

OBSERVER

# Scotland

SUNDAY 22 JULY 1990

ISSUE 92



## And the banned played on

Stewart Hennessey

EXPECTATIONS were running high in Glasgow. Decadence was coming to town, in the shape of Circus Archaos, the theatre of the apocalypse, given to juggling chainsaws, firing flamethrowers, exploding cars, smashing televisions, sensational stunts and seriously sexy dancing.

'Allo, 'allo, what's all this then?' inquired the broad-minded civic authorities. 'A show that includes some saucy suggestive movements,

eh? A show that will be difficult to get tickets for, eh? We'd better have ourselves a little look.'

And so the city's moral policemen, those fearless gentlemen from Glasgow District Council, without a thought for their own safety, demanded to see a free preview of the exciting show, recently banned in Bristol. They were given a video and, in the event, found nothing too untoward about the performances, and are even rumoured to have enjoyed them. The crowds are now flocking in

to the show, which started yesterday.

Despite a prayer chain organised by an agitated member of the public and a petition against the performance, the organisers were happy to be in Glasgow. 'Most people here are sympathetic and curious,' said Pierrot Bidon, the general manager of this Archaos show. 'The council were OK, just a bit afraid because of some rubbish in the popular press. But they are intelligent men.' / Photograph by Murdo MacLeod.