

## HOME NEWS



Adrian Evans, producer of Circus Archaos, with the company's magical mystery bus on Glasgow Green yesterday

# Circus complains of big top by press

THE accused London tabloids had done it again, queering the pitch with their sensationalism, Circus Archaos's producer lamented yesterday.

According to the more excitable members of the press, the British tour of Circus Archaos has been followed around the country by the verbal equivalents of letters from Outraged of Cheltenham.

Councillors and guardians of public morals have frothed at the mouth at the French-based circus's performances, which feature scantily-clad members of both sexes, simulated sex,

By ALAN DRON

exploding cars and the liberal use of chainsaws.

In short, Circus Archaos is to Billy Smart what Attila the Hun was to international diplomacy and raised a slight frisson when it appeared in Edinburgh last year.

The producer, Adrian Evans, accepted yesterday that a show like Archaos thrived on press publicity, but suffered when stories went over the top.

Unfortunately local councils seemed to prefer to believe what the popular press said, rather than the

comments of serious newspapers or journalists who had seen the show and the character of the work.

Twenty thousand people had watched the group's three-week stint in Manchester, "and there wasn't one complaint about the show's content."

Mr Evans went on: "This show is more about culture than Pavarotti. This is for the people, this slow. It's about life; life's got violence and sex in it.

"It's a rough show, it's raunchy, it's sexy, but it's not a sex show. I'd be happy to bring my grandmother to it,

and she's 94, or my godchild, who's four."

Unconvinced, Glasgow District Council has called for a video of the 110-strong troupe's performance before deciding whether its proposed two-week run on Glasgow Green can properly be put before the lieges.

"I think they're getting a bit hysterical about this,"

If the council began asking for large chunks of the performance to be deleted, Archaos would simply pack its bags. Next stop? Edinburgh.

Do we detect approaching letters from Appalled of Morningside?