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BOOK



The Beatles Book

The Beatles' Own Monthly Magazine

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EDITORIAL

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Hi!

One of the things I most admire about the Beatles is the way they have never been afraid to try new things. No matter how different or strange a philosophy or an idea may be, they are always prepared to look at it, think about it and, indeed, do something about it. All the reports from India and particularly Mal and Neil's special feature on their visit to the Maharashi's Meditation Centre in this issue, shows how they entered completely and wholeheartedly into everything.

The Beatles are now truly international. Before 1964, no English recording artist had ever succeeded in making a really big impact on the other side of the Atlantic. But, storming the States was only the first of many conquests. Although all the others which followed, including Japan and the Philippines, were basically modern countries in the Western ideal.

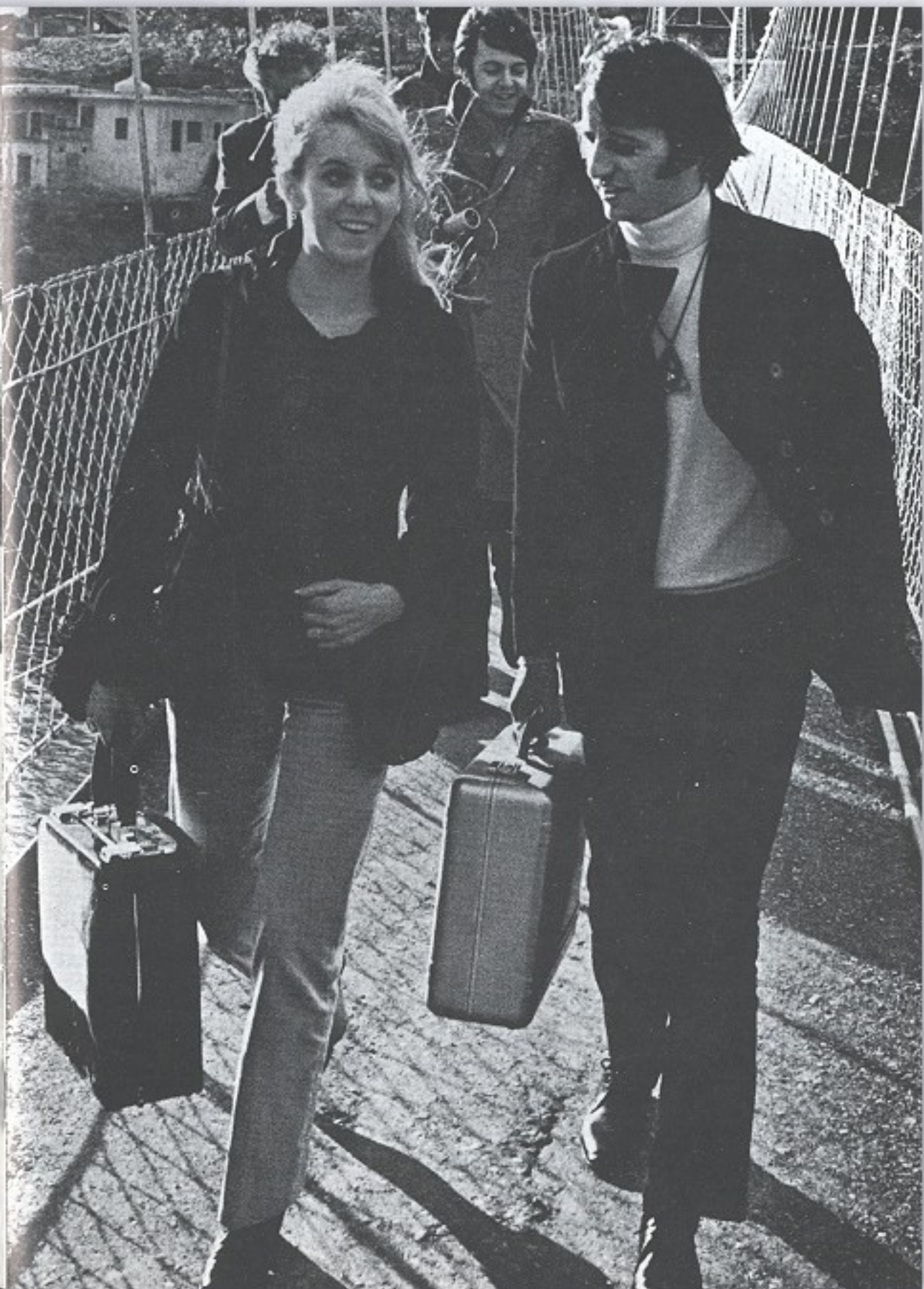
Now the Beatles have crossed the previously almost impenetrable barrier between the backward East and the modern West and formed a link with the teeming millions of India. Just think, if all their new Indian fans could afford to buy each new Beatles' single, their world sales would probably double overnight. But, unfortunately, most of them are far too poor. If the Beatles can help to improve the lot of just a few, then their new outlook will have been very worthwhile indeed.

All the Beatles, of course, had to leave before the end of the meditation session. Ringo has already given a full account of his reasons, but why did Paul and Jane not stay until the very end? Well, we do not know the full answer, but close friends of Paul and Jane have all been very busy recently looking at wedding presents and assuring me that it could happen at any moment. So, whether they do or they don't, or will have done by the time you are reading this, I still thought it would be nice if we put Jane and Paul on the front of this issue. The very first time, incidentally, that any of the Beatles' wives or girl-friends have appeared on the front of the *Beatles'* magazine.

But Paul also returned to watch over the affairs of all the Apple companies. As we told you last month, the Beatles are determined to help new talent in many fields. Like any other business organisation, Apple is having its teething troubles, and Paul's steady managing directoral hand was needed at the helm.

Johnny Dean Editor.

Two Beatles arrive at the Maharashi's Meditation Academy. Ringo and Maureen lead the way across the suspension bridge over the River Ganges, followed by Paul and Jane (hidden behind Ringo).





THE OFFICIAL
Beatles FAN CLUB

National Secretary
FREDA KELLY

New Postal Address:

**THE OFFICIAL
BEATLES FAN CLUB
P.O. BOX No. 12
LIVERPOOL 1**

Club Telephone Number:
051-709 2410

*****FOR IMMEDIATE MEMBERSHIP** just send your first year's subscription (POSTAL ORDER FOR 7/6d.) plus a **STAMPED, SELF-ADDRESSED ENVELOPE** (size no smaller than 9" x 4") to Freda Kelly at the new address above.

MAY NEWSLETTER

DEAR BEATLE PEOPLE,

Fan club membership has increased by nearly **TEN THOUSAND** over the past few weeks! So here's a formal welcome to all the new Beatle People who may be reading their first issue of the Monthly Book at this moment!

● **IF YOU'RE STILL THINKING ABOUT JOINING IT'S HIGH TIME YOU TOOK THE PLUNGE. THE FAN CLUB'S SPECIAL POSTER OFFER IS OPEN UNTIL THE END OF JULY. EVERYONE JOINING WITHIN THE NEXT 12 WEEKS WILL GET THIS TERRIFIC FREE BONUS—A NEW AND EXCLUSIVE COLOUR PHOTOGRAPH OF JOHN, PAUL, GEORGE AND RINGO BLOWN UP TO WALL-POSTER SIZE—A BEATLES SOUVENIR WHICH IS NOT OBTAINABLE ANYWHERE ELSE!**

BEATLE BITS: Prior to forthcoming TV showing of "Magical Mystery Tour" in Japan, many thousands of tiny models of the blue and yellow M.M.T. bus will be mass-produced for free distribution as a novel promotion gimmick. . . . At informal evening music-making sessions in India **PAUL** played flute, **PATTIE** played dilruba and **DONOVAN** joined in on guitar. . . . For the last two weeks the Maharishi's party moved from Rishikesh to houseboats at Cashmere. . . . **GEORGE** prolonging his visit to India by an extra five or six days to join **RAVISHANKAR** in Madras where George and Ravi are shooting scenes together for a film. Both will be seen playing sitars in the film, but George's involvement is limited to one brief guest appearance. . . . Back from India ahead of **JOHN** and **GEORGE**, **PAUL** made a bee-line for the new Apple Corps head offices in Wigmore Street, to take care of various new Apple projects. He worked normal business hours with the rest of the Apple staff who agreed that Paul's break in Rishikesh had left him refreshed and rarin' to go! . . . **RINGO** and **MAUREEN** are leading stars of a darts team formed by Apple office workers. Lunch-times you'll find them competing in a pub near the Apple headquarters. . . . **PAUL**, **RINGO** and **MAUREEN** attended an early preview screening of the colour cartoon film "Yellow Submarine" in Soho recently. Film was incomplete at that stage, but the makers confirm it will be ready for public cinema showing by August. . . . Most of the



A worm's eye-view of Donovan and John taken at the Meditation Academy by Mal Evans.

colour magazine photographs showing the **BEATLES** with **MIA FARROW**, **MIKE LOVE** and **DONOVAN** in Rishikesh taken by **MAL** (including those used in this issue of the *Beatles Monthly Book*).

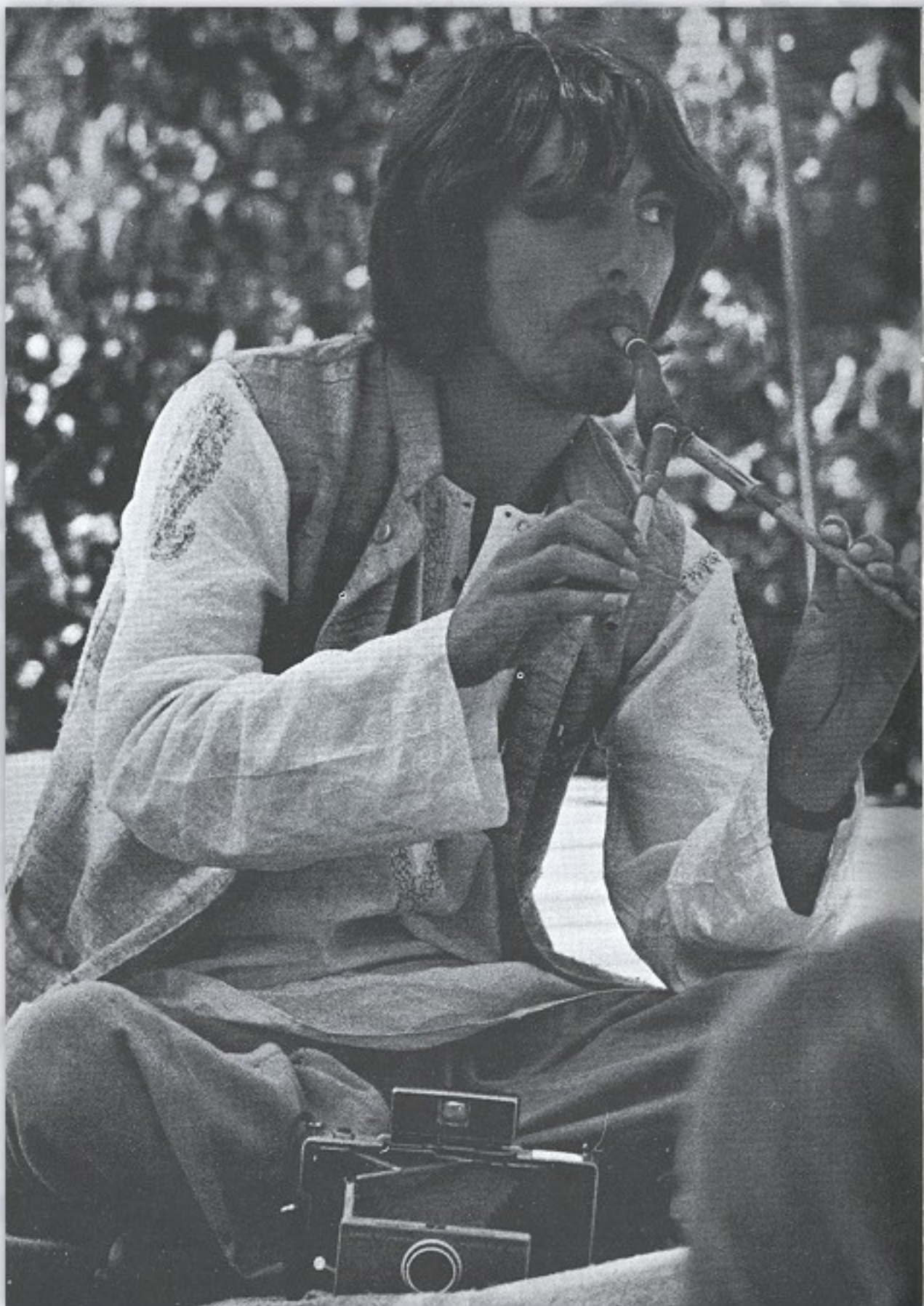
FAN CLUB NOTES: Here are two additional secretary appointments for Overseas Club branches. If you would like Beatle People Pen Pals in these countries just write to the secretaries concerned. For **WESTERN GERMANY**—**URSULA SEEMANN**, 6451 BRUCHKOBEL, ROSTOCKER STRASSE 23, WEST GERMANY. For **YUGOSLAVIA**—**VELJKO DESPOT**, GAJEVA 2.a., ZAGREB, YUGOSLAVIA.

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

Tarrah for now,

FREDA KELLY

National Secretary of The Official Beatles Fan Club





beatles IN INDIA

MAL EVANS begins his own two-part story covering **THE BEATLES'** visit to Maharishi's Academy of Meditation in India.

Maharishi's Academy of Transcendental Meditation is situated on a big flat ledge, like a giant-sized shelf, 150 feet above the River Ganges. The views from this *Ashram* (that's the name given by the Indians to any holy place, anywhere where people come to study and meditate) are wonderful. You look out over the river, across to the town of Rishikesh and the plains beyond. There are mountains on the other three sides and jungle all about. Colourful peacocks strut about; you see a monkey or two at every glance, staring down at you from almost every branch of the trees.

GOOD ACCOMMODATION

Having heard a mixture of strange stories about the place, I think we all half-expected to find ourselves living in tents with cardboard boxes for seats and tables. Honestly, we had a very pleasant surprise when we saw the high standard of the accommodation.

We lived in one of six little cottages. It had been luxuriously done out. Each of our rooms was neatly furnished, each with twin

beds, new rugs on walls and floors, dressing-tables, shelves and cupboards, bathroom with toilet and shower facilities. The water supply broke down from time to time, but when there WAS water we had a choice of hot or cold. Surprise, surprise! Not a single creepy-crawly thing in sight! So much for all the soft rumours we'd heard before we set off!

For me the trip began early. On Wednesday, February 14, I picked up bundles of advance luggage from Weybridge and Esher, suitcases, guitars and trunks belonging to George and Pattie, her sister Jenny, and John and Cyn. Then I caught Qantas flight 754 for Delhi, leaving London at 3.30 in the afternoon. The idea was for me to arrive a day ahead so that I could organise transport at the other end from Delhi to Rishikesh. At London Airport I had to pay £195 19s. 6d. in excess baggage charges! So you can tell how much stuff I was taking out on behalf of the Lennons and Harrisons!

In Delhi on the Thursday one of my first jobs was to buy George a new sitar. I knew where to go—the same shop George

George must have experimented with almost every Indian instrument there is by now. Here he plays a bamboo flute.

had been to on his previous visits. The whole window was full of photographs of George, pictures of him with the shop-owner and notices showing the type of sitar he'd bought there last time.

MIA GREETING

At 8.15 a.m. on Friday morning George, John, Pattie, Cyn and Jenny flew in. There to meet them and say "Hello" was Mia Farrow. I'd already introduced myself to her back at the hotel and found out that her brother, Johnny, was due to fly in about the same time as the two Beatles.

Getting away from the airport wasn't too difficult because the Press people were quite polite and didn't try to detain anyone too long. Travelling from London with John and George were two reporters—Robin Turner of the *Daily Express* and Don Short of the *Daily Mirror*. Don and Robin told me that George and John had convinced them on the 'plane, just by chatting, of the value of meditation.

All aboard a fleet of three cars—and off to Rishikesh!

The country is very flat between Delhi and Rishikesh, about 150 miles. We stopped at a Western-style hotel/restaurant situated in the middle of nowhere and known as Polaris. There we had a lunch of egg and chips. Not many Europeans there so we caused quite a stir!

Our arrival was perfect with the Maharishi there to greet us with kind words and tea. Most welcome!

READY FOR BED

After a 20-hour flight from London (five hours' time difference) plus the extra hours on the road, the travellers were ready for bed.

Our days at Maharishi's Ashram began early. As a rule John was first out of bed. He'd spend a while meditating and I would accompany him to breakfast around seven o'clock. We would leave the little row of cottages, walk down towards the

Paul and Jane, Maureen and Ringo pose for Mal after their arrival at Rishikesh.





Mal Evans climbed up a tree after he had taken the shot on page 5 to get this bird's eye-view of Donovan and John.

Ganges, past the lecture hall and towards one of two dining halls. They're building a new swimming pool beside the lecture building. We went past the kitchens on the edge of the Ganges and, if it wasn't too chilly, we'd usually eat in the uncovered dining hall—no roof, just huge glass walls. The alternative was a covered and fully heated hall to have meals in if the weather wasn't so warm.

JUNGLE VILLAGE

The buildings are all stone-built with electricity brought in by lines across the Ganges. All this in the middle of a jungle! Fantastic!

In many ways the food was quite like anything you'd get in a typical European hotel, with very cheerful waiters to serve it.

Breakfast would start with cornflakes, puffed wheat or porridge. The porridge was to be avoided because it tended to be a bit lumpy. To drink there was fruit juice, tea

and coffee. With it there was toast and marmalade or jam. Everything was made locally. I remember how funny it looked to find jars and bottles with labels which looked identical in every detail to a top British brand—except for the maker's name, a local Indian company.

After breakfast we'd meditate for as long as we wanted. There were no hard and fast rules, everything was free and easy, no schedule or timetable to be stuck to. Anyone who just wanted to sleep round the clock could do so!

Breakfast was there whenever one wanted it, from seven to about 11.

For lunch and dinner we'd get soup and then a vegetarian main course. Plenty of tomato and lettuce salads, turnips, carrots, and so forth. Rice and potatoes to accompany. The food was fine. The vegetarian diet satisfied John and George who gave up eating meat a long time ago. Although I'm fond of my meat I found the Maharishi's



Paul and Jane standing at the end of the suspension bridge over the River Ganges bathed in Indian sunlight.

menu a pleasant change. When Ringo arrived later he found some of the curry dishes a bit hot, too many spices. When I went into Delhi again I collected a good supply of eggs so that we would have plenty of alternatives—fried eggs, boiled eggs, poached eggs!

We were surprised to find that the mountain water could be used straight from the tap for drinking. At first we boiled it all to be on the safe side, but we discovered from other people that this was not necessary as germs didn't seem to breed in the water supply.

40 STAFF

I suppose a total of about 40 people are employed at the Academy—including joiners, a full-scale printing works, cooks and cleaning staff. The room service was marvellous. On my first day I unpacked dozens of shirts and other clothing and piled them up on shelves in my room. An

hour later the lot had disappeared. The same evening they were back, all freshly washed and pressed. And I hadn't even asked. Everything was done just as willingly, and with a smile, too. The friendly atmosphere made us all relax.

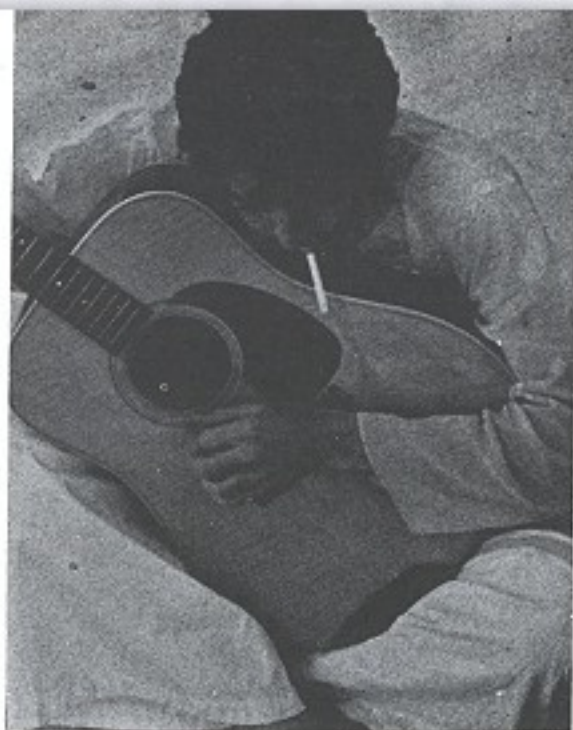
EXTRA LECTURES

The Maharishi never appeared at meals to eat with his students. He stayed in his own bungalow at these times. We were three weeks behind the rest of the meditators so he used to give us extra lessons, extra lectures, in the afternoons. We'd all sit in the open air, sometimes on chairs on the grass and sometimes on the flat sun roof. When it was cooler we'd join him in his bungalow, sitting round on cushions. I could never cross my legs comfortably so there was always this big thing about providing me with my own special chair for these sessions!

BASICALLY THIS WAS A TEACH-

ER'S COURSE IN TRANSCENDENTAL MEDITATION, A COURSE DESIGNED TO LET THE STUDENTS LEARN ENOUGH TO PASS ON THEIR EXPERIENCES TO OTHERS AFTERWARDS. WE MET FOR 90-MINUTE LECTURES AT 3.30 P.M. AND 8.30 P.M. EACH DAY. PEOPLE WOULD RECOUNT THEIR MEDITATION EXPERIENCES AND MAHARISHI WOULD EXPLAIN THE CAUSES OF THE SENSATIONS AND THOUGHTS WE'D HAD. THE IDEA WAS TO BUILD UP TO LONGER MEDITATION PERIODS, GRADUALLY TAPERING OFF AGAIN TOWARDS THE END OF THE COURSE SO THAT EVERYONE WOULD COME OUT OF RISHIKESH MORE OR LESS FEELING DOWN TO EARTH AGAIN.

To make sure we could meditate in peace we had little printed cards saying "MEDITATING, PLEASE DO NOT DISTURB", and we stuck these on the doors



Paul wrote many new songs while he was in India. Here he is working out one of the new numbers on an acoustic guitar.

BELOW: Ringo and Maureen were amused by the antics of some of the Indian cameramen who cornered them immediately they arrived.



of our bedrooms. One night I thought my meditating was reaching a very special new depth. I could see flashing lights around me in the darkness although my eyes were closed. THEN, when I opened one eye to peep, I realised I'd been fooled. One of Maharishi's closest disciples, a very friendly young fellow named Raghvendra, was flashing a torch at me through the window. He'd read the PLEASE DO NOT DISTURB sign on my door and thought this would be the most polite way of drawing my attention!

As you will remember, the rest of our party arrived a little later. The second arrival—for Ringo and Maureen, Paul and Jane, drew much more Press attention. Everyone was filmed as they came off the 'plane. Raghvendra and I placed garlands of red and yellow flowers around the necks of the newcomers, a traditional token of greeting and welcome.

When he got the chance Ringo told me he needed a doctor. It wasn't anything

serious but his injections were giving him trouble, his arm was swollen and painful and he thought it best to see if any treatment was required.

Our driver lost his way and led us to a dead-end in the middle of a field. The Press came to our rescue—a whole stream of cars had been following us! In the end we accepted the directions of some helpful reporters and found a hospital. We paid a doctor about 11 shillings and he assured Ringo all would be well without treatment. And it was. He felt fine again after his first night's sleep in Rishikesh.

I HAVE LOTS MORE TO TELL YOU — ABOUT GEORGE'S BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS AND ABOUT HOW OUR WHOLE PARTY — INCLUDING DONOVAN, MIA FARROW AND MIKE LOVE OF THE BEACH BOYS — SPENT THE REST OF THE TIME AT MAHARISHI'S ACADEMY. I'LL CONTINUE THE STORY HERE IN THE JUNE ISSUE.

Paul took just as many shots of the Indians who were photographing him, with his cine camera, as they did of him.



FIRST FULL-LENGTH BIOGRAPHY OF THE BEATLES

At the end of September a new book of great importance to all Beatle People is to be published. Written by HUNTER DAVIES, well-known *Sunday Times* feature writer and author of "Here We Go Round The Mulberry Bush", the book is the first truly comprehensive biography of the Beatles.

CAREERS

Although many millions of words have been written about the careers of John, Paul, George and Ringo, the Hunter Davies biography will reveal for the first time in depth and detail the complete story of their lives, their families, their schooldays and their movement as a beat group from the clubs of Liverpool's suburbs to their present day status as the world's most significant entertainment unit of the decade.

THE BIOGRAPHY

WILL BE A FULL-SCALE HARD - COVER PUBLICATION, SELLING IN BOOKSHOPS AT 30 SHILLINGS. ALMOST SIMULTANEOUSLY IT WILL BE MADE AVAILABLE IN COUNTRIES THROUGHOUT THE WORLD. BUT U.K. READERS OF *THE BEATLES MONTHLY BOOK* ARE TO HAVE A SPECIAL PRE-PUBLICATION OPPORTUNITY OF ORDERING THE BIOGRAPHY—AND THOSE WHO TAKE ADVANTAGE WILL RECEIVE AN EXCLUSIVE PICTURE BONUS, A SET OF FOUR VERY SPECIAL PHOTOGRAPHS SHOWING GEORGE WITH PATTIE, PAUL WITH JANE, JOHN WITH CYNTHIA AND JULIAN, RINGO WITH MAUREEN, ZAK AND JASON. LOOK FOR FULL DETAILS OF THIS ADVANCE OFFER IN THE

AUGUST ISSUE OF *THE BEATLES MONTHLY BOOK*.

Hunter Davies started work on his book some months before Brian Epstein's death last August. He found himself acting more like a Fleet Street reporter than a biographer. It wasn't just a matter of getting dates and stories from each of the four boys.

RELATIVES

Hunter talked at length to each of them and then spent long periods in conversation with The Beatles' closest relatives, their friends and their business associates. In the book it is these people who tell what they know about The Beatles. Hunter stays in the background and acts like a sort of chairman while those who have been involved in the personal and public lives of The Beatles are allowed to build up the full biography bit by bit.

FAMILY HISTORY

The book begins much further back than the birth of The Beatles. The early chapters trace out the background stories of each family, recalling the marriages of the four couples whose sons were to become John, Paul, George and Ringo of The Beatles! Then there are the earliest school days of each Beatle, memories of their childhood recalled by other boys and girls they knew well at the time. From there Hunter's story moves to Hamburg and back to Liverpool where Brian Epstein came

into the picture just over six years ago.

Soon many new names are brought into the book—recording manager George Martin, music publisher Dick James, Press representative Tony Barrow, road managers Neil Aspinall and Mal Evans, an assortment of interesting personalities connected with The Beatles' American tours.

FACTS

Hunter Davies has done such a thorough job of digging out the right people and the right facts that even The Beatles claim the finished version tells them things they didn't know until now about each other!

Perhaps the most fascinating section of all is the final set of chapters devoted to The Beatles as they are

today. Each of the four has a chapter to himself and here, for the first time ever, John, Paul, George and Ringo discuss their own deep-down feelings about The Beatles, Beatlemania, Transcendental Meditation, their home lives and their hopes for the future. Wives and close buddies, pals and mates join in this part of the book which is another first in itself since folk like Cynthia, Maureen and Pattie have always stayed in the background until now, unavailable to reporters and feature writers for any lengthy interviews.

MASSIVE

Everything you could want to know about The Beatles is contained in this massive biography—pages about their song-writing and recording techniques, pages

about their magnificent homes, pages about the equally colourful but sadly abbreviated life of their manager and friend, Brian Epstein, pages about the intricate finances of the business empires that have grown up around the group since 1963, pages which give details of every record the group has released to date.

SPECIAL FEATURE

IN THE MEANTIME AUTHOR HUNTER DAVIES IS WRITING A SPECIAL ARTICLE FOR *THE BEATLES MONTHLY BOOK*. THE STORY OF HOW HE COLLECTED HIS MATERIAL FOR THIS IMPORTANT BIOGRAPHICAL WORK. HIS PIECE WILL APPEAR ON THESE PAGES SHORTLY.

Perhaps Hunter Davies' book will reveal exactly what Ringo said to the makeup man during the filming of "A Hard Day's Night".





ABOVE: The family group at Ringo and Maureen's wedding.

BELOW: Another shot of the time John and Ringo gave Paul a close shave!









LETTERS from Beatle PEOPLE

Dear John (Lennon my love),

Because of your influence, I have looked into Yoga and Transcendental Meditation. Do you do the Yoga exercises and breathing, etc., or just meditation? I have just been doing meditation, and I must say it is like nothing I've ever experienced before. Like you said, it is hard to put your finger on to actually tell what it is like. I am studying with a man called Yogi Dinkar at the Yoga Institute of the Spiritual Regeneration Center of New York. He is a very nice person. He said that he studied under the Maharishi. He has quite a few photos of the Maharishi in his studio. Have you ever heard of him? Why not ask His Holiness Maharishi if he knows him?

I have some printed literature given me by Yogi Dinkar about Transcendental Meditation and about Maharishi. I'm sure you have probably read or know all about it. But if you'd like to see some of the papers, I would be more than happy to send them to you. Just answer me thru the *Beatles Book* telling me and I'll send them off to you thru the *B.B.* I'd do anything for you—just say the word.

Does Cyn meditate too? It must be great to meditate together—hum hum!

I don't know if this is true or not, but I heard that you and P., G. & R. are supposed to be doing a concert here in New York at Madison Square Garden early in 1968. I hope so. It would be great to see and hear you again. If it is at Madison Square Garden it would be good. The acoustics there are much better than at Shea. I'm sure it would be a sell-out with at least 50% less screaming (I hope). I know that more boys will attend and also those girls (like myself) that have grown with your music and can appreciate it. So here's hoping to see and hear you real soon.

ALL my deepest love to you, Cyn, and Julian (he's too much—just like his dad*).

ALL MY LOVING,

Merle Frimark (aged 17),
140-15 Holly Avenue,
Flushing, New York, 11355 U.S.A.

P.S.—All my best wishes and love to you for a healthy and Happy New Year. My you continue your wonderful success.

May there be:
LOVE AND PEACE

Dear Beatles,

Four weeks ago I became a Beatle fan. I studied India and tried meditation, and dreamt night after night about you. I'm a bit ashamed to admit it, but when I was unhappy, I cried, and thought, "if only I could meet the Beatles".

To come to the point, my mum told me about my uncle's experiences of meditation. He had studied India and tried meditation and he fell into a trance, which he couldn't come out of, and the doctor had to be sent for. Luckily the doctor broke the trance, but my uncle had a breakdown (he's much better now).

Now I'm worried about you, if anything like this should happen to you, it would break your families' and fan's hearts. As it is your fans want you home in England anyway.

You give the impression you have so much money and spare time you just don't know what to do with yourselves. Maybe it's true, maybe not, but whatever happens, please don't take unnecessary risks, for your sake and your fans' sake.

I enjoyed "M.M.T." very much and hope to see a lot more films in the future.

From,

A worried about the Beatles,
Ruth Pogrud,
6 Southfield Drive,
Leeds 17, Yorkshire.

Dear Johnny,

I was thinking about the Beatles and their fans the other day and I came to the conclusion that although we hear a great deal about the Beatles we hardly ever hear from any of their fans.

Don't you think that it would be a good idea if, every month, you reserved a page opposite to "Pen Pals", or something, and got people to write in telling how they became a Beatle fanatic, and perhaps send a pic of themselves.

I'm not saying that I'm getting sick of nothing but Beatles, Beatles, Beatles, I enjoy it! The point I'm trying to make is that us fans have made the Beatles what they are (I don't mean absolutely everything. I mean, they've worked jolly hard), and now I think it would be nice if the fans could have a bit of fame, as Beatle People, through *Beatles Monthly Book*.

I hope you understand what I mean.

Sincerely yours,
Sheryl Pringle,
162 Low Road,
Halton, Nr. Lancaster,
Lancashire.

Johnny Dean answers: What do other Beatle People think?

Dear Johnny,

The Beatles are not just a pop group who get to No. 1 all the time, they are musicians with the talent of Beethoven, etc. They will be remembered as four people, with M.B.E.s, who set the trend for a complete new style of music.

I could name many beautiful songs the Beatles have recorded: "All You Need Is Love", "Eleanor Rigby", "She's Leaving Home".

If the Beatles had released a single with "She's Leaving Home" featured as the "A"-side and backed by "Your Mother Should Know", it would have been one of the biggest smash hits of all time.

Any person with a record collection always has a few Beatle hits among them. As for anyone who says the Beatles have had it: who occupied Nos. 1 and 2 in the charts in January? and who had sold 250,000 copies of "Lady Madonna" four days after release?

The answer is, the Beatles, of course.

The Beatles are the greatest musicians the world has ever seen.

Yours Beatley,
Ian Fitzgerald,
(Fan Club No. 139367),
9 Rookwood Ave.,
Llandaff, Cardiff.

Dear Johnny,

I just got B.B. No. 55 and thought it great, but there was one small disappointment. Of the fine photos taken at the big Christmas party thing, there was none of Cynthia. She was there, so why is this? She's one of the loveliest women I've ever seen and there are so few photos of her around. Please would you print one? Please? As far as I know she's never appeared in the monthly and it's high time she did, I say!! How maddening it is to have Frederick James tell us not once, but twice, that she looked "marvelous!", and yet she's not in there. Pain!

Everything else is great.

Love and peace,
Dena ElMBERG.

P.S.—Sobs of love to all, especially JOHN.

P.P.S. to J.P.G.R.: congrats on the Grammy awards.

P.P.P.S. to J.P.G.R.: we think "Lady Madonna" and "Inner Light" are all-time! Way to go!

P.P.P.P.S.—"M.M.T." still hasn't been shown here, but they better do it soon or there's gonna be trouble (POW! BAM! ZAP!). I'm afraid those insipid critics haven't hindered my enthusiasm at all.

Dear JOHN (you're lovable),

Once upon a time there was a failure and her story goes something like this.

ONCE A FAILURE ALWAYS A FAILURE

Misery is the pain I feel in my heart,
It seems we're destined to stay far apart.

Touring is out, recording is in,

It isn't right, I just can't win.

When will I meet you? When will it be?

When the sky falls into the sea.

I try and try but all in vain.

The . . . (censored!) . . . result is always the same.

"Sorry they left an hour ago."

"Where've they gone?" "How would we know?"

Oh well, I guess I just haven't the luck.

Failure upon failure, I could write a book.

How can I meet you fabulous four?

If you aren't even doing a concert or tour.

I suppose BEATLES are very hard to find.

There aren't very many of their kind.

Their species are rare that's true enough.

But why, oh why, do they treat me so rough.

I just want to cuddle one, preferably JOHN.

But when I get there . . . "Sorry, he's gone."

I know you are handsome and in great demand.

But all I wanna do is just hold your hand.

No harm in that, it's all very normal.

Well, after all, fans are very informal.

Well, one day I'll meet you of that I am sure.

'Cos I've got it bad and there isn't a cure.

Back to reality dreams over for now,

My wonderful BEATLES, please take a bow.

Well so long for now, my BEATLES so witty.

This is the end of my weird little ditty.

From

Jean,

82 Worsborough Road,
Birdwell, Barnsley, Yorks.

Dear Johnny Dean,

If there is anybody who has the first six issues of *The Beatles Monthly Book* in good condition and is willing to give them up, please send them to me and I will pay 2s per copy and the full postage. I will send you the money as soon as possible.

All the very best luck for the future, Beatles, from

P. Stephenson, aged 13

(Beatle Person No. 140462),

14 Berkeley Gardens,

Winchmore Hill, London, N.21.

(Telephone No.: 360 3362).







TWO YEARS AGO

by Billy Shepherd and Johnny Dean

Just a few days ago, Paul McCartney was talking to reporters about the problems of finding a suitable story-line for a Beatle film—their third, and probably most important, major movie. And just two years ago, producer Walter Shenson was talking about the self-same thing . . . the Beatles' third film!

Mr. Shenson told us back in 1966: "The next film is so important because all succeeding movies will be affected if it's no good. And the boys themselves don't want to be associated with anything less than the very best." At that stage, he'd seen about 40 finished scripts—all specially written for the Beatles, but none got complete approval. They'd had synopses from fans, from experienced journalists, from dozens of different sources. They'd even called in star writers and "grilled" them about possible ideas running around in their minds!

Time marches on . . . and it's very much the same position now, two years later. In 1966, the best-bet story-line for a film was Richard Condon's Western yarn "A Talent For Loving" . . . and apparently nobody's come up with anything better since. That one just missed out because the boys felt it was a mistake to go into a Western setting.

But if the film scene was quiet, two years ago, Beatlemania grabbed hold of large areas of the United States. Grabbed hold and wouldn't let go. For instance, when tickets for their upcoming concert at the Shea Stadium in New York went on sale, there were 2,000 fans already in line—and it took ten police cars and dozens of men to maintain order. In no time, all 56,000 tickets were sold!

Oh yes, Nancy Sinatra bowed gracefully into London during the May of 1968 and revealed that her father was a Beatle addict. And she also said, in rather hushed tones, that she'd recorded "Day Tripper" for a

forthcoming album and that she'd had to change a couple of lines to make it suit a girl singer. She added: "I do hope that Paul and John won't mind — I feel like I've taken a liberty with a real work of art!"

One of the pop papers came out with a bit of news-digging that caused a shudder to hit the backbones of a million Beatle fans. What had happened was this. Four years ago, in 1964, an American woman made two predictions: one, that President Kennedy would be assassinated; and two, that the Beatles would be involved in a terrible air-crash on a flight to Indianapolis.

BEATLES' PLANE

Well, we all know that the second part of the prediction didn't come true. BUT . . . two years later that same 'plane that had carried the Beatles DID crash, in Oklahoma, and some 80 soldiers aboard were killed. The Beatles had used the very same aircraft to carry them and their party to an Arkansas ranch during a short holiday break away from the rigours of touring.

But back to May, 1966. While the Beatles carried on working on their new LP, scheduled for mid-summer release, manager Brian Epstein was travelling all over the world accepting awards on behalf of his "boys". There were two from a magazine in Denmark . . . for writing the "Best Foreign Melody", which was "Michelle", and for being the "Most Popular Foreign Group".

Maybe the most important award was for selling a million copies of singles in Den-

◀ *One of the very first promotional shots of the Beatles. It was taken in Manchester Square, where EMI's headquarters is situated, at the end of 1962.*

mark . . . for this one, the record company, EMI, had a special Gold Disc made for presentation to Brian — in recognition of his work in guiding the boys to the top. But the astonishing thing about selling a million records in Denmark is simply that there are only four million people living in the whole country.

As "Paperback Writer" came out, there were the usual carps about there having been too long a gap between it and "Day Tripper". The boys tended to agree, but pointed out that they were taking longer and longer in the studios . . . "we'd rather wait and be absolutely sure we're right", said Paul, who actually dreamed up the original idea for "Paperback Writer", helped along by some John Lennon lines.

Some of you might like to do a spot of reminiscing about records which were in the charts — discs inevitably lowered in the list whenever a Beatle disc came out. Well, as "Paperback Writer" hit the shops, Manfred Mann was on top with "Pretty Flamingo", the Beach Boys had "Sloop John B", the Troggs had launched themselves successfully with "Wild Thing", The Lovin' Spoonful inaugurated good-time music with "Daydream", and the Rolling Stones were doing nicely with "Paint It Black". And exactly 20 of the top 30 were British artists or groups!

CAMPING OUT

We spent a lot of time with Ringo during this particular month and he told us some hair-raising stories about fans camping out on the lawns at his home in Weybridge. Seems he and Maureen occasionally went up to London to look around the latest clubs and were usually driven home around 4.30 in the morning . . . but only on the days when Ringo wasn't required in the recording studios. And almost on every occasion, they found fans actually sleeping among the shrubbery in the front garden. May nights were not exactly summery, and it worried Ringo a lot. He told us: "One time there were about seven of them there and I had to go over, wake them up and suggest politely that they would be much more comfortable at home. Even they looked surprised when I told them what the time was."

Around this time, too, a parson, "station-

ed" in Birmingham, praised the Beatles for bringing "dignity" to the pop-music world which, he felt, was giving out too many bad influences. Certainly this was a time of high controversy for groups like the Rolling Stones (who hit headlines galore), the Who (who apparently had a punch-up on stage), and furious rows over billing that hit some of the other top-line outfits. "The Beatles may have been harum-scarum lads in the days before they found stardom", wrote the clergyman, "but they have since invested popular music with an innate sense of dignity, charm and tolerance."

Well, that was nice of the gentleman, but Paul McCartney said at the time that he felt the Beatles were simply themselves . . . "just human-beings who have all the weaknesses of any human-being. It's nice to know we're not giving offence, but really we'd much rather hear nice things about how our music is progressing."

And, of course, this was the time when everybody was looking for something really progressive in the group scene. The Beatles never consciously sat down and said: "We must do something really different". It just evolved. There were the odd sounds of the Moodie Blues, the feedback technique of the Who, and all sorts of Oriental instruments being used on pop records of this time. The Beatles' way of working, however, was to settle down and take an original melody and "just play around" until a firm arrangement suggested itself. Sure, they experimented . . . for instance, one George Harrison guitar solo came up sounding startlingly different simply because he played it "straight", then had the tape reversed.

When they weren't experimenting in the studios, the boys looned around in some very odd filmed situations. These were shot in colour and black-and-white for Brian Epstein's Subafilms company, and were for inclusion in American television shows. But they provided the boys with a welcome chance to work out their ad-lib sense of humour.

One of them was the re-creation of an actual recording session. Needless to say it was a gas! More about that next month.

As if anyone didn't know who this was, even back in 1964.



John Lennon



ABOVE: Paul shooting the scenes around Rishikesh with his 16 mm cine camera.

BELOW: Paul, John and Donovan pictured during one of their many impromptu jam sessions at the Meditation Centre.



THE BEATLES LEAD NOW

EVERY country and sphere of activity has its leaders. The important people who start things going and show the way for everyone else to follow.

The Beatles are now, without doubt, the unchallenged leaders of pop music and, for that matter, most forward-thinking members of the new generation.

Their influence already has been considerable. Basically, they are anti those things which stop progress, like stuffiness, pomposity, and pig-headedness. Against the whole attitude of some older people which can be summed up under the heading, "Do what we tell you because we know best".

In practical terms, the boys try and get things done without going through the normal involved complexities and red tape that can slow any new idea down to a snail's pace.

Many other pop stars and film personalities feel the same way and they are all trying to do everything they can to promote the Beatles' ideas. Just look at the galaxy of talent which joined them at the Maharashi's Meditation Academy.

And to those who say: "It's all very well for top stars, who can afford to go thousands of miles to the rarified atmosphere of the Indian mountains, but what does it mean for me?" The answer is quite simply, that the Beatles and the other top stars are doing their level best to help new talent to emerge. They are putting effort and money into new enterprises so that many young hopefuls who have the ability to become top stars but, at the moment, no opportunity to do so, will be able to get a chance to show what they can do. Why do the Beatles bother? The answer is that John, George, Ringo and Paul remember their early struggles very well, when it seemed as though they were never going to break through the barriers which were preventing them from climbing the ladder to stardom. And they hate to see talent go to waste.

BELOW: Mia Farrow—one of the many famous names who joined the Beatles in India.





Lilian Schnaar (16), 229 Voortrecker Street, Greytown, Natal, South Africa, wants p.p.'s everywhere, all letters answered.
 Pauline Lowndes (14), 24 Carlton Road, New Brighton, Wallasey, Cheshire, wants p.p.'s everywhere.
 Mr. Seichi Nakajima, 12 Kitamatunoki-Cho, Higashi 9, Minam-Ku, Kyohito-Shi, Japan, wants p.p.'s everywhere.
 Christine Whelan (12), 59 High Road, Willeliden Green, London N.W.10, England, wants p.p.'s in Los Angeles and Australia.

Catherine Managan (16), 149 Mangate Pde., Mangate 4019, Queensland, Australia, wants p.p. anywhere.
 Phil Pollock (19), 18 South Terrace, Wallsend-on-Tyne, Northumberland, England, wants girl p.p.'s everywhere.
 Ann Yung (13), 8 Carlingford Street, Liverpool 8, Lancashire, wants a boy p.p. anywhere.
 Eileen Neil (14), Sandford Orleigh, Newton Abbott, South Devon, England, wants p.p.'s everywhere.
 Miyoko Hisano (16), 61-4, Terosma Yokate, Oaza, Enknoka City, Japan, wants a p.p. anywhere.
 Ulricke Horn (15), 87 Wurbug, Spessartstr, 47, Germany, wants p.p.'s from everywhere.

Miss Rosalind Crow (17), Northcroft, 284 Telegraph Road, Heswall, Wirral, Cheshire, wants a boy p.p.
 Mitsuku Fujiu (18), 2-5, 1-Chome Ebiachami, Fushimaku, Osaka, Japan, wants p.p.'s in London.
 Shoko Yamada, 6-53, Kaminago Yacho Nishiku, Nagoya, Japan, wants p.p.'s in London.
 Akemi Yoshida, 1-58 Johokuchou, Nishiku, Nagoya, Japan, wants p.p.'s in London.

Mr Kazuo Nakamata (16), 80 Kajit - Macht, Hamamatsu City, Shizuoka-Ken, Japan, wants a p.p. anywhere.
 Zuzana Pta'kova (14), Praha 6, Komornicka 28, CSSR, Czechoslovakia, wants p.p.'s everywhere.
 Mr. Fikret Ekizipinar, Soganeli Eski, Gocmen Evleri, No. 252 Kartal, Istanbul, Turkey, wants a girl p.p. anywhere.

Miss Jean Coleman (19), 33 Bourne Terrace, London W.2, England, wants p.p.'s in Australia.
 Miss Roseanne Reanne (19), 23 Balfour House, St. Charles' Square, London W.10, England, wants p.p.'s in Australia.

Mr. Bulent Iser, Selimiye Mah, Taya Kadin Sak, Ikizdere Apt. No. 14/16 Uskudar, Istanbul, Turkey, wants a p.p. girl.
 Denise Moritucci, Rua Paraiiba 190, Cx Postal 25, Cornelio Procopio Pr., Brazil, age 17, wants p.p.'s everywhere.
 Genisea Rodrigues (17), Rua Pedro Celestino 707, Campo Grande Mt., Brazil, wants a p.p.

Miss Martina Winnig (15), 7 Berlin 44, Eslester 74, Germany, wants a p.p. boy, English.
 Miss Filie Serrador (15), Av Atlantica 3958 Apt 202, Quaranbara, Brazil, wants girl p.p.'s everywhere.

Miss Heather Anderson (14), 1a Nantes Street, Newton, Geelong, Victoria, Australia, wants p.p.'s everywhere.
 Miss Lynda Zilli (15), 22 Rue Dubesme, Paris 18, France, wants p.p.'s in Kent and U.S.A.

Anne Uruhart, 6 Greville Grove, Heathcote, New South Wales, Australia, age 11, wants a p.p. in Great Britain.
 Miss Christine Kiczek, 626 East Second Avenue, Roselle, New Jersey 07203, U.S.A., wants English p.p.'s, age 17.
 Gabriele Hllipens, 1 Berlin 47, Husug 8, Germany, wants boy p.p.'s aged 15-16, in England.

Miss Carolyn Balakewitz (17), 3037 Stoney Creek Road, Norristown, Pennsylvania 19403, U.S.A., wants p.p.'s anywhere.
 Robyn Castle (16), Box 14, Kings City, California 93930, U.S.A., wants a boy p.p. in Great Britain.

Yvette Scott (16), Box 332, King City, California, U.S.A., wants a boy p.p. in Great Britain.
 Jean Ishi (16), P.O. Box 517, Springdale, Arkansas 72764, U.S.A., wants a p.p. in England.

Miss Rita McCartney (18), c/o America Alves Da Silva, Anfilofia De Carwallow, 29 Sto 917-18 Rive Franciro G.B., Brazil, wants p.p.'s everywhere.
 Yvonne Boot (16), Melis Stotlaan 1066, The Hague, Holland, wants a p.p. in England.

Nicole Guys (17), 18 Celle Broeder Straat, 18, Antwerpen 1 Belgium.
 Miss Betsy Femia (15), 1421 Brinknerhoff Avenue, Itica, New York 13501, U.S.A., wants p.p.'s everywhere.

Miss Cathy Cunningham (17), 50 Kilravock St., Queens Park Estate, London W.10, England, wants boy p.p.'s in America and Australia.
 John (18), 113 Middlesex Drive, Bletchley, Buckinghamshire, wants girl p.p.'s everywhere.

Christine Bergmann (17), Wollma Yxkulls Gatn 128111, Stockholm So., Sweden, wants a p.p. in England.
 Camelia Schulze (15), 1 Berlin 46, Ermichstrabe 22, Berlin, wants p.p. anywhere.

Miss Yikiko Asada (16), 16-12 3-Chome Nishishagawa, Shinagawa Ku, Tokyo, Japan, wants boy p.p.'s in England.
 Miss Sachiko Takakashi, 5-14-3 Hakuson Bungleys-Ku, Tokyo, Japan, age 17, wants p.p.'s everywhere.



(Addresses are in England unless otherwise stated)

Miss Kumiko Sakuta (18), 9-9 Aioi Cho, Ataru Shi, 1 Sakkaido, Japan, wants a p.p. anywhere.

Tina Harrison (15), Rua Das Laranjeiras 102, Apto 504 2C01 G.B., Brazil, wants a p.p. in America.

Miss Daria Ghizzoni, Piazza Martini 4, 20137 Milano, Italy, wants a p.p. anywhere.

Miss Cherle Schutz (15), McAuther Street, Penola 5877, South Australia, wants p.p.'s everywhere.

Dominic Delam (14), 304 Rue Hollebeek Linkbeen, Brabant, Belgique, wants boy p.p.'s in Liverpool and London.

Roswitha Dangel (14), Theaterstrasse 18, 795 Biberach Riss, West Deutschland, Wurt, Germany, wants p.p.'s in Dover, Bournemouth, Plymouth, Liverpool, Wales or Northern Ireland.
 Miss Ester Kold (14), Ryesgade 117, 2100 Copenhagenk, Denmark, wants p.p.'s everywhere.

Ester Anderson (15), Tordenskjoldsgade, 1055, Copenhagen k, Denmark, wants p.p.'s everywhere.

Miss Chizouk Kurokaura (18), 408-1 Ohara, Setagaya-Ku, Tokyo, Japan, wants p.p.'s in Liverpool, Paris, Rome, London.

Miss Ageshir Houkawa (17), 935-4 Simalakaido, Suginami-Ku, Tokyo, Japan, wants p.p.'s in London, Liverpool, Paris, Rome.

Miss Masako Koike (17), 3-33 Dotemaken Amiya City, Saitamanaken, Japan, wants p.p.'s in Europe, Australia and Japan.

Miss Raffaella Ranieri (17), Via M. Gioia 65 20124, Milano, Italy, wants a p.p. anywhere.

Julie Burns (19), 28 Moorfoot Avenue, Glenburn, Paisley, Scotland, wants American boy p.p.

Linda Jackson (17), Box 145-A Grandview, Washington 98930, U.S.A., wants a p.p.

Elaine Scott (14), Rosemount, Dollar Clacks, Scotland, wants an American boy p.p.

Wendy Challen (17), 32 Malesbury Road, Mordon, Surrey, wants a boy p.p. in England.

Janice Haltham (15), 19 Sherbrook Road, Fulham, London S.W.6, wants a p.p. anywhere.

Miss Luciana Mayer (18), Borgo St., Pieteo 25, 34015 Muffia, Trieste, Italy, wants p.p. anywhere.

Miss Sonia Millo (18), Via M. Mocenago, 6, 34015 Muffia, Trieste, Italy, wants p.p. anywhere.

Alice J. Henson (15), H. C. Lumbyesvej 4, Lumby Tyn, Denmark, wants a boy p.p. in Liverpool or London (enclose photo).

Pam Miles, Aristoloteles 8, Apt 1, Mexico, 5, D.F., U.S.A., wants a boy p.p. anywhere.

Miss Keiko Yokokiyama (14), 2276 Fujimicho 3-Chome, Higashi Murayama-Shi, Tokyo, Japan, wants a p.p. in England.

Miss Masako Watanova (15), 2253 Fujimicho 3-Chome, Higashi Murayama-Shi, Tokyo, Japan, wants a p.p. in England.

Franciose Grande (18), 26 Rue Des Lionards 63, Buemont, France, wants a p.p. anywhere.

Miss Diane Yerve (17), Box 95, Trafalgar, Victoria 3824, Australia, wants p.p.'s everywhere.

Miss Sue Thompson (15), 32 Guy Avenue, Low Hill, Wolverhampton, Staffordshire, wants a p.p. in the U.S.A.

Miss Vickie Endres (14), 2175 So. 12th Street, Springfield, Illinois 62703, U.S.A., wants a p.p. in London or Liverpool, same age or older.

Christa M. Ranzinger (15), D-8351 Gruberschlugg 77, Post Grobarmschlag, Germany, wants boy p.p.'s in Germany (same age or older).

Frieda Coopmans (17), 7 Nieuwe Geldanaake Baan, Biebeek, Bij Leuven, Brabant, Belgium, wants an English p.p.





BEATLE NEWS

BEATLES HAVE FILM IDEA

The Beatles have an idea for their next major film. But, everything is still in the embryo stage at present and until the script is actually written, it cannot be regarded as definitely on.

John and Paul have also written dozens of songs for their next L.P. which they started recording very shortly after John returned to England just before Easter. It's unlikely that they will have an album ready for release before the Autumn, but a summer single is planned.

JOHN'S PLAY CENSORED

The Lord Chamberlain has cut several lines from the script of John's play, "Scene III—Act I" although they have already been published in John's two best-selling books, "In His Own Write" and "A Spaniard In The Works". John didn't seem to mind about the cuts when he heard about them on his return from India.

PAUL CHOOSES PHOTOS

All those weird photos which you have seen in the Musical press recently advertising the Beatles' Apple companies, have been selected by Paul.

He thought up the idea for the Apple advertising campaign and visited many of the photo agencies in London so that he could plough through thousands of photos in order to find what he wanted.

The campaign has still many months to run, so there are still lots of Paul's Pix to come.

RINGO LOCKED IN!

During the first week of April, a meeting was held in the Apple Corps offices in Wigmore Street. Those present were Ringo, Maureen, Mal Evans, Neil Aspinall and Peter Brown. The discussions went on until well after 6 o'clock. When it finally ended and everyone got up to leave, they found that they couldn't get out of the front door as the janitor had locked it thinking that everyone had left for the night. After several phone calls, Mal managed to get hold of one of the NEMS chauffeurs who set off to find the key.

While they waited, everyone joined in a game of darts. Fortunately, Mal had bought a board and two sets of darts for Ringo as he is very fond of the game. An hour and a half later they were let out.

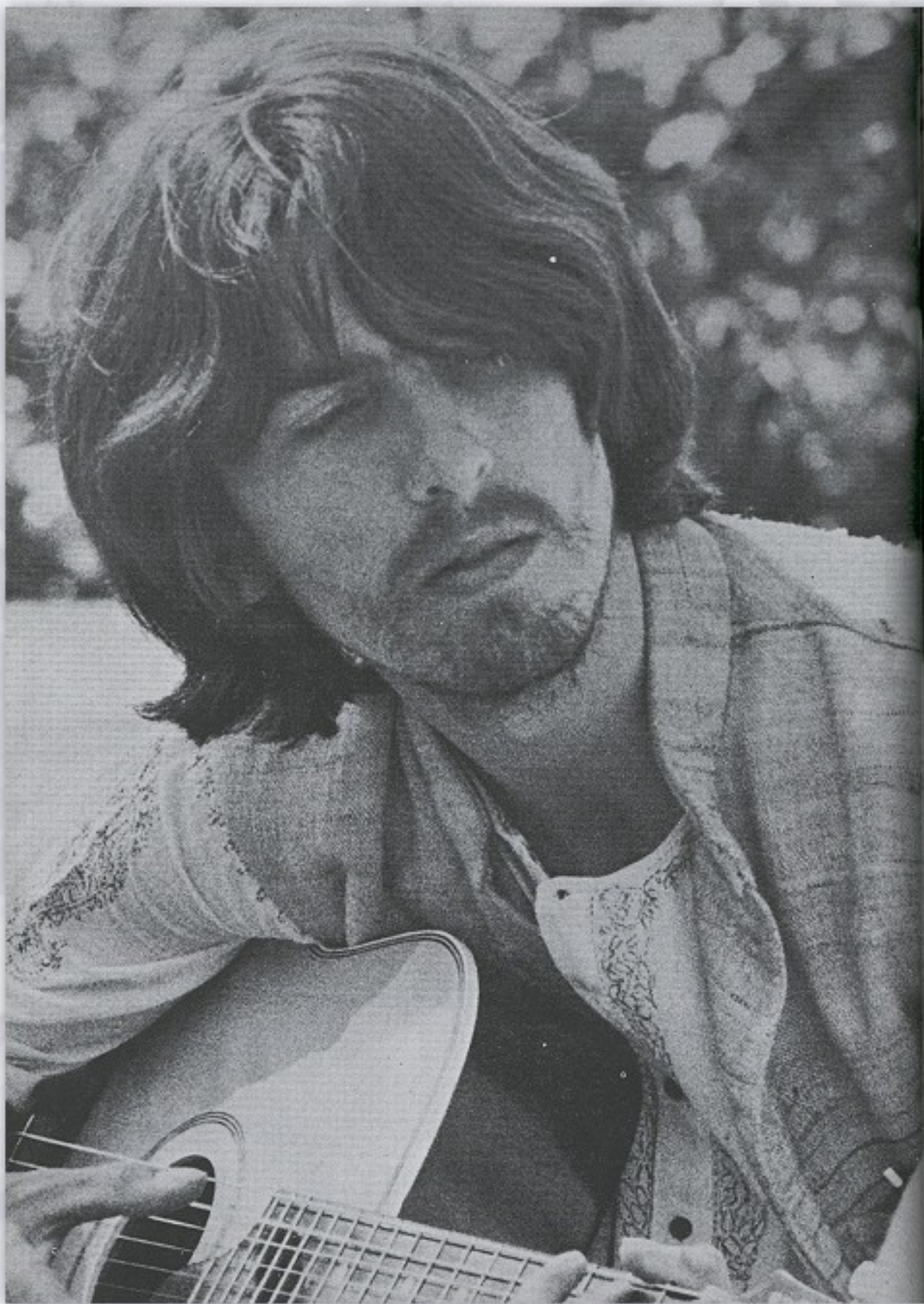
Everyone enjoyed the game of darts and the winner, with a very big score was . . . Maureen!

PAUL DIRECTS 'GRAPEFRUIT' FILM

The Beatles' protege group, "Grapefruit", have just released their new single "Elevator". Paul decided that they should make a special film to promote the record on television, so, he took "Grapefruit" into Hyde Park and directed them in a three-minute sequence.

Loads of people came up with the usual reaction on seeing Paul—"Is it?—No, it can't be! Yes, I'm sure it is", etc. Eventually, about 50 fans cornered him around the Albert Memorial, so Paul gave in and signed some autographs.

Geoffrey Emerick laughing at the antics of Ringo when he presented him with his Grammy Award for being the recording engineer on the best produced L.P. of 1967, which was, of course, "Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band".





ABOVE: Bet you've never seen this typist before.

LEFT: George pictured playing his guitar during his stay in Rishikesh.

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The **Beatles** BOOK

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