Archaos On this day in 1981, Archaos (then called Circus Bidon) tore down the barricades

at the French hippy festival, La Foire Extraordinarie ("an event like Crufts on acid" according to Time Out's Steve Grant). Archaos members enjoyed themselves so much they decided to make anarchy and destruction central to their show.

They swopped their caravans and animals for chainsaws and motorbikes, and the circus with a death wish was born. "These days they are not quite so outrageous" says their press agent, Mark Borkowski. "All the most dangerous members of the cast are in prison."

Scotland on Sunday. 11 Aug 1991