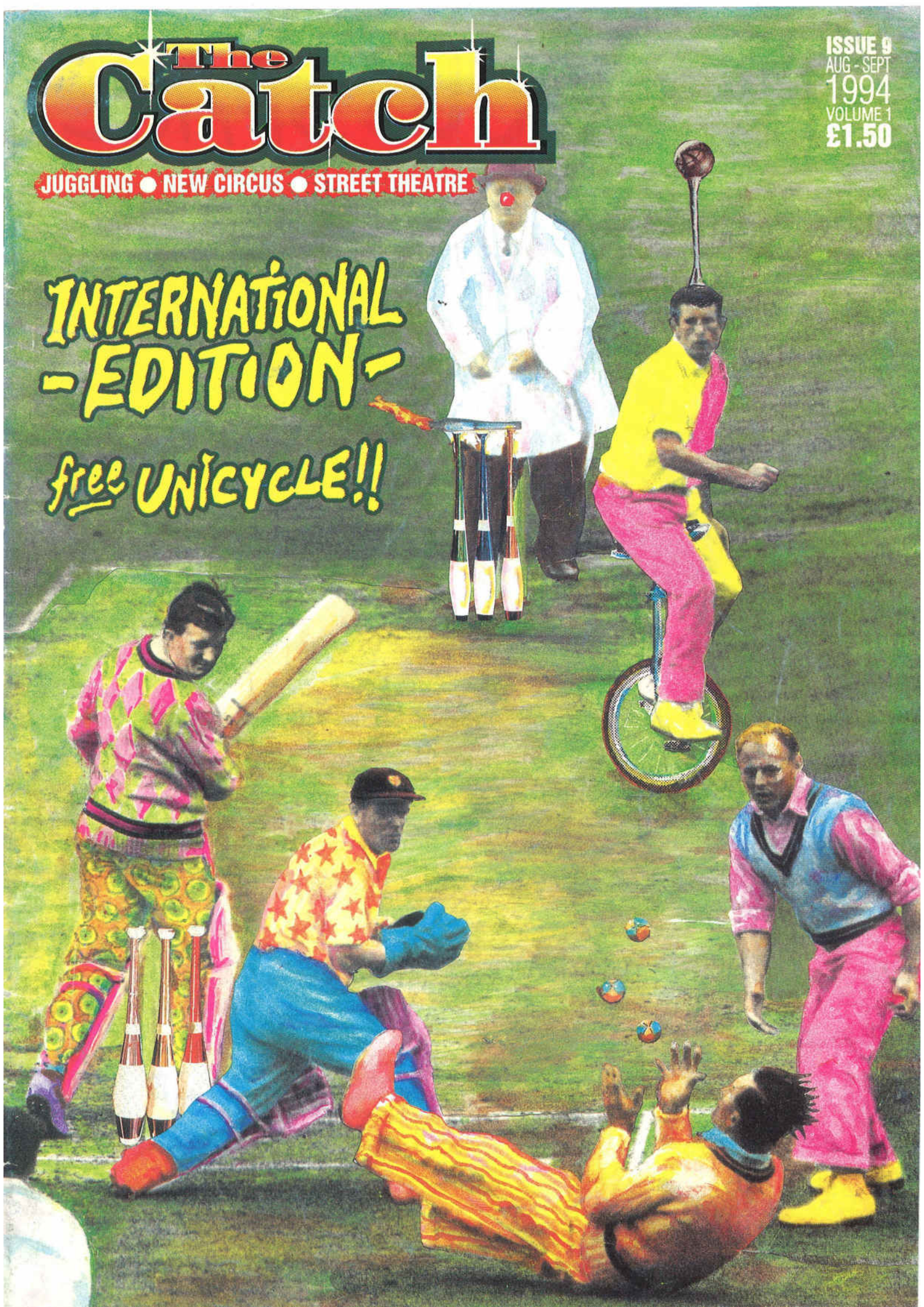


# The Catch

JUGGLING • NEW CIRCUS • STREET THEATRE

ISSUE 9  
AUG - SEPT  
1994  
VOLUME 1  
£1.50

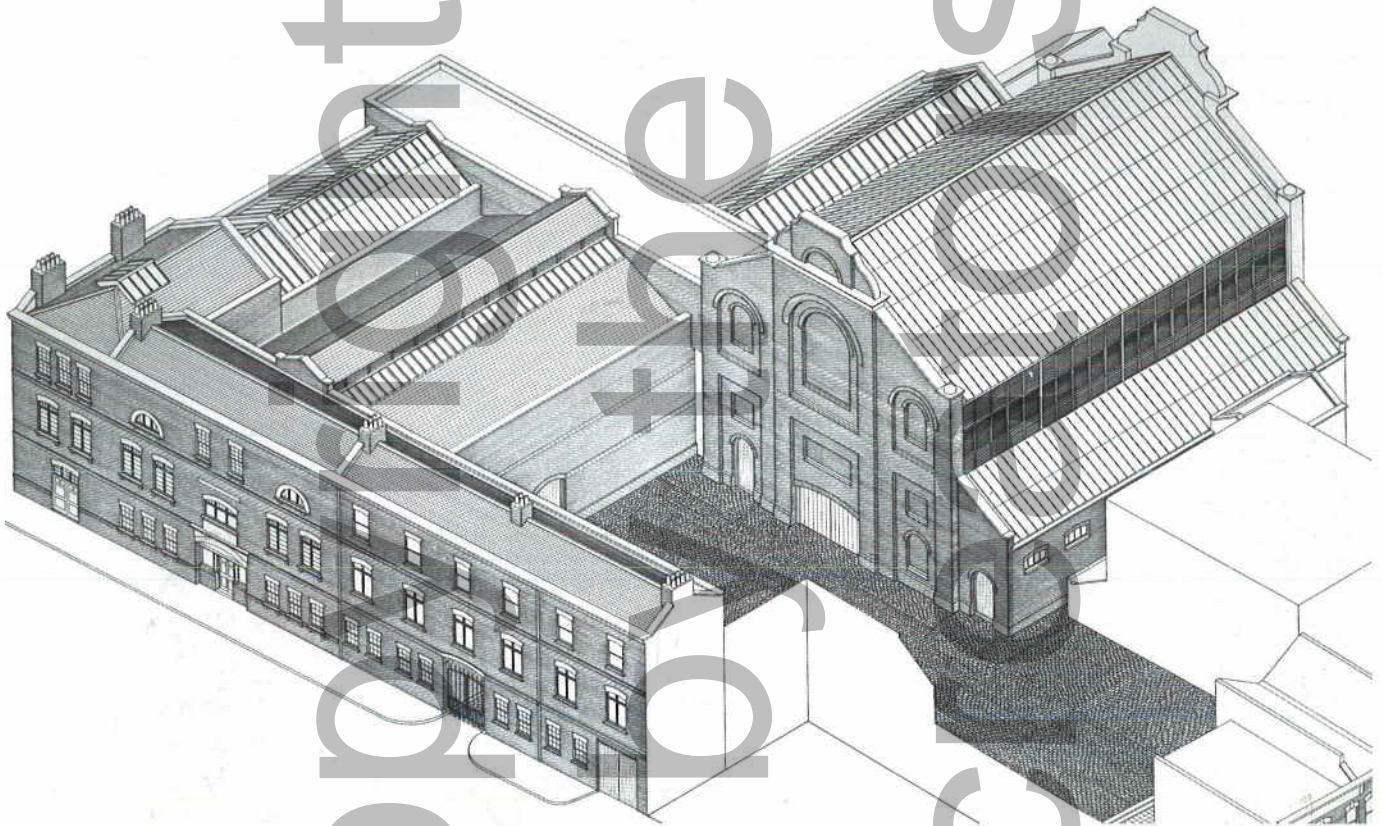
INTERNATIONAL  
- EDITION -  
free UNICYCLE!!





# THE CIRCUS SPACE

BRITAIN'S PREMIER CENTRE FOR CIRCUS ARTS



## THE CIRCUS SPACE'S NEW HOME!

THE FORMER SHOREDITCH ELECTRICITY STATION  
CORONET STREET, HACKNEY, LONDON N1 6HD

4 minutes from OLD STREET TUBE, Northern Line (City Branch).

TELEPHONE 071 613 4141

FAX 071 729 9422

Please phone for our free programme of courses in everything from acrobatics to trapeze for absolute beginners through to professionals.

## COURSES FOR JUGGLERS

Regular Tuesday and Sunday evening juggling workshops

7pm - 10pm

£3, £2 members

Jugglers of all levels are invited to drop in.

Introduction to Circus Skills

1pm - 4pm

Sun 14 Aug

£20, £15 members

Spend a packed afternoon having a go at flying trapeze, acrobatics, juggling and more.

Whip cracking, rope spinning & knife throwing

Sun 4 Sept

11am-4pm

£20, £15 members

An enjoyable course for absolute beginners led by Simon Beaumont with plenty of equipment provided.

Club swinging for beginners

Sat 10 - Sun 11 Sept

1-4pm

£20, £15 members

Spend two afternoons learning the basics of club swinging. This course is for complete beginners or those with a little experience.

Club Passing Convention

Sun 18 Sept

11am - 5pm

£5

An open invitation to all competent club passers to come along and play with multi-person passing patterns, weaves, zig-zag feeds etc.

COMING UP FROM OCTOBER (all dates provisional):

Ultra-Violet Black Light Convention

16 Oct

Clown - The Art of Play with Commotion

17-27 Oct

3 Balls with Movement course with Sean Gandini

24-28 Oct

Devising juggling routines with Todd Strong

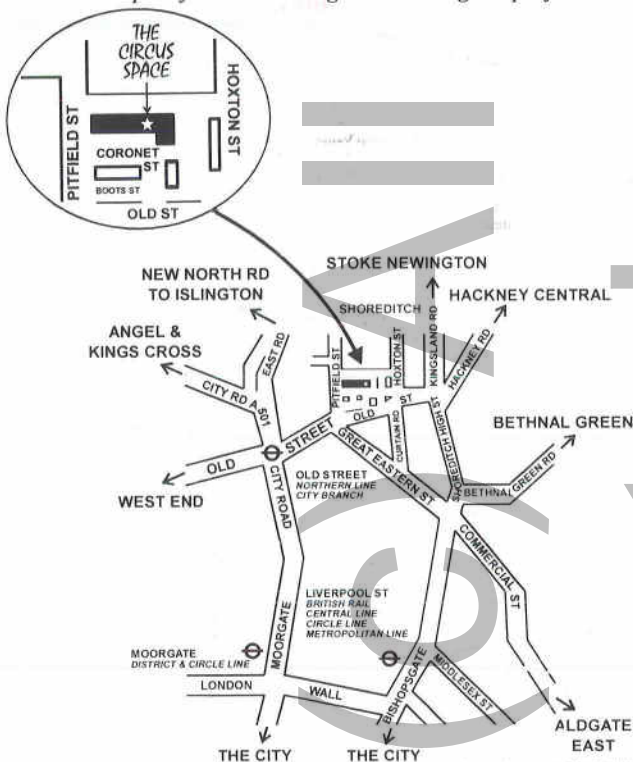
21-25 Nov

Imaginative Club Swinging with Anna Jillings

26 Nov

Club Swinging convention

27 Nov







5-7

## CURRIED CLOWN

*Olly Crick's* memoirs of serving in India - as an apprentice funny-man in a foreign language! Pics courtesy of *Charlie Holland* who was there too.

9

## GAMES PEOPLE PLAY

Volley-Club and Diabolo-Volley - two new things to do on the beach this summer. With an all-star international cast.

10-11

## CORK TIPS & STOUT FELLAS

Beamish Boy *The Sandman* goes to the Emerald Isle. Doesn't find any emeralds, but a few gems nonetheless.

13

## PARLEZ-VOUS TROMBONE?

"If in doubt, blast 'em out" - could be *The Flying Tiddies'* motto. But any street act has a thing or two to learn from this musical multinational.

15

## UNICYCLE UNIVERSITY

Getting on without holding on - a kick up your mount from *Sebastian Höher*.

17

## PASSED

Into the mystic with *Pearse Halpenny's* collection of strange old books...

18-19

## IN A FIELD OF ITS OWN

The Editor himself went to Glastonbury. I hope no-one's going to regret this - sHe certainly didn't. Pics by *Adrian John & Luke Daniells*.

20-21

## FEEDS

The incredible *Catch* competition giveaway jamboree strikes lucky once again. Plus MULTIPLEX - the classified ads that ate New York!

22-23

## CERI-HAT-TRICKS

The Juggling population is getting older by the year - the *Catch* pension queue and *Robbie* predict what conventions will be like under the gerontocracy.

24-31

## CATCH THIS

All the information you can't possibly do without - what to do with your money, where to go, and another silly way to injure yourself on a unicycle.

33

## CATCH OUT

We were all too busy lying in the sun (OK, and organising conventions) to go to any shows recently. Except for Pippa.

33

## BALLS

We only got sent one book this time. And *he* won't be writing to us again in a hurry.

34-36

## DROPS

Controversy overload - The JTF strikes back, someone moans at *Poll* and she takes it out on the Criminal Government Bill.

36-37

## CATCHPHRASES

The organised bit of the magazine - where the organisations talk to *you*. *Diabolo* babbles a lot but sHe's not organised at all so doesn't really belong *here*.

38-39

## DROP BACK LINES

The art of letter-writing is not dead. It just smells funny and has a pretty moribund sense of humour. You write, we cut most of it out.

40-41

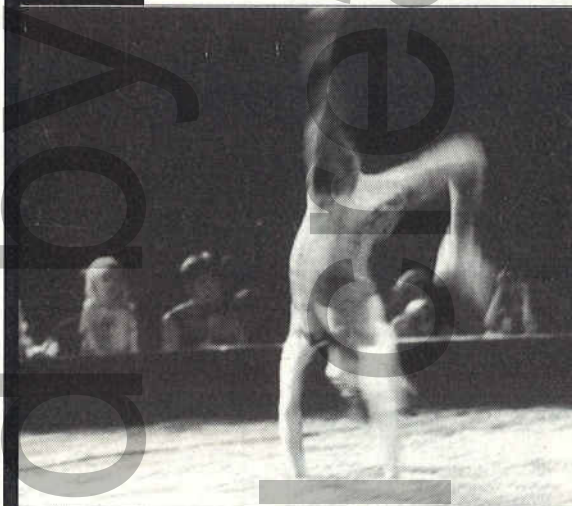
## CLUBS

The workshops with no planes but the occasional helicopter, no vices (none they'll talk about, anyway), and no saws apart from Unicyclists' bottoms.

43

## STILTS TILT

*Robbie* throws Busker Gut out of the window - no swearing but a little bestiality.



Swamp Circus pic: LUKE DANIELS

## ISSUE NINE ? AUGUST - SEPTEMBER 1994

*The Catch* is published six times more frequently than *Wisden* from: Moorledge Farm Cottage, Knowle Hill, Chew Magna, Bristol BS16 8TL.

Edited by *Diabolo*, *Catch's* Cadle, c/o the above.

Advertising & Trade Sales, Jan & Stuart Ashman,

The Catch Office, phone & fax 0275 332655.

Cover Reality Manipulation by Howard Vause.

Cameratography by Adrian John, Luke Daniells & Martin Gisborne.

Pencilmania - Robbie MacIntosh & Martin F Bedford.

Designer tailoring and machining: Howard Vause, 0225 776515.

Inside Job: Wiltshires, Bedminster, Bristol. They do *Via*, you know.

Bright Bits: Sebright, Bristol.

If you don't catch us, you'll catch it, and no protective on earth will save you from Accurate Information Deficiency Syndrome. Our deadline for news, course and pig information is August 20th - miss that and it won't just be the Last Train to San Fernando that you won't get another one of. After that date you risk being ignored by our extremely malleable readership (if the number of them that follow the - ahem - *deliberate mistakes* we put in sometimes for a laugh are anything to go by). Late submissions only accepted if delivered on bended knee, on a silver platter, and accompanied by unsolicited *other favours*. Be imaginative. Beedbeedbeedbeedbeed.

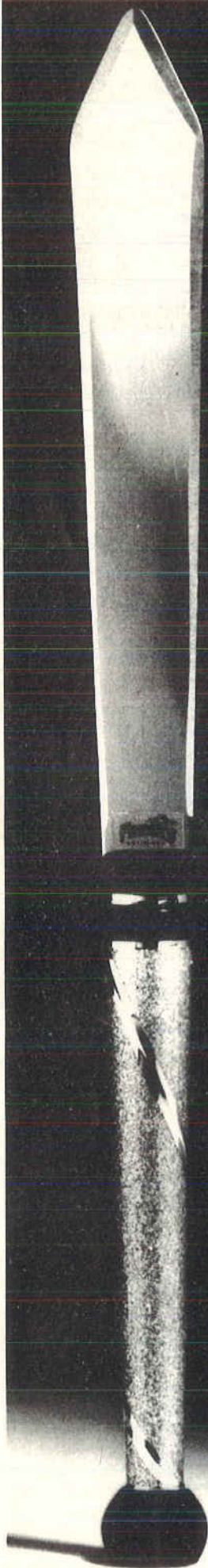
All contributions, artwork and photography remain the copyright of the originators - especially those who are in fact extremely famous artists and writers hiding under foolish assumed names. They can be contacted through the *Catch* office, form an orderly queue now and have your 10% pre-payment commission cheques ready. The editorial staff's time is extremely precious - they are usually paid 48p a minute to post and pant at you down the telephone.

*The Catch* welcomes contributions, especially cartoons and photography - our cartoonists and cover photographers have been put under such intolerable creative stress since we went bi-monthly, and get such pathetically small amounts of money when we (occasionally) release them from the Moorledge Farm pig-sty (we have to clean it out sometimes or the *Health & Safety at Work* mob will be round) that we've nearly worn them out. More intellectual gallery-staves required - sign here, please, it's just a disclaimer, nothing to worry about. Articles accepted on any one of the subjects listed on the cover (it's ages since I read a good treatment of '£1.50' - we might even read them. A lot of the greatest and most successful writers in the world started by submitting articles on *spec* to little magazines - and yes, they'd rather forget about those days too. We're also prepared to discuss (briefly!) feature ideas before you put finger to keyboard - drop us a line, we're usually out at high-profile meejah events. If you want anything returned, you'd better send an SAE, even a SSAE, though we do like to hang on to photos for our archives. One of these days we'll open a theme park and charge you all to come and look at them.

The publishers take no responsibility, have no responsibility (probably don't understand the meaning of the word) for any dangerous opinions expressed within, or scurrilous disinformation campaigns organised by the displaced Secret Services of defunct from Curtin states. They (not us, you understand) have merely got it in for you and the whole moral fabric of your society. I'm afraid. If you met the staff you probably wouldn't take anything they said seriously ever again anyway.

*The Catch* wouldn't exist without Stuart & Jan & Pip. And the fact that so many of you don't seem to have anything better to do. Which does not of necessity imply that there is anything better to do, he hastened to add. Let's do it again, honey!





Hardened and sprung Sheffield Stainless Steel blade (will not bend).  
American White Ash handle which is bolted rather than riveted. Not for sale to under 16yrs old.

**FREAKS**  
UNLIMITED

Distributors wanted now. Apply to: 57 Park St., Bristol, BS1 5NU, GB. Tel: +44 272 250368 Fax: +44 272 297337



## JUGGLING JEWELLERY

High Quality Hand Made Silver  
Unicycles, Clubs and Clowns all as  
pendants, earrings and brooches etc.  
These unique items are ideal for  
gifts or presentations.

Trade enquiries welcome. For brochure  
and details Tel: N.K.J. 0425 613405

## The New Zealand Juggling Association (NZJA)

A non-profit organisation  
dedicated to promoting  
juggling in New Zealand

Quarterly newsletter :  
*The Flying Kiwi*

Annual subscription fee  
(includes 4 copies of the Flying  
Kiwi) is \$20NZ for a postal  
address within NZ, \$30NZ  
otherwise. Send to ☐NZJA,  
84 Studholme Street,  
Christchurch 2, New Zealand  
☎ +643-3589189 x3860  
24hrs, email ☺  
g.mathieson@irl.cri.nz



East Midlands

## Juggling Convention

Sunday 2nd October 94

**300 jugglers will tell  
future generations  
"We were there."**

If you haven't already booked  
phone for Gary for counselling on  
Corby 0536 263786

or write to: "The fourth East Midlands Juggling Convention, c/o Corby  
Community Arts, 160 Gainborough Road, Corby, Northants NN18 0RQ.

THE BOGGLE  
JUGGLING SHOP  
9, BROAD ST. BATH,  
BA1 5LJ



THE BOGGLE MAN HOT  
FOOTING IT OUT OF THE  
SHOP WITH HIS JUGGLING  
BARGAINS

(Yes Lee - he finally found it)

- Boat loads of circus  
equipment plus  
*New* Rola-bolas  
French booles  
Face painting & wigs  
Fire Diabolos  
Charlies' Encyclope-  
dia of Juggling.
- Huge practice area to  
try it all out in.
- Some of the countrys  
best & wackiest  
performers for hire  
including:  
The Boggle Brothers  
The Tutus  
Kwabana Lindsey.
- Special workshop  
packages of equipment  
at great prices.
- Free catalogue to tell  
you all about it plus  
efficient mail order  
service.

Call Fay or Jenny  
on  
**0225 - 446685**  
or  
The Performers Hot Line  
on  
**0225 - 482231**

# NEW CATCH T-SHIRT?

CALL JAN on 0275 332655



# THE LONG & THE SHORT OF...

# INDIA



*Some people feel adventurous if they take a busking show to a town they don't know. Pshaw! exclaim The Long & The Short of It, (Charlie Holland & Ollie Crick) - they took a juggling show to another culture, another continent, the other side of the world, no less. Claude Breton, aka. Ollie Crick, recalls the Indian Matinée.*

**S**ome friends of ours had come back with some very weird stories after attempting to perform a *Commedia Dell'Arte* show in India. Both me and the tall one were intrigued. Naturally we both thought that we ought to go and have a go too. My head was full of drama theory, Peter Brook to *Odin Teatret*. I wanted to understand about dramatic communication. Having done quite a lot of work on the alternative cabaret circuit in London (The Tunnel Club and the Comedy Store), I was interested in whether the act we had created was funny in a global sense, or merely to the English. There is only one way to find out. Performing in Israel at Passover convinced me of the difference between senses of humour. Jokes about *Matzos* - proving how macho we were by cutting ten in half with a juggling knife - got a laugh. So did me choking on the dry dust that settled on my skin, my hair, up my nose and down my throat, as a result of said trick. Definitely a cultural joke that, though the festival organisers did warn us that the local Rabbis did not approve, it being Passover. We stopped the routine. Was there a deeper structure of communication than cultural humour? If we could find out how to be funny all over the world, then we wouldn't have to endure the worst of English weather and the worst of English working conditions.

Welsh company *Theatre Taliesin*, in conjunction with the local Gujarati Community, had invited a group of native Gujarati folk performers over for a tri-lingual (Welsh, Gujarati and English) production of *Twm Sian Cati*, the Welsh Robin Hood. Here were people trying to tell a story that mingled cultures (both the Welsh and Gujaratis are big on having bandits as folk heroes),

and were quite unafraid to mix styles, languages and the occasional sexual metaphor.

These professional Gujarati folk performers were *Bhavaiyars*, practitioners of *Bhavai* theatre. They had no women in their company, and were adept at singing, acting, dancing, and of course female impersonation. They also seemed friendly, totally amazed at the way we lived, totally appalled at the weather...and apparently up for being visited in India.

Of particular interest was the character called the '*Dahglo*'. He was the clown of the troupe, very funny, resembling a bedraggled Max Wall in pyjamas. He realised that I too was a *funny man*, and said lots of things to a translator who edited it all down somewhat. Yes I was going to visit, Yes I would love to see them again. How many times have I said that to people knowing it to be a complete porky? This time though, I meant it.

*'The Long & The Short of it'* landed a job in Japan. The sheer amount of money we were to be earning made an India trip possible afterwards as a kind of holiday. I wrote to all sorts of places, like *'The National Indian Council for the Preservation of Folkloric Arts'*. Two organisations that looked like they wanted to play ball with us were the *West Zone Cultural Centre* in Udaipur., and the *Khel Khiloney Toy Library*, just north of Delhi. Letters were exchanged and some kind of deal was reached. All this, however, was before we ever reached India.

**O**ur arrival changed everything. We arrived from possibly the most hygienic, organised and compulsively civil nation on earth, Japan, into one of the most chaotic, baffling and untidy ones.

I planned to meet up with Charlie in Udaipur to start our mini-tour of places unknown. The hotel we'd agreed on was

full and didn't pass on messages for travellers. West Zone Cultural Centre was closed for the weekend, but I finally managed to find an employee, who found a note from Charlie saying where he was staying - and also a note from the director of the cultural centre. He said that due to a sudden visit by the president, the programme of performances they had arranged for us to see and participate in had had to be cancelled. We eventually received a letter from him three months later explaining why, but postmarked the day before we were due to arrive in Udaipur. Our initial reaction was anger and frustration, but a few wiser travellers announced that that was just the way things happened out in India. The first rule was not to lose your rag at disorganisation, but to grin and ignore it. Things were different.

We visited the *Lok Kala Mandal* centre in Udaipur, an International Puppetry and Folk Art Centre, saw a good display of Folk Dancing and, wait for it, *Bhavai* comedy at a little theatre. These *Bhavai* we saw here were performing in a style unlike the ones we had met in Cardiff - they were doing *Circus*! A very weird performance it was too: a dance on top of a pile of cooking pots, bare feet clinging to the rim of some very sharp and rusty looking saucepans. Was this something that the *Bhavai* actually did to amuse each other, or was it a little snippet for the tourists? We went to another folkloric evening at a slightly classier joint the night after and got the same floor show, only instead of a very ethnic and old man, it was a very highly trained and young female dancer, complete with Bombay film music backing tapes. Definitely for the tourists, especially the older male ones travelling without their wives.

Time to find the real *Bhavai*, and do some shows. We'd already given ourselves a couple of days' practise and a bad dose of sunburn. Checking our contact addresses and our schedule we headed for the heart of rural Gujarat.



It only (!) took a couple of days to find someone who knew where our first contact lived. Of course she wasn't there. A day later, she found us, and arranged a guide to take us out to the village where the Bhavai were. Four hours with four in a rickshaw later... they're not there. A cow had recently died in the village, and, being good Brahmins, they would not perform until some time had elapsed, out of respect. Back in town, someone went to the bus station for us, to ask the bus conductors if they'd heard anything. Indeed they had - the Bhavai were probably in the village we'd just left. We returned at all speed by bus. They weren't there. In England it's quite hard to lose a performance troupe of around 40 people. Here it seemed quite natural.

Eventually we tracked them down to a village called Mottodadava. We arrived at dusk in a wide village square, with low stone buildings one side, and a battered bus kiosk the other side. There was blown sand everywhere and a few men wandering around dressed in white. I recognised one of them, who recognised me. One of the troupe had a little English, and took us to the head honcho. "How would we explain what we wanted to do?" I worried. "What if they just think we're patronising honkies?"

We were introduced to the local Shiva priest, who resembled an emaciated and hairy old testament prophet. He read my palm and recited some verses. Then he looked at my palm again and spoke to Babubhai, the Bhavai leader. I'd already worked out that the Bhavai had a lot of religious kudos attached to them: they were camped out, sleeping on the local temple floor, and very much objects of villager awe. Were we foreign, and therefore unacceptable? Were we heretics or unbelievers? The relief with which we heard his words was understandable: apparently we were very good luck for the Bhavaiyars and it was considered an auspicious thing for us to perform with them. Perfect... except that we hadn't got a clue as to the language or what their shows were about. But at least we were there.

It soon became pretty obvious why we were auspicious. The word got round that two Westerners were with the Bhavai, and groups of kids gathered to stare. We were the new novelty. Mottodadava had one television, one telephone, two water pumps and four hundred entertainment-starved peanut farmers. The Bhavai visiting them was the event of the year and now it was the event of the decade. It was very pleasing to be taken to the Mayor's house for dinner,

and have the local chief of police be in total awe of one. Not a very common occurrence, but one I certainly cherish.

When did the shows begin, I enquired? "Soon," they said. "Soon" meant "in the next four to eight hours". In the middle of the square two Bhavaiyars were lashing together a cubic frame of rotten-looking timber, which defined the performance area, approximately 20' by 20'. On the frame were hung hideously ancient strings of festoon bulbs and the whole thing wired up to a live terminal gouged out of the back of some prewar brown Bakelite mains box. You could smell the electricity just looking for someone to fry. I stayed well clear.

The other Bhavai had wandered back from wherever they had been fed in the village, and began to prepare themselves. We found out that they were doing two shows that night, and we were to be the interval entertainment. A third of the Bhavai were slowly transforming themselves into women. The spectacle of ten or so respectable Indian gentlemen slowly applying false breasts, wigs and make-up was hypnotic to say the least. It was dark already, the troupe didn't look ready to go on yet, but there were at least five hundred people in the square. Benches and tables were brought by the village grandees - a strictly hierarchical seating plan was in force. On one side of the central performance square were the rich men and their sons, on another the poor men and their sons, on another the children, and at the effective back, the women. Some people, we were told, had walked half a day in the heat to get here tonight. There certainly was an air of expectation.

I realised what the Bhavai were waiting for. The heat of the day had gradually been replaced by a pleasant night warmth. It was now three hours after sunset and it looked like acting was possible without suffering instant heat exhaustion. The tabla players (two) and harmonium went first, playing some kind of overture, tuning their instruments as they went. They were joined a little later by two hand-cymbal players, and two more, percussively expressing themselves on old oil cans. I was hustled out to the front row of the audience, and joined in. A bit cheeky perhaps, but taken well. The rhythms got faster and more intricate - the smell and taste of dust was everywhere. The company priest emerged and led group prayers. That's what the drumming was all about. We were calling on *Ganesh*, the elephant-headed God of Prosperity, to bless tonight's endeavours. The priest then anointed the foreheads of the musicians and all the people in the front row with something red and sticky - all the performers, in various stages of readiness, snuck out from the dressing room to be done as well. Now it could all begin.

The evening began with a comic turn. I knew it was comic because the audience was laughing a lot and the scruffier of the two performers appeared to be winning. This was the classic Bhavai beginning: A Brahmin and a *Dahglo* (clown) arguing over such perennial teasers such as greed, alcohol, sex and piety. The Dahglo got all the laughs, but the Brahmin got to be right in the end. At least, when the routine finished, the Dahglo had been persuaded to give up his lazy, dissolute and greedy life, and provide for his horde of wives. Around here they weren't too big on waste or greed - living in a near-desert when the only cash crop is peanuts, and the only protein eaten regularly is the lowly lentil, the people are careful of their resources. You don't find a bunch of Johns in Britain laughing at a Jaguar owner over his petrol consumption. The Dahglo here is definitely a piece of show-biz social control - with a smile and great panache.

Next was a supernatural drama entitled (rough translation) 'The Woman who brought her Husband back from the dead'. The actors were in character as soon as they came out of the dressing-room, announcing their presence with a shout and a *leitmotif* on the drums and harmonium. A good and honest woman married a good but poorly Brahmin. On the night of their wedding, a dramatic scene of much splendour and spectacle, he is overcome and dies. Everyone leaves the stage except the wife and the corpse. Enter then, in magnificent costume with a gigantic mace, Babubhai, the troupe's leader, as *Yama*, God of the Dead. The fact that he has the man's soul in his grasp was boldly shown by the actor playing the corpse holding a small red electric torch bulb, with the two wires, stretching a fair distance, being held by the dreadful Yama. As the God twisted the cables the man's soul-light flickered on and off. The widow then prays and wails for a while and Yama goes off, disgruntled, leaving the light switch with the widow. Her husband then comes back to life and there is another large group celebration.

All the actors playing heroic or regal male rôles all used false moustaches, much like the Rajput style. The bigger the moustache, the more important the character - Yama was adorned with an immaculately groomed grandfather of all moustaches.

We also discovered how the company got paid. Although each household in the village fed one Bhavai, and being Brahmins they could stay in the temple the readies still have to come from somewhere. The company's Number Two, a Machiavellian character called Haribhai, was roaming the



# INDIA



richer sections of the audience soliciting donations. When he felt he had collected enough he would shout out the names of the donors and how much they had contributed. There would be a ritual and enthusiastic response from the actors. This happened at fairly random intervals during the whole evening, frequently interrupting the actors in mid-sentence. They didn't seem to mind, though, and appeared used to it. Maybe they acted better if paid more early on.

Soon it was our turn. Twenty minutes of juggling seemed a bit cheap after almost three hours of the Bhavai. It wasn't! The hardest thing about doing shows in India was being patient about when one's audience was going to turn up, and here was no exception. As soon as the interval happened the audience erupted into a frenzy of eating, chatting, wandering, milling around and random place-changing. We were told to go on in twenty minutes. It was more like an hour and a half before we did our thing, and became instant celebrities in a very small part of Gujarat. I won't describe our show other than to say it ended with fire passing, and all the tabla players joined in (but weren't too impressed by our ability to keep time!).

After the interval was another drama, this time in a completely different style, about the comic problems an educated woman had on returning to her home village. This was a modern piece, with a very strong message (probably via the India Government or the National Folkloric Council) about tolerance and new farming methods. This too lasted several hours and the crowd was still going strong when I faded out, at around 4 am.

The next day was even more exciting...the troupe was moving villages, and also I was to join in the opening number as Dahglo Number 2! I don't know what they expected, but it all seemed to be arranged. The Bhavai had no transport between them except for an ancient moped, so moving did seem to be a problem. As usual in India, if you hang around long enough, you'll find out what's going on. The moped was for Babubhai to whizz off to the next village and warn the locals of our arrival. Everyone else rode on the top of a tractor trailer, already full with sacks of peanuts. It was just about travelling in style.

The 'lads' found me a nice costume and showed me how to make up, using their collection of mineral make-up. I'm pretty convinced everything they put on themselves was highly toxic, but what the hell, Lechner sticks wouldn't survive in that heat

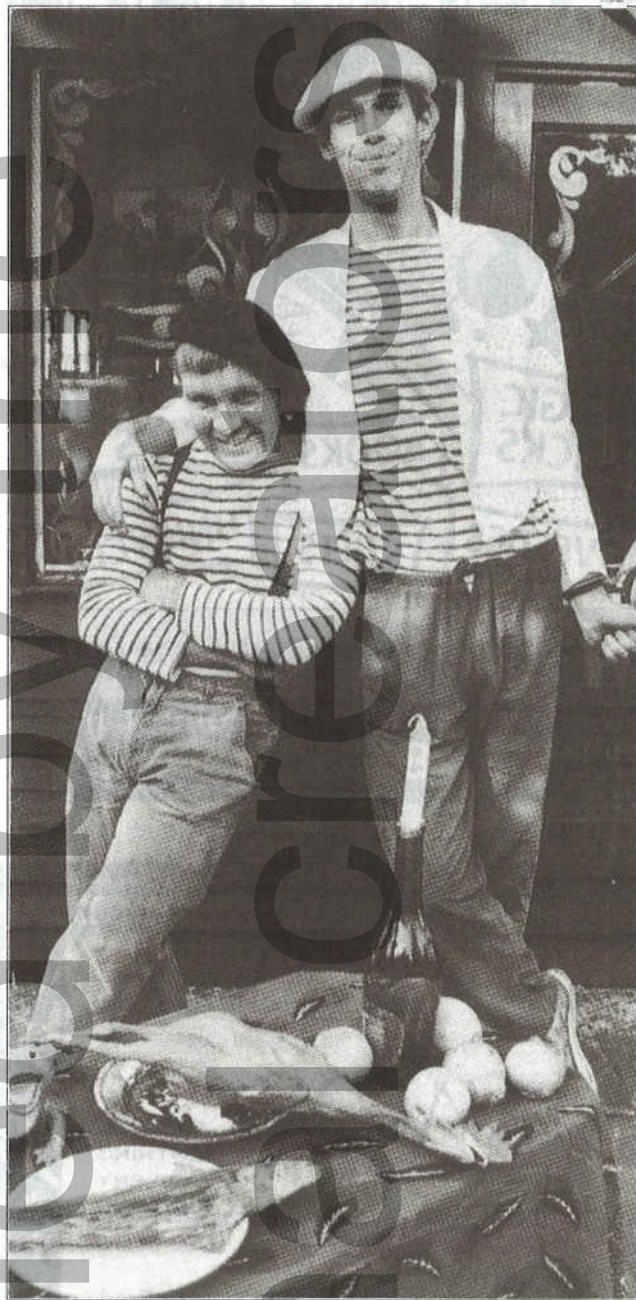
for a minute. The make-up was a parody of a Brahmin, with an impossibly large and over-the-top caste mark on my forehead, and loads of charcoal round the eyes. As a clown I didn't get to wear one of the company's moustache collection, but did get a battered sword and an enamel plate shield to strut my stuff with.

We started the show, and the older clown smiled at me and said his lines directly to me, speaking very clearly. I cottoned on and, taking very seriously what M. Gaullie said about clowns who stay "in the shit" being better than those who try to be clever, I repeated the unfamiliar words with gusto. I enjoyed the problem of trying to simultaneously speak a foreign language and address four hundred or so people. It was, according to the audience, very funny. We did about half an hour of this, including a whirling dance, an argument with 'our' wives and an ecstasy of gluttony over a mimed bowl of sweet-meats. I was dripping by the end, and it seemed as if some level of sink-or-swim commitment had produced inter-cultural humour...or

maybe I had just become a specialist at playing the stupid foreigner. It was great fun, and the Bhavai seemed to enjoy it.

There was one thing though, and that was not to wink at the kids in the audience. The reason this got such a good response was that apparently it was an obscene gesture. No wonder the kids loved it. Anything that is only a little bit taboo for the powers that be is generally funny for the *hoi polloi*.

We lasted about a week with the Bhavai before it all got a bit overwhelming. We headed for our next bit of silliness in Delhi, working with the Toy Library. [More silliness indeed, but I've been silly enough not to have enough space for it -d]

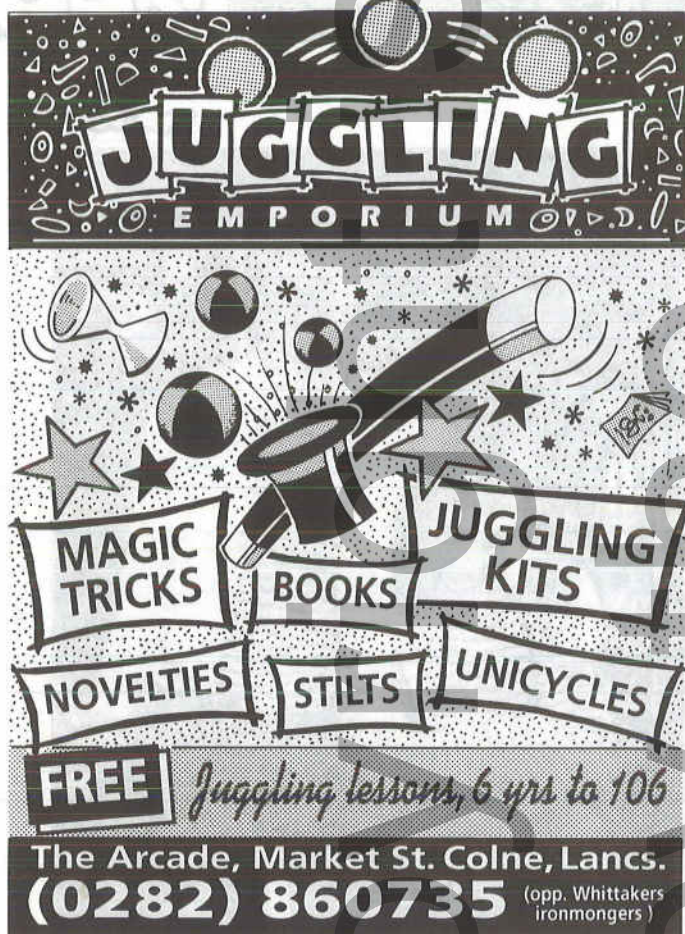


Put it in the curry - culinary capers with Olly & Charlie

If you want to go and do shows in India, or travel and occasionally surprise a village or Parsee, just remember to keep the amount of gear down. It's also a good idea to contact local charities in major towns you plan to visit, and finally this will all need to be sorted out at least a year in advance, and even then may not happen.

What more can I say? I hear that cigarette tricks are popular in Thailand, Stiltwalking is big in East Africa, as is Circus generally. Happy travelling and don't forget to take your shots.





# JUGGLING

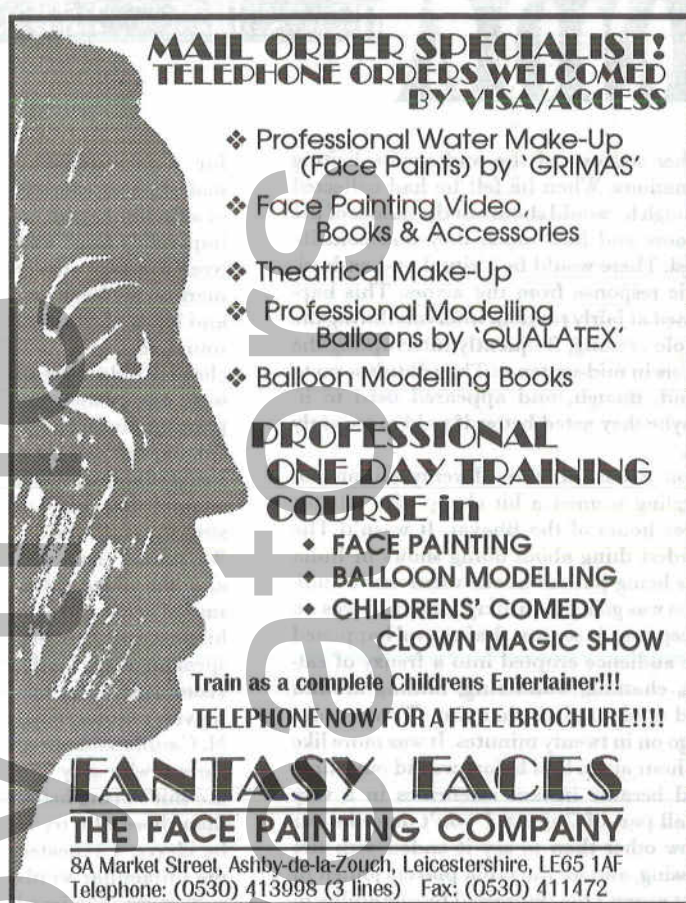
EMPORIUM

MAGIC TRICKS BOOKS JUGGLING KITS

NOVELTIES STILTS UNICYCLES

**FREE** Juggling lessons, 6 yrs to 106

The Arcade, Market St. Colne, Lancs.  
**(0282) 860735** (opp. Whittakers ironmongers)



**MAIL ORDER SPECIALIST!**  
 TELEPHONE ORDERS WELCOMED  
 BY VISA/ACCESS

- ❖ Professional Water Make-Up (Face Paints) by 'GRIMAS'
- ❖ Face Painting Video, Books & Accessories
- ❖ Theatrical Make-Up
- ❖ Professional Modelling Balloons by 'QUALATEX'
- ❖ Balloon Modelling Books

**PROFESSIONAL ONE DAY TRAINING COURSE in**

- ♦ FACE PAINTING
- ♦ BALLOON MODELLING
- ♦ CHILDRENS' COMEDY CLOWN MAGIC SHOW

Train as a complete Childrens Entertainer!!!  
 TELEPHONE NOW FOR A FREE BROCHURE!!!!

**FANTASY FACES**  
 THE FACE PAINTING COMPANY

8A Market Street, Ashby-de-la-Zouch, Leicestershire, LE65 1AF  
 Telephone: (0530) 413998 (3 lines) Fax: (0530) 411472

NOT JUST A JUGGLING STORE  
 NOT JUST A HEAD SHOP

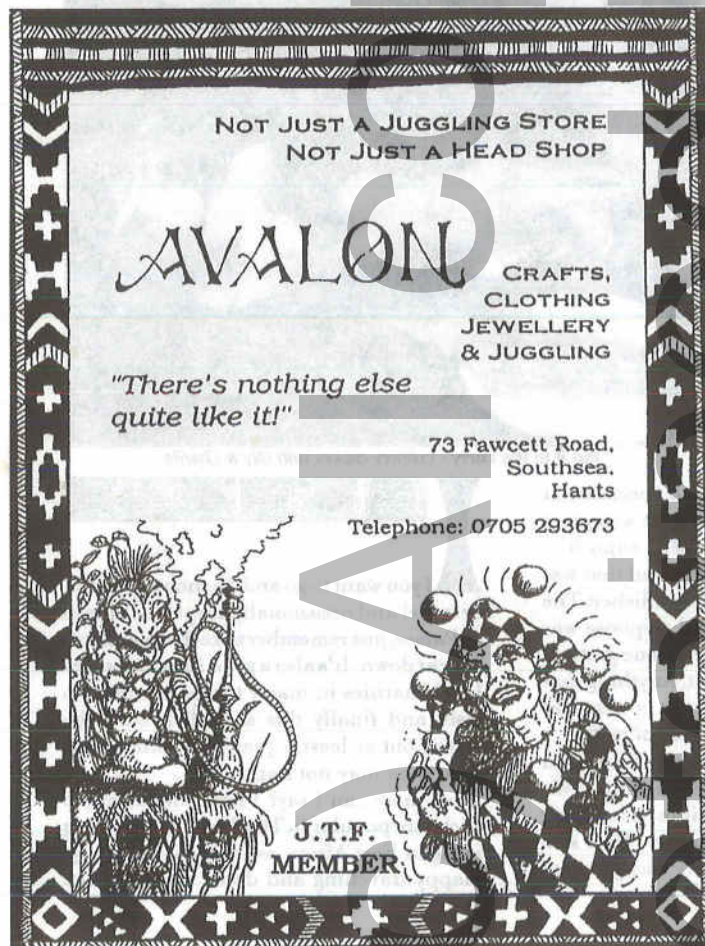
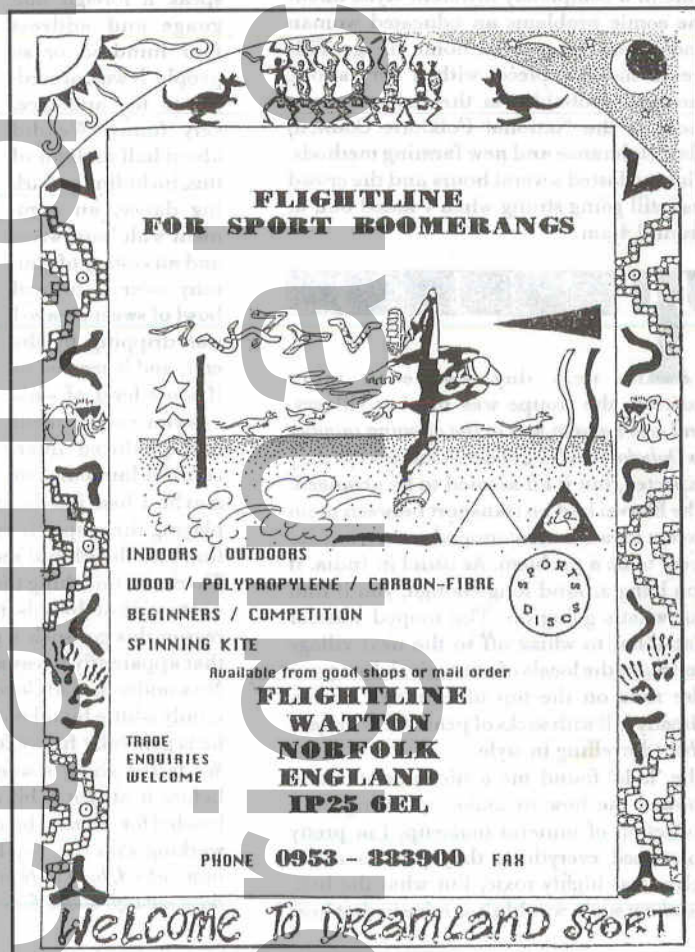
# AVALON

CRAFTS, CLOTHING, JEWELLERY & JUGGLING

"There's nothing else quite like it!"

73 Fawcett Road, Southsea, Hants  
 Telephone: 0705 293673

J.T.F. MEMBER

**FLIGHTLINE FOR SPORT BOOMERANGS**

INDOORS / OUTDOORS  
 WOOD / POLYPROPYLENE / CARBON-FIBRE  
 BEGINNERS / COMPETITION  
 SPINNING KITE

Available from good shops or mail order

**FLIGHTLINE WATTON NORFOLK ENGLAND IP25 6EL**

TRADE ENQUIRIES WELCOME

PHONE 0953 - 333900 FAX

Welcome To Dreamland Sport



# JEUX SANS FRONTIÈRES VOLLEY CLUB



A long time ago, in a far-off ocean, there rose an island, famous for its strange fruits and its natural beauty. On the south shore of this orchard isle there was a grass clearing in the dense jungle, and on the close-cropped lawn there was... *a volleyball court*. An unneeded distraction, resonate in its angular complexity - unused by residents, travellers and guests of the establishment.

For reasons already explained in this publication, there came to this place a group of West Coast jugglers called the *Renegades*. The Renegades broke every rule in the book - they crashed convention shows, kidnapped star turns, ran their own stages, and eventually wrote their own statute - *Disrupt and Survive!*

When presented with the chance to juggle in such a perfect setting, they immediately got bored and started throwing clubs at each other over the net. 'Fizz Bin' was its name then, but the world wanted more, and so *Volleyclub* was born.

The idea of mixing the rules of Volleyball with the art of juggling seems plausible. The ball is replaced by a club, clearly marked for easy recognition. As well as this one volleyball, each player carries his own two clubs which, when juggled along with the volleyball, create a *Three Club Cascade*. After being caught (let's say, in the left hand) the volleyball must be thrown no more than twice as a self before it is passed to a team member or thrown over the net. This is called *3 Touch*, though you can also play *1 or 2 Touch*.

As in volleyball, no more than three team members can touch the club before it must pass back over the net. Rules for two-on-two are the same as for beach volleyball - in fact, nearly all volleyball rules are used in volleyball.

*Service* - the only restriction on the serve is that it should be a perpendicular spin in the manner of a normal pass.

*Team Rotation* - clockwise every time a team gains service.

*The Set and Spike* - this becomes a lofted flat pass and a mighty bash as another player's two clubs smash the club to the floor in the opposing section of the court.

*Net Fouls and Scoring* - this stays the same as volleyball.

Having said all this, you will still have things happen that stretch your rule book. What happens if:

*The club lands on the line?* First touch count on the line is in.

*The club gets caught in the net?* As long as it is moving, play continues. When the club stops, so does play.

*You drop your own clubs?* Play it as you want -

no drops or woosie style.

*You hit the volleyball with one of your own clubs?* It counts as one catch and throw.

*You do two clubs in one hand?* This is definitely not allowed unless under the heading of *artistic licence*.

*Artistic licence:* used by a juggler whenever he or she feels that the only way to keep the volleyball off the ground is to use some seriously radical piece of recovery - a real crowd-pleaser yet open to interpretation.

## LE DIABOLO-VOLLEY

*In France they do things differently! This one appeared from 'la jungle', juggling researchers from Calvados (the place, not necessarily the drink) no less. It looks just as much fun to us - maybe a bit more difficult!*

*You need:* Three players on each side, a court 7x14m, a net 2m high.

*The game:* Two rounds of 13 points - as in tennis, you need to be 2 points up to win at the end. Every point scores 1. The main rules are the same as Volleyball, with the exception of: *Minimum pass:* It is forbidden to return the diabolo without having passed it to at least one team-mate. If you send it straight back you lose 1 point.

*Maximum passes:* three.

*Further prohibition:* the return over the net must be straight - a return that is sloped, wobbling or "butterflying", or not turning, is a foul. On receiving a pass, each player has 5 seconds to balance, speed up, or even *change the direction of rotation* (for tricky types!).

*Passing to yourself:* is a foul.

If this grabs you there's a tournament, 13-15th August, at May-Sur-Orne, Calvados, France. Contact *La Jongle*, 26 Rue Jules Ferry, 14000 Caen, France, tel. 31 79 94 74 (answering machine) or 31 77 51 00.

*All you need is a net, some clubs, and, er, the rules of Volleyball. Nevertheless this is as near as you're gonna get to the rules of Volleyclub, the vogue posing sport of the summer, no, sorry, I meant "the next step for serious club jugglers who enjoy taking the simple throw and catch to a higher level". By rights this article should have been written by The Catch's answer to Eddie Shoestring, the dashing Ken Pretentious, but he is, at this moment, on board a Jumbo jet bound for the South Pacific. He heard tell of the women of Tonga and their seven ball shower and was last seen packing his five ball routine, towel, bottle of 2 in 1 and heading for Heathrow Airport. Thus this dissertation on the gentle art is brought to you by a newcomer to our pages [ahem! - d] one Phil E.S. Foggie.*



Bonkers Clonkers: Volleyclub of Glastonbury

Pic. ADRIAN JOHN





# GONE PUNTING

**You don't have to go as far as India to have an adventure - A tale of stout, crack, goats, pagan debauchery, and a dog called Gebo - as dreamed for you by The Sandman.**

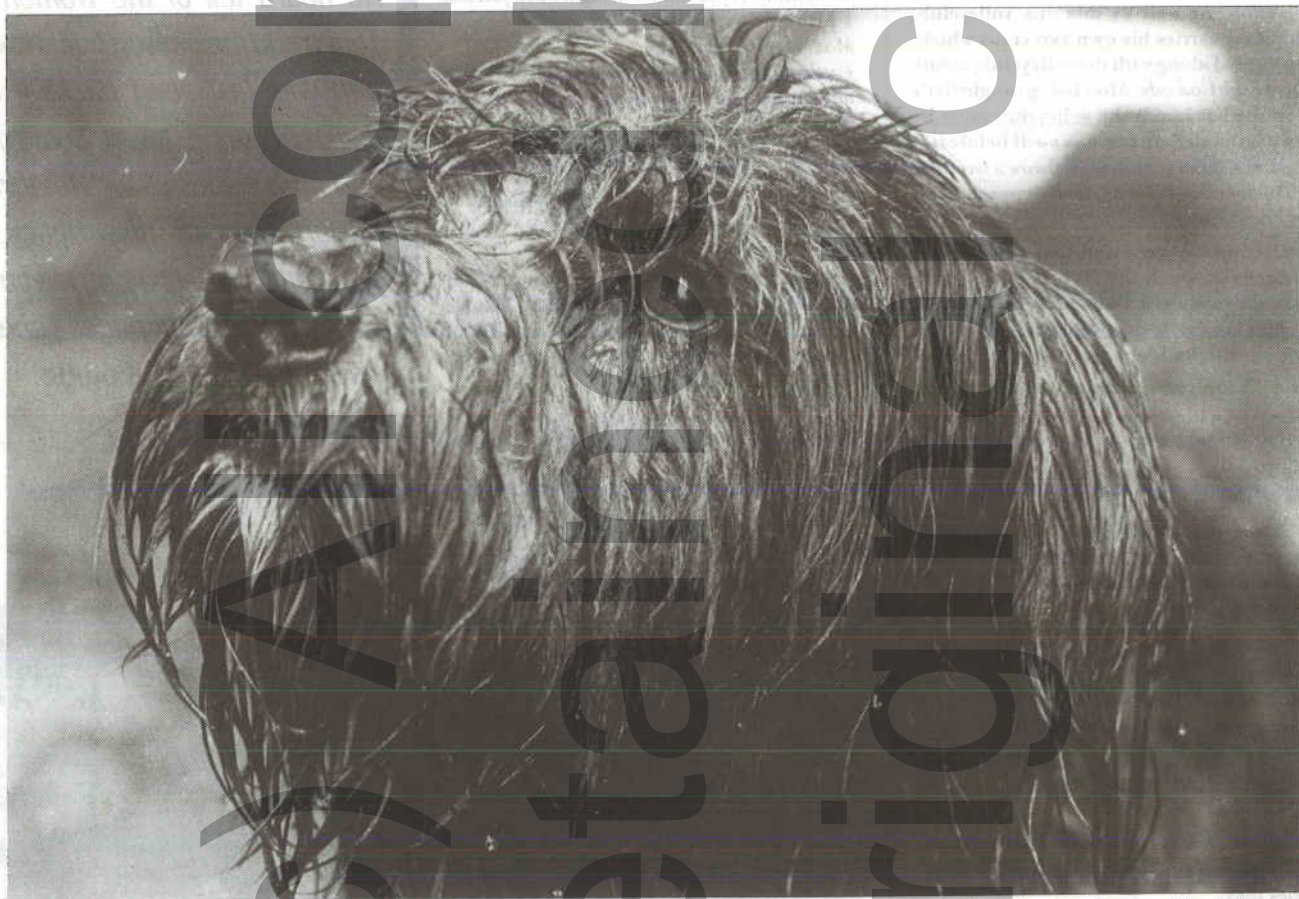
**T**here is plenty of everything in the Emerald Isle... let's begin in my Mercedes van coming off the ferry in Rosslare with a girl on my arm, £20 in my pocket, and a friend's dog - Gebo - who's on holiday with us. Oh yeah, and my blossoming skills! We arrive at 7.30am, and drive the 180 miles west to Galway stopping leisurely along the way (more for Gebo's sake than ours) in woods and next to rivers. That evening we drink a few pints and look over the programme for the last weekend of the Galway International Arts Festival.

The next morning we parked up beside *Footsbarn Travelling Theatre* and had a ready supply of water and portaloos. The girl loved that. In the evening *The Quays* and *Neactains* kick music outside onto the cobbled street-corner, where fire can dance to a generous and very friendly crowd for many a pint o'stout. We had a big black hairy dog with us which the natives found fascinating. Most Irish dogs

are small, short-haired and they bite. Be warned! Everywhere we went people would say, "Would ya look at dat dog. Is he yer dog? What type o'dog is dat?" Gebo always upstaged me.

By Monday morning the festival was over so we took our leave of Galway (and John the drunk & crusty juggler) via the first evening of the horse races. We bet £2 on each of the first four races and came out with £12. We ate well, blowing almost all our money on a slap-up meal and stout. On the road to Limerick that night we had another blow-out, this time it was a tyre and us having no jack or spare (and only £6) we were desperate. Ho hum... time to meet the natives...

In the morning we thumbed a jack and then a lift with six English punk girls (who recognised the paint-job) to the next town, Ennis, where I secured a spare for £5. Hitching back with a tyre was not going to be easy, or so I thought. Hitchers



Will ye look at that Dog? or will he look at you.





get bloody good treatment in Ireland. Almost immediately an Irish biker picked me up and said he'd take it easy, with me on pillion without a lid, the tyre stuck in between us, leaning right off the back and holding on for dear life; he got me there and we were on the road again.

Within an hour we were in Limerick with a crowd around us, laughing at it now; later I did a fireshow at *Doc's* pub with free food and drink, then retired with Gebo by the Shannon. We always ended up parking beside rivers or the sea, there's so much water here it's impossible not to.



Our first of four weeks was over, it was time to hit Thurles and *FEILE '93* - 'The Third Trip to Tipp.' - it's like the Irish Reading Festival, except it's not. The Thames Valley Police would never allow this debauchery! A football stadium houses the bands (INXS, Therapy, Madness...) but most people came to hang out around the town square for the craic - pronounced crack - which is having a good time, folks - it's basically getting drunk. In Thurles the craic - wait for it - cracked. The square and its lifeline to the stadium ran with large amounts of people, urine, beer, aluminium, semi-conscious youths, half-eaten fully-roasted chickens, copulating couples, crusty fire-breathers, not to mention the large groups of laid back Police all turning a curious but blind eye. Two days and one night later, Gebo was bored with chickens, we had to go.

That night we spent in the windy peace of Knockmealdown Mountains. The next day we arrived in Youghal for a busking competition with total prize money of £2500. There are at least 20 such competitions in Ireland during July and August with prize money ranging from £1500 to £5000. Youghal was mainly a music event but one street entertainer (the only one) did make it into the final ten; his name was Eoin-Murt Rabbit and he was one of the few IRISH street entertainers I met in the whole four weeks.

From Youghal we travelled west to Cork, Ireland's second city after Dublin. Having foreign plates is a great help when parking in the city centre, traffic wardens don't bother ticketing you. There was no pitch for a big show so I opened a bag of balloons and modelled away for a few hours and many pounds. The Irish currency is actually called the *Punt*, but everyone calls them pounds on the ground. The girl now saw the light and painted kids faces: BRAVO! There were lots of gypsy tots who kept trying to blag and steal from me, until I turned one of them upside-down, then they were off bothering the hair wrappers.

After our second day in Cork we stayed the night in Blarney with some English folk musicians (who played more traditional music than the natives) and moved into Killarney the next day after spring cleaning the van. There we did some good shows and met Ewen with his seven-foot unicycle and many street-trading friends. Gebo met an Irish Wolfhound bitch and began shaking at the knees; she was more interested in the pub's tiny Jack Russell, a situation Gebo just couldn't understand. "Would yer look at dat dog...Is he yer dog?"

Just outside the city is the Killarney National Park which is a must for every traveller. The south route through the park along the Ring O'Kerry is by far the best for dramatic scenery, and if you are inclined to drive up those huge rocks, then in certain places you actually can. On the western tip of the Ring lies Ballinskelligs Bay, ertwhile home of Howard Marks, where we parked up right on the beach alongside the surfing and sub-aqua crews. Painting and walking Gebo became top topics of the days.



We heard about the *Puck Fair* over the radio and set off immediately to find it. Killorglin lies further round the Ring so we're in luck. We arrive in time to see the townsfolk crown a goat *KING PUCK* before parading through the teeming town to stand it in chains on top of a thirty foot

platform. "Not cruel", say the natives, "it gets free square meals a day!" King Puck stands for 48 hours towering over the crowds watching the buskers thrash it out for the cash. The *SpaceGoats* won the group prize for their outlandish tales told to surreal music being played on traditional instruments; or was it their 'puck' connection? (A puck is a goat). I can't say why I won the solo/duet; maybe it's because I'm a Capricorn..? I wonder if anyone asked King Puck what he thought?

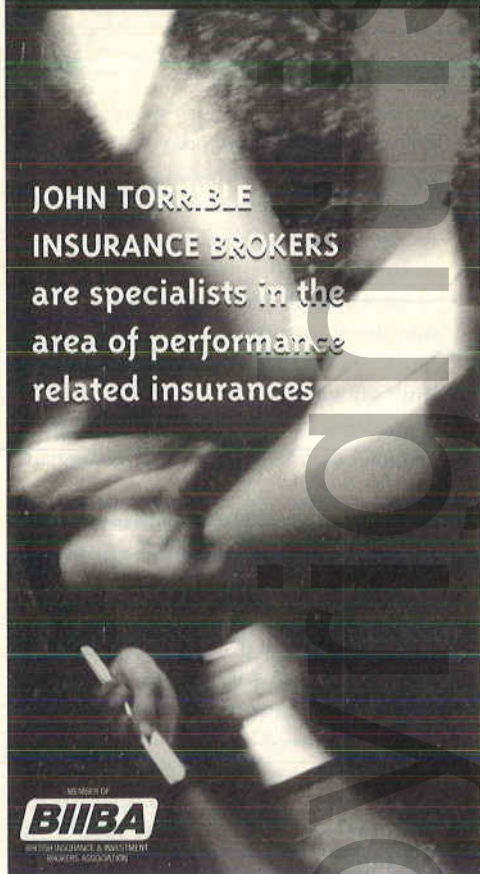
Eoin-Murt had told us of Ballybunion; he said it was a beautiful place, he never told us about the competition! From Killorglin straight to Ballybunion and the next wad of cash. We arrive first (ie. before the *SpaceGoats*) and quickly enter the first evening's competition. The pitch I got was on the main road outside a pub, the audience was predominately kids, and people kept stopping in their cars to watch! I didn't like that, so the cars became the focus for my abuse. And what a rich source of comedy they turned out to be. As soon as they'd stop I'd be on them, ripping them apart. What began as stopping to watch the colourful juggler soon deteriorated into *let's get the f\*ck out of here before the maniac hurts us*. The audience loved it. Well, they were mostly kids weren't they. If only their mothers had been there, and not in the pub behind my back! Then the landlord came out and put £20 in my hand. Later I heard that I'd won first prize. Good show. It turned out that one of the organizers went to school with my Aunt Mary.



I ballooned for the rest of the weekend and met some buskers I'll never forget. This was our last weekend in Ireland. Three more days to go. Sadness returns. We drive south-east to Waterford and beyond to Passage East and its tiny ferry across the river Barrow. We chill out here until it's time to go. Irish people and Irish money is great. The actual land is similar to Britain, but the life lived on the land is quite something else. Just the simple act of waving to locals and having them wave back as we wizz past in our sharp van. It is always a pleasure to visit Ireland, even though I've never seen any emeralds...



# Jugglers Acrobats Clowns Cabaret Performers



JOHN TERRIBLE  
INSURANCE BROKERS  
are specialists in the  
area of performance  
related insurances



## Performers Public Liability Insurance

John Terrible Insurance can offer performers  
a Public Liability Insurance for:-

£85.00 p.a. £1 Million indemnity limit

£105.00 p.a. £2 Million indemnity limit

Group Liability quotations also available

## Performers Personal Accident Insurance

Annual Premium £10,000 Death and Capital Benefit

£50.00 £100/week for Temporary Disablement Benefit  
Subject to underwriters terms

For full policy details contact:

**JOHN TERRIBLE  
INSURANCE BROKERS**

29 Great George Street Bristol BS1 5QT  
Tel: 0272 211806 Fax: 0272 256080



### AGENTS/DISTRIBUTORS WANTED

Wholesale Enquiries - For FREE CATALOGUE  
L.G. MARKETING LTD.  
DEPT. H54  
64 LEICESTER ROAD, SALFORD,  
MANCHESTER M7 4AR  
ENGLAND

Telephone: 061 - 7089090 Fax: 061 - 7920098

**3 · 3 · 10**

## BOOMERANGS

The first 100 callers each receive a  
**FREE "Serious Fun" boomerang.**  
Quote ref: Yabbadabbadoo!

**021 643 6545**

Next month's promotion is a corker -  
**WATCH THIS SPACE**

PROMOTION RULES. 1. ONLY TELEPHONE CALLS ACCEPTED. 2. ONLY ONE BOOMERANG  
PER HOUSEHOLD. 3. FIFTY PENCE POST AND PACKING TO BE PAID BY RECIPIENT.



Like pirates invited (!) to party and pillage, street musicians **"The Flying Tiddurys"** forge their merry way across Europe each summer, leaving a trail of empty glasses and "What happened last night?" memories. A late night and a large carafe or two of Italian wine in a bar at **Ferrara Buskers Festival** persuaded **Nick Tiddury** of that ilk to tell us how it's done. Whatever your skill on the street, it's your attitude that scores. And they've got plenty of that!



*Buskers Beware! Don't try to do an act next to this bunch. The Flying Tiddurys at Sierre 1993*

**W**hat is the Street Performers' greatest fear? Talented barrackers, drunks, animal attacks, misprinted posters, someone else performing your tricks, a lack of pubs... these are the first that spring to mind. However, there is something even more intimidating and confidence-sapping, something capable of demoralising even the hardest... NOISE!!!! Whether it be the hustle and bustle of a market or the drone of a main road, noise can make the difference between performing or not to a street performer.

We found the perfect way round that. Into battle we go, with trumpets, trombones and drums, the atmosphere of a Vaudeville comedy show produced by Benny Hill and Monty Python. Allow me to introduce 'The Flying Tiddurys'.



## WHERE THERE'S BRASS... THERE'S BRASS!

My brother Allan was first, with only his trombone, bright yellow waistcoat and matching shorts for company. There he was, blowing his heart out in the streets of Switzerland, segued-ing such standards as 'Those Magnificent Men in their Flying Machines' and 'Land of Hope and Glory' in a futile attempt to earn an honest living. Result: constant harassment by the *Gendarmerie*; costly performing licences; generally unenthusiastic audiences. I advised him to get himself a suntan, a poncho, a wooden flute and a Peruvian passport. Instead he insisted I join him, believing that two loud and crazily-dressed brass players were better than one. So there we were: French, Swiss-German and Italian phrase books at hand, two guys living and sleeping in an old Fiesta, with clothes, trumpets, trombones, sleeping and cooking accessories ... Absolute stinking Bliss!

We began with a set lasting fifteen minutes, a lifetime when you're in a strange place surrounded by curious onlookers. Especially as our musical upbringing had not prepared us for the total *humanity* of playing in the street - a reality far distanced from the back-stabbing professional music scene that had once been our lives.

At this point our first festival invitation arrived. A time to celebrate you may think. Time to panic we thought. Eventually that "nothing ventured, nothing gained" attitude won out. *The Flying Tiddurys* were now official. Only one problem remained,

that of constructing long enough sets. Hence the arrival of a Swiss drummer named Daniel.

At first the culture and humour differences between us were immense. Just imagine two true Brits, brought up on *Curly Wurllys*, *Spangles*, *Andy Pandys*, British beer, Sunday roasts and cricket, teaming up with a bespectacled Francophone who had never been further than the lakes and cowbells of home.

But at least he had snare, bass drum and cymbal. Musically nothing went as planned, all of our jokes backfired, and utter fools we must have looked, but, "Oh what fun we had..."

It dawned on us that it isn't how you play and what you play, but how *you as people* come across. If you show enjoyment, even in the most abject conditions, and treat those watching as if they are significant, then you will be successful. On this realisation we introduced more theatre, slapstick, spontaneity and crowd participation to the act, using our musical abilities more as a (flexible) foundation. People's attention tends to wander very quickly, so we devised a style of making them think something was going to happen, even if it wasn't. Working in large spaces helps as we can attract bigger audiences, giving more atmosphere hence providing us more scope and *ad lib* opportunities.

Working in different countries leads to obvious communication breakdowns, so we keep the

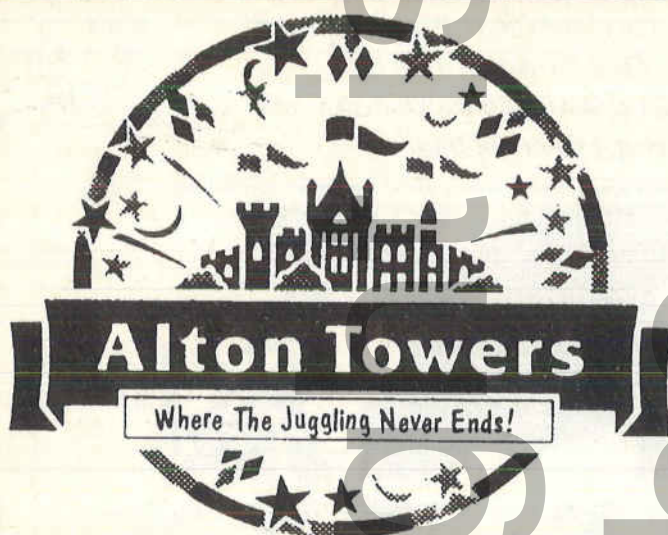
show predominantly mime and music. In certain situations we use cartoon balloons written in the local native tongue as comic props (e.g. "I love you", if you see a pretty girl, or "I'm thirsty" if there is a bar nearby). We also use "Thank-you", written in every language possible, when we collect; we find that making people laugh whilst asking them for money works wonders.

Apart from language and collecting, one of the biggest problems we encounter is self-induced. Laziness! I wonder how many times we've seen a solitary cloud in the sky and decided against playing. There has even been the 'odd' occasion when we have sat in a bar from noon till dusk debating whether to play or not!!!!

Problems aside, street performance is an extremely rewarding vocation. Those combined feelings of being exposed to the elements, enhanced with the giving and receiving that takes place as you pass through a strange place, is second to none. Sometimes it feels like you can do anything, whatever goes wrong you'll get through.

Just enough space left to warn you that if you have not yet had a Flying Tiddury experience, it might be just around the corner. If one day you happen to see a trombone and trumpet player running around with a crazy drummer, stop, watch and listen, for you have found them...





**ALTON TOWERS'  
STREET ENTERTAINMENT  
CONVENTION  
AUGUST 20th & 21st, 1994**

-  **TO BE HELD IN THE  
GROUNDS OF BRITAIN'S  
PREMIER THEME PARK,  
ALTON TOWERS.**
-  **TO INCLUDE EVERYTHING  
YOU HAVE COME TO  
EXPECT FROM A  
CONVENTION AND MUCH  
MORE.**
-  **FREE ENTRY TO ALL  
ARTISTS.**
-  **FOR FURTHER  
INFORMATION AND A  
REGISTRATION FORM CALL:  
0538 702200 EXT. 5859**

**STRICTLY NO ADMISSION WITHOUT  
PRIOR REGISTRATION.  
THE MANAGEMENT RESERVE THE  
RIGHT TO REFUSE ADMISSION.**

**THE BRIGHTON  
JUGGLING STORE**

**WE STOCK:**

HENRY'S  
BEARD  
SPOTLIGHT  
MISTER BABACHE  
DUBÉ  
GRIFFINE  
SEMCYCLES  
D.M.  
PASHLEY  
GRIMAS  
RENEGADE  
& MUCH MUCH  
MORE!!!

**FREE CATALOGUE  
AVAILABLE**

**LARGE SHOP TO  
TRY PROPS**

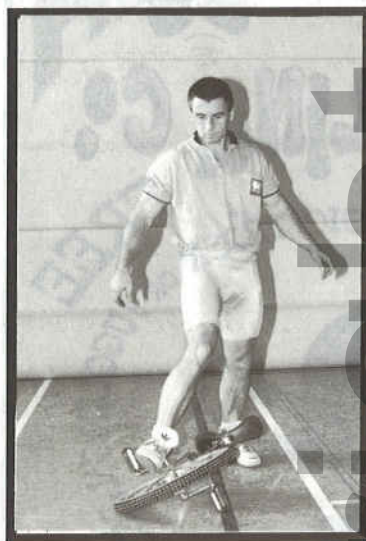
**WHOLESALE  
WE  
MANUFACTURE  
AND DISTRIBUTE  
A RANGE OF  
JUGGLING  
PRODUCTS AT  
VERY  
COMPETITIVE  
RATES.  
CALL OUR  
WHOLESALE  
COMPANY ON  
(0273) 626688.**



**24 Kensington Gardens, Brighton,  
East Sussex, BN1 4AL  
Tel: (0273) 696068 Fax: (0273) 679388**

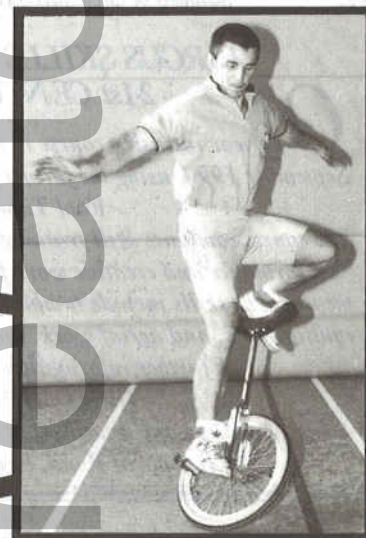
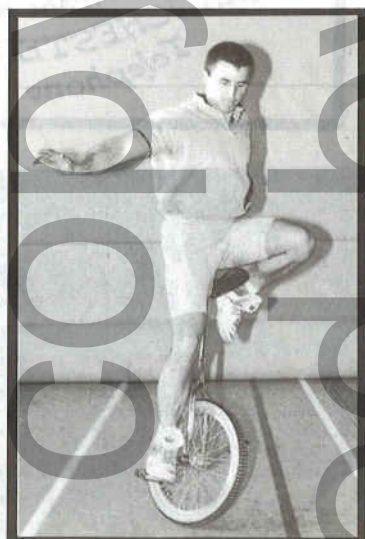


# L O S O K !



Every other basic way of getting onto a unicycle involves your hands. With the *kick-up mount*, the unicycle is lifted off the ground with the legs. To do this, it must first be carefully placed in position on the floor, with the right side facing upwards [and some of us thought a unicycle didn't have sides! - d], with the frame and crank forming a rough right-angle. With your right foot at the angle of the right pedal and the crank, push your body weight onto the right pedal along the line of the crank. Through the pressure applied to the right pedal your body weight shifts from the left leg to the right - and the unicycle moves towards the upright position. Direct it into place on your inner right thigh with your left foot. Sit on the saddle and place the foot that made the kick-up on the left pedal. Try to raise and guide the saddle sensitively rather than just using a short sharp kick.

Don't expect to pick this one up [or even kick it up] in a day. These tips may help: The kick-up often results in contact between the crank and your ankle-bone. Wear ankle-high sports shoes if you're practising this trick repeatedly. If you have no trouble getting the saddle to the desired position, only for it to fall quickly to the floor in front of you again, you have probably brought your body weight too far forwards and not, as you should have done, to the side along the line of the crank. This is a common problem!



Try dismounting from the uni backwards, bringing it as gently as possible *still without using your hands* into the correct position for the next kick-up. Try practising dismounting, kicking up, dismounting, and so on, one after the other, without using your hands...

# N O . H A N D S !

*The Kick-up Mount is one of the most impressive ways yet devised of getting you and your unicycle into action together from the ground up... The following description and photos are adapted from Sebastian Höher's encyclopaedic 'Unicycling from Beginner to Expert', translated & published courtesy of Butterfingers.*







## CIRCOMEDIA

Academy of Circus Arts & Physical Theatre

### CIRCUS SKILLS FOR THE 21st CENTURY

**O**ne year intensive course in circus related skills from September 1994, using the former premises and teachers of Fool Time.

The course combines skill training with rhythm, movement, performance and creative work for comedy and physical theatre. The skills include tumbling, acro-balance, juggling, equilibristics, and aerial work, including swinging trapeze.

For further information send S.A.E. to:

CIRCOMEDIA,

Academy of Circus Arts & Physical Theatre,  
41 Balmoral Road, Bristol, BS7 9AX

# MUSHYPEA JUGGLING CO.

JUGGLING • MAGIC • KITES  
BOOMERANGS

MAGIC TRICK OR JUGGLING LESSON  
FREE



23 Brown Street (off Market Street)  
MANCHESTER M2 1DA  
Telephone 061 834 6195

PARROT FASHION  
Performance clothes from LIZZYDIZIE  
Tel: ++44 (0)422 844849 Fax: ++44 (0)422 845948





**MORE PRICELESS ANTIQUARIAN GEMS FROM THE ATTIC OF  
PEARSE HALFPENNY**

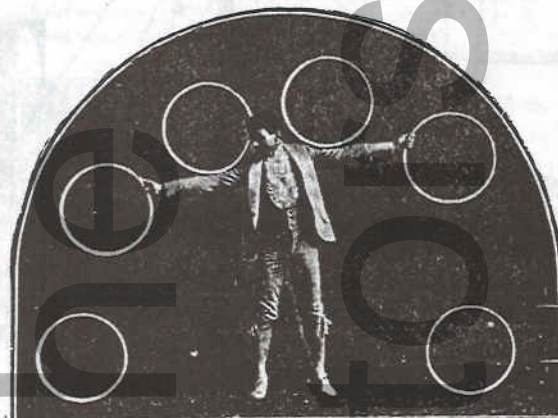
from *The Magician Annual* 190something  
**Simple Second Sight**  
by 'Ess Gee'

**T**o those desirous of emulating the famous Zancigs in their thought-reading experiments, only upon a smaller scale, I can recommend the following simple numerical code. Although this is chiefly applicable to coins, it may be also used very satisfactorily for other objects, as will be seen. The 'Thought Reading' is carried out as usual. A coin is handed to the gentleman who is walking amongst the spectators. This gentleman, confining himself to the smallest number of words, simply remarks: "What is this?" and he is at once told by the blindfolded 'Medium' that it is a "coin". "What coin?" - "A gold coin." "Go on." - "It is a sovereign" "Date Next." - "1-9." and "0". "Yes? Go on." "1-9-0-7"

Now, here one sees scarcely any opportunity for the performer to communicate such extensive information in so few words; yet it is a very simple "code" that permits him to do so. Here it is *in extenso*:-

I. To communicate the article -  
"What is this?" signifies a coin of some kind.  
II. To communicate the metal -  
"What coin?" - gold. "What kind of coin?" - silver. "A coin?" - Yes, a copper coin.  
III. To communicate the value. This is done by an exclamation as though encouraging the 'medium', and telling her she is correct, as -  
"Go on." Sovereign. "Yes" - Half-sovereign.  
"Anything else?" Five-shilling piece.  
"Right!" Half-a-crown.  
"Quite Right!" - Two-shilling piece.  
"Value?" - Shilling. "How much?" Sixpence.  
Large or small?" - A threepenny piece.  
"Quite sure?" - It's a penny.  
"Well?" - A halfpenny.  
"Is that all?" - A farthing.  
IV. To communicate dates. First figures -  
"The date?" - 17. "Any Date?" - 18. "What date?" - 19. As the third is commonly "0", this is given by the word "and," excuse being found for it by the medium seeming to hesitate over the date, giving first, say, 1, then 9, and, after a moment's pause, the performer prompts her with an interrogative "and?" which tells her "0" is the next figure. "Yes? go on" tells her "7", which completes it, and "1907" is accordingly given in full.  
The code for separate numerals is as follows - I. - "Think now!" II. - "I'm waiting." III. - "Next?" IV. - "What next?" V. - "Next figure." VI. - "Yes? go on." VII. - Any more?" VIII. - "That all?" IX. - "Something else!"

It will be seen how easily this "code" may be extended so as to embrace other articles, such as medals, trinkets, etc. Careful reading and studying of the "code" above will repay any ambitious amateur, and enable him to elaborate it to suit his own ideas, the range of his thought transmissions being only limited by his energy and his ambitions.



The One  
And Only



**"EVERHART"**

KING OF ALL  
HOOP ROLLERS.



My Book on

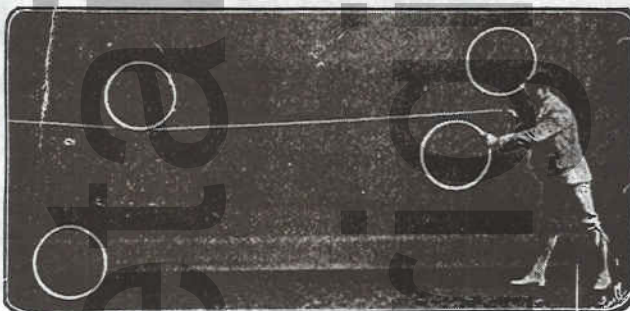


**HOOP ROLLING**

Can be obtained  
for Elevenpence, Post Free, from  
Sole Agents:



A. W. Gamage, Ltd.,  
Holborn, London, E.C.



P

A

S

S

E

D

.....  
Catch  
PASSED

17

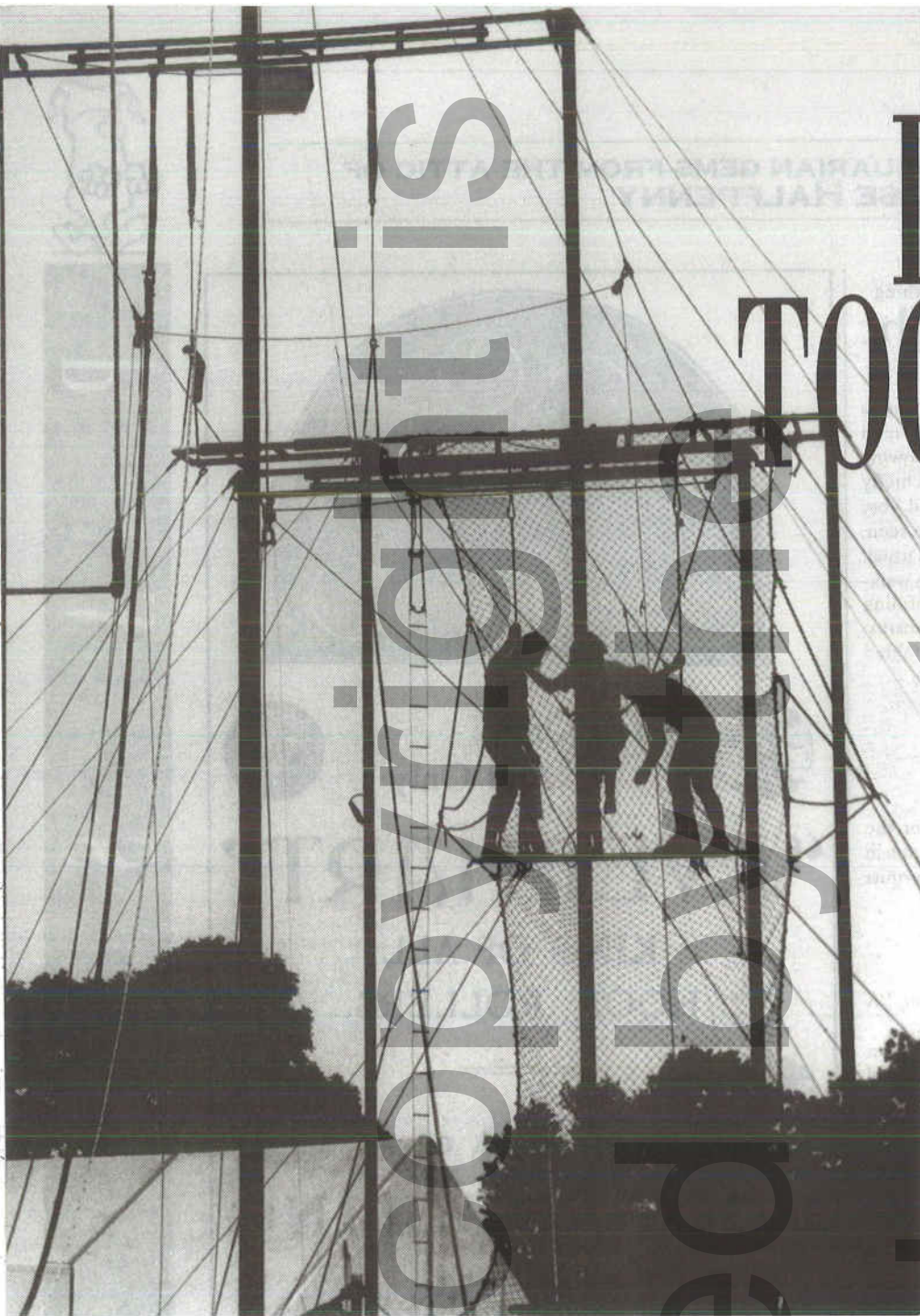


# IT'S ALL TOO MUCH

You Glastonbury performers don't realise how hard the audience works. There we are, at the greatest assembly of circus, street theatre and allied trades this side of Edinburgh Fringe, and we've got so much to do. Important stuff like getting so seriously scrambled that we miss all the shows we've been wanting to see all year, arrive half way through the rest, and really need to explain to the person sitting next to us what that profoundly funny bit in the show before last in that other tent, you know where we were, anyway, what it *actually meant* 'cos I just worked it out - at the best bits of any that fall through the previous two categories. There's important things like laughing louder at the hecklers than the act, just to put some spirit into the performance, you understand; or getting up and walking out at a critical moment, just so the compère has something to base a routine round; or staring at some even worse festival casualty than yourself 'cos you think they *just have to be* a walkabout performer, they're behaving so... you know... I rehearse this stuff all year, you know.

There are world-beating experts in the art of the *performance spectator* here. I salute you! The people trying to take flash photos of the UV shows (mind you, the tent techs went one better and put the house lights up). The fellow-journalist who got so involved with his *research* that he mistook *Avon & Somerset Constabulary* (seriously searching for clues to the mystery gunman) for the *Natural Theatre Company*, breezed into the sealed-off area going "Marvellous, marvellous... and so many of you now...", and even when he was led away with his arm twisted behind him, wouldn't stop giggling and exclaiming "Where's Ralph? I know Ralph..." Or the mistresses of irony who crowded round *Kiss My Axe* pretending to find their jolly big swords impressive. Or something.

My performance went off pretty well, actually, it was nice of you to say that... The following is for any of you sad enough not only to miss the festival, but actually be interested in what you missed (what is this, entertainment masochism?) - a report gleaned completely from propping up the two bars in the Green Room and asking attractive members of the opposite sex what they thought of whoever had been the vogue performer of the preceding couple of hours.



TOP: In the rigging of the Good Ship CIRCUS SPACE - but what happened to the sail? Pic. LUKE DANIELS  
 BOTTOM: Laid Back at Glastonbury - JONATHAN KAY avoids the fashion police. Pic. ADRIAN JOHN





**A: Avanti Display** - one of the more entertaining walkabout troupes in the country. More device-centred than some but with the impro. skills to carry off most interactions.

**B: Brian** - incompetence is an old trick but it takes a particular charm to carry it off this well.

**C:** Charlie Brown really was rather amazing and managed to interest whichever crowd he was placed in front of, which didn't by any means go for all the circus acts, did it, James?

**D: Disco Girls** Dunno who they were, but grooving with your feet in concrete (was this Sicilian House music?) is an odd way to make a living. Was it a comment on the festival, then?

**E: Ernesto Sarabia** - what this guy can get his body to do is genuinely amazing. So I've heard.

**F: Festival of Fools - *Midsummer Night's Dream*** was rather good, even if they should have cut some of it (everyone else does). I'm sure it helps being tunable to Shakespearean language and knowing more-or-less what happens, but I found it refreshing, interesting and entertaining.

**G: Green People** hiding in the bushes eating leaves, very sweet & nervous-looking. A Natural Theatre stunt I hadn't seen before, I'm pleased to note.

**H: Higher Than The Sun** - biggest hit of the aerial groups. *Marin Magne* wins the solo flying award.

**I: Ian Jay** Isn't it about time he was given a rest?

**J: Joel the Stick Man** - obviously enjoying himself and passing that on. Nearly amazing.

**K: Kay, Jonathan** Caught his audience having a 3-way conversation in the Theatre Field - with the audience of crease-you-up Country & Eastern buskers *The Cosmic Sausages* on one side and *Anthony LivingSpace's* (undeserved) (lack of) audience on the other. OK, I'm convinced now.

**L: Lannes (Boulevard Company)** Frankly didn't see the point of this show last year either.

**M: Maïke** (*Venus*) - got all hot & bothered and turned up without her costume. Which got a few others hot & bothered - but actually her skills are sufficient in themselves (bet you didn't think I was going to say *that*)

**N: Naphtaline** Not quite as impressive as last year, the shows didn't really seem as developed - but were still carried off with class, conviction, a degree of character work and an edge of holy madness that none of the other companies had. Definitely not to be seen on the wrong drugs.

**O: Outside Circus Stage** must have been really hard work. *Ashley Turk, The Great Dave* and *Kwabana Lindsay* all seemed to be doing OK, though.

**P: Pete & Paul aka. Skate Naked.** Their reputation is getting bigger than they are (how do I know? but still a hit - their stage banter is worth the show in itself. Dunno what happened to their threat to cause a conflagration at *Croissant Neuf*, though.

**Q: Queuing for *Footsarn*** Well worth it, I reckon. Haven't seen Shakespeare done that well in years. If ever.

**R: Rachel Henson & Marion Kenny** Still more poised and assured than ever before.

It's not the tricks, it's the whole movement.

**S: Swamp Circus** - Difficult to follow their show, though it looked good and was a clear improvement on last year - glad to see they're unafraid of being *different* - one day it's going to be very good indeed.

**T:** Theatre of Fire - great the way they started by letting everyone into their well-constructed enclosure with the band going. Tailed off pretty rapidly from then on in.

**U:** UV Still a big hit with the punters, and it's obvious that all the established companies (*Cosmos*, *Firenoise*) have been working hard to develop the form. It's the new ones who are making the obvious moves and the obvious mistakes! *Ultravision* win out by a head.

**V: Volleyclub** Final *Simon & Chris (Team Sandpiper)* beat *Ken & H\*gg\*s* 1-0.

**W: World Record.** Yayy! We did it!! by a small number, tho' See what Guinness say

**X:** Kiss my X Heavy Metal Sword & Sorcery nonsense of a high degree. Just the sort of thing to see last thing at night, though (and got the crowds to match). Spectacle almost totally devoid of content.

**Y:** Yes - but what the hell's going on? See above. Also a comment on the beautiful but badly strung-together *Skinning the Cat* show.

**Z: Zirk Cirque** Born to clown, bet their babe laughed its way out of the womb. Kevin's plumber walkabout was a joy also.



# SCOTTISH JUGGLING CONVENTION

10. SEPTEMBER

CAIRD HALL  
DUNDEE

CALL  
SUSAN GILLAN  
(0382) 434287

# WARTS AND WOBBLY BITS

CRAFTS  
ETHNIC TO HITEK  
LOADS OF JUGGLING STUFF  
AND MUCH MORE

Look for the  
Wobbliest Shop  
in Town

44 High Street, Rochester  
Kent ME1 1LN

Telephone:

0634 829256

0836 741486

OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK

# MAGIC BY POST

BRITAIN'S No.1  
MAGIC and TRICKS  
CATALOGUE  
sent

FREE

Tel./Fax.

0272 774334

anytime, or write to

MAGIC BY POST

167 Winchester Road  
Bristol BS4 3NJ

# KASKADE

EUROPÄISCHE JONGLIERZEITSCHRIFT  
EUROPEAN JUGGLING MAGAZINE



Kaskade captures the exciting mood of European juggling, with comprehensive coverage of conventions, meetings and workshops, as well as a candid look at controversial issues behind this harmonious circus art. Plus: interviews, reviews, practical tips, ...

For a year's subscription (4 issues), send a cheque for £12.00 to:

GABI & PAUL KEAST - ANNASTR.7  
D-65197 WIESBADEN - GERMANY

## CATCH CLASSIFIED AD. RATES:

under £50 FREE!! £10 for 50 words.

CONTACT JAN at The Catch Office

Telephone: (0275) 332655

## LOST & (HOPE- FULLY) FOUND

Lost - Remains of Black Jumper lent to someone called Elliot at Bath. Please give us a ring on (0344) 20989 - James

Lost/Left Behind/  
Eaten - One exclusive make-up box (OK a very old Ice Cream thingy) containing not only my best noses (2) but my entire make-up kit (Brushes, Grease Paint, etc.). Please if anyone has it, knows of it, liked my little show, please give me (Henry the Hippy) a ring, your life savings, your sister's phone number, your used... jokes. And if I ever get my kit back I'm available for Children's Parties, Adult Parties, State Openings... (0827) 52490.

Lost - my place in the script. Is this where I offer to take you outside for a good seeing-to? All replies considered. Box 332.

## FOR HIRE

Bobs Bash - blue and white stripey PVC marquee - good old-fashioned prices. Lee or Jacky c/o (0225) 482231.

## FOR SALE

4-Foot Aluminium Chinese stilts for sale, £49. One careful owner, answer to the names Dotty (right) and Daisy (left). Complete with padding,

luminous glow-stars and red baby wellies. £10 extra for straps and knee pads. Need lots of hugs. Contact Long Tall Sally (Circus Pipsqueak) (0273) 844840.

Levi-Strauss says there are only three plots for dramas in western civilisation. And I found two of them written on Rizla packets at Glastonbury - any offers? Use those old routines one more time. Endlessly recyclable. Box 42, University of Juggling, Dronning Maud Land.

## PERFORMERS

Allin Kempthorne. Juggler and Confusionist, shows, street, or strictly private. 081 906 3636 or 0374 663767 (mobile)

Phil Cass. Stilts, magic, juggling, general whathaveyou; walkabout, stagger, fall over. No not really. (0373) 464156.

The Boggle Brothers. They'll entertain anyone, age 5 to 75. C/o Boggle Juggling Shop (0225) 446685.

Norfolk Mountain Rescue A-Team. What? You mean you haven't seen them? Unicycles and old jokes. (0275) 332655.

Booper The Clown. Up there with the best. Any audience catered for. (0749) 677281.



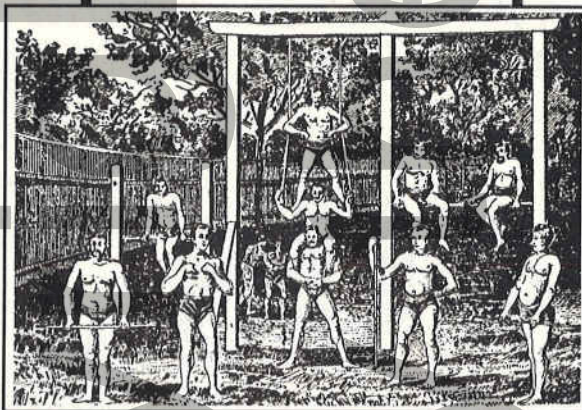
# CAPTION CONTEST



"You don't make it easy by printing such obscure, bizarre yet strangely unfunny pictures - so here are some obscure, bizarre, yet strangely unfunny captions" - thanks a buncha coconuts, **Terry Sexton** of London E1. Just for that, I'm giving you 3rd prize for a curious selection that ranged from *'The morning of my execution arrived, but the firing squad didn't look quite as I'd expected'* through *'At a crucial moment I sneezed... there was a hushed silence... I think they'd spotted me!'* all the way to *'Hey - does the cold make your nipples stand out?'*. Yes, this did bring out your, er, *curioser* (...and curioser) tendencies - as well as the unsurprising cricketing giants, Halifax TV adverts (now I know some of you lead lacklustre lives, but...) and Amish tendencies, there were some commendably surreal touches.

Making humour where you wouldn't think there was any, that's an important lesson in life as well as in winning *Catch* competitions (hang on, I'm in danger of sounding like Kit Summers here - Next convention I promise I'll do a caption-writing workshop, OK?) "Brevity is the soul of wit", as someone (Dr. Johnson or one of those that had some saddy writing down their every *bon mot*) said is another good point - there were some good jokes spoiled by over-stuffing or mis-timing. What's good about **OK - final checks everyone: Props - OK; lighting - OK; everybody in position - good; costumes... ah...** - discuss. This was 2nd prize-winner Paul Richards of

Winchester, though for me his better one was *"Anna dreamed about her new intake for the pole-swinging course"* but I was told it wasn't diplomatic to let that one win anything. Mind you the rest of the *Catch* Advisory Committee on the Comparative Cackle Quotient of Captions (CACCQC) reckoned that **Julian Mount's** *'Auditions for the Juggling Trade Federation (a body designed to bring*



*jugglers together)* commence' was funny - and I don't. So you don't win anything Julian. Tough.

1st prize actually goes to Danny Colyer of Bath, for the double-act of *"Would you believe it - all twelve of us have been stood up again"* and *"Hey Mum, I've found Dad's stag night photo"*. This is a shame 'cos Danny actually wanted to win 2nd but I'm afraid I'm having none of that young man. You'll have what you're given and like it. And when that's a spanking new Radical Fish Diabolo from those on-the-ball types at Beard, I don't see that you've got anything to complain about. Danny was actually after a Radical

Fish Devil Stick, that's the sort of thing *he* spends nights awake thinking about. Shame. And let's not forget those lovely Suede Finish Stage balls in Fluorescent Colours that cheeky Terry ran off with.

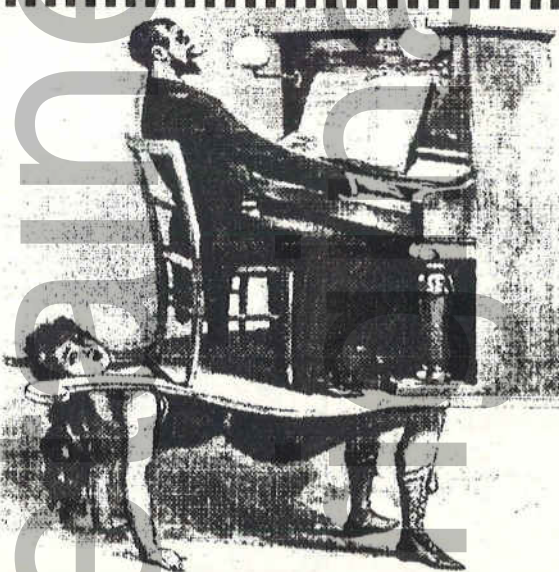
Mentioned in dispatches (no medals though) are Mark Robertson of Chelmsford - *'As Mr Fotherington-Smythe looked over his fence he thought to himself "Jugglers, eh? Well there goes the neighbourhood"'*, and Pete Rayner of Portsmouth - *'The Micro-Chippendales get ready for their next cricket match'*. And the can't-keep-a-good-running-joke-down dept. gave us *The evaluators of the Tomkins Industrial Pasta Corps. relaxed after another exhausting day'* (Pete Hewkin, Worksop) and *'Leading brand spaghetti withdrawn from shelves after female hormone tampering incident'* (Unmentionable of Fife).



You've just got to let your imaginations go a little (this is more of the workshop I was telling you about) - in a brief moment of lucidity in the hurly-burly and Black Bush of a *Catch* editorial meeting we came out with *"The Skate Naked convention attracted a small but specialist audience"*; *"OK sonny, which of these set your hair on fire"*; *"We were all shocked when the lighting man hit the wrong switch during the UV show"*; or even *"Will the real diabolo please stand up?"*.

Anyway - you'll have to do better than that with the next competition, 'cos the prizes are so good you'll not see them unless you're smart about it. **BUTTERFINGERS** have given us a **COMPLETE SET OF ALL 12 FLIKTRIKS**, those animated jugglers who tell you all you need to know and make you smile, all in the comfort of your own home or whenever else you want to take them, without recourse to mechanical contrivances, no pump or repair kit needed - ahem! you know, those little books of cartoons by ace pencil manipulator *Martin Bedford*, there's some on the edge of these pages somewhere. You *know* you want the set. **Second Prize** is *six of your choice, Third three*, also of your choice, bit of a double-edged prize that, 'cos there's so many good ones you'll probably spend hours agonising over which to ask for. Better go out and buy the lot to be on the safe side.

All you have to do is think of a caption - it doesn't have to be speech, it could just as easily be a title, explanation, or noises off - for this gem from the extensive *Ashman Collection of Edwardian Adult Parlour Games (private views & demonstrations by appointment only)* and get it to us by the deadline that too many of you missed last time - **August 26th**. And Bob's your uncle. I think the lady's a second COUSIN.





YOU KNOW THOSE TYPES WHO ARE ALWAYS GOING ON ABOUT HOW LONG THEY'VE BEEN JUGGLING (ER... LOTS OF THE PEOPLE WHO WRITE THIS MAGAZINE, ACTUALLY - AND THE PEOPLE THEY WRITE ABOUT). RECENT CONVERSATIONS TEND TO SUGGEST THEY FEAR THEY'RE GETTING *PAST IT*. NOW *OF COURSE* THAT'S NOT THE CASE. SO WE THOUGHT WE'D REASSURE THEM BY PAINTING A PICTURE OF THE JUGGLING CONVENTIONS OF THE FUTURE, TO REASSURE THEM THAT THERE WOULD STILL BE VENTS THEY'D BE WELCOME AT, NO MATTER HOW SENILE THEY ARE BECOMING - NO, SORRY, I MEANT *MIGHT BECOME*. THIS GOES OUT WITH SPECIAL THANKS TO *THE CLUB MEETING* WHO ONCE MORE ARE WELL AHEAD OF EVENTS ON THIS ONE...

# the over-40s club

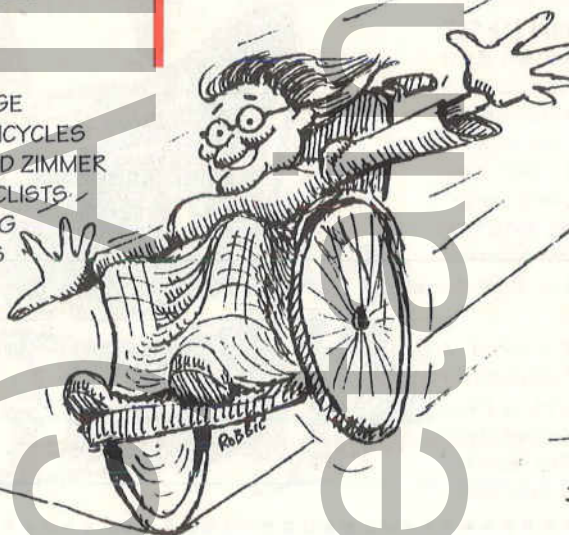
BUS PASSING  
TRIPLE BYPASS WORKSHOP  
STAYING AWAKE AT NIGHT WORKSHOP  
FLAT CAP JUGGLING  
"YOU DON'T WANT TO DO THAT" WORKSHOP

## GAMES:

LONG-DISTANCE EYE-TESTING (I SAW THAT CLUB!)



TABLE UNI-HOCKEY  
STANDING ENDURANCE  
STAIR-LIFTS ON & OFF STAGE  
MOUNTING BLOCKS FOR UNICYCLES  
ZIMMER STILTS OR WHEELED ZIMMER  
FRAME FOR AGEING UNICYCLISTS  
GOLF-CARTS AND SHOPPING  
TROLLEYS FOR YOUR CLUBS  
ELECTRIC BUGGIES ON  
THE PARADE  
WHEELCHAIR ROPE-WORK



WIG-BRAIDING  
DENTURE MANIPULATION  
CONTACT LENS JUGGLING

LAZY DAZE  
KNITTED  
CARDIGANS  
IN SUBTLE  
SHADES  
TIE-DYED  
THERMAL  
UNDERWEAR





## CONVERSATIONS:

"I REMEMBER WHEN YOU COULD BUY  
15 CLUBS FROM TODD SMITH AND  
STILL GET CHANGE FROM A TENNER"  
NOT "I CAN DO THAT" BUT "I USED TO  
BE ABLE TO DO THAT"

BALL-BOYS/GIRLS (ATTRACTIVE  
YOUNG PEOPLE, NO DOUBT) TO PICK  
UP DROPPED CLUBS, ETC. TO SAVE 'EM  
BENDING DOWN  
TELESCOPIC TONGS (WITH SOME KIND  
OF COMEDY GLOVES ON, NO DOUBT)  
FOR SAME PURPOSE

CLOSE-UP MAGIC FOR THE SHORT-  
SIGHTED (OR IS THAT THE LONG-  
SIGHTED?)



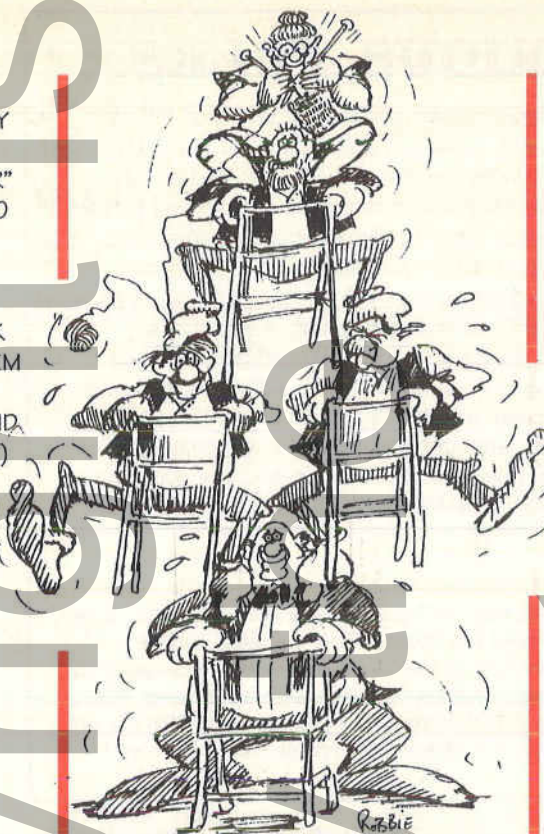
LARGE-PRINT EDITION OF THE CATCH

CAPTAIN BOB'S MUST SELL COCOA  
NOT TEQUILA - IN FACT THEY SHOULD  
BE A TEA SHOP, NOT A BAR...



NICE COACH-TRIPS TO INTERESTING  
PLACES LIKE THE BEARDS FACTORY  
SHOP TO STOP 'EM TIRING THEM-  
SELVES OUT DOING TOO MUCH  
JUGGLING, THE POOR DEARS  
A NICE AFTERNOON REST PERIOD  
(COMPULSORY)

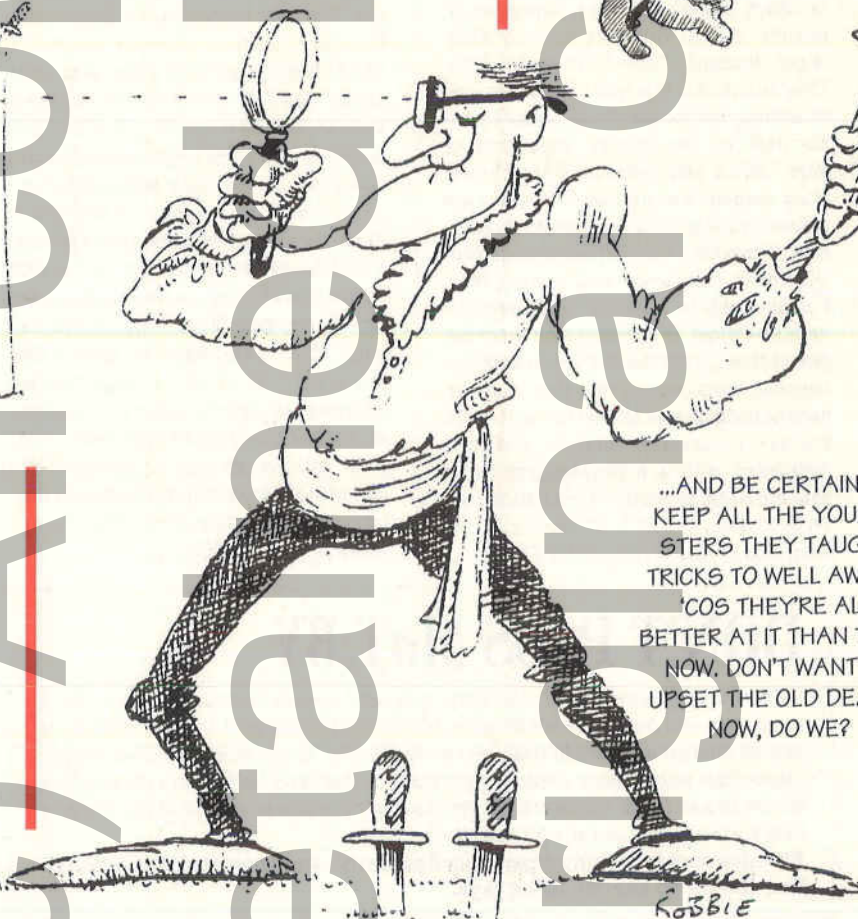
...AND THE ERSTWHILE DOPE DEALERS  
ARE NOW SELLING SLEEPING PILLS  
HOT WATER BOTTLES AVAILABLE ON  
THE CAMPSITE  
ALL A BIT LIKE CAMPUS ACTUALLY



KNIT YOUR OWN BEAN-BAGS (PATTERN  
BY JSA PRINTED IN THE CATCH)



REPRESENTATION FROM THE  
NARC - NATIONAL ASSOCIATION  
OF RETIRED CIRCUS



...AND BE CERTAIN TO  
KEEP ALL THE YOUNG-  
STERS THEY TAUGHT  
TRICKS TO WELL AWAY -  
'COS THEY'RE ALL  
BETTER AT IT THAN THEM  
NOW. DON'T WANT TO  
UPSET THE OLD DEARS,  
NOW, DO WE?



## STILL SERIOUS, FOLKS...

We've commended *The Serious Road Trip* to your attention before. Since June 1992 they've been delivering aid in the sorry state that was once Yugoslavia, they were the first into Sarajevo and are also familiar with Zenica, Tuzla, Mostar - other names only known to most of us through tales of disaster. They've also now just finished their second *Bananas 4 Split* trip, in which a motley band of performers have put on clown/circus shows at over 100 refugee institutions along the Dalmatia Coast. It might sound stupid to you, a waste of resources perhaps. Tell that to the crowd of 1000 children and their parents who saw the show in East Mostar, Bosnia. Everybody needs a bit of laughter and diversion (another SRT team is organising kids' football leagues in Sarajevo, amongst other work, in a similar spirit). Simone Mines led the *Bananas* team: "We were worried about crowd control but the Police wouldn't let us cancel. While there we heard the Serbs could have launched an offensive, but fortunately for us they waited until we left and shelled the west (of Mostar) yesterday." Other performance groups are following SRT's lead - with all respect, etc., it makes most of the other travel stories in this issue look a little on the self-indulgent side. We'll run any more news from them as we get it - in the meantime, they need your money! There are charity records coming out which you could support, or they've got a nice scale of charges from 50p to £10000 showing what your donation could buy. Read 'em & weep. Write to SRT/B4S at Bowman House, 7-12 Greenland Street, London NW1 0ND, tel. 071 916 9333/5, fax 9335. Want a relevant charity to support on your next event? Look no further.

## Earth Trip

Swamp Circus are still looking for support for their exciting Eco/Circus project, *Earth Circ*, an ambitious combination of touring show and tree-planting programme, both of which they're admirably equipped to provide, due to visit Burkina Faso, Mali, Niger, Senegal, Côte D'Ivoire in 1995. They're still after financial support, as well as specific advice and contacts from people with 'on the ground' experience of West Africa and relevant eco-technical skills. Somehow at the same time they are focusing their activities in hometown Sheffield to provide a Circus/Performance Arts Centre for the region and touring their *Fundango* show in Britain and Germany (see Gig Guide). In common with everyone else in New Circus they've got an ongoing financial crisis (except that they've never had the backing that *No Fit State* and *Ra Ra Zoo* have occasionally enjoyed) - and have responded with a fund-raising/sponsorship drive that is worthy of your attention. Write to them at Unit 2, 56 Garden Street, Sheffield, S1 4BJ or ring (0742) 731398.

## Free Circus Tickets!

**Zippo & Company**, as anyone who's seen the show will tell you, are devoted to the idea of Circus as *Family Entertainment*. Fat Controller Martin Burton has recently become concerned that the "chain" of family visits, people taking their kids to the circus 'cos they were taken as kids, has been broken, often by the animal issue, or sometimes because people have gone to a bad show - oh yes, there are such things... So to commemorate the 21st Birthday of *Zippo the Clown* (see issue 4) he's offering a birthday present to all kids born in 1994 - a free ticket to Zippo's, redeemable at any time during their life (or Zippo's, presumably). All you have to do if you know a 1994 model baby, is to send a large stamped addressed envelope to Zippo's Circus Family, 174 Stockbridge Road, Winchester, SO22 6RW, and you get back a quite attractive certificate conforming this perpetual invitation. As promotional scams go this is a sweetie. Bit like Martin, really.

## DON'T PASS MoT BY

High level discussions have taken place at recent business functions between *Catch* executives and senior officials from the *Ministry of Tequila*, with a view to matters of mutual interest and benefit (well, one matter, really). In common with other equally responsible publications [mmm - how many is that, exactly?] we are offering this advice to any *Catch* reader who is approached by approved agents of the Ministry (don't worry, you'll know who they are):

**The nice man is a highly experienced operative and knows what he's doing. You should do exactly as he says.**

## BALLS OF FIRE?

Acrylic transparent balls - lovely, aren't they? Stacked on a shelf they add a certain *je ne sais quoi*, air of mystery perhaps, to a room... An air of danger, actually.

The stories have been circulating for some time - people burning their hands picking them up, carpets smouldering, then just recently a friend of a friend one juggler had their whole flat burn out because of the unfortunate juxtaposition of acrylics and a bottle of paraffin. A moment's reflection will tell you why - remember how you can burn wood and worse with a simple magnifying glass? Now look through a clear ball - same magnifying effect - a ray of sunlight on that and you've got one hot spot. No matter how pretty they look, you should keep the things in their bag and in the shade. Especially in relation to shop windows!

*Toby Philpott* pointed this out in a letter he wrote us months ago (sorry TP, your other missive seems to have become involved in a data vortex somewhere in my filing system - interesting, too, it was...) "I was out at a market with Max in Golden Square, with a stall on a sunny day, when somebody came up and said "Did you know your balls were on fire?" After a couple of Frankie Howerds and a slight Kenneth Williams, I looked round to find two of our acrylics melting into their cloth bags, smoke rising..." "People assumed it was superstitious behaviour when the gypsies carried a crystal ball, always carefully wrapped up in black velvet, only brought out and looked at in the shade of a tent. We barbarians were still banging rocks together, we didn't recognise this early science, and they didn't tell us. It's a brilliant and effective fire-lighter for travellers. Most writers about gypsies seem to have believed the cover story (?) - or complementary use - that the lens was only used to focus the mind, and dream of the future. As Arthur C. Clarke's Third Law says - "Any sufficiently advanced technology is indistinguishable from magic." So look into this crystal ball, and let it advise you to be careful!



Every first Sunday of the month  
**Juggler's Picnic**, -Circus Factory  
garden, 'Ebdon Bridge, 12-6, bring  
six-pack & sandwiches.

## J U L Y

**Jul.23 Circus Space Open Day** a free chance to see their new building, the old Shoreditch Power Station (near Old Street, Northern Line) and to try out some of their activities too. 12-4pm.

## A U G U S T

**Aug.2-7 17th European Juggling Convention** Hagen, Germany, somewhere in the region of Düsseldorf if you've only got the flimsy map in the back of your diary to get around on. Chances are if you're not going by now you won't be, but just in case you've lost those vital details, here we go again. How to get there - Train station 10 minutes walk away (route signposted), local buses go to site (direction *Bahney*.) Autobahn A46 leads you into Hagen, turn right before the centre and watch for signs & omens. Convention begins 2pm Tuesday, parade Wednesday, Public Shows (Stadthalle) Friday, games Saturday at noon, clear-out and business meeting Sunday. Camping indoors or out Tuesday-Sunday. Hotel B&Bs info from Tourist Information on +49 (0)2331 2073383. Tickets DM70 (DM40 kids). Last-minute inspirations - *Kultur- und Werbeamt der Stadt Hagen*, c/o Achim Scharf, Frankfurter Str. 89, Postfach 4249, 58042, fax on +49 (0)2331 2072400 Email [juggling@rz.uni-karlsruhe.de](mailto:juggling@rz.uni-karlsruhe.de)

**Aug.4-7 Stockton Riverside International Festival**, Teesside. Says it's Britain's leading street festival, and certainly looks as though that title would take some challenging - companies include St. Petersburg's ace clowns *Licidel-4*, Polish pyromaniacs *Bluro Podruzy*, a Tour de France with a difference from *Generik Vapeur*, and a Japanese Street Artist, *Taro Yukitane*, who creates living sculptures of famous masterpieces. British companies include *High Tension* doing a wire walk across Stockton High Street, reputedly the widest in Europe - and the best of the rest. More information from the Festival Office on 0642 611625.

**Aug. 5-7 Blackpool Street Theatre Competition**, The Piazza Stage, Bean Street, Blackpool Pleasure Beach. Starts 2.30pm. Ffi from Lorraine Trangmar, Ents. & Events Manager, Ocean Boulevard, Blackpool FY4 1EZ or tel. 0253 341033 ext. 281.

**Aug. 9-14 IJA Convention**, Burlington, Vermont. Contact Ginny Rose Box 218, Montagne MA 013 51 USA. Tel: (1) 413 367 2401.

**Aug.13 First Southampton Juggling Convention** Ichen College, Middle Road, Bitterne, Southampton. 10.30-10, £4 adults (£3 adv.) £2 under 16s (£1.50 adv.) Stalls, plenty workshops, lots of indoor & outdoor space, cafe-

ria, inventive and not-too-bloody-serious games (3pm.), public show (7pm.), mass fire juggling session to finish. Details and tickets from Southampton Juggling Club at 65 Causeway Crescent, Totton, Southampton, SO4 3AY, tel. Rut Harwood on (0703) 872141.

**Aug.13-14 Crawley Convention II**. Hawth Theatre, Hawth Ave. Over 20 workshops including one for kids, Saturday public show with Mr Crazy, Ziggy, Ultravision, and others, followed by band and fire show; informal show, kids' show, special kids' workshop all afternoon, camping & park-ups, veggie nosh, bar, indoor juggling area, games Sunday. Weekend tickets Adult £12.50, (age 6-12 £10) Show £5, (£5), Sunday £5 (£3) Ffi. *Up for Grabs* on (0293) 786143.

August sometime (Irish time?) **Guinness All-Ireland Busking Competition** Clonakilly, County Cork. Primarily for musicians, but jesters and jugglers get a look-in too.

**Aug.20-21 Alton Towers' Street Entertainment Convention** To think I suggested this in last issue as a joke... They're promising "everything you have come to expect from a convention and much more" and will admit artists for free, if and *only* if you register in advance. Call the theme park itself on (0538) 702200 to find out more about this somewhat puzzling event - arranged by performers for performers.

## S E P T E M B E R

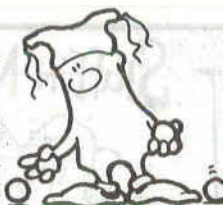
Sep.2-4 **Jugglefest III**  
HAS BEEN CANCELLED  
DUE TO  
CIRCUMFERENCES ETC.  
sorry folks.

Early Sep. unspecified **Long Weekend Juggling Camp**, Snowdon, North Wales, in the Lake Barns. Live music, drumming and mucho juggling including a suggested Snowdon Summit jugglers party. Ffi. ring (0248) 372239. A beauty in the making, perhaps...

**Sep.10 Scottish Juggling Convention** Dundee. One-dayer (10am-midnight) with all the usual culminating in a Ceilidh (which means serious partying in those parts whatever it means to *you*), also featuring *lots* of stuff for the general public and the not-yet-juggler, mass juggle-ins, etc. And in unbeatable economic style, it's only a couple of quid with free busking opportunities thrown in! Camping, B&B, buses from Edinburgh, Glasgow & Aberdeen... it's not even *that* far away, the weather's quite nice in September, honest, and bears and wolves are actually extinct up there too. Ffi. Frank Chinn, Dundee District Council, (0382) 434705.

**Sep.17-25 6th Bristol Juggling and Circus Skills Convention**, Woodhouse Park. £50 the whole thang, £25 kids, under 8s free, Day ticket £6. Self-catering or café. Show -

Friday 23. No animals. Ffi. and deposits (£10 adults, £5 kids) thru John Carter, Lockyers Farm, Dundon, Somerton, Somerset TA11 6PE (0729) 677404 or (0831) 146025. Recommended, and not just 'cos we live round here, honest.



**Sep.18 Salisbury Kite & Sky Hoolie**. Free! Stalls, workshops, and other diversions... Show-offs welcome! Ffi. Neil or Martin at *Cunning Stunts* (0722) 410588.

**Sep.23-25 Third Channel Islands Juggling Convention** Alderney. This one is a 100% guaranteed gem of a good time, only costs a tenner, and they've worked out some neat cheap deals (starts £120) with travel and B&B, or you can camp. Workshops in all sorts of things, welcoming locals, island paradise, really... You *have* to book flights in advance, but they can sort it all if you get in touch with Moira Sleeman, The Alderney Pottery, Les Mouriaux, (0481) 822 246 (oops! got the number wrong last time!)

**Sep.29-Oct.1 Wollongong Juggling Convention** New South Wales, Oztrayliar.

## O C T O B E R

**Oct.2 Corby Juggling Convention** Connaughtly Centre & Festival Hall, Corby, Northamptonshire. Costs £10, £5 under 16. Production of last year's badge gets adults £1 off (anyone with all 3 gets a "life enhancing" prize!) Perfumed gardens of bliss, ridiculous number of workshops, Jugglers Cabaret, bar. Attendance limited to 300, good idea to book in advance. Send a cheque, payable to *Corby Community Arts*, 160 Gainsborough Road, Corby, Northamptonshire. NN18 0RQ. Ffi., or anyone wanting to perform or run a workshop, contact Gary on (0536) 263786, fax 402467.

**Oct.13-15 Australian Juggling Convention** Cairns, on the far North east and a great place if accounts are to be believed. Ffi. Jeff Turpin, M.S. 1877, Tarzali 4885, Australia.

**Oct.23 National Association of Youth Circus convention**, Circus Space, London.

**Oct.30 Lancaster University Hallowe'en Juggling Convention** 10am-9pm. All the best of the usual stuff and an evening party that lets rip somewhat. £5 day (£4 under-14) £3 evening (£2), or £7 (£5) the lot takes it away, to you madam... By post from SLUJ, Students' Union, Lancaster University, Lancaster.

## L A T E R . . .

★ **Mar.24-27 1st Australian Juggling Festival** Margaret River (serious wine-producing region!), Western Australia. They're after some international stars an' they might be able to finance the trip... F.f.i. PO Box 556, Esperance, Western Australia, 6450. Tel./fax. +61 (0)90 714896.

★ **20-23 April British Juggling Convention** Norwich. Ffi. AJC '95, c/o 194 Nelson Street, Norwich NR2 4DS.

# E V E N T S . E V E N T S

Catch  
THIS  
25





## STUFF 'N' NONSENSE



### WYRD JUGGLER

FULL COLOUR PRINT, FRONT AND BACK,  
XL FULL CUT, RED T-SHIRT

Also - MAYAN CALENDAR, MAD DANCERS  
AND BOOK OF KELLS, DESIGNS

NEW BADGES include the KITE RANGE!

AVAILABLE FROM ALL GOOD JUGGLING STORES

## SNAKEBOARD™

Have you been bitten yet?  
The ULTIMATE ride.

AVAILABLE FROM: **The Ugly Juggling Company**  
73 Westgate Road, Newcastle Tel: 091 232 0297



**DM's LOW COST  
UNICYCLE**  
ONLY £65 + £5 CAR

DM  
Celebrating 25 years  
unicycle manufacture  
this year.

DM Engineering  
R/O 59 Fairmile Rd.  
Christchurch  
Dorset BH23 2LA  
Phone (0202) 471943

### FIRE WATER

Sootless and odourless fuel for  
Fire-torches, Fire-devilsticks,  
Fire balls and Fire-eating wands.

The perfect alternative to  
smoky paraffin.

£15.00 per gallon (plus P+P)

Contact: THE HOT STUFF COMPANY  
PO BOX 322, SHEFFIELD.



The  
Book  
Of  
Club  
Swinging

by Ben Richter  
Illustrated by Sally Mundy

Club Swinging for everyone with the emphasis  
on accessibility. "... pass the Workshop Test?  
Answer: Yes, with flying colours ... user-friendly  
and supportive" The Catch

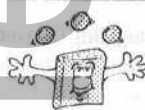
These new titles - along with our existing range of diabolo books by  
Donald Grant and Guy Heathcote - are available from your friendly local  
juggling shop or direct from Circustuff (P&P included in Europe).  
Distributors around the world.

Circustuff, 83 Uist Rd, Pitcoudie, Glenrothes, Fife, KY7 6RE. (0592) 744392

This advertisement conforms to the standards laid down by the Donald Grant Abatement Society

## CIRCUSTUFF

BOOKS  
CAN  
SKILL



Shaun Clark's

**Cigar  
Box  
of  
Tricks**

£9.95

"probably the best single book ...  
almost encyclopedic ... nicely written  
with excellent illustrations ... enough  
here to last a lifetime" The Catch

## Oz Juggle

THE AUSTRALIAN JUGGLING MAGAZINE

Full of photos, articles, reviews, upcoming events  
and a list of workshops.

Subscribe and find out what's up Down Under.

For a year's subscription (delivered airmail) please send US\$ 25 to...

Oz Juggle  
PO Box 361  
Northcote 3070  
Victoria  
Australia

### CIRCUS GREETINGS CARDS



SET OF 10 DIFFERENT CIRCUS & JUGGLING  
DESIGNS (inc. ENVELOPES (blank inside).  
£ 6.00 (plus 50p per set post and pack)

please make cheques payable to Great Ragoo  
Designs, 27 Ashwood Avenue, West Didsbury,  
Manchester. M20 2YB



## ALLIN KEMPTHORNE...



gets Brownie Points for being the only performing *Catch* reader to tell us what they're doing at Edinburgh. Tho' I'm sure there's a lot of other bonzer things to be seen in the City on the Fringe, Allin's show, *Sex, Handcuffs & Rubber Chickens* deserves the special attention of *Catch* readers - as I said, 'cos they're the

only dates anyone's been bothered to send us (erm - apart from the Gandini experience & the Chinese State) and I'm not wading through that Fringe Programme, I'd be here all week. Allin's at The Mad Abbot from August 15-27 at 8.30 (as an introduction to *The Bad Habit* cabaret at 10) and the *Rifle Lodge* from September 1-3 at 11pm. Designer of the BJF logo, cartoons published in *The Catch* as well as (boo, hiss) *The Sun* and *The Mirror*, he was also the warm-up man for 'Don't Forget your Toothbrush' (is this supposed to be a recommendation?) has an IQ of 174 (is that?) and once juggled toilet brushes on 'Songs of Praise' (are you sure about this?) anyway he's a jolly nice chap and you should go and see his show, let's have those free cartoons pouring in, eh?

## CHINESE STATE CIRCUS

This is a new show, so there's as much reason as you'll ever need to go, whether it's a repeat or a first time. There's nothing, repeat *nothing* quite like it. Be prepared to feel like giving up whatever it is you do afterwards.

- Jul.26-Aug.2 Lancaster (Big Top)
- Jul.4-9 Isle of Man (Theatre)
- Aug.12-Sep.4 Edinburgh (Big Top)
- Sep.7-18 Newcastle (Big Top)
- Sep.20-24 Buxton (Theatre)
- Sep.25-Oct.4 Stoke-on-Trent (Big Top)
- Oct.7-23 Dublin (Big Top)
- Oct.25-Nov.13 London (Blackheath) Big Top
- Nov. in London, Inverness, Wolverhampton, Derby. Dec. in Derby, Ipswich, Great Yarmouth, Bristol, Jan. in Paignton, Blackpool.

## STEVE RAWLINGS

Excellent juggler supporting mediocre TV comedian  
Blackpool Summer Season, North Pier,  
Brian Conley Show until Nov.5.

For details on the whereabouts of trad. circuses (who traditionally keep fairly *schumm* about their whereabouts any more than a few days in advance) including Zippo, Harlequin, and the Chinese State, you can now ring a *Kingpole* (Trad. Circus mag) information line on 0891 343341. This is a premium charge line, but John Exton assures us he keeps the message as short as he can.

## NO FIT STATE CIRCUS

No Fit State are touring this year courtesy of *Butterfingers* and the JTF., as well as contributors to their emergency fund - only just averting financial collapse around the beginning of the season. They usually do matinées on appropriate days, times vary, you'll have to check it out with them on site. See the review on p.33 - but see the show anyway.



- Jul.28-Aug.1 Kingston The Fairfield.
- Aug.6-10 Oxford, South Park (top end) Headingly Road
- Aug.14-Sep.3 Edinburgh, Festival Fringe, The Meadows nr Buccleuch St.
- Sep.10-11 Manchester TBC.

## GANDINI JUGGLING PROJECT

...in their new show, 'caught - "still"/hanging...'  
"The first show was as if *looking for* a language that in this show we are more into the way of *using*. It's not as slow as the first show, we don't feel we have to build things up piece by piece in the same way..." (SG). Lots of good reasons to go and see the new show (or indeed the re-working of the old one) and you just *know* it's going to be beautiful and thought-provoking at the same time...

- Aug.9 The Junction, Cambridge (EAB Preview)
  - Aug.10 Ballroom Blitz (Preview)
  - Aug.12 Mosaics, Lillian Bayliss (Preview)
  - Aug.15-27 St Brides, Edinburgh Fringe Festival (Première)
  - Sep.6 The Wyvern Theatre, Swindon
  - Sep.7 Oakengates Theatre, Telford
  - Sep.10-11 International Workshop Festival, London (Gill Clarke & Sean Gandini)
  - Sep.15 Workshops, Bridport
  - Sep.16 Bridport Arts Centre
  - Sep.22 Stahl Theatre, Dundee
  - Sep.24 Beck Theatre, Hayes
  - Oct.1 Alhambra Studio Theatre, Bradford
  - Oct.7 Workshop, Goole Arts Centre
  - Oct.7 Goole Arts Centre
  - Oct.8 Bowen West Community Centre, Bedford
  - Oct.12-13 Minerva Studio Theatre, Chichester (tbc)
  - Oct.25 MacRoberts Arts Centre, Stirling (tbc)
- From November, dates in - Exeter, Saint Helens, Taunton, Bloomsbury Theatre, London (nEither Either both and), and Canterbury. More dates & details next issue.

## CROISSANT NEUF

The green dream team pull on to your village green. Events marked (GRS) are full Green Road Show: info-tainment and some genuinely interesting things to look at too.



- Jul.23-24 Cirencester Green Fayre TBC.
- Jul.27-30 Lichfield Festival, Tanworth Castle.
- Aug.2-7 European Juggling Convention, Hagen, Germany.
- Aug.15-25 Children's Circus Workshops, Gravesend, Kent.
- Aug.28-29 City of Leicester Show
- Sep.3 Measham Community Festival
- Sep.9-10 Coventry Folk Festival
- Sep.19 Environment Festival, Bristol (GRS)
- Sep.24-25 Coombe Abbey Park, Coventry (GRS)

## SWAMP CIRCUS IN FUNDANGO

An acrobatic clown dance show with its own live music - quite different from any other large company in the country, touring to:  
Jul.16-25 Aberdeen, Union Terrace Garden  
Jul.27-30 Willesden Sports Fields (Brent Summer fun Days) London  
Aug.4-8 Cardiff Children's Festival, The Castle  
Aug.12-14 Basingstoke Festival, War Memorial Park - ...then to Germany - Bonn, Russelsheim, Wiesbaden.

## ONE-OFFS

- Jul.31 Circo Ragazzi at Gabriel's Wharf, South Bank, London.
- Circus Space's outdoor trapeze rig and plenty of other activities - all free!

## Aug.26-27 Momentary Fusion & Angels of Disorder

Lillian Bayliss Theatre, Sadler's Wells, £6/4 (concs.)  
Circus Space presents two premières from young companies fusing Trapeze, film footage, X-rays, dance and physical theatre. Wow!

## CABARETS

### COSMOS

York Arts Centre, Micklegate. Details (0904) 430472, box office (0904) 627129.  
8pm, £5.50/£4.50 concs./£4 kids. Selection of top performers, and you know you can rely on them for a state-of-the-art UV show to round off the evening. UV sharing session afterwards.  
Aug.13 The Curious Eyebrows, Mad MacPherson, Gabriel (Magician) - it's Anna's Birthday and there's a free picnic party in Rowntree Park in the afternoon - bring food and a party attitude.

## CABARET at the new Circus Space

From Sat 1st Oct., fortnightly  
- suggestions of who should perform (whether it's you or just someone you'd like to see) with whatever photos, vids, etc. to Charlie Holland at Circus Space.

## OTHER EVENTS

If you fancy going to a folk festival, go to one of these 'cos there's a bit of *Catchy* stuff too.

- Jul.29-Aug.5 Sidmouth International Festival of Folk Arts Devon. Ftl. (0296) 394411
- Jul.29-Aug.8 Campus '94, near Totnes, Devon. Ftl. (0548) 821388.
- Aug.26-29 Towersey Village Festival Oxfordshire. Ftl. (0296) 394411



# THE UGLY JUGGLING COMPANY

Juggling Circus,  
Theatrical Supplies & Books

Visit our shop or use our  
fast mail order service.  
Free catalogue.

73 WESTGATE ROAD  
NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE

NE1 1SG

ENGLAND

Tel/Fax (091) 232 0297



## SPOTLIGHT

High Quality at the  
Right Price

TOP CLUBS : EUROPEAN - ONE PIECE  
BEST BALLS : BEANBAGS - SILICONE - ACRYLIC

ASK AT YOUR LOCAL STORE / BUTTERFINGERS / 3.3.10  
WHOLESALE INFO FAX: 010.31.20.6834003



Secretary: J. Arno. 221 Webb Rise, Stevenage,  
Hertfordshire. SG1 5QQ. Telephone: 0438 364427

### Loose Sequins

8mm Flat (c2500)  
10mm Flat (c1200)  
24mm Flat (c220)

Silver  
Hologram  
£1.59

### Plain Colours

Fuchsia, Silver, Gold, Red,  
Royal, Emerald, Black

80p  
Per 25grms

If Bright, Fluorescent,  
Colours, in a large range  
of Fabrics, Feathers  
and Trimmings is your game

*Neutex*

Is the name

Telephone;

0602 598781 for FREE samples

Prices quoted include V.A.T.

### Fluorescent Loose Feathers

Ostrich Dabs  
from £1.06 each

Turkey T.Flats/  
Turkey Quills  
from £1.94  
per 50grms

Chandella Boa  
from £4.68  
per 1Boa



**CIRCUS SPACE - ARE NOW BASED AT...**  
Shoreditch Power Station - Coronet Street,  
Hackney, London N1 6HD, tel. 071 613 4141.  
Near Old Street (Northern Line)

#### Short Courses

- Aug.14 Introduction to Circus Skills  
£20/£15 members. 1-4.
- Sep.4 Whip-Cracking, rope spinning &  
knife throwing.  
£20/£15 members. 1am-4pm.
- Sep.5-9 Aerial Awareness With gymnast Jeff  
Davis and loads of lovely new gear.  
10.30-12.30. £55/40 members.
- Sep.10-11 Club Swinging for beginners  
£20/£15 members. 1-4.
- Sep.12-16 Advanced Acro-balancing with  
the fab *I/s on Weder*. Details tbc.
- Sep.18 Club Passing Convention. £5, 11-5.
- Sep.24-25 Totally Acrobatic £40/30  
members, 11-5. Tumbling,  
trampoline, acro-balance etc. For  
intermediate & better tumblers.
- Oct.16 Ultra-Violet Black Light Convention  
with Cosmos, etc.
- Oct.17-27 *Clown - The Art of Play*  
with Commotion
- Oct.24-28 *3 Balls with Movement* course  
with Sean Gandini.

#### Circus Space Intensive Courses

- Sep.26-Dec.16 **Three Month Foundation  
Course in Physical Circus Skills**  
£600. Developing strength, stamina  
and technique, plus training for  
performance. Best suited for those  
with some acro/aerial experience  
and/or a good level of fitness.  
Phone for an application form.
- Jan.9-Mar.3 **Two Month Physical Circus  
Skills Course**  
One step on from the above, but  
that's not a precondition. Phone for  
an application form.
- Mar.13-Apr.28 **Circus Teacher Training  
Course**  
With particular reference to  
teaching aerial and acrobatic skills,  
also juggling, stunts, etc. Includes a  
British Amateur Gymnastics  
Association teaching qualification,  
and is expected to qualify you for  
the NVQ in Circus Teacher Training  
that Circus Space are currently  
developing, when this is introduced.  
Full details available in September.
- Sep.1995 **BTEC National Diploma in  
Performing Arts / Circus**  
Two-year course, postponed from  
this autumn. Full details available in  
September.

Also! Regular weekly classes in flying trapeze,  
static trapeze, swinging trapeze, acrobatics,  
tumbling, acrobalance, juggling, unicycling,  
wire walking, trampoline, ballet... and prob-  
ably more...

#### SKYLIGHT

- Broadwater Centre, Smith Street, Rochdale  
OL16 1HE Tel. 0706 50676 Fax 0706  
713638.
- Oct.2 Basic Tumbling & Balancing £14
- Oct.8-9 CloudSwing & Doubles Trapeze £35

- Oct.15 Introductory Trapeze with Jackie  
Sysum £16
- Oct.16 Trapeze - *not* for beginners with  
Jackie Sysum £16

#### Regular Sessions -

Monday 7-9 adult Circus Skills, Wednesday  
4-5.30 Youth Circus, Wednesday 7-9 Aerial  
(ring to check)

#### Longer courses

- Sep.26-Dec.17 *Performance for Tourism*.  
7 places for unemployed aged  
18-25. 20.5 hours/week. Free.
- Jan.23-Mar.10 *Circus Theatre*.  
Performance Skills, Circus Arts.  
18 hours/week plus practice! £380.
- Jan.23-Mar.10 *Foundation Circus  
Theatre*. Training - introductory to  
intermediate - in Circus skills  
including acro & aerial, perform-  
ance including character & devising,  
related skills including props &  
costumes. Will produce a one-off  
showcase performance at end of  
course and endeavour to fit in with  
developments on NVQs. 21.5 hours/  
week. Tutors include Hamish  
McColl, Jackie Sysum. More details  
on application.

#### CIRCUMEDIA

Soon to be back on stream through paring  
back on administration, outreach work, and  
through getting an even more generous deal  
from their supportive landlords. The courses  
have been made shorter than originally envis-  
aged so as to make it easier for students to  
afford the programme in these days of grant/  
loan/funding nightmares.

New one-year course, starts Sep.28. Tutors  
include Helen Crocker, Bim Mason, Jackie  
Williams, Ernesto Sarabia, Rod Laver and  
H\*\*\*\*s McL\*\*\*, special topics over and above  
the staples of circus and physical theatre  
include cabaret, dance and movement, story-  
telling, direct audience contact, injury protec-  
tion & first aid, Lecoq, Gaudier, mask-work...  
and the list goes on. More details from 41  
Balmoral Road, Bristol BS7 9AX. (0272)  
243277.

Sep.28-Dec.20 **Eleven Week  
Foundation Course**  
Skill Training in Aerial, Acro,  
Equilibratics, Manipulation,  
integrated with performance classes  
on Comedy for Circus & Cabaret.

In the new year, weekend, week & fortnight  
classes with Bim Mason, John Lee, Olly Crick,  
Franki Anderson, Helen Crocker, etc. Details  
nearer the date.

#### CIRCUS FACTORY STUDIO

'Expanding Suitcase', Old Town Mill, Old  
Town, Hebden Bridge, West Yorkshire, HX7  
8TE. Tel. (0422) 842072.  
all courses Sunday afternoons 2-4, £2.50  
adv. £3 on the day.

Aug.7 Club Passing with *Simon Schofield*  
& *Tony Webber*. All levels, but it's  
assumed you already juggle 3 balls  
or clubs!

- Sep.4 Devil Stick & Plate  
Spinning with  
*Vince Miles* - miles more  
tricks than you'd have  
thought possible...

#### COSMOS

Residential workshops in UV & fire with Anna  
Jillings & Jim Semlyen and friends, among the  
best you'll find. Lovely locations, great veggie  
grub, good times - the Scots one sounds  
particularly worth the trip. Local people can  
visit during the day at a reduced charge,  
concessions negotiable from the respective  
centres.

Jul.29-31 Monkton Wyld Court, Bridport,  
Dorset (0297) 60342. £85/£45  
children under 16, all in.

Sep.23-25 Lower Shaw Farm, Swindon,  
Wiltshire. (0793) 771080.  
£75/£40 kids.

Nov.4-6, Monkton Wyld Court,  
Bridport, Dorset (0297) 60342.  
£90 - £45 kids, all in. Bonfire Night  
extravaganza!

Apr.29-May 1 - Lower Shaw Farm.  
May 6-13 Laurieston Hall, Castle Douglas,  
SW Scotland

#### COSMOS JUGGLING CLUB SPECIALISED WORKSHOPS

Every Tuesday 7-9pm., Priory Street Centre,  
York. £1.50/£1

- Aug.2 Mills Mess
- Aug.9 Ball passing, 3-ball tricks
- Aug.16 Ring Spinning & Manipulation
- Aug.23 Unicycle Hockey (7-8) Club  
Swinging (8-9)

Aug.30 1-Ball contact juggling.  
Details from Anna Jillings or Jim Semlyen on  
(0904) 430472.

#### KIDS YOUNG PEOPLE'S COURSES CIRCUS OF THE MOON

If you're between 6-20 years of age, otherwise  
unoccupied, and in Coventry...you're no longer  
a problem, child - you can go to *Playbox  
Theatre's* week-long workshop from July 25-  
29 with *James Millar & Lisa Killelay*. All the  
usual skills plus clowning and presentation,  
culminating in a performance on Friday 29.  
The courses are 10-4 at Earsford Grange  
Community College and the week costs only  
£25. Details available from Playbox on (0926)  
512388.

#### ALBERT & FRIENDS

Hammersmith, London. Info. on 081 741  
5471

#### CIRCUS SPACE SUMMER COURSES

For kids aged 7-11, incorporating all the main  
skills and making a show together on the last  
afternoon. Aug.6-12 & 15-19 (Mon-Fri), £75  
(£55 for Income Support & those sending 3 or  
more to courses!).

#### CIRCUS SPACE TERM-TIME AFTER-SCHOOL COURSES

Are planned to start again in the autumn.  
Enquire!



C  
O

U  
R

S  
E

S

Catch  
THIS

29





# MANCHESTER CONVENTION '94 VIDEO

★ ★ ★ ★ ★  
featuring  
**GAMES \* WORKSHOPS  
SHOWS \* INTERVIEWS**

AVAILABLE NOW from  
**ANNUAL JUGGLING CONVENTION LTD.**  
23 BROWN STREET  
MANCHESTER M2 1DA  
Telephone: (061) 834 6195

or from **ALL GOOD JUGGLING SHOPS**  
**SOON!**  
**£12.99**

(for Post & Packaging add 10%)

*If you want to experience a  
Great Convention - Get the Video!*



## Do you love the Circus?

Do you have a special affection for Circus as a grand tradition and as a unique form of entertainment?

If so, you would enjoy being a member of the **CIRCUS FRIENDS' ASSOCIATION** which, for nearly 60 years, has kept its members in touch with all that is new and exciting in the world of Circus.

For full details, please send a stamped addressed envelope to:

**The Membership Secretary, 20 Foot Wood Crescent,  
Shawclough, Rochdale, Lancs., OL12 6PB, Great Britain.**

## skylight

**Performance for Tourism 26 Sep-17 Dec**  
Euro-funded circus arts training 20.5hrs pw  
Must be unemployed 18-25yr,  
committed, 7 places only, **FREE!**

**Circus Theatre 23 Jan - 10 Mar 95**  
18 hrs pw plus optional practice in Skylight  
Performance, circus arts 8 places **£380**



Sponsored by  
**The Ugly Juggling Company**  
and **BSIS** match

**Short Courses Autumn**  
See listings, aerial, acro, performance...  
**SEND FOR TRAINING LEAFLET**



**Outreach - we'll come to you!**  
Circus workshops and residencies  
Teacher, youth, play worker training.  
Special Needs - tailored workshops  
**Weirdy Faerie** - shadow play & circus  
**Fire Spectacle** - outdoor events  
**Skylight Broadwater Centre Smith St  
Rochdale OL16 1HE tel 0706 50676**

## Join The IJA! ★

The 3,000 members of the International Jugglers Association worldwide invite you to join this 44-year-old society of juggling friends. Membership includes the quarterly journal, "Juggler's World." Send \$35 (US) for European membership to: IJA; Box 218; Montague MA 01351. Call 413/367-2401. ★



## JUGGLING

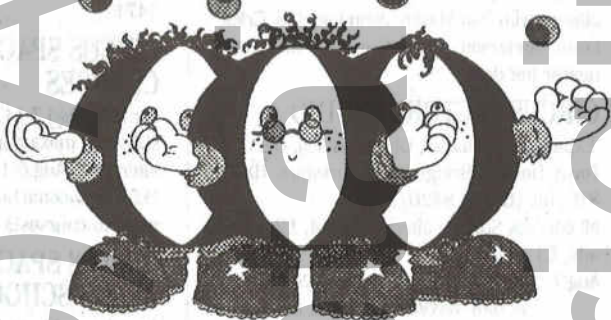
**SEND FOR OUR NEW SUMMER  
JUGGLING CATALOGUE.**

### SPECIAL OFFER

**ALL ORDERS OVER £5.00  
WILL RECEIVE A FREE SET  
OF JUGGLING BALLS! ★**

★ Offer ends June 30th.

**JUGGLEMANIA**



### CARRIAGE FREE MAIL ORDER\*

119 Chiltern Drive, Surbiton, Surrey KT5 8LS.  
Tel: 081-390 6855 • Fax: 081-399 0653.

## MAGIC

**SEND FOR OUR NEW SUMMER  
MAGIC CATALOGUE.**

### SPECIAL OFFER

**ALL ORDERS OVER £5.00  
WILL RECEIVE A FREE  
MAGIC TRICK! ★**

\* U.K. Only.





## THE SECOND BRITISH UNICYCLE CONVENTION HASTINGS, 21-22 MAY 1994.

No we don't do reviews of unicycle conventions either, but for the record books, here follows some of what happened. It rained. The place was a bit empty as a result, a common problem with May and early June, (this year especially).

\* Dave Mariner, the eponymous DM, is working on a computer that can measure your unicycle efficiency (keep it away from us, then) and could lead to breakthroughs in design, at least of individual components. Designed by computer, ridden by lunatics. Where have I heard that before?

\* Yuri Abrahams and Sammy Hellwig did their stuff to universal approbation, and the Sammy-trained Tscha-Tscha team boggled a few brains (why were they all named after racing cars, though?). German hot-shots LAHIMO (their B-team, if the truth were told) narrowly defeated Brit champs, London's LUNIS, in extra time in the Hockey final. The Unicycling Chain World Record wasn't broken (neither was the British), but hey, who cares about that anyway?

\* More important discoveries were the definitive answers to the "Oy mate where's your other wheel" heckle - try "It'll be along in a minute" or "In Nanny's room, behind the clock" (!), courtesy of Golden Oldies NMRAT while compèring the evening show. Sammy Hellwig is also responsible for implanting a useful (?) bit of Japanese vocabulary: "Jess-sah!" (however you spell it) - a cry used near the top of mountains (allegedly) when one last superhuman effort is required (something like a cross between "That works!" and "Go for it!"). So when hardcore Unicyclists get even less comprehensible than usual you'll know what they're on about. All part of the *Catch* service, folks.

The 1995 convention will probably be in Cardiff, courtesy of Russell Wells and CUT - watch this space for details.

'Mad Max' Beaumont of Manchester writes that he's afraid that juggling and unicycling risk getting too separated from each other as activities, if the separate conventions are anything to go by - and then proceeds to detail a sure-fire method to separate bits of unicyclists from each other, as follows :

### UNICYCLE STAIR DROPS

#### First step -

Find a kerb or small step and ride the Uni up & down it until you don't really think about doing it. After the first few years of this you will become bored and boring, so move on to:



#### Step 2 -

Find two to three steps, small to start with, with a minimal drop between them. It's a good idea to roll the Uni up and down, holding the seat - watch particularly where the pedals are in relation to the steps - it's obviously easiest if the pedals reach a horizontal position on every step, though this is by no means an absolute rule.

#### Step 3 -

Before you get on the Uni, position the wheel at the top of the first step and place the pedals horizontal, then walk slowly back about three revolutions so the pedals are in the position you find it easiest to mount in. It's a good idea to practise getting on and riding up to the top of the first step before you go any further. Remember you can jump off a Unicycle at any time!

#### The final step -

This could be if:

- 1) Your parent/partner catches you trying it on the new carpet and confiscates your unicycle
- 2) The stairs are too big and you have a bad fall
- 3) You aren't good enough and you have a bad fall
- 4) Your Unicycle breaks...and you have a bad fall
- 5) You have a bad fall

Ways of reducing the risks above

- 1) Try juggling eggs in the kitchen, it often works
- 2) Make sure the stairs are small to begin with
- 3) You are the best judge of what you can and can't do - don't rush yourself!
- 4) Do a check of all the major parts looking for strain and knocks.
- 5) Try to keep the pedals under the arches of your feet, if they are too near your toes you can injure your ankles from the shock, if they are too near your heels, your feet may slip off the pedals. Keep a good solid pressure on the pedals, sit down firmly in the seat and go for it!

Max helpfully suggests that it's a good idea to see if you can afford a new Uni before you start! ...and ends with "Good luck in fighting the dark forces of gravity!"

...and certain Unicyclists complain that we have them typecast as maniacs!



Can't stop or I'll fall over... Pic. MARTIN GISBOURNE

There is a newly-established worldwide unicycling e-mail mailing list - if this interests you and you have access to the technology, more information can be had from Barry Prescott on bp@dcshull.ac.uk

Isn't it quiet when J'llly\*\*\*\* isn't about?



U  
N  
I  
C  
Y  
C  
L  
I  
S  
T  
S

Catch  
THIS  
31



## New Books for 1994 from

# Butterfingers

**Charlie Dancey's Encyclopaedia of Ball Juggling.** From Aardvark to Zen - over 200 pages of all you ever wanted to know about ball juggling. £12.95

### Todd Strong's Diabolo Book.

*Just published, includes how to start, tricks, a section on 2-Diabolos, Diabolo with a partner and a fascinating chapter on the history of the Diabolo with reproductions of Victorian Diabolo postcards. £9.95*

**Modern Club Swinging and Pole Spinning by Anna Jillings.** Clear line drawings and Anna's expertise make this the ideal book for anyone taking up swinging for the first time, as well as intermediate swingers who want to go further. £9.95

**Fliktriks** - wonderful hand drawn illustrations by **Martin F Bedford** show you 12 different tricks, from 3-Ball Cascade to Rubensteins Revenge. Two tricks per Fliktrik. An excellent teaching aid for only £2.95.

Please telephone, write or fax for a copy of our free mail order catalogue

# Butterfingers

11A Church Farm  
Corston  
BATH  
BA2 9EX  
tel: 0225 874759  
fax: 0225 874353

# CHINESE STATE CIRCUS



**EDINBURGH**  
THE BIG TOP, THE MEADOWS, MELVILLE DRIVE  
FRIDAY 12 AUGUST to SUNDAY 4 SEPTEMBER  
DIAL-A-SEAT: 031-662-1411 (ACCESS/VISA)  
or BOOK NOW: FRINGE BOX OFFICE, 180 HIGH STREET, EDINBURGH TEL 031-226-5138

## STREET THEATRE COMPETITION

*AUGUST 1994*

FRIDAY 5TH, SATURDAY 6TH, SUNDAY 7TH  
2.30PM

**A7**

THE PIAZZA STAGE  
BEAN STREET  
BLACKPOOL PLEASURE  
BEACH



FOR FURTHER DETAILS CONTACT

LORRAINE TRANGMAR  
ENTERTAINMENTS & EVENTS MANAGER  
BLACKPOOL PLEASURE BEACH  
OCEAN BOULEVARD  
BLACKPOOL  
FY4 1EZ

TEL 0253 341033 EXT 281  
FAX 0253 407609



# PERFORMING IN JAPAN

Brad Zupp  
(Hareh Publ., USA)

available for \$17 from PO Box 779,  
West Springfield, MA 01090 USA.

Perhaps I can see where the confusion comes from. You get lots of good reactions on stage, and perhaps *you do* start thinking that's 'cos you're a deeply exciting and interesting person. Then writing a book about your experiences might be the logical next step. After all, your public is gagging for it... aren't they?

Zuppy here already writes an astonishing (careful...) newsletter exclusively about his activities, and somehow finds people to send it to. Perhaps he really is a uniquely gifted performer. Unfortunately you've got no way of telling that from this book. Perhaps that's why we're supposed to be interested in whether and why he thought his shows on every single day were any good.

Can't say I'd learn much else here, were I going to perform in Japan. Try some of these great tips - "if you would like to sleep more comfortably on the plane, get a window seat," "when you are being introduced to Japanese, have your business cards ready," "if you're in Japan and are tired with the food, go to an Indian restaurant," "subtle humour (?) doesn't seem to work here, but subtlety in negotiations is a must," "without being paranoid, be aware that not all Japanese have good boundaries concerning foreigner's bodies" (!) "always wear clean socks in Japan", "find people you enjoy being with and ask them to go out with you," ...Get the idea? All part of the *Catch* review service - now you know nearly as much as he does. Better off with the *Rough Guide*.

Apart from these gems we learn about Brad's favourite food, how often he faxes his girlfriend, how many times he took the wrong train home (about the most exciting thing that happens) and some pretty poor practical jokes they played back in clown school (maybe it's the way he tells 'em) ...oh, and how good he thinks he is. Several times.

This book would only be particularly useful or interesting in a parallel universe - probably the one in Mr Zupp's head.

diabolo

# No Fit State Circus in 'Totally Wicked'



A FAMILY SHOW? Not a fit state. Pic. by ADRIAN JOHN

**T**he show started very well, with the Head Angel leading the 'Flying class' strongly characterised. Despite injury problems, the acrobatic skills were very good - although they should have taken the movement upwards into trapeze or other aerial work. Full marks for Ali's effective comedy!

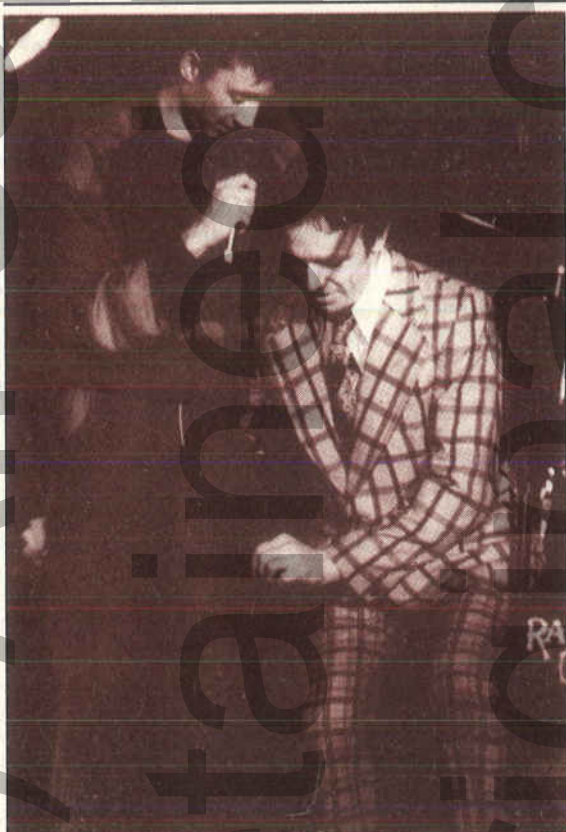
There were some very funny asides; the problem was that these were above the heads of the younger members of the audience, who therefore had no comic relief from the gloom and doom of the plot. 'Faust' is not perhaps what most of us would describe as 'light entertainment'. The French devil, for instance, was a good acrobat, but whatever her role she positively screeched and screamed her way through it, a little wearing after a while. On the other side, the French of devilish Pete was hysterical - descending the ropes to cries of "Le Plat d'Or - le camembert - fromage frais" etc., none of which was understood by the children. The 'Circus Finale' too was incongruous, a gesture to family entertainment, with the circus band - although it did

at least mean a nicer picture to end on after what had been a frightening show for young children.

Here lies the main criticism; the production as a whole seemed unsure who the audience was. If aimed at children, there were many parts that were too scary, and the humour too high-brow. If this was geared towards adults, they should have said so! - and there were sections that were not strong enough or simply too childish to be entertaining for adults.

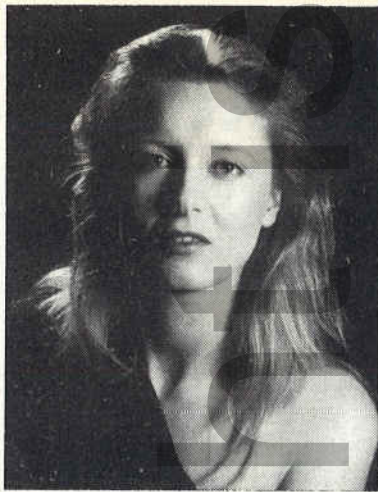
It isn't easy to come up with original material suitable for both groups and thus produce truly family entertainment - maybe their policy needs to move more towards either adult or child shows?

Pippa Tee.



Might I suggest bigger pockets? PeeWee & Stompy exchange fashion tips at BEDLAM FAYRE  
PIC. ADRIAN JOHN





## POF'S PROFILE

«Poff!» is the sound paraffin makes when it is expelled from the mouth at high speed over a burning torch. My parents, when they admit to knowing me, call me Louise. They call me some other things too, but we won't go into that.

When I was three years old, I saw the fire act at *Billy Smart's* and wanted to do it too. Now I'm a fire-eater and *fakir* - so far as a woman can decently be a fakir, that is, I don't mind, I have no desire to do the unladylike bits. They're nasty. In addition to touring with trad. circus, I have worked in the film industry, theatre and variety (getting sawn in half, performing a mentalist act) and once got to be a knife-thrower's assistant half-way through a tour, after the knife thrower nailed his wife to the board during a show one night, and for some reason she didn't want to do it any more. She's still alive (and still married to him). The circus experience also extends to work a camel groom, equestrian groom, and reptile handler, as well as 'puppy-walking' young tigers and being a bears' 'auntie'. I got chucked out of school rather earlier than planned, having been told at five that I couldn't read (just didn't like *Janet and John* books very much, actually), at fourteen was a waste of skin (good one!), and ultimately that I had no concept of the English language. Obviously I do. I proved them all wrong by winning literary awards for fiction and poetry, and now wish fervently that I'd written this in the book-bumf third-person style («*Poff!*» is a writer and performer of considerable experience and talent...) because then I wouldn't sound like some big-head luvvy blowing my own trumpet, and could say some really nice things and you'd think they were all testimonials by someone else. I also write occasionally for *Radio 4*, and used to write and perform my own shows - something I plan to do again, if I can give myself a decent script before I'm completely past it. (Yes! The photography is ten years old, and yes! It's my publicity shot!)

In 1990, some friends and I began *Jugglespace*, a circus arts workshop for Shrewsbury, whose first convention was staged quite by accident last year. This year's convention was deliberate. Claims to fame: I was once John Cleese's secretary. I'm not any more. I once managed to set fire to my costume live on stage in front of a packed St. David's City Hall, burnt half my dress off, and got the best applause ever in my life.

# CRIMINAL JUSTICE BILL

## You're all criminals and there's no justice.

*A bit of politics for a moment. Read this, then consider - you might not think it applies to you, probably you're not a hunt saboteur or a squatter, maybe you don't go to illegal raves - this is legislation that could be used against even established festivals like Glastonbury, or a juggling convention with on-site camping, or a big party at a friend's house if the neighbours didn't like the idea, or even street theatre in a public place if the Police decided it was a public nuisance. Poff, our girl with the bushel of bees in her bonnet (and, as a travelling circus worker, in the front line of this one) tells you some of what you need to know. In exchange we tell you more than you need to know about her.*

**OK - pin 'em back and listen, because this is bloody important and affects YOU!**

The highly secret Criminal Justice Bill could become law by the end of this summer, and will affect EVERYBODY. So why isn't it being discussed in the mainstream press? Who knows? I've got a few ideas of my own, but if this Bill goes through I could get banged up for declaring them. In a democracy, the public has a right to know what the Government is up to - but not any more, apparently. If this Bill goes through, we won't have a democracy any more. Hey! I know! Why don't the bastards just nationalise ALL the newspapers and call them 'Pravda'?

Michael Howard, our esteemed Home Secretary, has targeted the most unpopular groups in society - specifically, "squatters, ravers, gypsies (hang on - what about the Race Relations Act??), travellers and hunt saboteurs" - saying that they, and not unemployment, housing shortages and the recession, are the real problems in today's society. Unfortunately, even if you happen to hate all of those people, the laws currently being debated in the House of Lords are geared up to do far more than stop illegal raves. They ban any form of public protest. Local demonstrations by groups of mums wanting their kids to have a safe place to cross the road will similarly be banned. ANY form of peaceful protest will become illegal under this Bill - which, in fact, is so far-reaching that it would take the rest of this year's *Catches* to outline everything. Try some of these:

**Aggravated Trespass.** This is a brand new crime, invented specially. So is "Holding or Attending Trespassory Assemblies". The definition of 'Aggravated Trespass' is wide indeed, and includes the peaceful picket of a work-place on land owned by an employer (or even just not owned by the pickets). Council land is also covered - so you

can no longer protest about the closure of your village school anywhere other than your own front room. Alone. If a policeman thinks you might be on your way to an assembly which they "reasonably believe" is likely to be prohibited by these laws (i.e. anything they want it to be), they can stop you, arrest you, and if you lose you can go to jail for three months. In short, anything which causes "serious disruption of the life of the community" will be banned. The police are allowed to judge for themselves what precisely, in your area, "causes serious disruption to the community." Even on public land, a protest can be stopped, providing the public has only "limited right of access". Most public land has only limited rights of access - even if it's only a sign saying "All dogs must be on a lead".

**Squatting.** Under the proposed new laws, even legitimate tenants can be thrown out by unscrupulous landlords. All the landlord has to do is to say that the people he wants to evict are not tenants. They will be given 24 hours notice to quit, and the landlord is not required to say which court the case will be heard in. Only the landlord and the judge have to be present. Even if you have a tenancy agreement, you need to find out where the hearing will take place for yourselves, because there ain't no bastard who'll tell you. Illegal evictions will be a piece of cake under this Bill.

**The right to silence in custody** - will be severely compromised.

**Public order offences.** Up until now, any more than twelve vehicles parked without permission on private land or highway or council land constituted a public order offence. Under the new laws, any more than SIX vehicles will constitute a criminal offence. Specifically aimed at travellers and ravers, this can be used against anyone - like your friends if they came to a party and parked on the side of the road or down a farm lane. My Dad used to get solicitor's letters from his neighbour because of the number of tatty vehicles he collected. If he was still happy to buy up the next four old wrecks that took his fancy, he could find himself in the slammer, and the vehicles impounded - at his expense.

**Police discretion** - is a contradiction in terms. At their discretion, they will be able to stop and search people. They won't even have to give a reason any more.

This whole thing is terrifying. I urge you all to panic, immediately, and in that panic, write to your MP, contact the House of Lords, and march NOW... while you still can.

The people who can tell you more about the Bill, and how it will affect you, are 'Liberty'. Phone them on 071 403 3888.



## HOW DARE YOU #1

### beastly

I'm about to complain. I hate complaining, but sometimes it has to be done. It's about Pof's articles, which, although they have some interesting content, seem to be thinly-disguised excuses for a rant against the anti-animal-circus lobby. Burning down a stable with horses in it is not the sort of thing campaigners do - it's the sort of thing idiots do and they are found everywhere. Next she'll be telling us that the ALF are planning to put arsenic in the tea at chimp's tea parties.

This is the sort of sensationalist rubbish that belongs within the pages of the Sun, and you guys print it. Whilst I don't expect you to take an anti-stand, neither do I expect to be bombarded with articles telling me how great animal circus is. That's not why I read 'The Catch'. Is it why anyone does? Surely the majority of your readers want to read about human skills rather than animal exploitation? Or am I reading the wrong magazine? What next - an article on the merits of the five-ferret cascade? Am I a voice in the wilderness?

*Joolz, Shepherd's Bush, London.*

*we've been trying to stimulate some debate on this subject ever since we launched - i've always felt the question of why not animal circus was an integral part of why 'new' circus, but that animals were an essential part of trad. circus: so we needed to talk about it. As a vegetarian ex hunt-saboteur myself i do hold strong views on animal exploitation. I've tried to solicit articles from the anti lobby, even from a specifically circus-orientated campaign, and they didn't bother to reply to any of my letters. This is the sort of thing that gets the most biased editor in the known universe more than a little wound-up. Luckily some Catch readers are doing something serious on the subject next issue. Pof! is a bit of a naughty girl, actually - raving about Circus Harlequin without telling us that the show includes tigers, which would have affected whether and how we felt able to endorse it. Generally we print her stuff because she writes really well which is, er, really important when it comes to filling the pages of a magazine. Over to you -*

*diabolo*

## HOW DARE YOU #2

### JTF ≠ CBI, OK?

As one of a collection of much-offended JTF members I wanted to reply to Mr A.L.Ellis.

Against us are levelled the following accusations:

- 1) Conniving with *The Children's Society* to get mass publicity whilst getting workshop leaders to do all the work
- 2) Acting as a price cartel to keep prices artificially high
- 3) Generally not doing anything to aid or advance jugglers, workshops, the industry

OK. Time to put forward our side of the story.

#### **The Children's Society.**

Our association with *The Children's Society* was based on the genuine belief that if all the shops supported the same charity we could do a lot more for them. Also it would save the problem of being approached by every charity not all of whom we could support.

At the end of our meeting with their officials we put our names down as contact for the local groups but unfortunately the local Children's Society groups never received the information and presumed quite wrongly that any juggler could be approached.

I for one contacted my Branch twice offering my support but they persisted in approaching a shop who knew nothing about the scheme.

I had promised the support of local jugglers but only because I offer them lots of services (free agency, use of telephone and fax, space to dump their fat etc.) and also because they're friends. That's OK isn't it?

In short, we tried. Plus we never milked them for free publicity.

#### **Acting as a Price Cartel.**

There are not thousands of juggling suppliers, therefore we tend to sell a lot of the same lines of stock. Hence the similar prices. Furthermore we are not like other industries. We don't want to buy bulk juggling balls in from Taiwan. Where humanly possible we support cottage industries, small manufacturers, nice people. If you want us to sell cheap then don't moan if your balls fall apart, or if we're not selling British stock, or if we're not taking environmental and working condition issues into account. Personally I have always paid the same amount to buy

my balls and whilst my overheads have soared upwards my prices haven't.

I have never met a rich juggling shop owner in this country. We all drive old heaps, mostly live in rented accommodation (I live in a caravan) and struggle to make ends meet, so give us a break.

#### **Not Helping the Industry.**

Your implication that we are a load of bread-heads who do very little to help the industry is just too unfair to ignore. As I read your letter I was putting ALL of my time and a lot of money into organising Bedlam Fayre - a Circus and Street Performing Festival - and it made me really angry. Anyway here is a list of some of what we do do.

- 1) sponsorship of No Fit State Circus (JTF and Butterfingers)
- 2) sponsorship of Circus Space (Beard and Butterfingers)
- 3) sponsorship of Ra-Ra-Zoo, Skylight Circus, The Serious Road Trip, Zippo's Academy of Circus Arts (Beard)
- 4) workshop donations to 28 clubs, colleges, charities (Beard) and to 12 workshops etc.
- 5) sponsorship of Children's Circus (Butterfingers)
- 6) sponsorship of Bobs Bash Circus Marquee (Boggle, Noel Britten, Beard, Butterfingers)
- 7) organisation of the following conventions:  
Horsham Jugglefest (Absolute Balls)  
Bedlam Fayre (Boggle)  
Balls Up (Stuff'n'Nonsense)  
Assisting with British and European conventions. Manchester (Mushy Pea and Flipjacks); Leeds (Fire Dance); Birmingham (3.3.10)
- 8) organisation of workshops - virtually every juggling shop in the JTF organises workshops.
- 9) charity gigs for Friends of the Earth, Environmental Investigation, Duke of Edinburgh [he's not a charity, surely - d], Scouts and Guides (Oddballs).

Over and above this many of us act as free agencies for performers and spend lots of time putting would-be jugglers in touch with local workshops. The very constitution of the JTF requires that we do this.

In short Mr Ellis we are helping you to make a living, so before you slam us again try to accept that every new industry is capable of making some mistakes, but that for a small industry we put a hell of a lot back in.

Yours indignantly,

*Fay Callow (The Boggle Juggling Shop)*



D  
R  
O  
P  
S  
:  
D  
R  
O  
P  
S

.....  
H  
O  
R  
O  
S

35

More DROPS page 36...



...continued from page 35

## ANOTHER RETAILER RE-TELLS IT.

First, *The Children's Society*. As I understand it, the link with the JTF gave the Society the addresses of members so they could approach them directly with their *Jugglebug* Appeal. Members were then at liberty to offer or decline their services as they saw fit. The JTF did not sanction any other approach, nor can they be held responsible if members of *The Children's Society* were pushy. Speaking for myself, and my organisation, I am happy to continue to support a charity which both promotes juggling and helps deprived children.

As for the other points raised in A.L.Ellis' letter, I am happy to give a retailer's perspective on membership of the JTF. As well as specialist shops, retailers as diverse as: Strand Card Shops, Boots the Chemist, Homebase Do It Yourself Centres, Argos Catalogue stores, *all* currently sell juggling equipment. How can a member of the general public - especially someone who has never bought juggling equipment before - know where to go to get a reasonable deal? At Jesters the JTF logo shows everyone that we have taken the trouble to become part of an organisation which sets out to promote juggling and which binds us to a code of conduct and fair practice. Our trained staff are encouraged to point out our membership to customers and this hopefully gives them confidence in dealing with us.

Another important reason for our membership is to spread information throughout the industry. We have encouraged manufacturers to publish more product information to pass on to customers. We become aware of product innovation and development as and when it happens and the Federation provides a forum to discuss common problems with other retailers from all parts of the country.

We negotiate the best possible terms with all our suppliers - both distributors and manufacturers - and constantly try to improve the deal we get. Sometimes this takes the form of improved service and sometimes improved prices. Our objective is to improve the deal we offer our customers. I am writing now not to specifically promote our shops but to encourage people to buy their juggling equipment from JTF members, but the letter specifically mentioned pricing. Take a typical squashy/thud type ball as an example: at our shops, eighteen months ago, a boxed set of balls would have cost you about £15.00. Today the same would cost you £10.00. If that isn't an improvement in price in either real or money terms, I don't know what is!!

One simple message to all jugglers or would-be jugglers out there is shop where you see the JTF logo - you will get a fair deal and you can buy with confidence.

*From Jak & all at JESTERS  
- Happy Juggling.*

*The Catch is a fully paid up JTF member (unlike some we could mention) and proud of it. Most of the traders that we meet probably lose money because of the support they give their local workshops, conventions etc. What other kind of business would pay for a pitch, donate goods/equipment for raffle prizes, and then spend the day teaching, entertaining the public and showing kids how to juggle! Would the events survive without them?*

JA

Dear Jablo

Your magazine's OK, but there's too much DONALD GRANT / BRENDAN BROLLY / LEE JELLYHEAD / HAGGIS / SEAN GANDINI / ANNA JILLINGS / CLUB MEETING / ..... (fill in other name here) in it.

Yours, *Disgruntled* of Didsbury.

Here you have it - your own cut-out-and-post *Catch* complaints letter. No stamp needed - as long as you throw it straight in the bin. We get more of these remarks (a lot of them in conversation too) than any other criticism of the magazine. "*The Catch* is getting very cliquey", that's another. "I don't understand who you're going on about", that's a third.

This is a criticism we take very seriously. Honest. When we launched this magazine we had a clear idea of things we didn't want to do, conditioned by things we didn't like about *certain other juggling magazines*, who seemed to have adopted some kind of star system (mostly to do with how big a fee they could command in Köln or Vegas) that meant nothing to the juggler in the street or the workshop. The fact that we are now seen as having the same problem is, frankly, a little worrying.

There's something refreshingly *democratic* about juggling, street performance, and new circus, even though we're mostly talking about solo skills. *There are few stars*. Those that there are, don't actually have that much to do with us. We might solicit articles from Steve Rawlings or Paul Morocco (er... they're big names on the variety circuit) and they might have something useful to tell us (they're blimmin' good at what they do and they've performed places that most of us haven't). But we *don't* put them in (like, say, a music paper might) because hundreds of you crowd into their every performance and get them to autograph bits of your anatomy. It's not that kind of art-form or skill. The act is more important than the person doing it. A lot of the people are bloody boring off stage.

The reason you hear more about those people I just mentioned (don't worry, I'm not going to again) in our pages is because most of them are teachers. They all lead workshops. Most of them write books, which means they can string a sentence together amusingly, interestingly, and usefully and so I'm more likely to select them as worthy of space in the magazine you pay for. Some of them are even *that inspiring* as performers that to watch them is an education.

A couple of issues ago we started printing profiles of our contributors. This wasn't an attempt at promoting a star-system of our own, but from the belief that you can learn a little more from a teacher you know a little more about (doesn't suit everyone's teaching style, but it's the direction we favour). That's something I intend to carry on with unless you write in to say you find it all irrelevant. The personal details and anecdotes are only really



valid if they help you understand the process of arriving at the skill - and without the personal dimension, pure skill is as dry as the Outback in a *Fosters* famine. Providing these personal details is an attempt to get away from the 'mystery' of people you might have heard the names of, in conversation perhaps, and not really known why.

The other sort of person who gets a lot of column inches in *The Catch* is the joker. They're another part of the anti-star system. **Taking the piss is really important**, especially when the victims are prominent performers/teachers, organisers of events, industry figures or even (unwittingly) the writers of the letters themselves. So what if they're always writing *about* the same figures - they're the people they know. What we laugh at is (*nearly* always) not because it's someone famous, but because we recognise something. Maybe it's ourselves, maybe it's someone we know - we all know some *juggling types*, don't we? What someone said at your workshop stands a good chance of being funnier than backstage bitchery from Hagen - exercise your own sense of humour before you complain about someone else's. We could do with some new jokes.

We were talking democracy a while ago. This issue I'm unilaterally (not to say tyrannically) reviving a democratic practise of Ancient Greece - OSTRACISM! (*nothing to do with large birds, before you get too excited*). Certain people - *the first four on the list at the beginning of this rant to start with* - are **banned** from these pages until we get enough letters pleading for their return, or until they rehabilitate themselves. The same goes for anyone else you the readers have had enough of - just write in and we'll have them exiled under the same conditions.

Of course there's one exception. There is always, in life, one exceptional person. A few issues ago there were certain heretics writing in to say there was too much *diabolo* in these pages. No way! There's not enough!! And soon there will be *only* me!!! You'll be clamouring for the old favourites back, you mark my words...

*diabolo*



## BJF

Problems with recent conventions notwithstanding, one of the strengths of the *British Juggling*

*Foundation* is that as an organisation it stands separate from the success or otherwise of a given event (only if a whole string of them failed on BJF advice would we have to start asking rude questions). In recent issues we've been writing about the relationship between juggling (and other circus/street performance skills) and Sports or Arts - the BJF is busy liaising with official bodies in both camps. Difficult to say what this achieves in the short term, it's troublesome and often boring too - but one of these days you could be glad they were working at clarifying matters. Even if you're not going to be a convention organiser, you might well enjoy looking at the archive assembled by those who were... and so on. Aside from the columns of *The Catch* it's indubitably the most important networking point for all sides of the juggling world - hobby jugglers, manufacturers, past and future convention organisers, European and world organisations, performers, workshop facilitators, tutors - and takes this fully representative rôle as seriously as *the Catch* takes anything (*excuse me!* - d). Though at future conventions you will be given the option of directing part of your registration fee to the BJF, for now you can become an associate member by sending £1 (cheap) to Stewart Hutton, BJF membership secretary, 83 Uist Road, Glenrothes, Fife, KY7 6RE. - marking your envelope "No I don't want any books, thank you."

Other enquiries to PO Box 25, Hebden Bridge, West Yorkshire, HX7 6UY or ring Neil Collins on (0422) 846053.

## EQUITY

Another organisation currently touting for membership in the growing Circus field is *Equity*, best known as the acting profession's Trade Union. To swim against the Tory tide, *the Catch* has no hesitation in saying that professional performers in circus, variety, or even plying for hire on the corporate entertainment circuit, should take the question of Union membership quite seriously. Worries about health, safety and financial security come to our attention every day, and with substantial representation and recognition in Circus, *Equity* could be instrumental in improving matters. Their work in Theatre, TV, Radio, Film and beyond, much of which went on some years ago, did a great deal towards raising the profile of the performing professions, raising standards in the business, and helping performers from their training to their retirement. Circus is a growing field once more and *Equity* could have a not-negligible part to play in that - the rule of the powerful families and prominent entrepreneurs, and their peculiar relationship with their performers, is no longer real, let alone relevant.

*Equity* has a specific *Variety & Circus* Department, to which a sizeable number of the established performers mentioned in these pages already belong. Recently they established a *Circus Committee* made up of similarly experienced performers. In the first place, they can be contacted c/o *Equity*, Guild House, Upper Saint Martin's Lane, London WC2H 9EG. Tel. 071 379 6000. There are also regional offices in *Glasgow* (041 332 1669), *Manchester* (061 832 3183) and *Cardiff* (0222 397971).



CATCH PHRASES

Catch  
PHRASES

37

## THE CATCH SUBSCRIPTION FORM:

**A YEARS SUBSCRIPTION** please for THE CATCH, starting from the following issue:

Issue 9 (Aug-Sept) Issue 10 (Oct-Nov) Issue 11 (Dec-Jan) Issue 12 (Feb-March) Issue 13 (April-May) Issue 14 (June-July)

☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

Subscription price: £9.00 (Inc. Post & Packaging) Overseas Subscription £15.00  
Send Postal Order or Cheque (payable to THE CATCH) to:

THE CATCH,  
MOORLEDGE FARM COTTAGE,  
KNOWLE HILL,  
CHEW MAGNA,  
BRISTOL BS18 8TL

NB: Back-issues of  
THE CATCH #1  
to #8 are still  
available at  
£1.50 each.  
Contact our office.

☐ < Please tick this box if  
you have subscribed before.

(PLEASE PRINT)

Your Name: .....

Address: .....

Post Code: .....

Date: .....

Signed: .....



AUG - SEPT 1994 ISSUE 9 VOL 1

CATCHPHRASES -BJF EJA JTF ETC



## LEAVE THOSE KIDS ALONE

Dear fellow performers, artists, and those of you who initiate audience participation in your shows. Take heed. Please remember when dealing with young children not to put them down or make them look stupid as part of your act. Getting a laugh at someone else's expense - especially when they haven't the power or the position to fight back - is really not nice and can be very damaging to self-esteem. If your volunteer is not suitable for your requirements, find a clear way of substitution. Being made to look an idiot in front of an audience can have life-long effects and really leaves its mark, especially in the area of putting yourself forward. Uplift not put down - Respect the kids - Words can wound. Thank you for the space to express this strongly felt feeling.

*Liz Daniels, Kent.*

Child volunteers, yes, point taken. Kids (like at Glaston, but it's not just there) who interrupt, heckle, nick props and generally upstage the grownups - no indignity is too great nor torture too amusing for them. And few audiences disagree! But someone should run a sprog-handling workshop for 'family' performers - never before in any field of human endeavour have so few lines been used so often. Over to you lot on this one...

## JUGGLING THE FINANCES

Here's a money-saving tip for all you hard-up jugglers. A set of *Chasley* novelty props will set you back about £13, but for a fraction of that price, you can achieve the same effect. Next time you are near a pet shop, pop in and you will see a wide and varied range of dog toys. These are cheap and cheerful, and the kids love them! Hope I've been of some use. Yours squeakingly,

*Robert Jefferson, Solihull.*

PS. Any free T-shirts/badges etc. going? Ah... but is your pet shop a JTF member? Perhaps you could go one better in the novelty props race and purchase some small rodents, cute kittens, etc. next time you're there. PS. no

## TENT PROBLEM PEGGED

A big thank you from *The Festival of Fools* for the tents donated by Dorothy and Ralph Ray (Roger Drop's parents - there you are Rog - got your name in print again!) Mike Medill, from Morebath and late but welcome entry from Mitch of Dorchester. Thanks to this generosity the Fools have been able to sleep while on tour! We love you for it!

*Claire Coleman*  
aka. Mop/Mango on behalf of all the Fools.

So you managed to get all sixteen of you in only three tents? It is a very close group, of course... Incidentally, Mr Drop is going to have to watch himself if he doesn't want to get banned from these pages too (see p.37).

## SIGN OF THE TIMES.

What with all the conventions losing money and us amateurs spending a fortune on juggling equipment and booze - it's little wonder the pawnbrokers has a three ball sign outside!!

*Peter Rayner, Portsmouth.*

## ...AND ANOTHER THING...

- 1) If Harlequin is so bloody wonderful, perhaps you could give us the dates.
- 2) Filktriks No. 7 'Burke's Barrage' is not the same trick as the 'Burke's Barrage' in *Beyond the Cascade*. So is someone taking the piss or what?
- 3) 'Kids will always love clowns' (see last issue). They also love orange squash, *My Little Pony*? and picking their noses. Don't worry, most of them grow out of it.
- 4) And it rained all through the bank holiday.
- 5) Oh well, never mind.

*John (Tomkins Spaghetti), Somerset.*

(1) And if you read the mag properly, John, you'd see we gave the 'phone number for the Kingpole circus information line, 'cos the smaller Trad. Circuses don't give out their whereabouts until shortly before they arrive for fear of someone else getting there first. Don't laugh, it still does happen. Look in the gig guide and it's listed again. (2) It's not the same when I do it either - now why might that be? I'm sure the readers will tell you. (3), (4), (5) ah... but will you?

## NO, WE DON'T REVIEW CONVENTIONS

If you're organising a convention talk to the *Jugglespace* team in Shrewsbury - this was how to get it right. The village atmosphere, with the campsite, trade stands, marquee, sports hall and the beer tent all within stumbling distance made this the friendliest convention I've ever attended in the UK. Highlights included great music from the Angry Penguins followed by an amazing impromptu acoustic jam, the totally over-the-top strong man from Oswestry (where?) and the brilliantly original Stretch People (from The Ra Ra Zoo stables). Top of the bill was Chimeraera with their spectacular (help I'm running out of superlatives) trapeze show. And if anyone wants a good compère talk to Bis. This convention re-defined 'laid-back'!

*AN Beardperson*

that told us, eh?

## DROOL DROOL SLURP SLURP

In regard to what Catch could use as a pull-out I feel there are really only two main options. These are - A: a blown-up version of the 'Devil-Stick Pete' photo - his cigar box routine at Manchester, to brighten up the bottom of my juggling bag. OR B: a large, double-page (preferably) spread, in full colour, of those Dangerous Bros. Clothes optional in Chris's case!

*Anon.*

Or should that be Onan? We actually had a poster designed of Skate Naked & PeelWee but the printers refused to run it. Other

suggestions? Venus without her costume (see *Glastonbury review*) a certain UV swinger with the lights on, etc. Think of a good enough one and I'm sure one of your favourite JTF members will sponsor it...

## PUBLIC INFORMATION SERVICE

I think you should do a centre-page spread of Dr. Colin so anyone fool enough to think of answering his ad. for a female fire eater can realise their mistake and back out with a dodgy excuse about a sick relative.

*Sally, Sussex.*

## IT'S GRIM UP NORTH.

I think the Birmingham Convention was ACE!!! The jugglers in the public show were amazing, especially Philip Dammer. However, I reckon that the next convention should be in the South. Camping in the North just ain't fun, OK?

*Lee Snuff.*

So you don't support Stirling for the next British Convention then?

## NOT IN FRONT OF THE CHILDREN

I really do think you've got the mixture right for Catch but one small moan. My daughter, 4 years reads (or tries to) *Busker Gut* and makes up her own tales of circus. Please please try not to use swear words in the bubbles (e.g. "OH SHIT!" issue #8). The cartoons are of such good quality, don't spoil them this way. OK?

*C. Waghorn, Tamworth.*

Oops! I'm a firm supporter of swearing when artistically necessary (like it gets to be about this time every issue) but perhaps Grillo P., for example, went a bit over the top (last letters page). I always thought the well brought-up kids knew all the words their granies never did, just knew that it's not always considered grownup to use them - but I understand that some parents and teachers think differently. Anyway *Busker G* was sent to bed without any supper and made to wash his mouth out with soap and water - made a right mess of the inks, I can tell you. We'll try and keep the sword count a little lower in future, but it's not absolute. If there was an apologies page this issue I'd go into this a bit further - let's just apologise for not having any apologies while we're at it, eh?

## WE'RE NOT REALLY COMPETITIVE, BUT...

Is there a record for juggling Splats (or other large beanbags - weights?) - endurance. I did 12 minutes dead at our workshop on 20/4/94.

*Adrian Wilson,*

Just another Juggler, Derby. If there was a record for the largest number of records set in a particular sphere of activity, our American friends would have it already...



NO ANIMALS WERE HARMED DURING THE MAKING OF THIS STRIP



## MISCELLANEOUS

Hi, I've just got a couple of things I'd like to say. Why do people who can do five balls, seven rings etc. always put down people who aren't as good as them. We've all got to start somewhere.

About the IJA, the International Jugglers Association. How come just about all their events take place in the USA? What have they got that we haven't? (Apart from nice weather, the World Cup, Sharon Stone etc.)

That said I'm going to the USA this summer. Is juggling equipment, esp. clubs, cheaper over there? Did you know that when you juggle chemical energy is being turned into kinetic energy, rotational kinetic energy, internal energy and potential energy?

Lee from Absolute Balls is in the Catch too much. All club manufacturers: make your club handles fatter. Lee: get bigger racks.

Finally, if I don't get my free unicycle with issue 9 I'm suing. Keep up the good work!

*John.*

PS. Blow us a bubble Ray!!

*When I was young a couple was two... What a dreadful permissive age we do live in, to be sure. Declining moral standards? I blame Festival of Fools, actually...*

## WHO TEACHES THE TEACHERS? (PART 15)

We are a gymnastics school and a just forming circus school for kids. We need all the information we can get from around the world on both 'Traditional Circus' (minus animals) and 'New Circus', as well as the New Vaudeville scene and street performing. Perhaps you, in your infinite wisdom, or some of your readers could point us in some right directions? Any help would be appreciated.

*Chuck Johnson*

*Cascade Summit Youth Circus  
Maple Valley, Wa., USA*

*Don't know whether you can get Reg Bolton's Circus in a Suitcase over your side of the pond, but I'm sure someone here in the land of consumer choice could sell you one. Apart from that, keep buying The Catch and try some back issues - we've dealt with some of the questions about how to get a circus group or workshop going. Anyone recommend some good generic background reading?*

## BRUM CHUMS

A quick note just to let you know that the 1st Birmingham Juggling Convention was held at the Ladywood Arts Centre, which was used for the 6th British Convention. It was a great day. Two halls for juggling, good catering and a crèche which some people found very useful. The show was great too, compered by Cheeky Charlie Cheese from Chorley. (If Norwich need a comper then this guy is highly recommended). Also anyone who saw The Great Raymond's bubble act will never forget it. The headliners were The Gentlemen Jugglers who once again put on a great show. We now look forward to No. 2.

*Nog, Clare and Joseph,  
Ice Dragon Juggling Co.*

PS. We are no longer the Dropalots.

PPS. Also had to agree with \*ona\*d \*\*\*\*nt about no Diabolo, Passing etc. in the show at Manchester, but considering the whole thing was done on a budget of zilch, big applause to all involved is deserved.

*As I said, we don't review conventions 'cos they all end up saying nice things like this one does, and the editor's a cynical old bastard who hates all this niceness. But we're happy to print letters (preferably not from convention organisers) praising events which you'd like to recommend to other Catch readers. I expect this means that the whole post-bag will be convention write-ups from now on. If that's the case, drastic action will be taken.*

the 1995 convention! reasons for visiting yet. See Catch This for formed juggling scene is one of the best (except if you happen to be a Greenpeace campaigner?) and the small but perfectly-

NZ has always sounded friendly and fun to send me as soon as possible! years and you should all get up a collection advance the cause of juggling by many get out there (mean) to do it myself. It'll juggling piece is going to have to wait till there somewhere - but the philosophy of There's an article for someone to write in what that means to Norman the Lawman. Uni performers over here have been having a ride on his back while he's on a unicycle, which somehow parallels problems some left by PC Pold (look at it for giving kiddies a ride on his back while he's on a unicycle, Christchurch. He's recently had his collar the middle of the well at Mona Vale in giving every day, whatever the weather. In And finally a letter from the one true jug- 181 Cashel Street, Phone (03) 365 2686.

service for anyone backpacking anywhere are offering a where to jugle information Nevil of 3 Up Down Under Juggling Co. who correspondents Gary (pictured) & Pauline Greetings also from pleasantly persistent in an animated and controversial manner. ing different treatments of Burke's Barage of nails under your feet) when, say, discuss- fellow to have on your side (or even on a bed likes of Herry Ceoff, who sounds like a good newspaper cuttings on the activities of the p.37) some photos from same, and diverting name we're not mentioning this issue (see Christchurch Convention by someone whose NZ including a glowing account of the The usual deluge (welcome as a deluge in

## UPSIDE DOWN UNDER



## CONFUCIUS HE SAY...

"In many respects juggling is a bit like masturbation - it should only be done in public by the exceptionally skilled. The two things differ in that I would attend a masturbation workshop."

Mark Thomas. (he's a pop star apparently - d)

*Sent by Chris and Steve,*

*The Kaos Masturbation Juggling Shop, Worcester. I think it's wonderful how musicians act as the voice of a generation, don't you?*



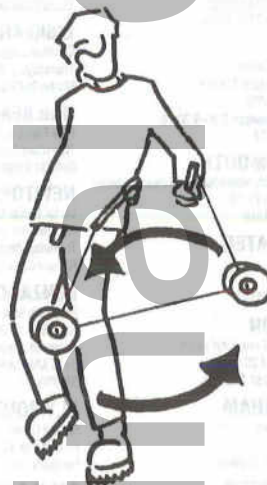
Write to:  
**Diabolo**

Catch's Cradle,  
c/o

Moorledge  
Farm Cottage,  
Knowle Hill,  
Chew Magna,  
Bristol  
BS18 8TL

## SEE! SOMEONE READS YOUR BOOKS!

If Brenda\* B\*\*lly really wants more of his tricks serialised in The Catch (March-May letters)...



(Illustration from BB's book of Diabolo p.60)

someone should tell him to put his nob back in his trousers.

*James & Neil,  
Glasgow.*

*are we allowed to say "nob" then?*

THANKS to ALL at  
**ABSOLUTE BALLS**  
for the UNICYCLES!

DROP BACK LINES

39





**N**aming juggling workshops is getting as complicated as naming shops (or sections in The Catch!) - all the good ones have obviously gone already, if some of the more recent efforts are anything to go by... C'mon, "Rub My Club", what is it you're trying to tell us? Mind you, "Just Another Circus", that made me laugh... Here's a few suggestions for you: Half-hour-before-the-pub Club, No Idea Magnus, Circus Schmircus, The Crusty Club, Turning Tricks, Cuddly Baby Seals, Balls to You, Pass Out, The Catch Appreciation Society. Get those brains working, beanbag heads!

Most workshops charge, often just to cover hall hire costs. When we know how much, we've put it in. You're advised to contact student clubs in advance, as some of them aren't allowed to admit the unintellectual.

### SOUTH WEST

#### BARNSTAPLE

Trinity Church Hall  
Thursdays 6-10 £1.50/£1  
Adam & Juliet 0271 78760

#### BATH

Window Arts Centre  
Juggling Mondays 7.30 £1  
Tad 0225 421700  
Unicycling Tuesdays 7.30-9.30 £2  
Dominic 428532

#### BOURNEMOUTH

East Cliff Church, Holdenhurst Road (near BR station)  
Tuesdays 7-10 £1.50  
Luke 0202 391379

#### BRIDGWATER

Arts Centre  
Thursdays 7-9  
Pand 0823 322213

#### CLEVEDON

Rub My Club, Saint John's Hall  
Sundays 5.30-7.30  
Simon / Ade 0257 342333

#### CHEL TENHAM

The Youth Centre  
Sundays 6-9  
Andy Clay 0452 862605

#### DORCHESTER

Tuesdays 7.30 usually  
Skidzle street circus, Alan 0300 321071

#### EXETER

University Circus Skills, Devonshire House  
Tuesdays 8-10

#### FROME

F.A.H.A. Playschemes and workshops in schools  
Vicky Taylor 0373 452018

#### GLOUCESTER

St. James' Church Hall, Upton Street  
Tuesdays 8-10  
Jon 0242 521483 Geoff 0242 519832

#### ILFRACOMBE

The Lantern Great Hall  
Wednesdays 7.45-9.30, £1

Heltz, Organised Kayoss, 0271 864653

#### LEIGH ON MENDIP

Memorial Hall  
Wednesdays 7.30-10. £1.  
Pippa 0749 840107

#### LISKEARD

Caradon Juggling Posse, Guildhall.  
Thursdays 7.30-9.30  
Martin 0579 62965

#### NAILSEA

Blue Flame pub, Westend.  
Thursdays Evenings in summertime. Free!  
Di 0934 838802

#### NEWTON ABBOT

Up for Grabs, Creative Arts Centre,  
Knowles Hill School  
Thursdays termtime 7-9  
Richard 0364 652446

#### PENZANCE

Branwells Mill, Station Road  
Saturdays 10.30-5 Beginners in morning,  
advanced afternoon  
Bo or Mike, Ark Juggling shop, 0736  
330750

#### PLYMOUTH

Ballard Centre  
Fridays 6-8, £2.50  
Fumballs Juggling Shop 0752 255808

#### SALISBURY

Arts Centre  
Wednesdays 6.30-8.30, £1 (kids 75p)  
Martin or Neil, Cunning Stunts 0722  
410588

#### SENNEN (West Cornwall)

Community Centre  
Fridays 7-9, £1  
Bo or Mike, 0736 330750

#### STREET Somerset

Fiasco Productions Crispin Hall  
Wednesdays 7-9  
Hannah 0460 240082

#### STROUD

Saint Matthew's Church Hall, Cainscross  
2nd & 4th Tuesdays 7-9 £1/50p  
0453 750147

### SWINDON

Fumbles Juggling Club, Clifton Street  
Social Hall  
Thursdays 7.30-9.30. 50p  
Steve 0793 432860

### TAUNTON

Bishop Fox's School  
Wednesdays 7-10  
Sally 0823 275459

### TOTNES

St. John's Church Hall, Bridge Town  
Fridays 7-8.30 kids 8.30-10 adults.  
£1.50/£1  
Caroline 0364 73125

### WEYMOUTH

Weymouth College  
Lunchtimes during termtime  
John MacDonald, 0305 208839

### BRISTOL

#### Dab Hands, Horfield

Tuesdays 7-9  
Mike Gibbons 0272 692145

#### Juggle Fever, Bishopston Community Centre

Tuesdays 7.30-9.30, under-14s  
accompanied  
Shaun Welling 0272 602365

#### Shambles, Mangotsfield

Soundwell Technical College  
Mondays 6.30-8.30  
Claire 0272 615529

#### University Circusoc, S.U. Building, Queens Road

Termtime Sundays 2.30-7ish,  
Wednesdays 7.30-10ish

#### U.W.E. Juggling Club, Redland

Termtime, Wednesdays 5-7  
Diana 0934 838802

#### acrobatics -

Bristol Hawks Gymnastics, Roman Road,  
Lower Easton  
2 hr sessions Wednesdays & Sundays  
11-1 £4.50  
Sports Acrobatics Fridays 6.30-8.0272  
737481 / 355363

### SOUTH EAST

#### BRIGHTON

Kempston Pier  
Mondays 7.30-9.30 "drop in",  
Wednesdays 8-10 "drop in" +  
workshops, Sundays 2-4 beginners  
Tal, Andy, Mr Fizzbang 0273 739216,  
Tim 0273 690737

#### BRIGHTON

Queens Park Road Day Nursery  
Tuesdays 7.30-9.30 £2 if you've got it,  
£1.50 else.

#### CANTERBURY

University  
Wednesday Evenings  
Contact S.U.

#### CHELMSFORD

The Y's Jugglers, YMCA  
Tuesdays 8-10 £1  
John Hawkins 0245 263526

#### CHICHESTER

Girls' High School  
Thursdays 7-9 £1  
Ball Space, Iain/Steve 0243 788052

#### CHERTSEY

Less Stress workshop, Saint Anne's Hall,  
Guildford Street  
Tuesdays 7.30-10  
Graham 0932 222063

#### CRAWLEY

Thursdays 7.30-10, £1  
Up for Grabs Sally / Nigel 0293 786143

#### EASTBOURNE

Central Methodist Church Hall, Langney Rd.  
Tuesdays 7-10 £2

#### HASTINGS

Scout Hall, Croft Road.  
Fridays 7-9.30  
Bosco Circus, Andy 0424 813144, Derek  
0424 431698, Sian 0424 431214  
HUG Unicycle Hockey  
Sundays 10-12, phone Andy or Derek  
for venue.

#### HEMEL HEMPSTEAD

Boxmoor Art Centre, Saint John's Road  
Thursdays 8-10, Sundays 3-5  
John 0442 243282

### HIGH WYCOMBE

Cascadia, Bucks College of Higher Education (I)  
Mondays 7-10  
Adrian 0494 537656

### HORSHAM

North Heath Lane Hall  
Mondays 8.15-10.15 Juggling, circus &  
performance skills  
Park Recreation Centre  
Dave / Steve 0403 273466

### ISLE OF WIGHT

Cowes Youth Centre Gym  
Sundays 6-9 £1  
Phil O'Neil 0983 294929

### LEWES

Circus Pipsqueak Youth Circus (8+)  
Dr. Colin 0273 813464

### NEWBURY

Newbury New Circus, Waterside Centre  
Mondays 7-9.30  
Gunther Schwarz 0635 41269

### OXFORD

East Oxford Community Centre  
Wednesdays 7-9, £1  
Jason 0865 63441

### OXTEAD

Sundays 6-9  
Up for Grabs, Nigel & Sally 0293 786143

### PORTSMOUTH

Lower Gym, Priory School  
Wednesdays 6.30-9.30 £1  
Clive 0705 691163, Mark 0705 738509

### REDHILL

Tuesdays 8-10 £1.50  
Up for Grabs Sally / Nigel 0293 786143

### READING

Sun Street  
Mondays 7-10  
Pete 0734 660430

### SAINT ALBANS

Allsorts Circus, Youth Office, Alma Road  
Tuesdays 7.30-10, £1  
Dez Paradise 0727 855375

### SOUTHAMPTON

Itchen College, Bitterne  
Wednesdays 7-9.30 (Termtime) £1.50  
Rut 0703 872141

### SOUTHEND

Balmoral Community Centre, Salisbury Ave  
Mondays 7.30-9.30 £1

### STEVENAGE

Bowes Lyon House  
Mondays 7-10, Thursdays 12.30-4.30  
Pete 0462 673406

### TUNBRIDGE WELLS

Camden Centre, Market Square  
Tuesdays 7.30-9.30  
Kevin 0622 831918

### WHITSTABLE

Kent Circus School, Whitstable Umbrella  
Wednesdays 6-7 kids' open session,  
7-8.30 youth circus. £1/50p.  
Saint Peter's Hall, Cromwell Road  
Thursday, adults 7-10, £1.  
Tina/Steve 0227 772241

### WINCHESTER

Weeks Adult Education Centre  
Thursdays 7-9, termtime only  
Paul 0962 714468

### WORTHING

United Reformed Church, Shelley Road  
Mondays 6.30-9.30  
Shu 0903 232755

### YATTENDON

Thursdays 7.30-9.30, £1.  
Barney 0635 201546

### LONDON

#### CENTRAL

Colombo Street Sports Centre, SE1  
Sundays 12-5 (£2.20-£4); Thursdays 7-9.30 (£1-£2.60)  
Phil 081 801 9859, Centre 071 261 1658

#### CENTRAL

Jugglers Arms, Leathermarket Street SE1  
Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays 7,  
Saturdays 12 & 2  
More Balls Than Most 071 357 7707

#### CENTRAL

University College, Carol Marx Hall,  
Huntly Street WC1  
Mondays in termtime 4.30-7  
Adam 071 346 0074 Ste3void 071 700  
5292

### NORTH

Circus Space, 39-41 North Road N7,  
Caledonian Road Tube.  
Tuesdays 7-10,  
£3 Juggling Workshop & Class  
Sundays 2.30-5.30 beginners £2/1.  
Practice sessions Mondays, Wednesdays,  
Fridays 11-5, £2/1  
Sundays 7-10, £3 All-skills mixed workshop  
Courses and classes and one-off workshops  
in just about everything regularly available.  
See Catch This! and/or ring for more details.  
Circus Space 071 700 0886

### NORTH

Jackson's Lane Community Circus,  
Community Centre, Archway Road N6.  
Thursdays 8.30-10.30 £3/£2.50  
Bar & restaurant!

### NORTH

Bouverie Road Scout Hall, Stoke Newington  
Thursdays 7.30-10.15, £2.50/1.50  
Steve Richards 081 442 4816

### NORTH

All Saints' Art Centre, Whetstone  
Tuesdays 7-9.30 £2  
Simon 081 449 6856

### NORTH WEST

Kingsgate Community Centre, Kingsgate  
Road NW6  
Thursdays 6.30-9.30  
Fizzie Lizzie 071 723 3877

### SOUTH

Grove Community Hall, Tooling SW17  
Wednesdays 7-9, £2/hour.  
All circus skills, equipment provided.  
Screw & Shirelle 081 672 2575.

### SOUTH-WEST

Saint Paul's Church, Hammersmith  
Mondays 7.30-9.30  
Albert & Friends 081 741 5471

### CROYDON

Croydon Parish Church Hall  
Tuesdays 8.15-10.30 £2  
Keith Wood 081 669 9685

### EAST MOLESEY

Vine Hall, Vine Road  
Thursdays 7-10  
Juggling & Molesey Maniacs Uni Hockey,  
£1.50  
Steve 081 398 7390

### TWICKENHAM

Heatham House Youth Centre  
Sundays 1-5 £2.50 Uni space too.  
Dave 081 892 1675

### WEALDSTONE

Skandar Circus, Scout Hall, Claremont Road  
Tuesdays 8-10  
Adrian/Jane 081 861 0919

### WIMBLEDON

Kings College Sports Hall  
Tuesdays 7-8, termtime only  
Andy Moore 081 947 9311

### UNICYCLES & UNI HOCKEY

Trinity Centre, 119 East India Dock Road,  
Poplar  
Wednesdays 7.30-10, £1.50  
Jon 071 987 1794, Lunis 071 700 6529

### KIDS' UNI

Rico 081 773 1748

### EAST ANGLIA

#### BURY SAINT EDMUNDS

Bury Fumbles, Saint John's Hall,  
Saint John's Street. Tuesdays - 7.30-9.30 £1

#### CAMBRIDGE

Patchwork Circus.  
Victoria Road Community Centre,  
Tuesdays 8-9.30  
Drama Centre, Covent Garden, Sundays 6-8  
(all levels 14+) 5-6 (beginners), Thursdays  
4.30-5.30 Youth Circus (8-14).  
Richard Green 0223 302596, Simon  
Smoleksis 0223 410138

#### DEREHAM (nr. Norwich)

Justo James 0263 732888

#### IPSWICH

Suffolk College Gym  
Tuesdays 7-9 £2  
Dave 0473 255082

#### NORWICH

David 0603 738964, Will 0953 860460

#### ROMFORD

Rhythm & Balls, Century Youth House  
Mondays 7-9.30, 50p  
Chris Irving 0708 751656



## IN THE MIDDLE

### BEDFORD

Bedford Circus Ring, Cauldwell  
Community Centre, Althorpe Street  
Thursdays 7.30-9.30  
0234 328322

### CANNOCK

Youth Centre, Avon Road  
Tuesdays 6.30-8.30 Adults £1.50, kids £1  
Richard Potter, Cannock Kites 0543  
573177 / 271563

### CORBY

Youth Centre, Coltingham Road  
Mondays 7-9  
Balls Up, Gary or Andy 0536 63786

### COVENTRY

Saint Peter's Centre, Charles Street  
Wednesdays 7-9.30  
Circus Palava 0203 448276

### DERBY

Saint Helen's House, King Street  
Thursdays 7-9.30, £1, 50p under 16s  
Andrew Vass 0332 369581

### DERBY

Normanton Community Circus, The  
Madeley Centre  
Wednesdays 7-9.30  
Adrian Wilson, Just Another Circus, 0332  
382813

### DUDLEY

Drop Zone, Gornal Youth Centre  
Tuesdays 8.30-10.30  
Neil Phoenix 0384 250068

### EVESHAM

Wallace House Community Centre, Owl St  
Mondays 7-9 £1.50/1  
Matt 0386 421693

### HEREFORD

Percival Hall, JT Owens Street  
Thursdays 6.30-7.30 (kids) 7.30-9  
(adults) £1  
Pete 0432 760350

### KIDDERMINSTER

Horselair Community Centre  
Sundays 6.30-9.30 £1.20/60p kids.  
Steve 0562 861113

### KINGSLAND

Coronation Hall  
Thursdays 6.15-7.15,  
7.5p Separate Uni space  
0568 708577

### LEICESTER

De Montfort University Juggling Club,  
City Site S.U.  
Tuesdays 6.30-9ish  
0533 555576

### LINCOLN

Croft Street Community Centre  
Mondays at 7  
Patty Porter's Kite & Juggling shop  
Tuesdays at 7  
Fred Porter 0522 544611

### LUTON

Mad Hatter Circus, Chapel Langley,  
Russell Street  
Tuesdays 7-9 £1  
Dunc 0582 484167 Margaret 0582 508269

### LYE (near Stourbridge)

Wollescote Primary School  
Tuesdays 7-10, £1.50  
Dave @ The Juggling Shop, 021 643 6545

### MILTON KEYNES

Great Linford Memorial Hall  
Wednesdays 7-10, £1.50  
Jugglers Anonymous, Graham 0908 210264

### NORTHAMPTON

Drop Shop Juggling Clubs  
Bective Middle School, Kingsthorpe  
Sundays 5-7.30  
Nene Centre, Bedford Road.  
Tuesdays 6.30-9  
Lawrence or Vicky 0327 36600

### NOTTINGHAM

Portland School, Westwick Road,  
Bilborough  
Wednesdays 7-10  
Tony 0602 708177, Barry 0602 283080

### PELSALL

Shellfield Community School  
Wednesdays 7-9, Adults £2, Kids £1  
Richard Potter, Cannock Kites  
0543 573177 / 271563

### SHEFFIELD

Crooked Circus,  
Walkley Community Centre

Wednesdays 8-10.30 £1  
Sam/Pete 0742 681034

### SHEFFIELD

Flying Teapot Circus, Lower Rectory,  
University Students' Union, Western Bank  
Thursdays 6.30-8.30, Sundays 4-6  
Rick 0742 663546

### SHREWSBURY

Jugglespace, Artscape, 5 Belmont  
Thursdays 7.30-10 £1.20 (80p under 16)  
Mel 0743 363889

### STOURBRIDGE

Crystal Leisure Centre  
Sundays 3.15-5.15  
Matt at Juggling Junction,  
0384 697474/891609

### WATFORD

Youth & Community Centre, Lower High St  
Wednesdays 8-10  
Youth Arts Centre, Grosvenor Road  
Fridays 7.30  
Justin/Tom/Michelle 0923 817663

### WORCESTER

City Youth Centre, Spring Grove  
Wednesdays 7.30-9.30, £1.50/£1  
Sharon or John, 0905 23347

## BIRMINGHAM

### CASTLE VALE

School & Leisure Centre, Farnborough Rd  
Thursday Evenings  
021 747 6226

### EDGBASTON

Midlands Arts Centre, Cannon Hill Park  
Adults Sundays 6.30-8, Children  
Wednesdays 4.30-6, £3.30  
James Miller 021 443 4783

### HARBOURNE

Martineau Centre  
Wednesdays 7.30-9  
£2.10, 90p concs.  
James Miller 021 443 4783

### LADYWOOD

Arts Centre, Frieth Street  
Dave 3.3.10 021 359 6200

### PERRY BAR

B Block Hall, University of Central England  
Gravity gets you down, Mondays 5-7  
tertime. Sam c/o SU

### BOURNEVILLE

Bournville College  
Thursdays 7.30  
Raymond 021 440 0784

## MANCHESTER

### CENTRE

Polytechnic Gym, All Saints' Building,  
Oxford Road.  
Fridays 7-9, termtime.

### EAST

Levenshulme Community Circus, Chapel St  
Mondays 6.30-8  
Spurley High School, Gordon, Thursdays  
7-9  
Liz 061 224 4901

### CHEADLE HULME

Adult centre, Woods Lane  
Wednesdays 7-9  
Isabelle Duncan 061 485 7201

### CHORLTON

Quirkus, Saint Werburgh's Parish Hall  
Mondays, Juniors 7-8, Adults 8-10  
Ric, Clare 061 881 0506

### CRUMPSALL

Mushy Pea Juggling Co. workshop  
Saint Matthew and Saint Mary's Church  
Hall  
Thursdays 6-8

### SALFORD

Circus & Juggling Club, University  
Sports Hall  
Fridays 5-7 termtime, £3 a year!  
Mark / Joe 061 708 9250

### STOCKPORT

Stockport Community Circus, Pulse  
Young People's Centre,  
Wednesdays 4-7  
Olive 0457 837371

### WITHINGTON

Manchester Community Circus  
Sundays 3.30-7  
Jo 061 226 2593

### WORSLEY

Beeley Green Hall, Green Leach Lane  
Mondays 7.30-9.30

Matt 061 794 0595

## NORTH

### BIRKENHEAD

Charing Cross Youth Centre  
Sundays 12-5  
Ann, Small Top Circus, 051 653 3519

### BLACKPOOL

Lytham Saint Annes Old School, Beaucher Rd  
Tuesdays 6.30-8.30, Free!  
Phil 0253 731143

### BOLTON

Higher Education Centre  
Friday Evenings  
Zebra cards 0204 22220

### BRADFORD

Manningham Sports Centre  
Fridays 5.30-7.30  
Pete 0274 586219

### BRADFORD

Saltire Methodist Church Hall, Titus Street  
Simon 0274 532287

### CAPENHURST

Capenhurst Sport & Social Club  
Mondays 7-11 £1, no tea but a bar!  
Mike & Gail 0745 560785

### CHESTER

Ballicables Juggling Club, Northgate Arena,  
Victoria Road  
Mondays 8.15-10.15, £2/£1.50  
Aiden 0244 340789 (day) 383475 (not)

### CLITHEROE

Rosefields Leisure Centre  
Wednesday  
Brian Waterhouse 0200 29850

### COCKERMOUTH

Juggling Club, Christchurch Rooms  
Tuesdays 7.30  
Dave 0900 822857

### COLNE

The Old School, Exchange Street  
Tuesdays 7-9 £1.50/£1 (kids)  
0282 860735 (shop)

### CREWE

Screwballs, Ludford Street Family Centre, off  
Badger Avenue  
Sundays 6-9

### DARLINGTON

Community Circus, Drama Centre, Trinity Rd.  
Thursdays 7.30-9.30 £1.50p  
Hannah or Matt 0325 361633

### DURHAM

University Circus Club, Dunelm House,  
New Elvet  
Thursday Evenings in termtime, all welcome

### HARROGATE

Juggle Alert, Saint John's Ambulance Hall,  
Starbeck  
Saturdays 6.30-9  
Pete 0423 889125, Keith 0423 507097

### HEBDEN BRIDGE

The Ground Floor Centre, Holme Street  
Wednesdays 7.15-9.30  
Circus Factory Studio, Old Town, t.b.a.  
Tony Webber 0422 842072

### HULL

Splai Circus, Room 8, S.U. Building  
Termtime, Tuesdays 7.15  
Sam Rowe 0482 445586

### KENDAL

Tuesdays & Wednesdays  
Jem Hulbert 0229 581485

### LANCASTER

University, Minor Hall (juggling) sports hall  
(unis)  
other details t.b.c.  
contact S.U. on 0524 65201

### LEEDS

Hullabaloo Community Circus, Woodhouse  
Community Centre  
Wednesdays 6.30-8.30  
Ali 0532 770121

### LEEDS

Holt Park Leisure Centre  
Mondays 8-10, £2+30p entrance fee  
"Complete Juggler" certificate scheme  
Fun Company, Kris Wray 0532 696716

### LEEDS

Unicycle Hockey, Bramston Recreation  
Centre, Calverley Lane  
Wednesdays 7-8  
Mike 0532 435491 (work number)

### LIVERPOOL

Tossspots, Community Arts Resource Centre,

Cornwallis Hall, L1  
Wednesdays 7-10 £1.50 (tuition  
available first half, £2)

### LIVERPOOL

Toxteth Sports Centre, Upper Hill Street  
8-10, Thursday. Contribution to costs.  
Max Lovius and others 051 727 1074

### LIVERPOOL

University Juggling Club, Mountford Hall  
Mondays 7-10  
051 420 7064

### MACCLESFIELD

Tytherington School  
Thursdays 7-9 termtime  
Contact Borough Council

### MIDDLESBROUGH

The Pandemoniacs, Saint Mary's Centre,  
Corporation Road  
Thursdays 6-8, £1.50 (concs £1)  
Bob Parker 0642 262869 days.

### NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE

Dockray House (formerly 'West End  
Boys Club') Sutherland Avenue.  
Thursdays 8-10, £1  
Simon, Ugly Juggling Co., 091 232 0297

### NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE

Unicycle Hockey, Leazes Park  
Wednesdays at 7  
Alex 091 261 5128 or the Uglics

### PONTEFRAC

Carnegie Centre, Minsthorpe  
Community College, South Elmsall  
Tuesdays 7.30  
0977 644141

### PRESTON

University of Central Lancashire  
Wednesdays 6-9, everyone welcome  
in S.U.

### ROCHDALE

The Broadwater Centre, Smith Street  
Adults Mondays 7-9, Children Tuesdays  
& Wednesdays at 4  
Skylight Circus in Education, Noreen &  
Jim 0706 50676.

### STOCKPORT

Priesthall Recreation Centre, Heaton Moor.  
Tuesdays 5-7 (children) 7-9 (adults)  
Bzercus - Moni 061 256 1838

### WARRINGTON

Bewsey High School Gym  
Wednesdays 7-10  
Rob Taylor 0925 602544, Karen Wilde  
0925 631519

### WHITBY

The Church House, Flowergate  
Saturdays 2-4, £1.50/£1  
Vicky 0947 601727

### WIDNES

Jugglers' R Us, Ditton Community Centre  
051 420 7084

### WIRRAL

Charing Cross Youth Centre,  
Birkenhead.  
Sundays 12-5  
Ann Wirral Community Circus 0519241927

### YORK

Cosmos Juggling Club, Priory Street Centre  
Tuesdays 7-9, £1.50 (£1 conc.)  
Jim or Anna 0904 430472

## SCOTLAND

### EDINBURGH

Tollcross Community Centre  
Mondays 7-9  
Angelo 031 447 7862

### GLASGOW

The Firhill Complex, Hopehill Road,  
Maryhill  
Thursdays at 7  
Mark 041 945 2641

### GLASGOW

Woodside Halls, Clardion Street,  
Saint George's Cross  
Tuesdays 7-9  
Co-motion,  
Maryhill Community Central Halls  
Wednesdays 7.30-9.30  
Brian 041 946 0341

### GLASGOW

University Juggling Club  
Meets in QM Union, University Gardens  
Most Tuesdays 7-9. Membership £2  
0MU 041 339 9784

### INVERNESS

Merkinch Community Centre

Mondays 7.30-10  
Andy 0381 621016

### SHETLAND ISLES

Sandwick Junior High School  
Saturdays 10.30-12  
Gary Worrall 09505 501 / 0595 2114

### STIRLING

Cowane Centre  
Mondays 7-8.30  
0786 475429

### STIRLING

Balls Up Club, University  
Contact Noeleen Breen, S.U.

### SKYE

Braes Community Hall  
Saturdays 11-1  
Dave Patfield 047 062 377

## WALES

### MID WALES

Rockpark Hotel Games Room, Llandidrod Wells  
Wednesdays 6-7 (7-12 yrs.) 13-adult 7.15-9  
Chris 0597 824300, Jerry 0831 581070

### ABERYSTWYTH

Studio, Arts Centre  
Tuesdays 7-10  
Oilly 20 Marine Terrace.

### BANGOR

The Greenhouse, High Street  
Thursdays 7.30-9, £1.50  
0248 372239

### CAMARTHEN

Queen Elizabeth Cambria School  
Termtime, Thursdays 6.30-9.30  
Netty 0570 480022, Pipa 0239 77292

### CARDIFF

CUT - Cardiff Unicycle Team  
Russell 0446 740520

### LLANDUDNO

John Bright School  
Tuesdays 8-10  
Zero G, Phil 0492 514039

### SWANSEA

Jugglars, Dynevor School, Mansell Street  
Wednesdays 7-9.30, £2/£1, first week free  
Sam 0792 470546

### SWANSEA

Dillwin Llewellyn School, Cocketts  
Mondays 7-9, Integrated Youth Circus  
Phil Burton, 0792 466231

## IRELAND

### BELFAST

Ballast Community Circus School, Crescent Arts  
Centre, University Road  
Contact 0232 236007 / 248861

### BELFAST

Circus 1 to 3, Saint Patrick's Training School,  
Glen Road  
Tuesdays 6-8  
Pat Duggan 0232 301123

### DUBLIN

Ormond Multi-Media Centre  
Mondays 7-10  
(01) 260 1946

### GALWAY

Butterfingers Fire, Eyre Square Centre  
Workshops most weeks  
Toby Shears (010 353) (0)91 63586





WEST HEATH HOUSE, KINGS DRIVE,  
MIDHURST W. SUSSEX GU29 0BJ

## HARLEQUIN REQUIRE RINGSTAFF - BOX OFFICE STAFF - BILLERS

ALSO ARTISTS with NEW or UNUSUAL ACTS  
for 1995 Season of approximately 40 weeks  
(depending on weather) plus Christmas Season  
(4 weeks). Send photos and videos to  
MARTIN W. LACEY at the above address.

**HARLEQUIN** is going places. Are you interested  
and good enough to be part of an exciting new  
concept in British Circus?

**For Juggling, Clowning, Circus  
& Street Performance Equipment.**



**THE BIG TOP**  
43 KING STREET, GLASGOW G1 5RA  
Telephone: 041 552 7763



...Have been going for **10 YEARS** this May.  
**The Founders of England's  
FIRST JUGGLING SHOP!**

To celebrate our 10th Anniversary,  
we are offering some great deals:

1 ODDBALL RINGS .....	£2.75
5 ODDBALL RINGS .....	£11.00
10 ODDBALL RINGS .....	£16.50
LARGE SPINNING RING .....	£8.25
ODDBALL KNIVES .....	£17.50
BUDGET TORCHES .....	£6.90
ODDBALL PRO TORCH .....	£14.75
ODDBALL BLAZER .....	£19.75
ODDBALL JUMBO U.V. DIABOLO .....	£13.50
ODDBALL JUMBO GLITTERY DIABOLO .....	£14.00
ODDBALL GIANT DIABOLO .....	£16.95
BABY SWISS DIABOLO (THE BEST FOR REALLY HIGH THROWS) .....	£4.25
ABSOLUTE BALLS GIRAFFE UNICYCLE .....	£169.00
<b>ODDBALL FREE STANDING LADDERS:</b>	
5' .....	£69.00
6' .....	£79.00
7' .....	£85.00
8' .....	£89.00
DURASTILTS .....	£315.00
ODDCYCLE .....	£114.00
<b>SILICON BALLS:</b>	
2½" .....	£20.00
2¾" .....	£25.00
3" .....	£30.00
<b>ACRYLIC BALLS:</b>	
2½" .....	£12.50
3" .....	£18.00

**We specialise in Mail Order.**

Please ring 071 - 7048228 or visit one of our  
shops, where we offer unbiased advice.  
All unloved goods can be returned within 28 days.  
We want you to be happy, or we become unhappy.

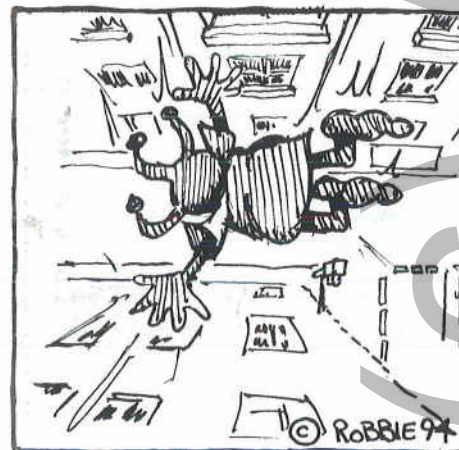
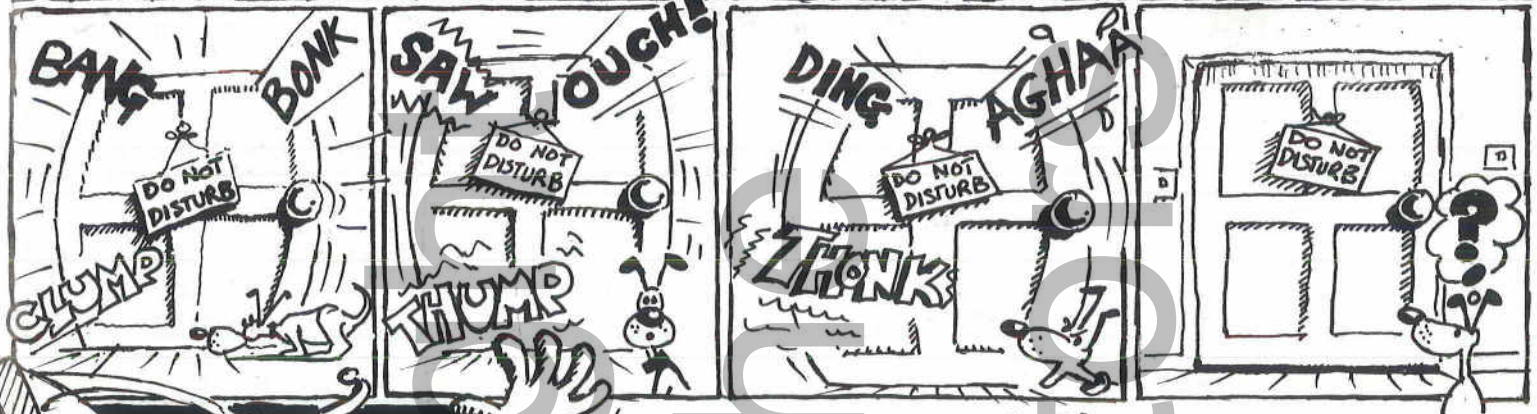
323 Upper Street, Islington, London.  
5 minutes walk from Angel Tube.  
Telephone: 071 354 5660

2 Camden Lock Place, Camden Lock.  
3 minutes walk from Camden Tube.  
Telephone: 071 284 2460

34 Cowley Road, Oxford.  
Telephone: 0865 200678  
Fax: 0865 200670



# BUSKER STRIKE HIS STUFF







NEW

official launch  
at Hagen,  
Germany -  
2nd Aug.  
1994

BEARD<sup>tm</sup>-technik

There's a club in the new Beard-technik range to suit every pocket, from the new Circus Special to the ultimate in performance clubs, the amazing Trans-Euro (pictured above).  
Why bother with a one-piece skittle when you can start with the real thing?.

Beard juggling equipment, Old Town Mill, Old Town, Hebden Bridge, West Yorks. England. HX7 8TE Tel: +44 (0)422 843672 Fax: +44 (0)422 845191 - If you have difficulty obtaining any Beard product please call us and we'll ship direct anywhere in the universe.