

Några av de många internationella reaktionerna innan fällningen.

För adresser och telnummer till dessa, kontakta info@sverigearboristforbund.se.

Den 22/11, 2011 sändes ett brev till hela Stockholms kommunfullmäktige från Sean Freeman, arborist och ordförande i Veteran Tree Group i Australien.

- I am a professional Consulting Arborist based in Australia who has for some years been a champion of the fantastic work which has been done

by Stockholm City in relation to many aspects of management of the urban environment.

I think it was completely appropriate that your

beautiful city was rewarded in 2010 as European Green Capital.

- I was therefore shocked and deeply disappointed to read about the planned felling of the famous veteran oak tree - TV-eken - in the city centre.

- I am therefore requesting that Stockholm City review the testing carried out by Jon

Hartill of Hartill Trädexpert and examine if there is an alternative management approach to felling, which would better fit with the ethos of European Green Capital.

Ted Green, grundare för Ancient tree Forum och prisbelönt av brittiska drottningen för sina arbeten för veteranträd skriver i ett öppet brev 21/11:

- Sweden is ahead of all other countries in Europe in its care and regard for ancient trees. Sweden is also unique in being the only nation in Europe ever to hold a three day conference devoted to the oak tree, skriver Ted Green, Founder member of the Ancient Tree Forum.

- So, it is with great sadness that I have learnt about the decision to fell the Radio Oak and the loss of an irreplaceable part of our European heritage. Oaks have played a significant part in both our nations' history and while we conserve and treasure our man-made emblems that celebrate our past achievements, we show so little regard to our living heritage – our ancient oaks.

Jill Butler, Skogsvårdsstyrelsen i England, Woodland Trust:

- Am I dreaming, can this be the Sweden I know that is ahead of the game in protecting

ancient trees? In another place a similar tree is a Naturminne!,

Antony Croft, klättrande arborist sedan 25 år, studerar svampar och deras påverkan på träd, England, 21/11.

To whom it may be of interest-the TV oak, Stockholm.

The TV/radio Oak is a case that has been brought to my attention by very dear friends in Sweden who are asking me many questions regarding this trees true hazard potential. With this in mind i have spent much time looking at the various photos of the tree available on the internet, and have some views that could assist in preserving this magnificent and very important tree. It is clear that the local community feel very strongly about this tree, and rightly so.

In my opinion having been a working arborist, certified VTA practitioner and mycologist for the past 25 years overall, I would like to think that places me more than able to evaluate such matters with some expertise, particularly a case like this involving multiple decay organisms and an ancient or veteran tree.

*I am most concerned to hear that the decay organisms being claimed to be responsible, being *fistulina hepatica*, *Laetiporus sulphureus* and I have heard mention of *Phelinus robustus* also, are not being in the first instance correctly identified by a qualified mycologist which is essential for some fungi, but in the case of *F hepatica* and *L. Sulphureus* which can be identified macroscopically in most cases by an amateur or arborist.*

*Both *F. Hepatica* and *L. sulphureus* are brown rots, *Laetiporus* maybe considered a less aggressive parasite, more a recycler of the heart wood which is not essential in old trees, *F. Hepatica* also very similar but capable of causing cankers/necroses.*

*Both these brown rot fungi are perfectly normal in the life cycles of *Quercus robur/petrea* and oaks of these two native European oaks can live for many centuries with these fungi. However, where long heavy limbs form the crown there is a danger of limbs tearing out due to the shell like stems hollowed out by these brown rotters, this is manageable with pruning to avert hazards such as end loading of the lever arm.*

It is clear from the videos and images that I have been sent that the tree is very hollow, but this is to be expected in an oak of this age, approximately 500 years. I cant read Swedish, but have seen the images in the Arb Konsult article/report and see no reason to condemn the tree at this stage.

Of course i can only base my opinion on what i am seeing from far away and remotely but i have seen enough to have an opinion on the situation that would potentially save this tree and retain a almost minimal risk situation. There are viable reduction points which would leave the tree greatly reduced and encourage re growth/retrenchment that would enable the tree to be further reduced within a five year program rendering the tree perfectly safe and viable for as long as a healthy sapwood ring persists and even if the tree was to die would still remain safe from failure as it dies.

This is a simple letter, for those that would like me to further elaborate and make a technical report for the retention of this tree I would be more than happy to do so. In summary in my opinion this tree

is retainable and very viable and could be restored with certain techniques including the encouragement of roots within the internal cavity. To condemn this tree on the basis of laetiporus and fistulina is not in my opinion enough, this tree and the community deserve a chance to retain this wonderful tree.

Regards

Tony croft - hamadryad@hotmail.co.uk