

The Beatles get organized

See Hunter Davies, *The Beatles*, with a new introduction, New York: Norton, 2009.

Brian Epstein (1934-1967)

- Family took over Nems (North End Music Stores) in 1930s
- Brian in charge of record department
 - By 1961 the stores are thriving and Brian is getting bored
 - October 28, 1961 request for "My Bonnie" starts the hunt for this group called the Beatles. He went to the Cavern to hear them November 9, 1961.
 - First meeting Dec. 3, 1961 Bob Wooller of the Cavern Club is there
 - Dec. 10, 1961 a contract is signed
 - Nems Enterprises is his management company
 - Brian finishes what Astrid started: suits, scheduling, rules of behavior (no smoking on stage, a program to follow) "making it real" - John
 - starts working with Decca records
 - audition January 1, 1962 and nothing happened and Decca passed
 - as did many others

Beatles go to Hamburg for a third trip in April -June 1962

- recording for Polydor as backup band
- Brian insists they fly to Germany

May 1962 -Brian also makes the tapes into a record at HMV (retail branch of EMI)

-the technician likes the tapes and connects Brian with George Martin of Parlophone, a division of EMI

June 6, 1962, Beatles audition for George Martin (1926-2016)

July 1962 Martin offers contract with Parlophone

- this is when the Beatles replace Pete Best with Ringo Starr
- Pete not told about contract and on August 16, 1962 is fired by Brian

Ringo Starr (1940-)

- born Richard Starkey to Elsie Gleave and Richard Starkey
 - separated when Ringo was 3
- At 6 his appendix burst / peritonitis set in
 - hospitalized for a little over one year (ten weeks in a coma)
- at 13 hospitalized for pleurisy (two years)
- drummer for Eddie Clayton Skiffle band and played for other joiner apprentices
- then joined Rory Storme (Liverpool's leading group)
 - Ringo is a favorite with fans and other musicians
- first met Beatles in 1960 in Hamburg at the Kaiserkeller
- played with Tony Sheirdan in Hamburg
 - offered car, housing and wages for a year to stay in Hamburg
- decided to come back to Liverpool and summer 1962 Beatles offered him a job

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