

## **The Beatles (10 October 1964)**

I can remember when The Beatles came to De Montfort Hall in 1963 and how the queues were endless around the old Municipal offices in Charles Street. So, when we heard that tickets were going on sale on Sunday 23rd August 1964, we decided to try and get some. My sister Chris, her friend Ibby and I went to De Montfort Hall on the day before at about teatime to join the queue around the metal fence around the Hall. There weren't too many people in the queue at that time, so we knew we would stand a good chance of getting some tickets. I think I stayed for a bit, but unfortunately I wasn't allowed to queue overnight, so my dad collected me! I can remember he did go back during the night to check on Chris and Ibby. My sister said her time in the queue was a thrilling experience; she said it was cold and can remember having 'fun' with lads around them!

The next day I was highly delighted when my sister showed me 3 tickets, centre stage view, 3 rows from the front — brilliant!

We went to the 6.15 performance. Our seats were great, and the buzz of the crowd just got louder the more people filled the hall. The support acts came on: The Rustiks, Sounds Incorporated. The Remo Four, Tommy Quickly, and Mary Wells. All were good, but the audience only wanted to see The Beatles.

When they finally came on, the non-stop screaming, standing on the chairs and mass hysteria started. I couldn't hear any of the song that they sang and we were at the front! I did look at a playlist years later just to see what they did sing and was surprised to see it was only 10 songs. We were also surprised to see that on our row a couple of seats along from where my sister was sitting was Brian Epstein. He just sat there very quietly watching, which looked odd compared to everyone else just screaming!

They didn't appear on stage for very long and I can remember wishing I could've seen it all again.

**Valerie Pegg**