

Arthur's 70th



The Evening Gala Show at the Arts Centre.

This was introduced by Dr Richard Snowberg from the USA - the President of the World Clown Association, and who was to start the proceedings? You can guess? Yes, Vercoe with a musical 'one string' instrument with metal horn resonator, and a 'prepared' chair. Not only did he fall through it, in time honoured fashion, but finding himself trapped by the seat which was now facing the audience, found it was a door, so opened it and calmly walked off stage!

- We were next treated to two Japanese clowns - Ronc and Gigi - their costume and makeup was identical. They appeared to have come from outer space - bald wigs, big plastic ears, black and white features, and dressed in what appeared to be male evening dress with silver shirts and red bows. All topped with black flat hats! All movements were synchronised - except one was successful; the other not! The particular highlight was that not only could this duo go upstairs and downstairs (behind the cardboard waist-high wall) but they could also have you believe that there was a travelator (as at the airport) and an elevator (up and down) also behind the wall! This was impressive!

- Don 'Homer' Bursell from the USA - a juggler - with a bowling ball and two skittles, on a unicycle - in ordinary dress - wants to be a clown - disappears behind a screen - much throwing over of clothes - eventually reappears looking like 'Noddy' complete with pointed hat, red nose and glasses and proceeds to, wait for it, perform cowboy rope spinning!

- Ruben Madsen from Sweden - a whimsical clown - with some expressive music played on a very small accordion. A faster melody using tuned cowbells, and then some very good 'long

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