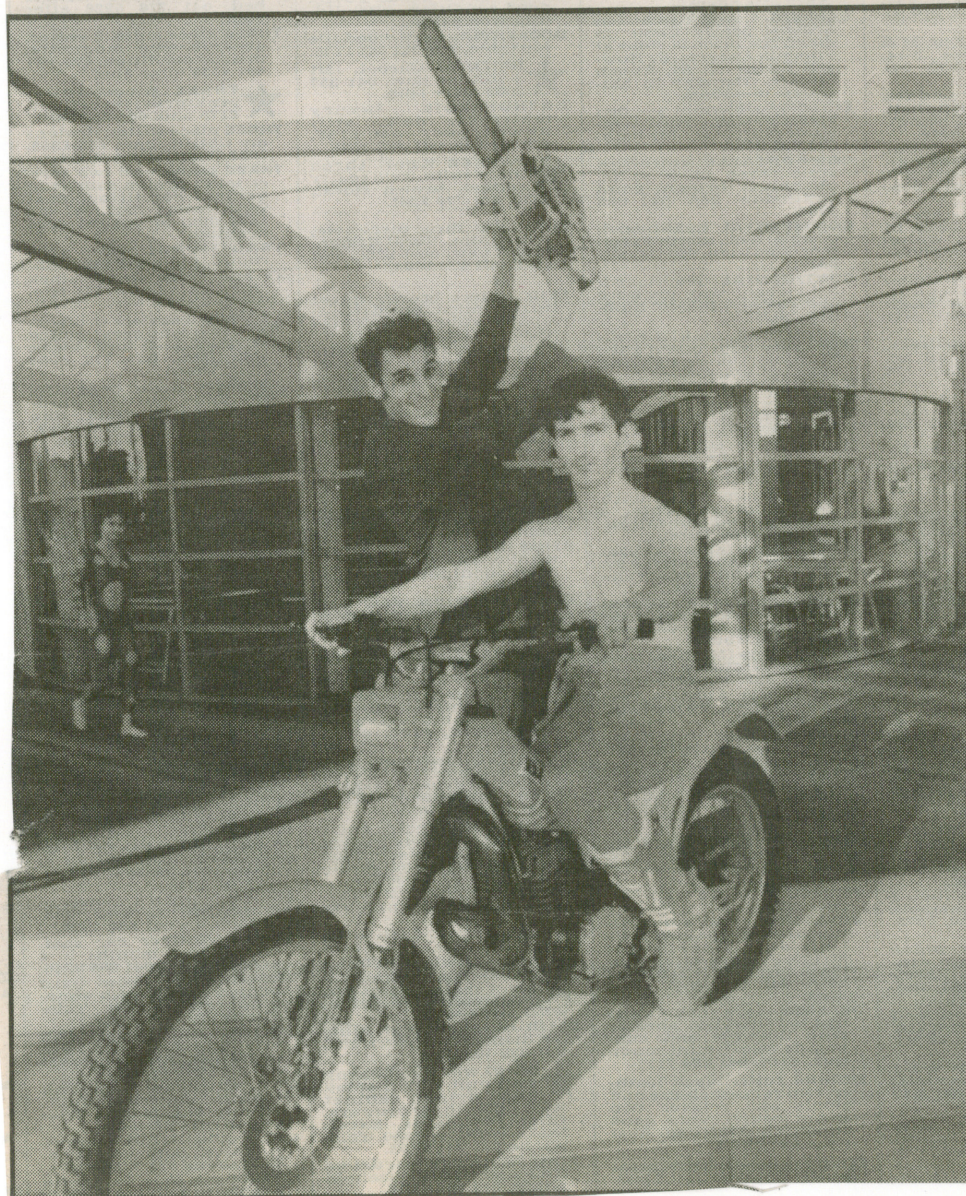


# DAREDEVIL CIRCUS TO PUT ON BAR-L SHOW



**A CONTROVERSIAL circus is to give a special performance – for Barlinnie prisoners.**

Stars of the zany French Archaos show will visit the city jail on September 3.

The performance for mainstream prisoners follows a courtyard show for the eight-man Special Unit earlier this month which impressed prison chiefs.

The record-breaking French troupe will put on extracts of the show that is currently entertaining audiences at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe.

The blockbuster, all action performance includes fish-eating clowns, daring ropemen, juggling, acrobats and explosives.

Mark Borkowski, of Archaos, said: "We performed for Special Unit prisoners and their families on visiting day. Some of the inmates said it was the most exciting thing they had seen in their lives."

#### CONDITION

Mr Borkowski admitted that Archaos had a "dangerous and crazed" reputation but added there was a "soft underbelly" to the company.

He stressed that they had not juggled chainsaws in the jail.

By KEN SYMON

"There is no chainsaw juggling. There hasn't been in this country ever – that was part of the condition when we got Leith Links in Edinburgh last year," said Mr Borkowski.

He added: "If we can bring something into the lives of people who are incarcerated, than that's something that the company would really like to do."

The circus faced an 11th hour ban for its Glasgow Green show in July because councillors were concerned it might not be suitable entertainment for families.

But the show eventually went ahead after a six-member licensing sub-committee ruled that there was nothing in the show likely to cause public disorder.

The Glasgow Green performances were 20 minutes shorter than the normal touring show with three acts – including a topless woman bicycle act – omitted.

But organisers said that cuts were due to injuries rather than for reasons of taste.

CHAIN GANG  
... but the power saw will not feature in the Archaos show at Barlinnie.