure everyone would love you to, 'specially me!

Dear Beatles,

I hope that you are able to read this Beatle letter before you go on your tour to America. I would like you to know that I, and I'm sure all the other Beatle fans, wish you the best of luck, and we'll miss you very much.

A Frustrated Beatle Fan.

John is the bestest of Beatles you see,
I've even got him hanging in the W.C.
Paul is just great with his hair cut and all,
I've got him hanging on the bathroom wall.
George is the greatest on the guitar backing,
He's on the case watching me packing.
Can't leave out Ringo 'cos' he's a great drummer,
Stuck him on the water pipe and frightened the plumber.

Yours sincerely,
Jennifer Cooke (14 years old)
9 Windermere Road, Clayton,
Newcastle, Staffordshire

× × × ×
J P G R

John answers:—

Glad to see you've got my photo in the most convenient place.

Dear Beatles (esp. George),

While in hospital recently I was reading an American magazine in which there was a letter from a girl asking if the rumour that Paul and Ringo didn't get on well was true. The magazine replied that the rumour was denied but that was only natural insinuating that it probably was true. Surely any fool can see how well all of you get on with each other. The closeness of you all is so obvious that it seems ridiculous to even think of you apart.

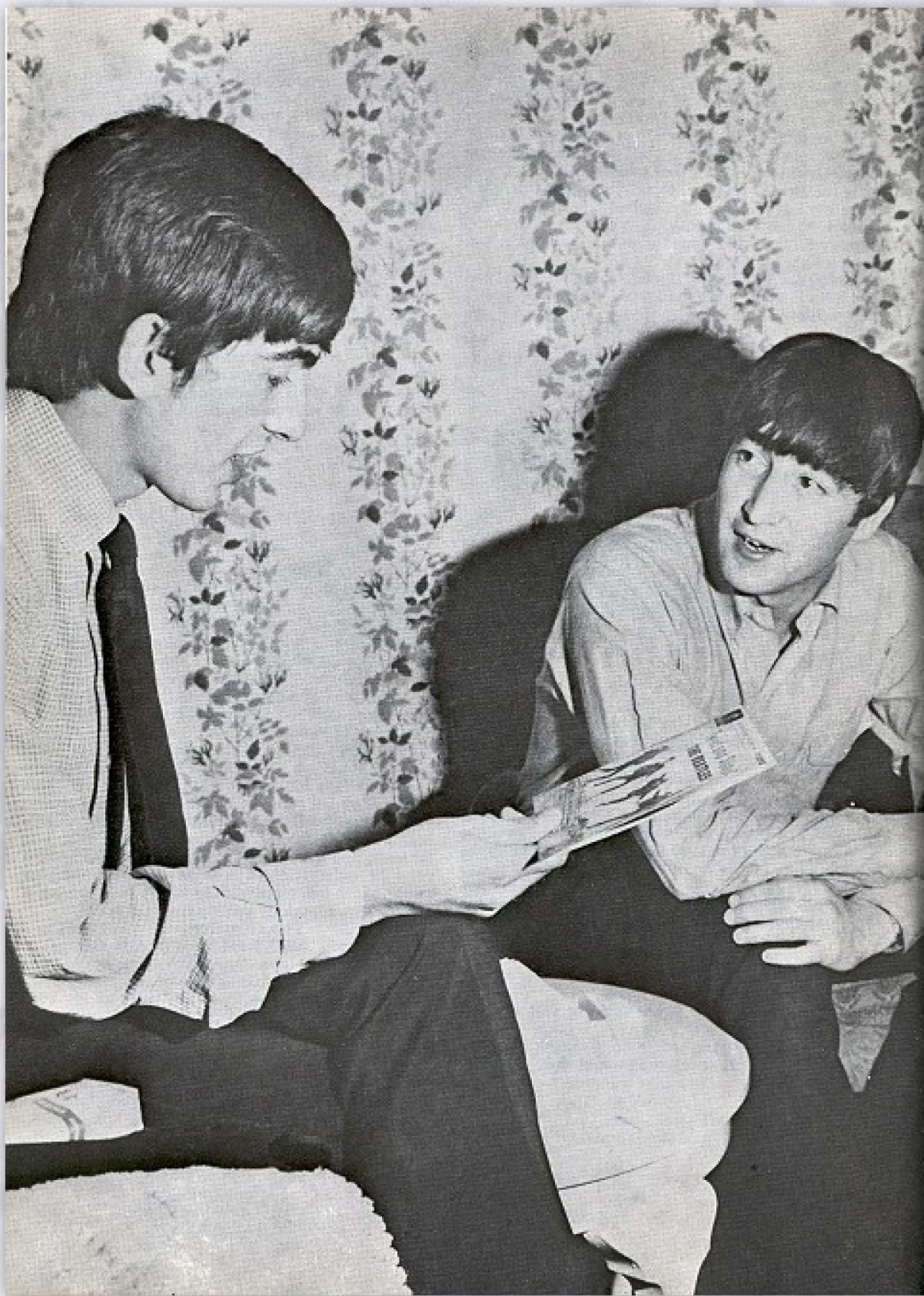
I was watching on "Blackpool Night Out" last night on television and as usual the performance was absolutely fabulous. Ringo's rare solo was very well sung—why don't we hear him more often? I was very disappointed that George didn't sing a solo because he is my favourite, but Paul's solo was fantastic and even my Mum said "that John Lennon must be quite talented 'cos he can sing and play guitar, piano and harmonica as well". Now there is a compliment, especially coming from my Mum.

Yours sincerely,
With lots of love (esp. to George)
Helen Jamieson,
9b Blackhall Court,
Paisley.

George answers:—

It would be silly to say that we never have arguments. Course we do. But they never last very long and none of us takes them seriously.







BEHIND THE SPOTLIGHT

TWO YEARS AGO

by Billy Shepherd and Johnny Dean

Two years ago . . . September, 1963. "She Loves You" top of the singles charts, after the biggest advance order yet for a British group. Everybody talking about Liverpool; lots of members of the copy-cat groups trying to talk like Liverpoolians. John Lennon and George Harrison suffering pangs of anguish from toothache . . . and a month which started off with a racing panic of one-nighters.

Check through the old Beatle diaries and the names come flooding back. September 1, the Regal, Yarmouth; 4, Gaumont, Worcester; 5, Gaumont, Taunton; 6, Odeon, Luton; 7, Fairfield Halls, Croydon; 8, ABC, Blackpool; 13, Public Hall, Preston; all dates which caused the police much anxiety. And as they came and passed . . . the Beatles ticked 'em off.

HOLIDAY

For September 16 was the start of a holiday. The boys had been going full stretch for several months. What had started off as a new adventure, visiting different towns every day, had become sheer hard work. Said Paul, backstage at Croydon where the yells were more violent than ever: "I find myself fretting on long journeys. The trouble is you're not actually doing anything. We've tried writing new songs, but it's hard to concentrate. Sometimes you get bored, because one bit of scenery is much the same as another. Then you arrive. And you get that old excitement with the fans. So you forget all about the drag of travelling . . ."

It was this month that we started our "Tale of Four Beatles", ferreting into the earliest beginnings of the four boys who'd taken the pop world by storm. But for the boys, most thoughts were on their upcoming holidays.

John was off to Paris. A city he'd got to know well in the early days, when he

"dropped off" there with Paul after a stint in Germany. And where they'd been so flat broke they had to pool their resources to manage to buy one bottle of Coke between them. And Paul and Ringo were off to Greece. George travelled furthest—to Benton, Illinois, to see his sister, who'd married an American and settled there.

The boys holidayed with easy minds. The EP "Twist and Shout" had passed the quarter million sales mark. A shattering enough success, because it meant it outsold most of the singles in the Top Ten. And the number one was "She Loves You".

And, by the way, as the boys returned to Britain, they learned they had been booked for "Sunday Night at The London Palladium" on October 13 . . . first of the Liverpool hit parade groups to get the honour. Also fixed: a trip to Sweden, later in October. But more about that in next month's "Beatles' Book".

Holidays? Well, Ringo and Paul had a whale of a time in Greece. They dropped us a postcard, said: "Having a luvly time. Hardly anybody knows us, so we can wander around at will. And Will doesn't mind". Actually they spent a lot of their time meandering round the Greek night-clubs, little drinking places. They joined in with the Greek musicians, playing Greek instruments. They added a riotous rock 'n' roll beat to local songs—and the locals loved it. As we've said, hardly anybody recognised the boys, so they didn't have to be on their best behaviour. And the club managements hadn't any idea that their impromptu performances would have cost an awful lot of money had

George and John looking at the cover of one of the first "Twist And Shout" EP's just before its release in 1963.

they been staged in Britain. Ringo and Paul also found time to get themselves a sun-tan, a sort of rich mahogany colour. Which didn't please the television make-up people on their return—the colouring had to be toned down with a light-shaded powder!

But back to that Silver Disc-winning "Twist 'n' Shout" EP. Statisticians kept feeding information to the jubilant Beatles. Like the fact that the best-selling Elvis Presley EP, "Jailhouse Rock", had sold only 230,000 copies. ONLY? It's still a staggering figure. Cliff Richard, Britain's King of Pop, sold 181,000 copies of his "Expresso Bongo" EP, back in January, 1960.

FIRST MILLION

At this stage, however, Cliff was one-up on the Beatles in that he had a million selling single with "Living Doll". No million seller for the Liverpudlians . . . yet! But already "She Loves You" had, in September, 1963, reached 750,000—and it hit the million not long afterwards. Incidentally, by this stage the total sales for Beatle discs was just over 2,000,000.

We've got just one more statistic to slip in here . . . remember all these facts and figures were vitally important to the Beatles around this time. Now a couple of noughts here or there hardly register in their minds! "She Loves You" had an advance order of 252,000, according to EMI at this time. This was a bit lower than the usual advance on a Cliff single so far. And it was way behind the biggest-ever British advance, which had been 431,000 for Elvis Presley's "Surrender".

However, the Beatles were soon to take over as "Champs".

A trouble-free spell for the Beatles. Except for one little matter, brought into the open by Paul. "I want to ask Johnny Dean a favour," he said. "Would he please put in a plea on behalf of us Beatles? Like asking the fans to kindly not throw things at us when we're on stage. I mean, it's very nice to have little gifts and things chucked down, but these things seem to be getting bigger and bigger. If a cuff-link, or a tie pin, hits you in the eye . . . well, you know what I mean. It could do a lot of harm. Trouble is that with all the spotlights, you can't see them coming and duck out of the

way. But who'd want to go and see a crowd of one-eyed Beatles?"

By this September under review, lots of British people were writing to their friends and shouting aloud about how good the Liverpudlians really were. Copies of records and Beatle Books were sent across the Atlantic. Though it wasn't a real publicity campaign, it had the effect of making the Beatles known in America. Strange this. Usually it was the other way round.

JOHN'S WIFE

And the "Beatle Book" editorial department got a lot of letters about John Lennon's wife, Cynthia. Why hadn't her "presence" been talked about before? Answer: "Nobody ever asked me", said John. But we knew. And we also knew, from experience, that John felt that the private lives of a performer should be kept, to a great extent, from the public gaze. The Beatles tended to agree en masse about this subject. They knew they couldn't stop some magazines and publications from including bits of gossip, but they didn't really see why they should have to volunteer the information.

We remember being back-stage at one theatre when John lunged energetically into the room. He had a tape-recorder going . . . and the sounds that came out were very strange indeed. Strange readings of strange verse delivered in a very strange voice. It sounded to us like a Liverpool Goon Show. Paul, Ringo and George laughed uproariously at it all, and could obviously see things in it that we missed out on.

In fact, it was a sound-track version of parts of John's first book "In His Own Write". With John reading aloud those crazy items which later whistled the book into the best-sellers. A knock-out experience for us . . . because we knew we were in at the start of something big.

A time of rejoicing, then, for the Beatles. September, being part-work and part-pleasure (though the Beatles found it hard to separate the two), passed quickly enough, punctuated by triumphs all the way.

When they finally arrived back from their holidays, there was plenty to talk about. And plenty of plans to cope with. Ah, but more about that next month . . .

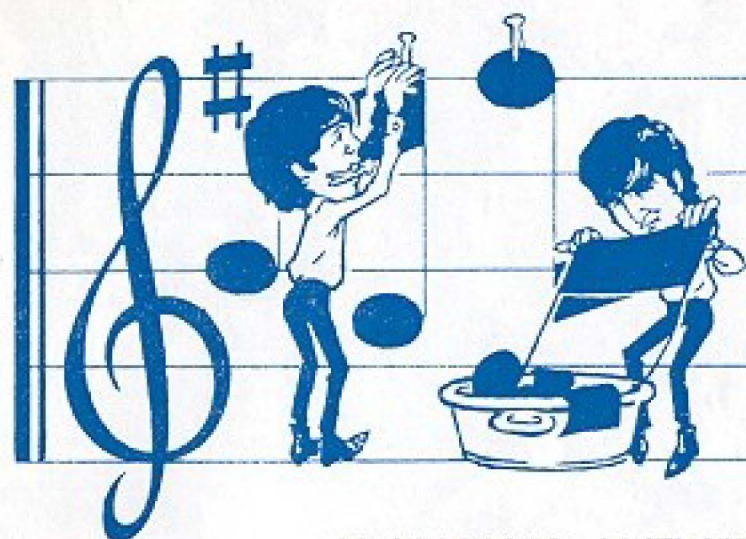


When this pic was taken in the Summer of '63 none of the boys knew just how big they were going to be. Left to right: John, Paul, George, Billy J. Kramer (hidden behind George), Tony Mansfield, Neil Aspinall and Mike Maxfield.

George and Paul discussing their holidays just after they got back from them in the summer of '64.







**THIS
MONTH'S
BEATLE
SONG**

I FEEL FINE

Written and Composed by **JOHN LENNON and PAUL McCARTNEY**

Baby's good to me you know
She's happy as can be you know
She said so
I'm in love with her and I feel fine

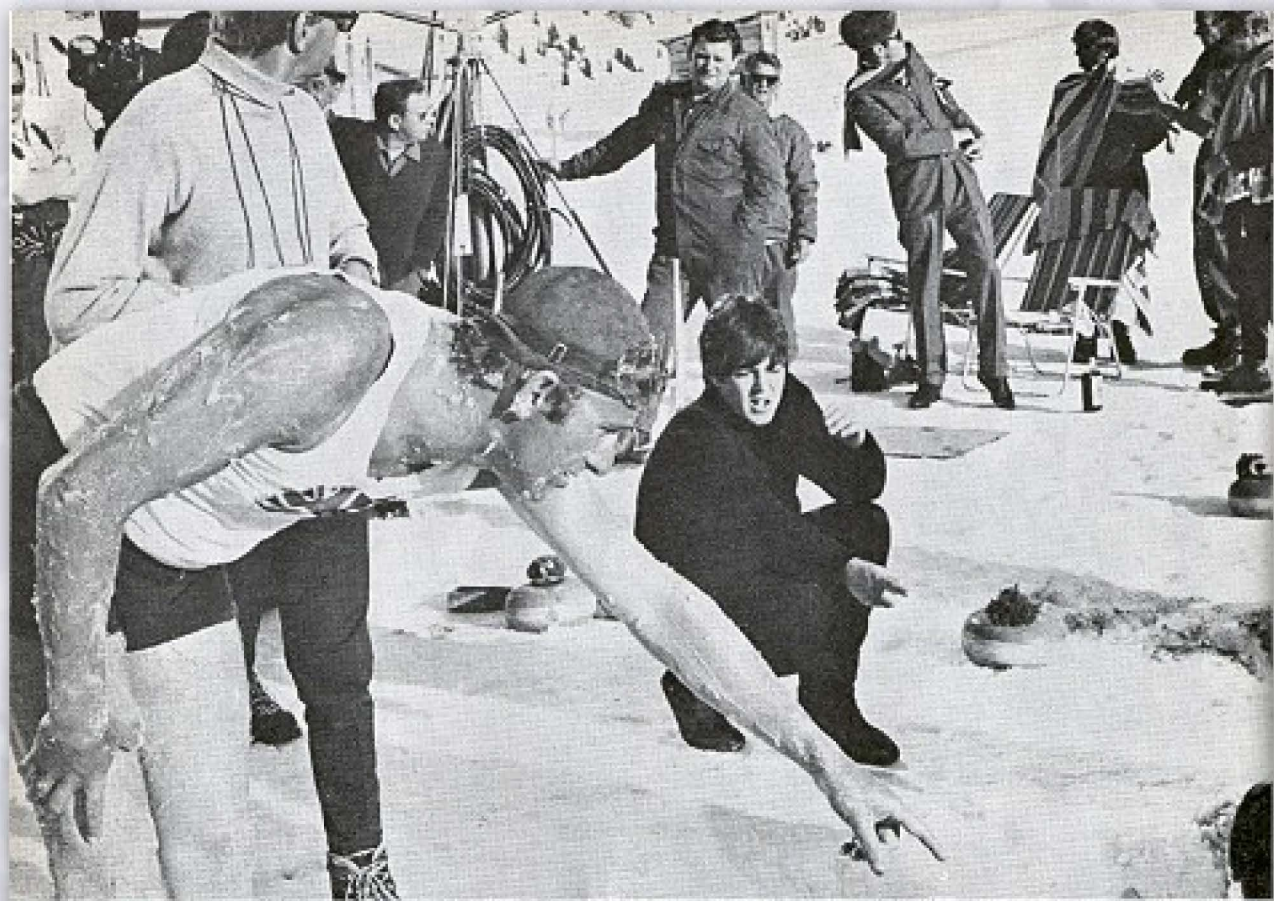
Baby says she's mine you know
She tells me all the time you know
She said so
I'm in love with her and I feel fine

I'm so glad that she's my little girl
She's so glad she's telling all the world

That her baby buys her things you know
He buys her diamond rings you know
She said so
She's in love with me and I feel fine

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John giving Paul that bouquet of flowers for his solo rendering of "Yesterday" on "Blackpool Night Out".



"Stop worrying! 'HELP'S' here!" proclaimed the souvenir programme. Like many other fans I had waited eagerly for the appearance of this new Beatle film, which had been guarded so jealously within the cutting rooms at United Artists for the last few months.

The approach to the London Pavilion was crowded with fans aged from eight to eighty... 10,000 had assembled in Piccadilly Circus on this steamy summer evening to greet the Beatles and wish them well.

FOYER PACKED

Of course, the foyer of the cinema was packed. Titled ladies and monocled men mingled with a surprisingly large number of "debs" in long dresses, who, I suspect, were all secretly Beatle fans at heart. Flashbulbs popped, programme sellers shouted, the crowd outside screamed deafeningly, and spirits were high. The attendants tried hard to clear the foyer... "The Royal party is expected any minute! To your seats, now madam, PLEASE!!" As the crowd filed reluctantly into the cinema, I recognised several faces... there was Dick James and his son, Stephen, and Mr. Walter Shenson and his lovely wife Gerry stood smilingly at the doorway, welcoming their friends, and suddenly, it happened. One moment you could hear yourself, the next... nix. A mighty yell arose from the ranks of screamers gathered outside, the clanging of fire-engine bells harmonised sweetly with the tinkle of ambulance bells as they rounded Piccadilly Circus, preceding the Beatles. A large black Rolls appeared, seemingly from nowhere, and, as the aged buildings shuddered at the noise, the four Beatles, dapper in their dinner-suits, leapt out of the car and bounded into the cinema,

At the Première

by Elizabeth Sacks

fringes shaking, jackets shining, the epitome of switched-on elegance. Cyn Lennon and Maureen Starkey were there too, looking happy and proud of their husbands who were so obviously the apples of the public eye this evening. The flashbulbs popped like miniature machine guns, the boys smiled and gaged at the cameras. And then they bounded up the stairs to the Dress Circle and it was over.

MEANWHILE, IN THE DRESS CIRCLE...

Pandemonium reigned in the Dress Circle of the cinema, as the people lucky enough to be there waited for the Royal party and the Beatles. I noticed a girl wearing a leg plaster, as she had hurt her leg in a car crash. "I'll ask George to autograph it," she whispered, and, sure enough, when George entered the room where the Beatles would have drinks with the Royal party, she asked him to sign it. George's normally grinning face contorted in an expression of sympathy. "Yeah, on the way out, I will, wait a sec, could you?" George left behind him one very happy, albeit be-plastered Beatle fan. The rest of the Beatles, grinning broadly at all and sundry, trooped into the room, and then Princess Margaret appeared, accompanied by her husband, Lord Snowdon, and a few officials. The door marked "PRIVATE" was solemnly closed, and we waited.

After what seemed like an eternity, the door opened, and the Royal party came out. I looked inside and saw that the crowd in the room was definitely thinning out and it looked as if only the Beatles were left, posing for the photographers. The girl with the leg plaster asked me to go in with her. Gathering together almost all my (non-existent) pluck, I

took a deep breath, and in we went. We had been right (for once!). The Beatles were posing for the cameras and George had recognised us. He pointed us out to Ringo. Ringo stared at the plaster, and his highly expressive features puckered in a grimace of sympathy. To cut a long story short, ALL FOUR BEATLES signed the girl's leg in the end (boy, was I envious!) as she posed for the papers with them.

JANE'S DRESS

Finally I found my seat, and I surveyed the people around me. Jane Asher was sitting a few rows in front, looking shy and demure in a pure white Edwardian style long dress. I could also see Patrick Kerr, of "Ready Steady Go" fame, and other well-known members of the mod "in" crowd.

The curtain went up on the first film, a Harold Baim travelogue on Venice, to the accompaniment of an avalanche of screams. The screams continued solidly throughout half of the first film, and I felt quite sorry for Mr. Baim!

However, the universally-anticipated moment was not too far away, and as the black censor certificate appeared on the screen, with the censor's signature of approval beneath it, immediately before the first public showing of "HELP!" anywhere in the world, the teenaged section of the audience emitted a long and satisfied sound. It was "YEAH!"

EPILOGUE

The film was a roaring (sorry, "screaming") success, natch. The Beatles left the cinema, to go in triumph to the celebration dinner-party at the Dorchester Orchid Room, with the cheers of the faithful fans who had remained outside the cinema for the whole evening, still ringing in their ears.

Left (top): "What, in there?" was Mal and Paul's comment when Dick Lester showed them the hole from which Mal was to emerge in the film.

Left (bottom): Paul and John recording one of the numbers for their "HELP" LP.





£5 PRIZE WINNER

Here is the best letter on "Help" which was written by—

GILLIAN EVANS, 183 Capmartin Road, Radford, Coventry.

"HELP" is a truly Beatle type record, it is THE Beatles, the whole Beatles, and nothing but the Beatles. One thing is certain, it can never be said of this record that it drags in any way. The minute it is placed on the turntable the electrifying impulses urge feet and hands to tap and clap the introductory passage is rather misleading, until George's unmistakable unique guitar work introduces the song proper. The idea of having the harmoniously blending voices of George and Paul acting as "freeds" for the main vocal, was a stroke of genius, ten out of ten marks for that. John's raw, unmelodic chanting of the words, makes them extremely coherent, which is indeed rare with records lately.

Towards the middle of the song, when John starts to sing in a quieter way, and omitting the voices of George and Paul, it makes the same verse, although repeated, sound entirely different, and breaks the formality of the arrangement of the song.

As in most Beatle songs, there are only two verses, which are repeated with the chorus in between although it has no real story line, as in "Ticket To Ride", or "I Feel Fine", the lyrics are well suited to the music. Obviously, John and Paul are for ever improving their song writing talents, and "HELP" is certainly their best effort ever and already is, another great hit, but not only due to the film, I am sure that even if there was no film, HELP would still earn them yet another gold disc to add to their fast growing collection. For dancing to, it could not be more suitable, but it also stands listening to, closely.

Flip the disc and . . . boy what a shock, what a sound, what a song. Paul blows through "I'M DOWN" in true "Long Tall Sally," Kansas City McCartney style. Right from the word go, it is full of surprises, and towards the end Paul seems to be nearly hoarse with effort and enthusiasm. Although slower ballad type songs seem to be more befitting the McCartney image, Paul proves that he can be as zealous, powerful, and near hysterical as the best of 'em, and that includes John Lennon and his MARVELLOUS rendering of Twist And Shout. The lyrics? Well, who listens to the words anyway, but the greatest surprise of all is that stop-drooping groovy electric piano work by John. I thought Rock And Roll Music was fast, but now . . . and I would never have

VISITED RICHMOND

Apart from frequent visits to clubs like the Ad Lib and Blades many people think the boys never go anywhere. It's often surprising to find just how much they do get about—without anyone noticing very much. On August 8, for example, John and George went to the Richmond Jazz Festival. One of the acts they particularly wanted to see was The Animals, who added a whole crowd of extra musicians to their line-up especially for the show.

MOODIES PRESENT

When the boys arrived at the A.B.C. Theatre for their Blackpool Night Out show on August 1 they found a very smelly parcel waiting for them in their dressing room.

Inside were four pairs of kippers and a note which read:—

HOPE YOU AND THE
KIPPERS GO DOWN
WELL.

ASK MIKE AND
BERNIE FOR SOME
!!!HELP!!!

The Moody Blues and Phil

Safer by Car

Brian Epstein hired a special plane to fly the Beatles party from London to Blackpool on August 1, but Ringo was the only one who took advantage of it. John, Paul and George all travelled up by road. Brian tried to persuade them to go back with him in the plane but as Paul said: "I know we'll get home later, but at least we'll get there."

dreamt of playing with my ELBOWS . . . but still, that's the Beatles for you.

If I won five quid, you know what I would do? I would invest in some gold dust, and spray this record all over with it, and then, in about fifty years time I will present it to a museum, with the words . . .

This is the BEATLES at their most finest.

VERY ORGANIZED

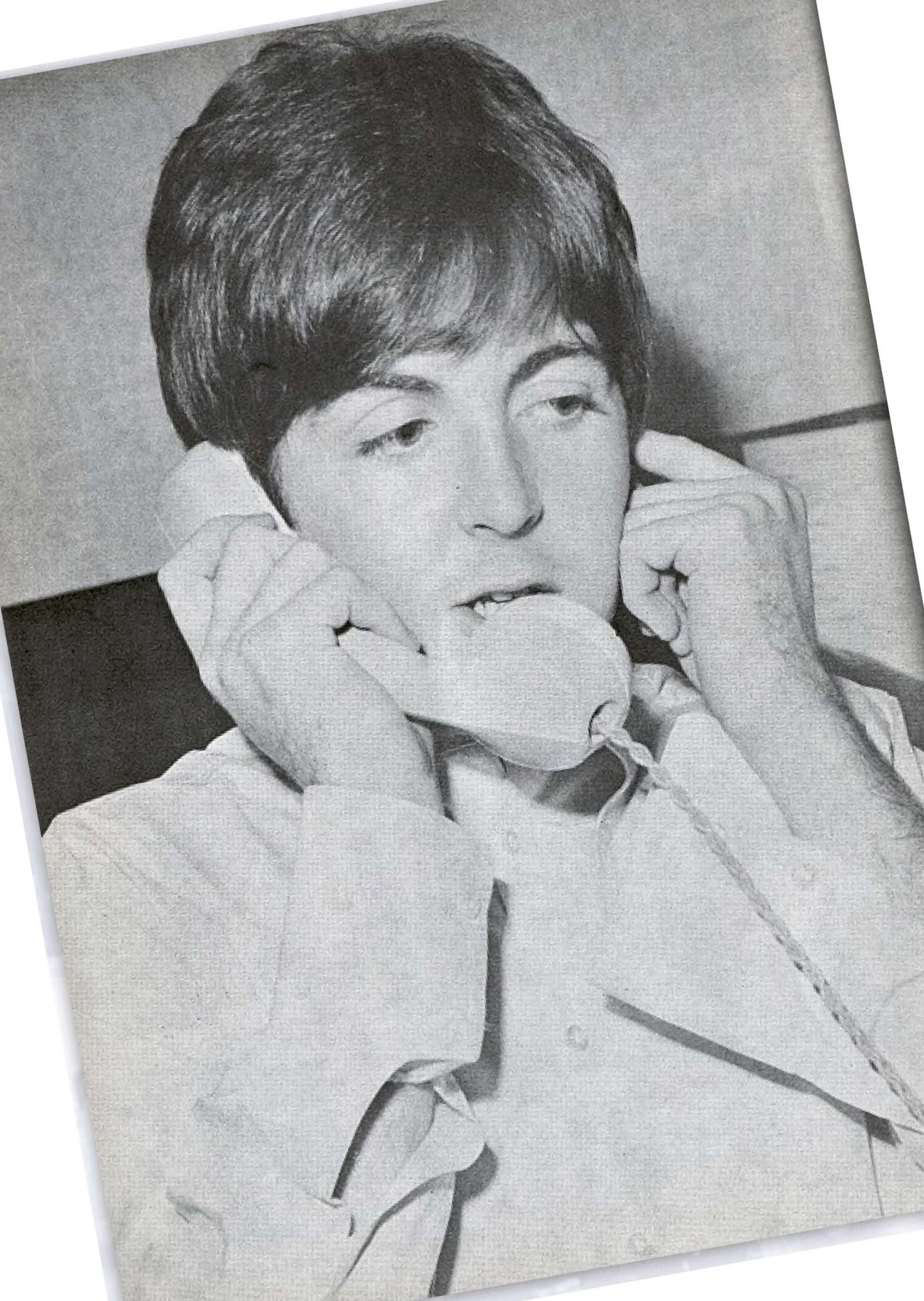
The Beatles' latest State-side trip was more carefully planned than any previous one. In fact on several occasions the police kept them right away from the crowds of fans who had gathered to welcome them. As, in New York, when they disembarked at a point well over a mile from the usual terminal.

Next Film

As was announced earlier this month the Beatles next film will be based on the book "A Talent For Loving". When I asked the boys about it before they left for America they told me that they hadn't had much chance to go over the script yet. But plans are already in hand for the location work on the film which it is reported will either be shot in Mexico or Spain.

ARMY TIES

Several people have noticed that the boys have been wearing khaki ties a lot recently. Paul told me that it all started when they told an army colonel that they liked his tie when they were shooting the Salisbury Plain scenes. The next day he turned up on location with a woven army khaki tie for each of them.





George and Paul are nearly ready but John's still got a long way to go.

Continued from page 13

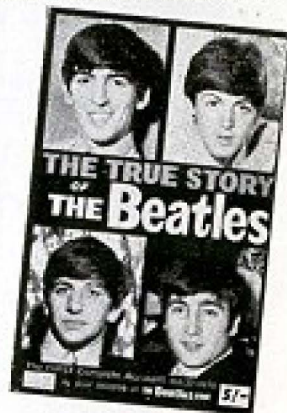
**Mrs. Violent Stubb.
Darling Vi,**

We are all missing you very much. To caress your teeth once more would be just heaven. Also to hold your lungs in mine and drink T.B. John sends you his lunch, also Paul and Ringworm greet you too.

It's not much fun here but only one week to go now, so it's not so bad now. Have tea ready on Sunday 18th.

Cheerio, love from George and friends.

THE TRUE STORY OF THE BEATLES



If you have not been able to obtain your copy you can still get it direct from:
THE BEATLES BOOK, 36-38 Westbourne Grove, London W.2, England.
Send a postal order for 5/6 (inc. postage & packing). U.S.A. & Canada—One Dollar.



Left:
Freda Kelly rang Paul just before the boys went on to wish them all the best.

The **Beatles** BOOK

No. 26

SEPT.
1965

