

The

JUNE

No.

59

2/6

Beatles

MONTHLY

BOOK



The Beatles Book

The Beatles' Own Monthly Magazine

No. 59, JUNE 1968

EDITORIAL

Hi!

It's great to know that the Beatles are back in the recording studio once again working on all the numbers that they have written over the past few months. The Indian trip, far from turning out to be a sort of lazy meditating holiday, became a very fruitful period for the creative Beatles.

One of the reasons, undoubtedly, was that this is one of the longest periods that the Beatles have spent together during the past two years, apart from the Magical Mystery Tour filming. The only other time that they have really had a chance to talk things over and discuss what they were going to do at any great length during the past couple of years, was when they met up in their homes or in the recording studio.

The Indian trip was different because they were all actually living in the same place. The fact that Jane, Maureen, Cyn and Pattie were there seems to have helped, not hindered. The number of songs that John, Paul and George wrote in Rishikesh was quite phenomenal when you remember the incredible list of world-beating hits that they have composed during the past five years.

Most songwriters find that it gets more and more difficult to come up with fresh material. With very few exceptions, they usually "dry up" pretty quickly. Far from drying up the Beatles seem to be writing better than ever before, which means that with a little bit of luck we'll have, not one but two L.P.s, in 1968!!!

The Beatles are different because they understand and appreciate the importance of the Top Ten. So many pop stars, who rose to fame after the Beatles had opened the door and shown the way in 1963, seem to want to opt out of the chart race when they find the going tough. It's a nerve-racking experience for any top group whenever a new record is released because they know that there are a lot of knockers around. But the Beatles have never been scared of headlines like, "Beatles' Single Fails To Hit Top Spot"—because they know their fans can see beyond one single release. Their total world sales have already created a record and have topped the previous record holder, Bing Crosby. With the new songs they have written in India they will undoubtedly add on another ten millions or so this year.

Johnny Dean Editor.

John changes his clothes-style almost every week, but those steel-rimmed spectacles remain very, very constant.

Publisher: SEAN O'MAHONY

in association with

BEAT PUBLICATIONS LTD.

36-38 WESTBOURNE GROVE
LONDON, W.2, ENGLAND

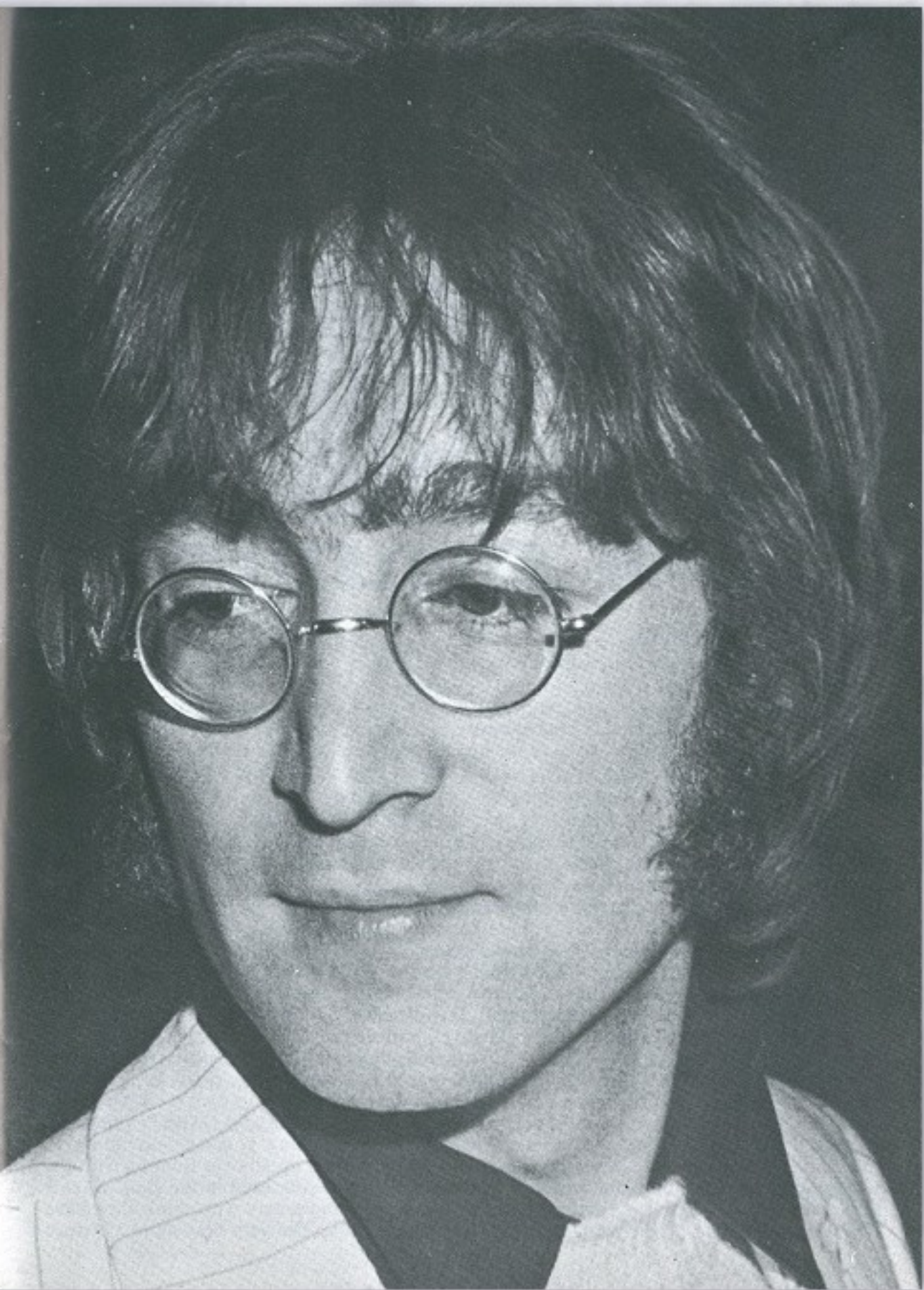
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Beatles FAN CLUB

National Secretary
FREDA KELLY

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JUNE NEWSLETTER

DEAR BEATLE PEOPLE,

It's good to have all four Beatles back in the country and it's better still to know that they have already spent a lot of time in the studios making a fresh batch of recordings. From the current sessions we can expect not only a new single but the makings of a whole new LP album. Let me take this opportunity of killing one strange rumour which crops up in so many members' letters at the moment. The Beatles are NOT making records about meditation. Despite their deep interest in that subject they are keeping meditation a private and personal thing, not related to their work as the Beatles.

BEATLE BITS PAUL went up to his farm in Scotland at Easter and stayed there for several weeks. Once GEORGE was home from India, Paul came back to London and his return was the green-light signal for the Beatles to start recording again If you are coming to London in the near future make a note of the fact that a one-act fantasy play, "In His Own Write", based on items from both of JOHN's two books, opens at the Old Vic on June 18. The date happens to be PAUL's 26th birthday but that's just coincidence! "In His Own Write" is directed by VICTOR SPINETTI and was performed for one night only last December under the title "Scene 3, Act 1". In the same programme, staged by the National Theatre, will be two other one-act plays, "A Covent Garden Tragedy" and "An Unwarranted Intrusion". To book seats for the Old Vic theatre telephone (01) 928 7616 Have you noticed the advertisements in the musical press headed "This man has talent . . ." ? They read: "One day he sang his songs to a tape-recorder (borrowed from the man next door). In his neatest handwriting he wrote an explanatory note (giving his name and address) and, remembering to enclose a picture of himself, sent the tape, letter and photograph to: **APPLE MUSIC, 94 BAKER STREET, LONDON W.1.** If you were thinking of doing the same thing yourself—do it now!" In addition to the advertisements there are hundreds of posters up all over London with the same photograph and the same wording on them. One was reproduced in the *Daily Sketch* as a news item! The aim is that singers, musicians and songwriters who think they have REAL talent should let the people at Apple hear their work. The very best stand a chance



Who knows what the Beatles will be doing next year? If George has anything to do with it, he will undoubtedly point the boys in the direction of more Eastern-influenced music.

of having the Beatles' backing—a head-start to any career! Incidentally, the amusing photograph of a one-man band in the advertisements and posters shows a chap in a bowler hat strumming a guitar and singing into a tape-recorder mike. The man beneath that bowler is **ALISTAIR TAYLOR**, an executive at the Apple Corps headquarters!

FAN CLUB NOTES: Now that the better weather is here lots of Beatle People are making trips to London. Some have written to say how disappointed they were to find the Apple Shop at 94 Baker Street closed. SO . . . LET US REPEAT THAT THE APPLE SHOP IS OPEN TUESDAY TO SATURDAY EACH WEEK, BUT IS CLOSED ALL DAY ON MONDAYS JENI CROWLEY (Area Sec. for London) and SYLVIA NIGHTINGALE (Area Sec. for Sussex) have been ill in hospital. Hope they are better by the time you see this page. By the way—these two, plus yours truly, were on the "Magical Mystery Tour" bus trip together and we've ALL had spells of illness just lately!!! SYLVIA NIGHTINGALE has moved to 23a DEVONSHIRE ROAD, BOGNOR REGIS, so Sussex members can contact her at this new address UNA WILLOUGHBY is appointed Area Sec. for EIRE and her address is: KNOCKMAROON, CHAPELIZOD, CO. DUBLIN, EIRE.

LOST MEMBERS: Fan Club material mailed to the following members has been returned to me because I do not have complete postal addresses. If your name is here please write to me as soon as possible marking the outside of your envelope LOST MEMBER: RONALD M. COLVERSON (No. 132,108), J. H. WOOLEY (116,267), JOSEPH J. HILL (132,825).

One final point about that big Apple search for talent—PLEASE DON'T send songs, tapes, demo discs, etc., to the Fan Club. SEND THEM ONLY TO APPLE MUSIC, 94 BAKER STREET, LONDON W.1.

That's all for now. See you here in the July issue.

Tarrah for now,

FREDA KELLY,
National Secretary of the Official Beatles' Fan Club.





beatles IN INDIA

PART 2 of MAL EVANS own story covering THE BEATLES' visit to Maharishi's Academy of Meditation.

BIRTHDAY celebrations in Rishikesh were made into big ceremonial occasions. There were three which involved the Beatles during their stay—George's 25th on February 25, Pattie's 23rd on March 17 and a 21st birthday party for a Lancashire bloke named Mike. I'll come back to him later.

Just before George's birthday I went off into Rishikesh town centre to do a bit of shopping. I remember using this fantastic horse-drawn taxi to take me through the narrow streets. All the local children seemed to think I was an amazing sight. They trooped after me in great crowds wherever I went!

I arranged a special cake for George, with white icing and pink flowers and an Indian greeting—"Jai Guru Deva"—written across the top in gold letters. Then I bought a bundle of fireworks and some streamers, balloons and so forth. Earlier on I had bought an Indian banjo as my own gift to George.

The weather was good on the day itself so we were able to have an outdoor party. Pattie wore a lovely yellow sari for the occasion. We put decorations up in the trees and everyone had garlands of flowers to put round George's neck. In fact he dis-

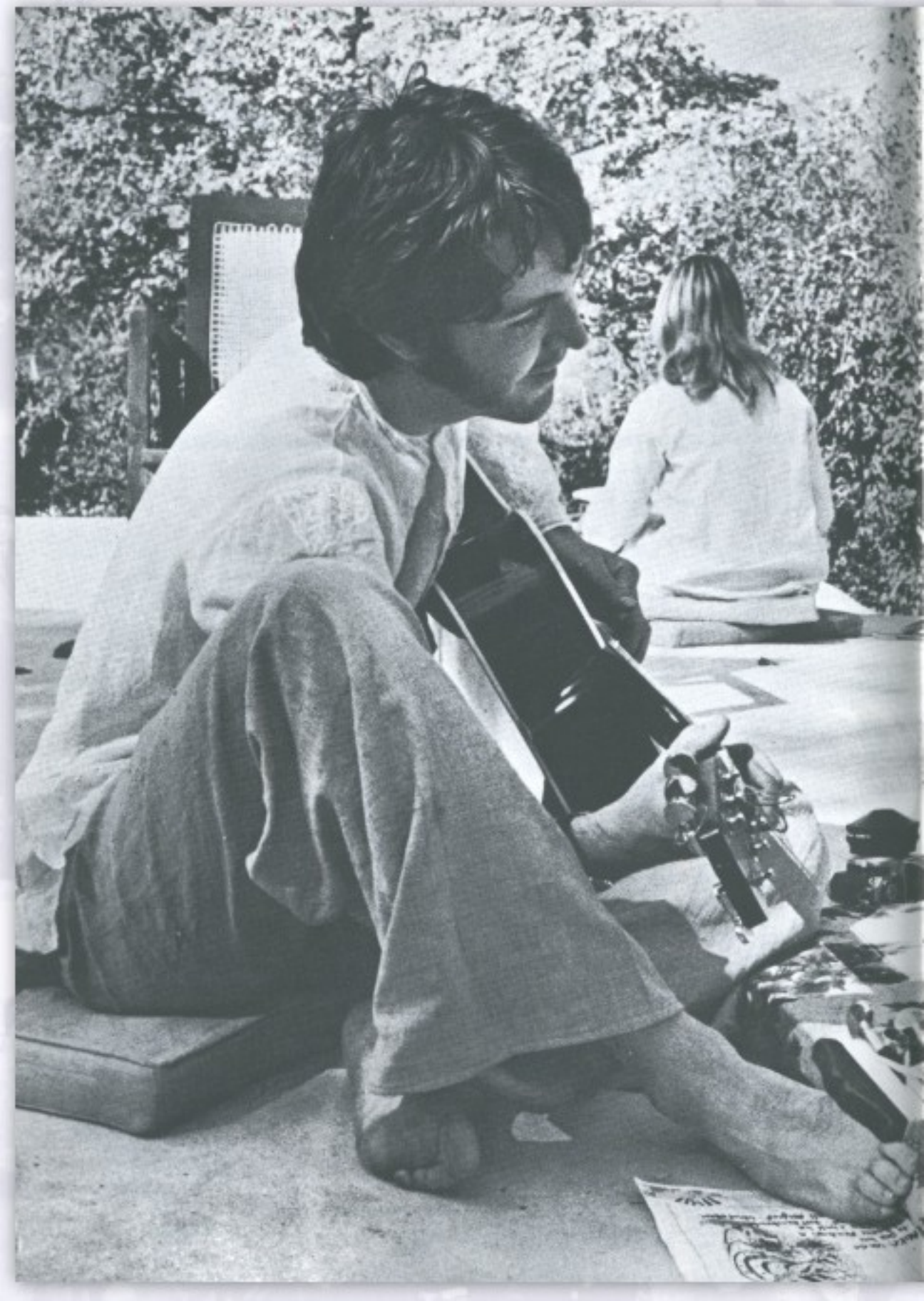
appeared beneath a colourful and flowery mountain of garlands before we'd finished! Then there was the special surprise of the evening—at the suggestion of the others I'd organised a band of local Indian musicians and a singer to perform at the party. Maharishi made a nice little speech about George, presented *his* gift and then we got down to letting off the fireworks and listening to the music.

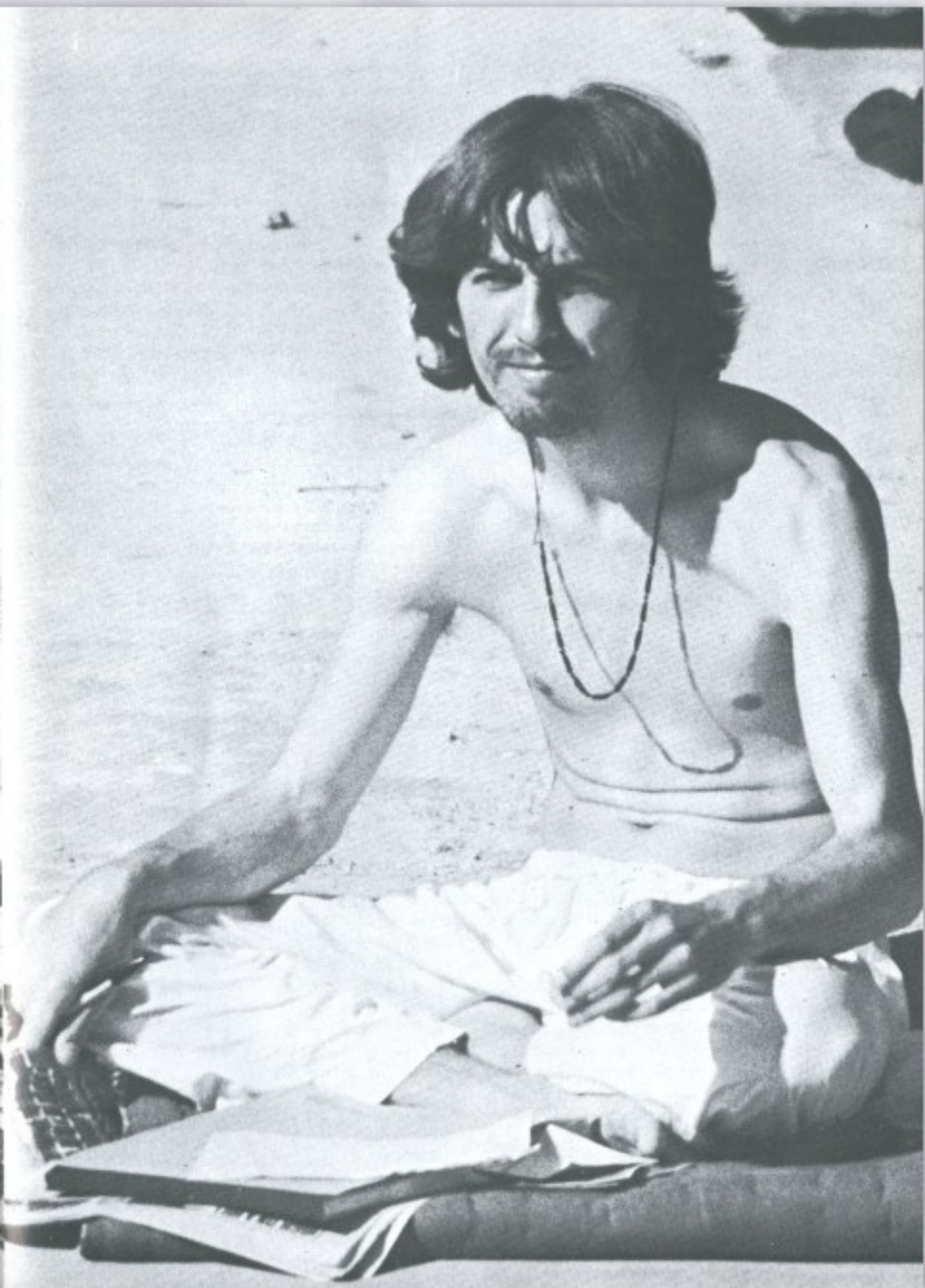
Pattie's birthday was just as much of a fun occasion. Everyone was only too willing to join in a bit of a party. Pattie had another huge cake (they were all a bit like pease pudding but tasted great!) with nine or ten candles. Again there were dozens of beautiful garlands of red and orange flowers for everybody and Pattie played a new dilruba, her favourite instrument these days.

MIKE'S BIRTHDAY

The third party was, as I said at the beginning, a key-of-the-door affair for this Lancashire boy named Mike. With a mate of his named Paul, Mike had hitch-hiked to India. In fact they were on their way to Australia but had stopped off at Rishikesh, got themselves initiated as meditating students of the academy and were paying

◀ *Maureen and Ringo sight-seeing in India during their meditation trip.*





for their keep by working in Maharishi's kitchens! Mike and Paul had been fans of the fellows for years having attended an early ballroom appearance of the Beatles in Southport which is 20 miles to the north of Liverpool. Mike was very pleased with the birthday gift John gave him—a fine set of wooden beads.

Mike and Paul were just two of the many good friends we made at Rishikesh. Everything was so relaxed, informal, casual and friendly. Everyone made new pals easily.

After the first couple of weeks the long flat roof above the main lecture hall was used as a sun balcony where we would all gather for unrehearsed music sessions after our day's meditation periods were over. The Beatles had their guitars, George used his sitar and folk like Mike Love of the Beach Boys and Donovan would join in. In no time the fellows were singing away together and new tunes were being made up all the time!

NEW SONGS

IN FACT JOHN WROTE A TOTAL OF 15 NEW NUMBERS WHILE HE WAS AT RISHIKESH. PAUL WROTE ABOUT THE SAME QUANTITY OF NEW MATERIAL, GEORGE DID SEVERAL NEW THINGS AND EVEN RINGO (WHO DOESN'T WRITE TOO OFTEN AS WE ALL KNOW) CAME UP WITH A NEW ORIGINAL! WHEN THE BEATLES STARTED THEIR NEW SERIES OF RECORDING SESSIONS A FEW WEEKS AGO IT WAS ALL THIS MATERIAL THEY'D WRITTEN IN INDIA WHICH THEY BEGAN TO PUT ON TAPE FOR ANOTHER NEW LP. "SON OF SGT. PEPPER" AS JOHN PUT IT!!!

Those roof-top, sing-along get-togethers at Rishikesh became quite a tradition. Any students who were not meditating wandered up to join us. They were more than welcome. All told 70 people were taking the course—from America, Britain, Finland, Denmark, Sweden, Germany and many other far-flung territories. There was a German Lufthansa pilot, a British Rail signalman with his mother, a Hollywood actor named Tom and a hairdresser from Canada named Abe. Working with Mahar-

ishi himself was one very interesting character, a German physicist doing research into the re-entry of space capsules for the American Government! He told us this was making an ideal break from his usual activities and he was a great believer in the powers of Transcendental Meditation.

Last month I told you how comfortably we were living in our little cottages at the academy. Also I told you a bit about the idea of the whole course—how the students gradually built up their periods of meditation with Maharishi explaining at discussion sessions what our various experiences meant and how we might progress from there to the next stage of the course. John and George were meditating for anything up to eight or nine hours each day. The record for the course was a non-stop 42 hours! Then, as the course drew towards its end, the idea was to decrease the length of time spent in deep meditation so that everyone would come out of India ready to return to routine life at home.

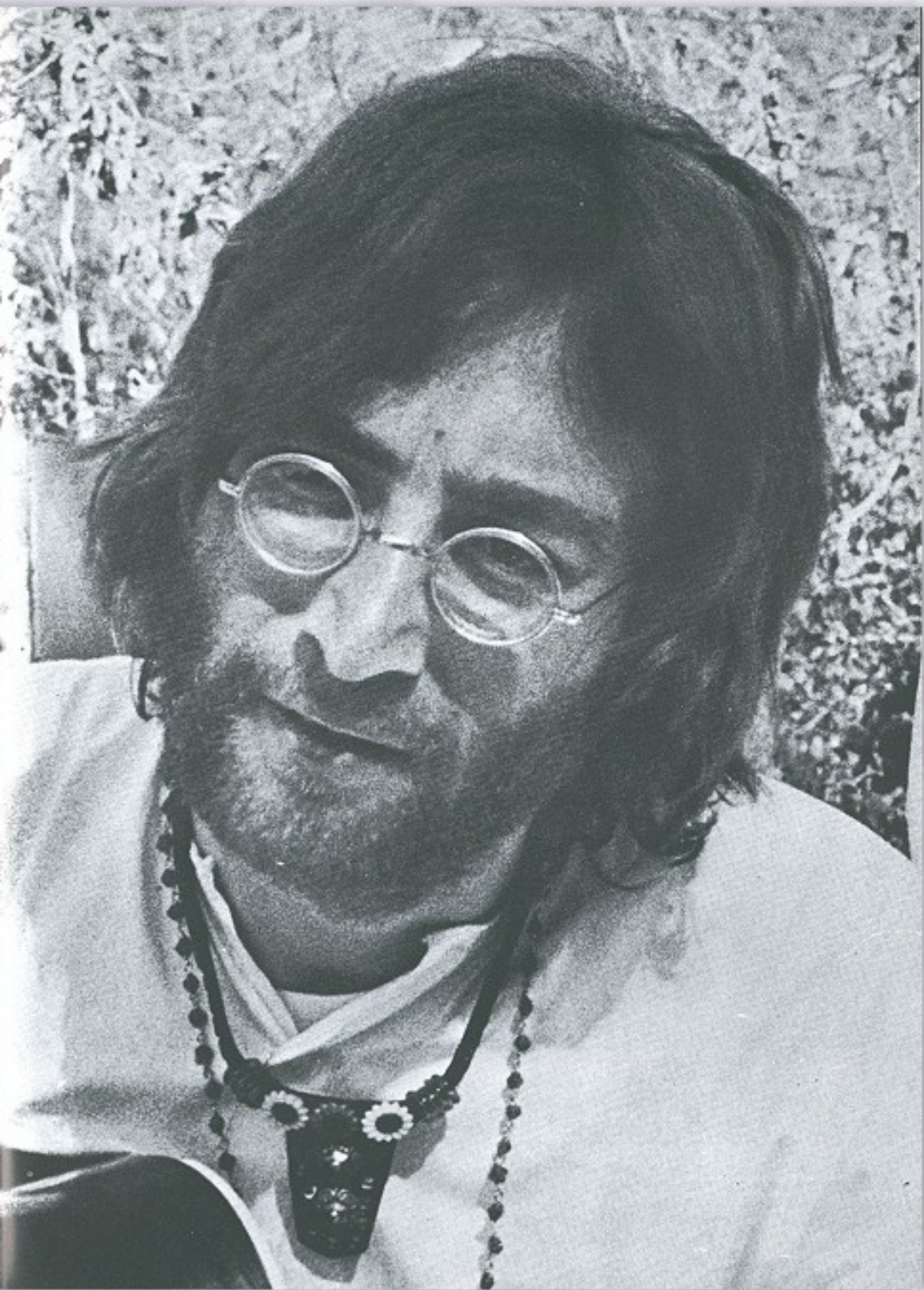
The last to leave Rishikesh—at Easter—were John and George. They were invited to spend an extra fortnight with Maharishi on a houseboat but they declined because George had agreed to appear in a semi-documentary film in Madras with his friend Ravi Shankar and John and Cyn were ready to get back home after eight weeks to see what was happening in Britain!

GOOD TIMES

We had a lot of good times to look back on. Quite apart from the serious side of things, the meditation itself, there had been plenty of opportunity for sightseeing.

On sunny afternoons we strolled along the pebble-covered banks of the Ganges, taking roll upon roll of film as we walked. The little town of Rishikesh was fascinating. Most of the buildings were covered with white lettering—holy sayings from the *gita* (Indian bible). There was a bridge across the River Ganges (big notice saying NO CAMELS OR ELEPHANTS!), but we tended to use the big open-boat ferry.

One night we all went in torchlight procession down to the river and into a couple of boats. "All" including Maharishi, Donovan, Mia Farrow and yours truly. On the way back we cut the boat's engines and



(continued from page 10)

just drifted silently under a clear, starry sky. It was magnificent. Then Mike Love got out a set of pipes, Paul fetched his guitar and everyone had a sing-song on the river before we got back to Rishikesh.

Then there was the night a bunch of us decided to "go on the town" for a slap-up meal with steaks and curried prawns. A welcome change from the all-vegetarian meals at the academy, although I must say even those of us who are not vegetarians in the normal way had grown very fond of the academy menu with its great variety of salad-based dishes.

I imagine most of you are wondering what difference those weeks in India has made to the Beatles—both as a group and as individual people. The change, the rest and the entirely different atmosphere did all concerned a lot of good. I know the fellows felt really great. Meditation has helped them to look at their own lives in a clearer way, to see what is important and what is not, to sort out their problems and to decide which things are worth worrying over. In a nutshell it has helped them to be

calmer, more tolerant people and it has cleared their mind for new work, left their heads open for the rush of fresh ideas which they'll make use of not only for recording and other Beatles' group activity, but for working out the future of their Apple companies.

THIRD FILM

Now the Beatles are ready to get going on more recordings and to start on their much-delayed film. Although they are keeping up their meditation in the privacy of their homes, they believe they've given enough time to learning the Maharishi's philosophy for the time being. Right now they are concentrating upon catching up on Beatles' projects and what's more they're all in a great frame of mind about everything, raring to go so to speak. And that's the attitude which showed up as soon as we started the new series of recording sessions a few weeks ago.

NEXT MONTH WE WILL BE TELLING YOU ABOUT THE LATEST RECORDINGS, SO MAKE SURE YOU SEE THE JULY ISSUE!

BACK ISSUES

PLEASE NOTE THAT THE FOLLOWING ISSUES ARE STILL AVAILABLE:

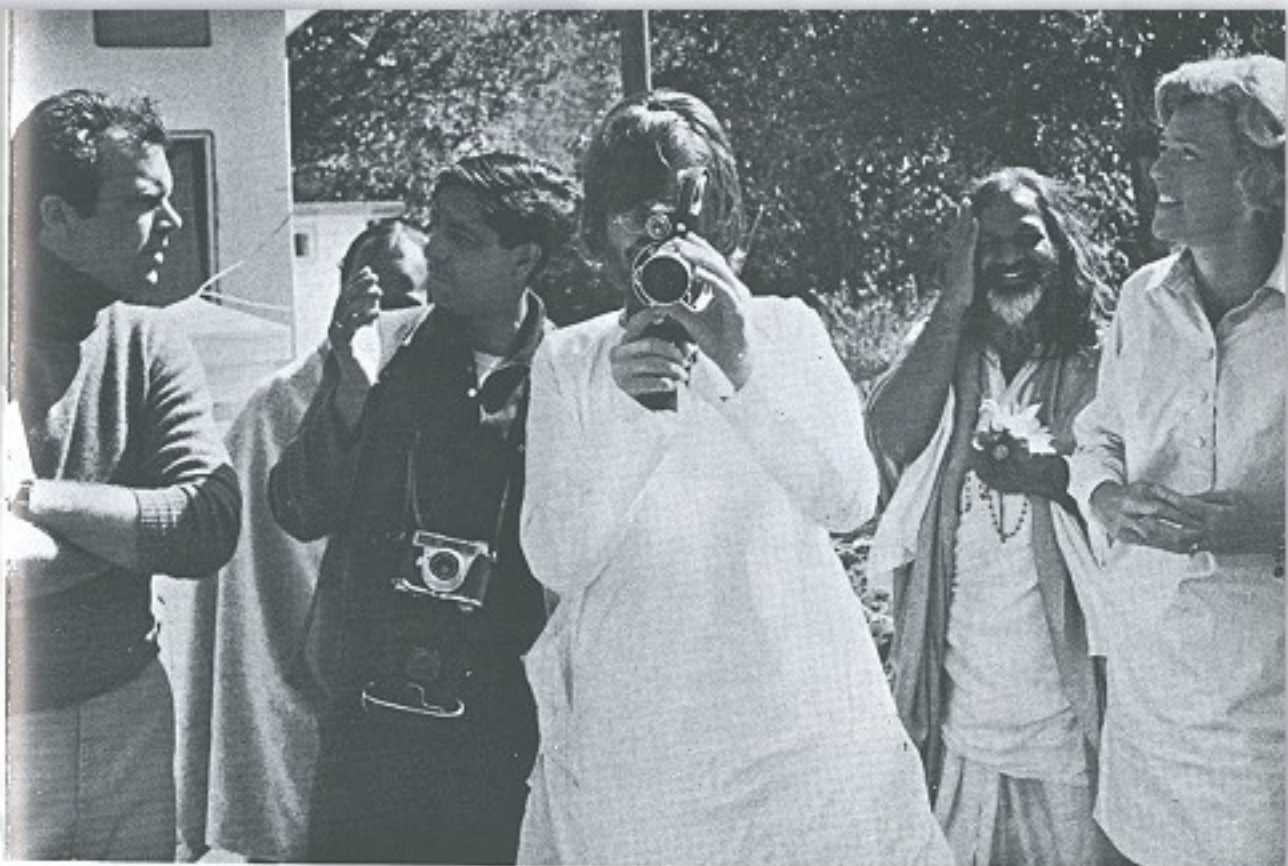
Nos. 7, 12, 15, 16, 17, 20, 23, 27, 31, 32, 38, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58



ALL OTHER ISSUES ARE NOW OUT OF PRINT!!!

If you would like any of the issues which are still available just send full details and a Postal Order for 2/6d. for each number that you want to:

BEATLES BOOK BACK ISSUES, 36-38 WESTBOURNE GROVE, LONDON, W.2.
(U.S.A. and CANADA 50 CENTS Each BACK ISSUE).



*ABOVE: John shooting some of the other guests at the Rishikesh Academy with his 16 mm camera.
BELOW: Paul working on songs for the new L.P. during rest periods.*





BEATLE Pen Pals

(Addresses are in England unless otherwise stated)

- Suzuki Keiko (18), 2-2-25 Sakia, Musashinoshi, Tokyo, Japan, wants p.p. anywhere.
- Imai Kumiko (17), 273 Yakuchi-cho, Kochi-shi, Kochi-ken, Japan, wants p.p.s in Italy, America, France.
- Cheryl Stuard (14), 10 Headlands Close, Welford-on-Avon, Nr. Stratford-on-Avon, Warcs., wants p.p. in Wales and France.
- Paula Ringer, Spinozalaan 229, Voorburg, Holland, wants p.p. anywhere.
- Gisela Blumer (16), 7967 Altshausen, Bahnhofstr. 56, Germany, wants p.p. anywhere.
- Bozilor Zorica (16), Jugoviceva 28 Nis, Yugoslavia, wants p.p. anywhere.
- Gavin Trott (9), 3 Badgers Cross, Somerton, Somerset, England, wants p.p. anywhere abroad.
- Anne Karin Andreassen (20), Nordahl Rolfsensvei 33c, N-5030 Bergen, Norway, wants girl p.p. in Ireland, Wales, Scotland and England.
- Adrian David (15), 49 Llewellyn Road, Penllergaer, Nr. Swansea, Glamorgan, wants girl p.p. in France and Sweden.
- Stephen Murphy (14), The White Swan, 2 Fishponds Road, Eastville, Bristol 5, wants p.p. in London.
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- Carol Dryden (15), 142 Sevenoakes Drive, Hastings Hill, Sunderland, Co. Durham, wants boy p.p. anywhere.
- Wendy Sandiford, 23 Naseby Road, Luton, Beds., wants p.p. anywhere.
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- Marianne Pasque (17), No. 6 Avenue des Traquets, Bruxelles 16, Belgium, wants p.p.s everywhere.
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- Kathleen Prentice (14), 3a Ellislal Road, Kildrum, by Glasgow, Scotland, wants p.p. in U.S.A.
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- Catherine Dawson (15), 246 Manor Oaks Road, Wybour Estate, Sheffield 2, Yorkshire, wants girl p.p. in America, Britain.
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- Irene Evans (8), 32 Purley Road, Plainsfarm Estate, Sunderland, Co. Durham, wants boy p.p. anywhere.
- Saeko Niwa (16), 661 Ryoike, Urawa City, Japan, wants p.p. anywhere.
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- Ester Kold (15), Ryesgade 187, Kobenhavn O, Denmark, wants p.p. anywhere.
- Jeannette Guiver (15), 347 Scarborough Road, Scarborough, Sth. Queensland 4020, Australia, wants p.p. anywhere.
- Nicola Williams (12), Institut de Jeunes filles, "Prealpina", Chexbres, Vevey, Switzerland, wants p.p. anywhere.
- Miss Roxane Coudounaris (14), Institut de Jeunes filles, "Prealpina", Chexbres, Vevey, Switzerland, wants boy p.p. anywhere.
- Midori Haga (18), Kasuga-cho, Horonai, Mikasa City, Hokkaido, Japan, wants p.p. anywhere.
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- Lynda Moulson (14), 29 Park Avenue, Castle Donington, Derby, wants girl p.p. in Manchester, London or U.S.A.
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- Jean Bishop (21), 27 Holliers Way, Hatfield, Herts., wants p.p. in Australia, Canada, Germany, Holland, Scotland and Switzerland.
- Dena Gillman, Robert Davies Nurses Home, Eaton Road, West Derby, Liverpool 12, wants p.p. abroad.
- Geoffrey Huggin (9), 25 St. Cuthbert's Road, Holy Cross, Wallsend-on-Tyne, would like p.p. in France.
- Inger Harkman (16), Scoitervagen 25, Lund, Sweden, wants p.p. anywhere.
- Eva Marian Andson (16), "Langholmen", Norsesund, Sweden, wants p.p. anywhere.
- Cathleen Murphy (14), 64 Dormanside Road, Pollok, Glasgow S.W.3, wants p.p. anywhere.
- Carolyn Atherton (12), 57 Mossley Road, Ashton-under-Lyme, Lancashire, wants p.p. anywhere.
- Richard Viles (17), 20 Hubbard Street, Islington, N.S.W. 2296, Australia, wants p.p. in Britain.
- Colin Miller (15), 19 Voltri Street, Mentone 3194, Victoria, Australia, wants p.p. in England.
- Savic Dusan (16), Nis, Vozdova 8/1, Jugoslavija, wants English girl p.p.
- Susan Randle (14), 36 School Road, Salford Priors, Nr. Evesham, Worcs., wants English-speaking French p.p.
- David Randle (11), 36 School Road, Salford Priors, Nr. Evesham, Worcs., wants boy p.p. in Liverpool.
- Diana Horsley (15), 4 Coppins Close, Springfield, Chelmsford, Essex, wants boy p.p. anywhere.
- Frank Howson, 45 Bourke Street, Melbourne 3000, Victoria, Australia, wants p.p. in England or America.

SPECIAL FOR BEATLES BOOK READERS ONLY!

In the August issue readers will have an exclusive opportunity of ordering their own copies of the most important Beatle publication of the decade! What's more there will be a free bonus gift available only to BEATLES MONTHLY readers when they order the Hunter Davies biography. Make sure you see the August issue—and if you're going to be away on holiday place a regular order for each month's issue right now!









LETTERS from Beatle PEOPLE

Dear Johnny and Beatle People,

I've just bought *The Beatles' Monthly Book* of April, and I must confess I'm dazed. (It's the first *B.M.* I got hold of.) It is in one word: fantastic. All, all, all the Beatles! All! John, Paul, George and Ringo!

It sounds maybe ridiculous but I was really moved when I read those letters from all the Beatle fans, and I should like to thank them all. You can't realise what it means to me to know there are other people in this world who really adore those fab. four. I have for them an admiration I have for no one else.

Aren't they marvellous? For me "Yesterday" is the most beautiful ballad that has ever been written. And then, of course, that fantastic album "Sergeant Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band". Haven't they proved with that record they are still the greatest? I've no words to express my Beatles admiration. All I just wanted to say is that I love the Beatles in a way I've never loved anyone else before. Like Dave Moody wrote: "... without the Beatles' music my life would be that bit emptier. ..."

Once again I thank John, Paul, George and Ringo for all they've done for us, Beatles fans, and all the other people they make happy with their music, films, etc.

I send all my love to:

John, Paul, George, Ringo and all the Beatles' friends in the world,

Ria Aeschlimann,
Stiv. Op Poelerlee 125,
Flerentals,
Belgium.

P.S.—I would be very happy if I received some letters from Beatles girls and boys, who feel the same way like I do for the fab. four (I am 16).

P.P.S.—Please, don't take notice of my English, it is only "school-English" you know. ...

Dear Mal,

Seeing as nobody else has, I'd just like to say a big THANK-YOU for taking all those fantastic photos of everyone in India. They have pride of place on my bedroom ceiling ('cause there isn't room on the walls!) Here's hoping to see more of your photography in the next *Beatles' Book*.

Love to you (and anyone else who wants it),

Sue,
18 Cashio Lane,
Letchworth, Herts.

To whom it may concern (the Beatles?),

I have now owned a record player for one year and in this time I have managed to obtain all LPs and singles released in Britain by the "fantastic four". This is just a small way of saying a big THANK-YOU for the many hours of listening pleasure I have obtained from their wonderful music. Each LP has outclassed its former in musical standards and separate congratulations must go to John and Paul, who have written beautiful melodies and also mystic-sounding songs. In approximately 5-6 hours a complete world of sound erupts from the harsh tones of "Twist And Shout" (from "Please, Please Me" LP) to "She's Leaving Home" from their latest LP. All I feel like saying would make a book and much of it could not be expressed in words. I am amazed by the terrific talents of these four men who are still searching for a sound even more wondrous than the last. It has been said before by many people, and I say it again for many more—thank you John, Paul, George and Richard, and congratulations.

P. Emery,
89 The Green,
Fitton Hill,
Oldham, Lanes.

Dear Beatles,

Just over a year ago I was a mad Beatle fan, but then—DISASTER!! The Monkees came on the scene. Man, I got real crazy over them, though I still like you, but I was saved from Monkee-mania by my dad, who bought me a *Beatles Book*. So, for interest, I read it, and now, WOW! I'm swooning over you four!

My dad is a crazy Beatle fan also! He has bought "Sgt. Peppers" LP and "Magical Mystery Tour". Both of which all my family and myself think are great! I 'specially adore "M.M.T." which fascinates me more each time I hear it. Thank you all very much for the "M.M.T." film, which I saw twice, and I thought it was fantastic. It needs the two viewings so as I could understand it, and see the amusing parts more the second time.

Thanks, Paul, for Cilla's great record "Step Inside, Love", and Ringo for your really fantastic appearance on her show. I think you, Ringo, are gorgeous, your eyes are so big and soft. That pic of you in *Beatles Book* No. 57, is really groovy.

Thanks for hearing me and thank you: Paul, John, George and Ringo so much.

Love,
Fran(ces) Goodacre (13 years),
6 Brunswick Drive,
Harrogate, Yorks.

A SONG FOR A BEATLE

Let me tell you how it will be
Between my idol Paul and me
His music and his dark-brown hair
Makes hippy's jealous with despair.

That tender look I love to see
Is from my idol unto me
His groovy clothes, his kinky tie
His croched pullover on his thigh.

That boyish smile tells me he's near
His loving voice I like to hear
His kindness is so great you see
Oh Paul, you are the man for me.

So now you know how it will be
Between my Beatle Paul and me
I hope you have a long last look
And print my poem in your book.

Maureen Smith.

Dear Johnny,

I read in the papers that the Beatles are going to make a new LP. I have no doubt that it is going to be another Beatle classic and that the songs will be better than ever. (It will be interesting to hear the songs written during their visit to India.) However, when the LP is released I am not going to listen to any track on the radio. Instead, when it's released, I'll buy it as quickly as possible and then play it through for the first time not knowing what the songs will be like. I did this with "Revolver" and thought it was a great idea. However, when "Sgt. Pepper" came out I heard one song and was so knocked out I had to hear the rest.

Yours faithfully,
John Finn,
Youghal, Co. Cork,
Eire.

P.S.—I think it would be DISASTROUS if the Beatles allowed "Across The Universe" to be put on a charity LP. The song may be a knock-out, but do the Beatles really think that the fans will go out and spend over 30/- just to hear one great song? I don't think so.

Dear Sir,

I have been a fan of the Beatles for four years, and I have been getting *The Beatles Monthly* since it first started.

Each year at Christmas I read about the Beatles' Christmas record, and feel green with envy knowing that only British fan-club members receive them.

I was wondering if it is possible for you to print this letter, because I am willing to pay practically any amount for one of the Christmas records, no matter how many years back. If anyone is willing to sell me one or more Christmas records could they please write to:—

Ann Salissey,
44 Rutland Road,
Panmure,
Auckland,
New Zealand,

saying how much they would like for it. I would pay for postage, too. ANY OFFERS CONSIDERED.

P.S.—Please help me, I really would love to have one of these records.

Dear Sir or Madam,

I am 12 years old, and the girls at school and I are having a terrible row! One girl says that the Beatles (my fav. group) first record was "Please, Please Me". Two other girls say that it was "Twist And Shout", and I say it was "She Loves You". Please could you tell me the REAL first Beatle record.

Yours sincerely,
Vanessa Bryant,
27 Moffat Court,
Gap Road,
Wimbledon, S.W.19.

Johnny Dean answers: It was "Love Me Do", released in October 1962, Vanessa.





*ABOVE: The Beatles aren't the only ones who clown about in the recording studio.
BELOW: A control room conference with Paul holding forth back in 1966.*





by Billy Shepherd and Johnny Dean

WHEN "Paperback Writer", backed with "Rain", came out in flaming June of two years ago—in 1966—it was backed up by television "shorts", some shot in the grounds of Chiswick House, West London, and some re-creating the atmosphere of the actual recording studio.

Needless to say, they were classic examples of how uninhibited the boys were when faced with cameras and told to get on and do exactly what they wanted. Their confidence showed through on every foot of film.

But the self-appointed critics dissected every bar of the single and wondered whether it was up to standard. Of course it was, and it roared almost immediately to the top spot in the charts. But there were definite grumbings from the States that the fans there weren't hearing much about the boys . . . that the only stories were of recording sessions that seemed to go on for weeks without too much coming out of them. Okay, maybe the fans overseas did have a point.

Yet this was a distinct sign of how the Beatles wanted things to go in future. They wanted to concentrate on records, and if possible on filming . . . aspects of the business where the finished product was entirely up to them. Touring, stage shows—these could be spoiled by bad lighting, by poor acoustics, by just about everything sent to "try" the four boys. Now, of course, they even turn down an appearance in front of the Queen . . . and people, especially the fans, seem to understand perfectly.

But equally it would be dodging the issue to say that "Paperback Writer" came out to a 100 per cent storm of approval. . . .

This month of June, 1966, was the month when it was announced that all miming on television pop shows was to end. The Beatles were rather split in their views on this thorny question. In principle, they thought it was fair enough. But in return

they hoped that sound and vision facilities would be of the top class . . . otherwise, they felt, fans would get a raw deal. Oh yes, this was also the month that Frank Sinatra got to the top of the charts for the first time in his long, long career . . . "Strangers In The Night" was the record.

And this was also the time when "Thank Your Lucky Stars" finally came to an end—having been one of the most successful of all the pop-plug programmes. The Beatles, naturally enough, figured in the final show—and a massive storm of protest was raised when it was announced that it wouldn't be shown in the London area. As bundles of petitions and protests poured into the headquarters of ABC-TV, fans proved that telly-companies might get away with most things . . . but not anything which deprived fans to seeing a glimpse of the Beatles!

TROUBLE

Meanwhile, in Japan . . . more trouble. For one concert season in Tokyo there were 30,000 seats available. But applications had already been received from 200,000 Japanese fans. The box-office was besieged and in the end one of the local papers had to sort out the trouble by conducting a sort of national lottery, with Beatle tickets as the prizes.

Disc magazine ran a picture of the Beatles, in colour, in which they wore butchers' coats and were "draped" with cuts of meat, eyeballs and sundry other unusual photographic props. Accusations of "bad taste", of course. There's always somebody waiting to put the knife in on international stars, but again the Beatles managed to

triumph and the accusations died away to whimpers.

But two of the Beatles talked to us, during this month, about how things were going. George, having landed himself with the title of "sitar expert", admitted that he was fed up with the way so many other groups had jumped on that bandwagon . . . "especially as half of them haven't the foggiest idea of how to use the instrument properly".

He'd started off the whole thing by studying the instrument carefully, then using it on "Norwegian Wood"—as all true Beatle fans will remember. But when Ravi Shankar finally arrived to give virtuoso concerts on sitar in London George was amazed to see that a lot of people were using the shows just as a sort of status symbol . . . while many musicians who wanted to study the scene were unable to get tickets. "Makes me sick", growled George, momentarily, in one of his not-so-good moods.

QUESTIONS

Paul, too, was much in evidence around London during this month. He was answering questions about whether the Beatles felt they were, in any way, "rebel figures". He said that he believed they got that reputation early on, perhaps because of the hairstyles and perhaps because they often made statements against the "establishment" of pop music. But he added that they now hated the "rebel" tag and said they also hated all the so-called "in-crowd activities". He said, with fervour: "Listen—for me, as soon as something is 'in', it goes straight 'out'."

One pop paper suggested that the whole Merseybeat image on Liverpool-side had died because the Beatles rarely had time to go back there and fan the flames. This was hotly denied, in any case, by ballroom and club promoters up North—and followers of this section of *Beatles Monthly* will recall that this criticism had frequently been levelled at the boys. John and Ringo both explained over and over again that simply because they were BORN in a particular area didn't mean that they had to continue to live there. They admired and respected their fans there, but they were not in a

position where they had to spread themselves over a fan-following in virtually every country in the world. These faintly adverse comments were created every so often whenever a paper was running short of headlines and, obviously, the more they were repeated the less notice anyone took of them.

They just niggled the boys, that's all! Especially when they were so involved, sometimes 14 hours a day, on their next LP, due for release in the late summer. Said Ringo: "These little gripes tend to upset your concentration . . . still, I suppose it's all part of what they call the trappings of fame!" And he said that with his tongue firmly in his cheek!

We went to some of the sessions in the St. John's Wood studios and, as with each successive album, we were amazed at the light-hearted approach the boys produced when dealing with their recording manager, George Martin. Like kidding him along and reversing a bit of tape so that John was actually singing backwards. It had a curious Eastern effect when played over so it stayed in. The Beatles had a knack of doing something which looked just for fun and turning it into a "gimmick" which really paid off in terms of making unusual sounds.

They also experimented with tempo changes and about the only basic rule was that they tried to do up-tempo material for the "A" sides of singles. Possibly "We Can Work It Out" had been slower than usual, but since "Love Me Do" through to "Paperback Writer" there was always a fastish foot-tapping intensity about the songs chosen.

George Martin told us: "The boys built their own attitude to working in the studios. If there is a problem, it's me. I'm by nature an office-hours worker . . . you know, the day begins at ten o'clock and ends around six in the evening. But the Beatles hit perhaps their peak form at ten o'clock at night and they never quibble about going on till dawn breaks. They feel something good is coming, then they'll try and get it right there and then. But for me and the engineers, it's that little bit harder."

But on the other side of the world incredible scenes were waiting for them in Japan and all parts East. For more on that subject—join us next month.



ABOVE: The Beatles arriving by boat at the ABC Studios in Teddington for their last appearance on "Thank Your Lucky Stars" over three years ago.

BELOW: Another shot of the Beatles in the recording studio working on an L.P. in 1966.





ENCYCLO(BEATLE)PEDIA!

BY HUNTER DAVIS

Can you answer these 13 questions?

1. Which Beatle was born during a heavy air-raid at seven in the morning at Oxford Street Maternity Hospital, Liverpool?
2. Which Beatle earned 50s. a week as a British Railways messenger boy and then worked as a barman on the Liverpool-North Wales boats?
3. What did the Beatles record as a follow-up to "Love Me Do"?
4. What was the actual date Paul and Jane became engaged?
5. What song did George write on a harmonium at Manfred Klaus Voormann's house?
6. Which Beatle edited, wrote and illustrated a series of home-made books called "Sport, Speed and Illustrated" when he was seven?
7. Who wrote "I Lost My Little Girl" in 1956?
8. Who was the drummer when the Beatles backed Johnny Gentle for a fortnight's tour of Scotland in 1960?
9. Who earned £7 a week winding electric coils in 1961?
10. When did Paul, George and John call themselves Paul Ramon, Carl Harrison and Johnny Silver?
11. Where did the Beatles appear in concert on a bill topped by Frank Ifield?
12. Which Beatle won a book called "Seven Queens of England" in 1953 as a school Coronation Year Essay Prize?
13. Where can you find "The best photographs of the Beatles . . . much better than any which appear in newspapers"?

The correct answers are below

1. John, on October 9, 1940.
2. Ringo—and each job lasted just six weeks.
3. "How Do You Do It"—but the recording was never released. They made other song.
4. Christmas Day, 1967.
5. "Within You, Without You".
6. John—his Aunt Mimi still keeps the original copies.
7. Paul—one of his very first compositions.
8. Thomas Moore.
9. Paul.
10. When they were billed as The Silver Beatles nearly eight years ago.
11. For promoter Arthur Howes at Peterborough's Embassy Theatre in 1962.
12. Paul—who still has the prize book in his library.
13. Right here in "THE BEATLES MONTHLY BOOK"—according to author Hunter Davies who writes in his biography of the Beatles: "It has been going since August 1963 and is the longest-running fan magazine in the country. Instead of taking a lot of profits out of it, NEMS insists upon its quality being maintained by having, for example, many full colour pictures. It is an excellent publication."

Paul acted as hairdresser for Dusty Springfield when they both appeared on "Thank Your Lucky Stars".

ENCYCLO (BEATLE) PEDIA!

(continued from previous page)

I have picked out just a handful of the fascinating facts to be found in Hunter Davies' forthcoming biography of the Beatles, the first officially authorised life-story, to be published in Britain at the end of September. At least a further 1,000 equally interesting answers come out in the course of Hunter's book.

After an introduction which condenses a history of Liverpool into several pages of print, Hunter opens his first chapter by looking back more than 50 years to the time when John's father, Fred Lennon, was born in Liverpool, the son of a Dub-

liner who had been an original member of the Kentucky Minstrels! He recalls how a five-year-old John almost emigrated to New Zealand and how John made his earliest school friendships—with Ivan Vaughan and Pete Shotton.

TAUGHT HIMSELF

The second chapter, headed "John And The Quarrymen", moves forward to John's teenage years in the first half of the 'fifties and shows how his upbringing was divided between his mother and his Aunt Mimi, and how he taught himself to play the mouth-organ with a little help from a bus conductor.

Next comes a couple of chapters devoted to Paul's childhood, his early days at Stockton Wood Road Primary and the memories of younger brother Michael, better known as Scaffold member Mike McGear. Paul's father wanted him to join Liverpool Cathedral Choir. "I made him go, but he deliberately cracked his voice in the audition. He did join St. Chad's Choir, near Penny Lane, for a while."

Paul was given an old trumpet by an uncle and taught himself to pick out tunes on it. Later still Paul was introduced to John by their mutual mate Ivan Vaughan, and John remembers being very impressed by Paul playing "Twenty Flight Rock" on

BELOW: A very early pic of Gene Vincent greeting John and Paul at the start of the Beatles era.





ABOVE: An old pic of the Beatles during one of their legendary appearances at The Cavern, Liverpool.

the guitar, an informal audition which won him a place in the Quarrymen for a date at a local Conservative Club dance the following week.

George, the fourth child and third son of Harold and Louise Harrison, was "always very independent and never wanted any assistance of any kind", admits his mother. In 1954 George started at Liverpool Institute. Paul was already there, in the year ahead. He once went to school with a canary yellow waistcoat under his school blazer. It belonged to his brother Harry, but George thought he looked terrific in it. His first guitar, bought by his mother for £3, was used

for endless practice. He kept at it until his fingers were bleeding.

"I first saw the Quarrymen when they were playing at Wilson Hall in Garston. Paul was playing with them and said I should come", recalls George.

CHORDS

"George wanted to join us because he knew more chords, a lot more than we knew. So we got a lot from him. Every time we learned a new chord, we'd write a song round it", adds John.

"A lot of people in little boxes all trying to get out", is how Ringo remembers his hometown neighbourhood of Dingle,

not far from Liverpool's dock area.

When he was six, after less than a year at St. Silas' Junior School, Ringo developed an appendicitis which burst and became peritonitis. His spell at Myrtle Street Children's Hospital—just over 12 months—was the first of several prolonged periods of indisposition which kept him away from school. Today he can't remember the names of any school masters, but he does remember the names of nurses who cared for him.

His first set of drums cost £100. He went to his Grandad for the £50 deposit.

(continued on page 31)





BEATLE NEWS

JOHN'S ROLLS SOLD!

JOHN'S BRIGHTLY-PAINTED ROLLS-ROYCE, RECENTLY SHIPPED TO AMERICA, HAS BEEN SOLD TO AN UN-NAMED BUYER WHO IS A SPECIALIST CAR COLLECTOR!

The Rolls was on show throughout the recent New York Motor Show where it became a centre of attraction for American Beatle People.

JOHN AND PAUL VISIT STATES

JOHN and PAUL made their first 5-day Apple business trip to America last month. They flew from London to New York on May 11 accompanied by Mal Evans. In New York they met up with five other Apple executives, including Neil Aspinall, for conferences in connection with Apple Films and Apple Records. The two Beatles stayed at the New York apartment of lawyer Nathan Weiss who heads the American management firm Nemperor Artists.

On their final day in New York the Apple delegation held a press conference at which they announced that they had already made plans for three TV spectacles and several major feature films.

◀ LEFT: Ringo puts on the ferocious glare of a toreador for this scene from "Candy".

Apple makes first signing

18-year-old Hughie Green TV discovery MARY HOPKINS is the first girl singer to be signed by APPLE RECORDS. After winning an "Opportunity Knocks" heat on May 4, Mary re-appeared on Hughie's show the following Saturday.

Paul's attention was drawn to Mary by his friends Twiggy and Justin Villeeneuve. On their recommendation Paul made a point of hearing the new girl and the result was an Apple recording contract.

RECORD PLANS

The Beatles have now mapped out their recording plans for the rest of '68.

They expect to have a single ready for rush-release within the next few weeks.

Now the production of the Beatles' third film has been set back several months the boys expect to complete an album of new recordings by August for release at the end of September. Before starting on their third film, all four Beatles are anxious to record ANOTHER LP for Xmas release!

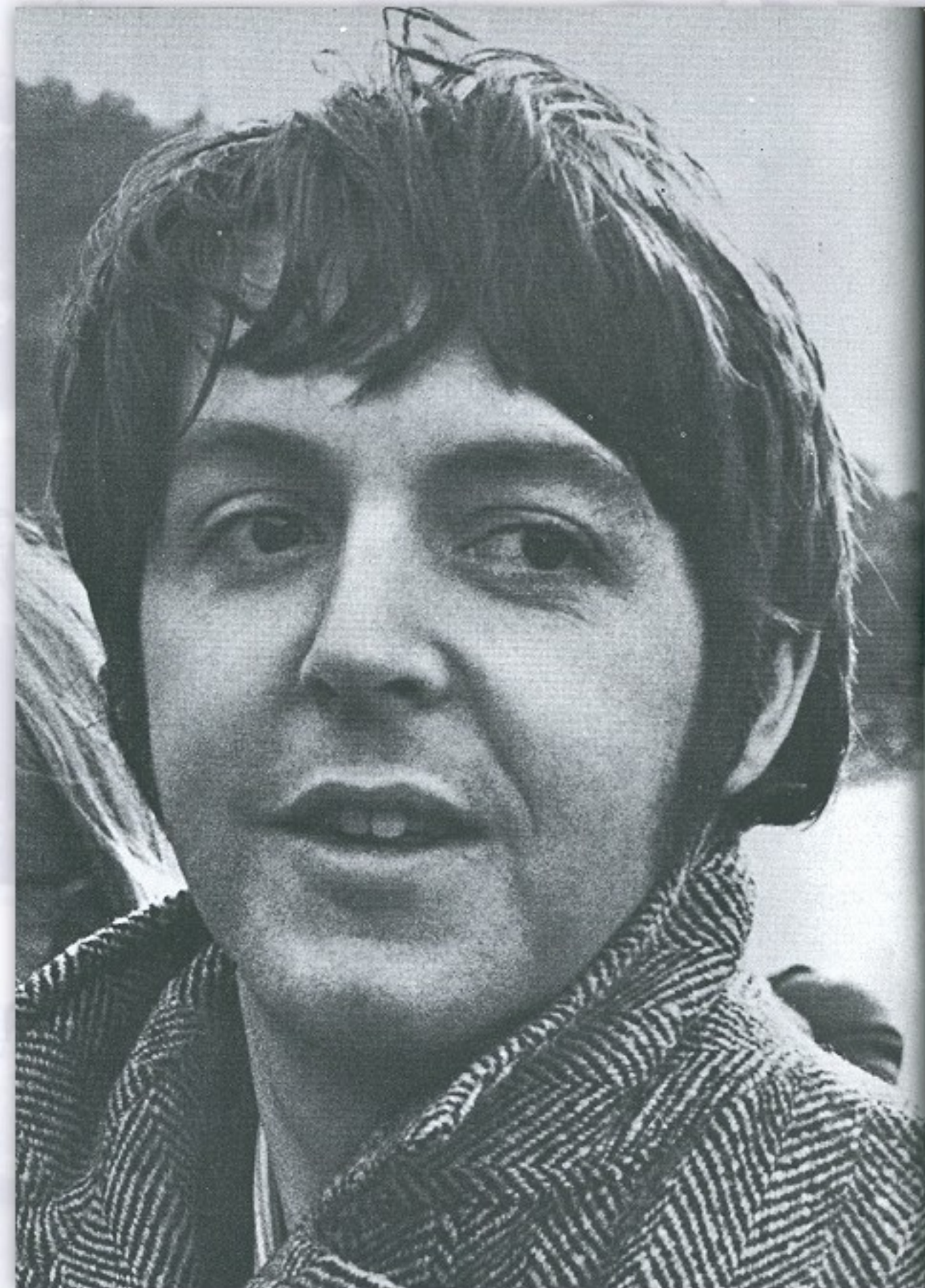
YELLOW SUBMARINE PREMIER

THE Beatles' full-length colour cartoon film will have its premiere in the West End at the London Pavilion Theatre, Piccadilly Circus on Wednesday, July 17. The film's title is "Yellow Submarine" and it runs for about one-and-a-half hours. The Beatles have taken a close personal interest in the making of this cartoon, giving their enthusiastic approval to the drawings of themselves and expressing great delight at seeing all the curious characters which have been created for the story.

On the soundtrack of the film the Beatles do not speak—the voices heard belong to actors brought in for the job—but all four make a brief surprise appearance "in the flesh" in the final minute at the very end of the picture!

The NEW numbers sung and played by the Beatles in "Yellow Submarine" are: "All Together Now", "All Too Much", "Hey Bulldog" and George's "Northern Song". Other recordings heard on the soundtrack are: "Yellow Submarine", "Eleanor Rigby", "A Day In The Life" (not heard in full), "When I'm 64", "Nowhere Man", "Lucy In The Sky With Diamonds", "Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band" and "All You Need Is Love".

★★ "YELLOW SUBMARINE" WILL GO OUT ON GENERAL RELEASE TO CINEMAS THROUGHOUT BRITAIN LATE IN JULY OR DURING THE FIRST WEEKS OF AUGUST. THE FILM WILL NOT BE SEEN IN AMERICA UNTIL THE END OF THE YEAR. A CHRISTMAS PREMIERE AND LENGTHY HOLIDAY-TIME SCREENING IS BEING SET UP IN NEW YORK AT THE LARGEST CINEMA IN THE WORLD!





ABOVE: The Beatles are now hard at work in the recording studio on their next single.

Hunter's story moves on to chronicle John's days at Art College, his meeting with Cynthia, the time when the Quarrymen became the Moondogs, and then the Silver Beatles, and the group's first highly colourful trip to Hamburg in 1960.

Later chapters deal in much depth with Brian Epstein, the substituting of Ringo for drummer Pete Best, touring, Beatlemania in America, the so-called Beatle Business Empire, the period when the Beatles turned from drugs to meditation and, finally, the group as it is today.

One entire section deals with the death of Brian

Epstein, another with the Beatles' closest relatives and friends, another with an impressive study of the Beatles' songwriting techniques.

FAMILY

And there are another four chapters headed John, Paul, George and Ringo, with family conversations set in each Beatle home and involving the first really detailed interview material with Cynthia, Pattie, Maureen and Jane. Despite the fascination of the early part of the biography with all its childhood stories, this final segment of Hunter's book may be of greatest interest to Beatle

People. Here are extended discussion pieces in which each one talks about the past, the present and the future with greater frankness and in greater depth than is possible *via* any newspaper or magazine feature.

When Hunter Davies had finished his writing, proof-copies of the book were circulated to each Beatle. All four read it in detail. So did their families and close friends. So everything in the finished book has been checked and re-checked for factual accuracy. For the first time Beatle People will have a true and very comprehensive book of reference.

No. 59

JUNE
1968

The **Beatles** BOOK

