

## From the Chairman

Another year begins, and with it comes the most revolutionary revision of any monetary system ever, the euro has arrived. As a true European I applaud the introduction of our new monetary system. Even the most sceptical nations that still sit on the fence will soon see what this change will mean to Europe and to all modern Europeans who wish to travel, work, buy or reside in another European country.

What does it mean for us as arborists?

I for one used to have at least 15 different envelopes at home with all the different currencies; nearly all these are now history. I think that the introduction of the euro will really get people to feel more European. No more having to convert prices each time one travels. The ability to compare prices and wages will encourage people to travel, buy and work in other European countries. For our young European Treeworkers the thought of Europe as a work place will be natural. Congratulations to the EU.

Once again I must thank Wolfgang Gross and the BGL for the effort involved in submitting a new application for the funding of AWEB III under the Leonardo funding

project. This project the European Tree Technician will create the next step up in certification for European tree care professionals.

Congratulations also go to Willem van Delft from IPC, Groene Ruimte in Holland for his work in the application to Leonardo for the project ArborNet. More news about these projects is sure to be found under the national news sections.

One cannot look back over the last few months without recalling the events that took place on the 11th of September. I would like to send my condolences to any of our tree colleagues who lost family members, friends or other loved ones, on that day.

I wish to invite you all to Norway for the best ISA European Congress yet. Book the dates and travel tickets now.

It will be just after this event at our AGM that I relinquish the chairmanship and my good friend and colleague Dieter Kusche will become chairman of EAC. Dieter I wish you well.

**Glen J Read**  
Chairman

## ABOUT THE EUROPEAN ARBORICULTURAL COUNCIL

The European Arboricultural Council (EAC) is a forum where delegates from the various arboricultural organisations throughout Europe meet with the object of elevating the status and advancing the profession by liaising on matters ranging from research and education to successful tree establishment and improvement of working practice.

This will lead to healthier and longer living trees in towns, parks, gardens or where trees are grown to beautify Europe.

The European Arboricultural Council (EAC) is needed to put the necessary pressure on the appropriate governing institutions and individuals.

### OBJECTIVES

Through the profession of Arboriculture to improve the health and care for trees of environmental importance.

The European Arboricultural Council especially wish to improve:

- The profession
- Research on urban trees
- Education and training in Arboriculture
- Safety practices with pruning tools and chain saws
- Tree management
- Disease and pest control
- Tree planting in urban conditions
- Harmonisation in tree care procedures in Europe

## Contents

From the Chairman .....	Front Cover
News from Member Countries .....	page 2
European News .....	page 7
Members .....	Back Cover

# News from Member Countries

## News from Italy

In the last six months several events took place in Italy as a sign of increasing interest in arboriculture.

Our third Arbor Day that took place in the public garden of Biennale Modern Art Museum downtown Venice was a great success: It was really unusual to see hundreds of volunteer arborists working on tree in Venice: it is a place in which climbing is the only way to work on tree: It was just to work in a living and open Museum.

All the media were interested in the two days of volunteer work. To organize such a great event in the condition of the place was really a challenge.

In October we had a session for AWEB certification: several arborists are now recognizing the importance of certification; I think that in the future the system will have crowded sessions. I encourage European arborists to visit our new-style web site; it has an increasing number of contacts and visitors.

Several seminars and specific Conferences took place: a seminar in Merano with Dr. Lothar Wessolly on SIA and SIM methods of tree evaluation was fully booked; the same a seminar in five modules held by Dr. Francis Schwarze of Freiburg University on the biological way of tree assessment; in January we have had a seminar in Milan with Prof. Klaus Mattheck on VTA.

Tree assessment, as is clear from the number organized, is a top discussion. An official document on this subject was presented by a special working group of the Italian chapter of ISA.

On January 11th an extra business meeting of our association (the Italian chapter of the International Society of Arboriculture) voted a motion to close the association in order to form a national society. As every one can imagine this caused large debate and discussion. A new Association will grow again.

As co-founder of EAC and after ten years of hard work in the development of the European arboriculture it is time to leave my seat among the Council when I'll retire from the Executive Committee next June. I'd like to thanks all the friends that I have met "along the roads"

And all the readers of this newsletter.

**Daniele Zanzi**  
*Italian Representative*

## News from Sweden

The past year has been one of significant advances for Swedish arboriculture, particularly in the field of education.

In April the European Treeworker Certificate exam was held for the first time in Sweden. Whilst two places were reserved for our Finnish colleagues, there were seven Swedish arborists with an age span of 40 years who sat and passed the exam. I believe that the organisers learnt as much as the participants from this two-day event – we can only improve!

This was immediately followed by the Swedish Tree Climbing Competition, held in the most unpleasant weather conditions, but widely covered by both the national press and television.

In September the first national course in arboriculture got under way at last. Interestingly enough, it was the recently privatised college of Hvilan in southern Sweden that saw the commercial advantages of offering this long awaited 1 year course. There is a great emphasis on practical course work and the curriculum has been drawn up with a lot of input from the fledgling arboricultural profession – full employment for these students (most of them of the fairer sex!) is a certainty.

The annual Tree Day conference was held in a newly built and futuristic physics faculty of the Royal Technical High School in December and covered "Legal Protection for Our Trees", with much appreciated input from both national and international experts.

Finally, we wish Norway the best of luck in their major undertaking for the forthcoming European ISA conference and with them bid you all welcome to Northern Scandinavia and, of course, the Midnight Sun!

**de Gouret Litchfield**  
*Swedish Representative*

**VISIT OUR WEBSITE**

information now available  
in English, French  
and German at...

**[www.eac-arboriculture.com](http://www.eac-arboriculture.com)**

# News from Member Countries

## Report from Germany

### ● ZTV-Baumpflege

The German guidelines for tree care operations ("ZTV-Baumpflege") were completely revised in 2001. In particular, the areas of pruning, crown stabilisation and wound treatment had to undergo considerable modifications.

### ● European Treeworker

In July 2001, 13 European Treeworkers successfully passed the examination in Berlin. Since 2001, both LAGF Großbeeren and LVG Heidelberg offer preparation courses and certifications. Germany and the Netherlands have formulated a demand, according to which European Treeworkers should be allowed to climb trees with an aerial lift, and not only by using climbing techniques. An application will be submitted to the EAC.

### ● German ISA Chapter

During the last general meeting of the ISA in November 2001 in Kassel, a new board was elected. A climbing techniques person is now a member of the board to represent the interests of climbers. He will also be responsible for the organisation of tree climbing contests. Germany does not have any doubt that the change in board composition is a new kick to realize the objectives of the ISA. Carsten Venzke was elected new chairman.

### ● Germany: chain saws no longer forbidden while climbing in a tree

Since June 2001, climbers in Germany are allowed to use chain saws while climbing in a tree, provided that they have successfully passed two 5-day courses in climbing (Course A: Basic climbing techniques, Course B: Advanced climbing techniques and use of chain saws in the tree). Certified European Treeworkers only need to attend course B. Trainers and training institutions have to be certified by their professional organization to organize climbing courses.

### ● EAC Safety guide

The EAC Safety guide was revised during the last IDB meeting by all tree work related educational institutions and organisations in Germany. Suggestions for modification have been forwarded to Mick Cottam and should be integrated into the revised edition.

### ● Tree-lined avenues in Germany in danger

A new recommendation by the German Ministry of Communications threatens the German avenues and street trees. According to this recommendation, street trees should now be planted at least 8m away from the street. Moreover, it is no longer allowed to plant new avenue trees in existing avenues. Avenue trees are made responsible for mortal accidents and are therefore considered as highly dangerous. The whole green

industry has started a powerful protest campaign against this stupid and tree-hostile recommendation, fighting for its withdrawal.

### ● Tree work related conferences and seminars in Germany

Each year, a wide variety of tree-related conferences and seminars are held in Germany. Just to name a few:

- Gehölzseminar, Hanover (February 5-7, 2002).
- Augsburgener Baumpflegekongress, Augsburg (March 19-21, 2002).
- VTA-Seminar, Karlsruhe (April 16-17, 2002).
- Osnabrücker Baumpflegekongress, Osnabrück (September 3-4, 2002).
- Westdeutsche Baumpflegekongress, Cologne (October 2002).

*Dietrich Kusche*

*Wolfgang Gross*

*German Representatives*

---

## News from Spain

The Spanish Association of Arboriculture (AEA) organised the VI Congress in the city of Sevilla. The Pest and Diseases of Trees and Palms was the matter of the conferences and the lecturers.

There was edited a book with all conference papers.

Our National Championship of treeclimbing is Mr. Francesc Vilarrubias

In the annual meeting the Staff was changed in a normal electoral process. Now, the President of AEA is Mr. José Manuel Fernández Lopez and the delegate of AEA in EAC is Mr. Mariano Sánchez García, the last president.

Last October The AEA held the first European Certification in Spain. The place was the Royal Botanic Garden (Madrid).

The Judges:

De Gouret Litchfield: Delegate of EAC in the European Certification in Spain

Bernabé Moya: Delegate of AEA in EAC and Judge in the last European Certification in Italy

José Manuel Fernández Lopez, vice president of AEA and Judge in the last European Certification in Italy

**Mariano Sánchez García: President of AEA**

# News from Member Countries

## News from the United Kingdom

Last year saw the UK affected in so many areas by the widespread restrictions imposed to combat the spread of foot and mouth disease. The arboriculture industry was not left unaffected with many contractors being unable to get access to undertake tree work, particularly affected were the contractors undertaking utility tree work near powerlines and railways. However every effort was made to maintain a 'business as usual' policy for the arboriculture industry throughout the crisis and most seem to have come through relatively unscathed compared with agriculture and some other land based industries.

The Health and Safety Executive (HSE) in the UK continue to work towards improved safety measures for the arboricultural industry. The HSE are currently undertaking research into the use of mobile elevated work platforms (MEWPS) for tree work and in 2002 they are going to take over production of the widely respected FASTCo safety guides. Last year the HSE set up a new incident contact centre which is available on-line to simplify the statutory procedures for accident reporting. Further information can be found on their website at: <http://www.hse.gov.uk/>. The HSE have also combined with the Arboricultural Association, the National Arborist Association and other organisations to produce a press release aimed at raising awareness of safety in tree work. The key message from this work is 'Don't make your last cut your last cut'.

The Arboricultural Association continues to be very active in promoting the industry in the UK. In September their national conference was held at Lancaster University and many of the excellent papers from the conference will be published in the Arboricultural Journal shortly. The conference also hosted an ISA climbing competition and a utility arboriculture skills competition. The Association's accreditation scheme for Local Government Officers continues to gain recognition and they will again be holding a trade fair at Highclere Castle on 14th–15th June 2002.

An ancient tree forum was held at Hatfield Forest in November where around 80 participants discussed the management of veteran trees. Topics included the management of veteran pollards, disease problems and management of the habitat for these trees in general. In summing up Ted Green highlighted the visual, ecological and cultural importance of veteran trees and stressed the nation's obligation to look after them.

Foot and mouth disease also affected a number of competitions in the UK last year but highlight of the year was undoubtedly the ISA UK & Ireland Chapter finals at Leeds sponsored by Stihl UK. The finals were won by Jon Hartill who then went on to take 5th place in the world championships in Milwaukee last August.

The UK & Ireland chapter of the ISA are holding their annual conference on 7th–9th April 2002 at Myerscough College. The theme of the conference is 'Excellence through knowledge' and further details can be found at the chapter website <http://www.isa-uki.org/>

The year ahead is packed full of training, workshops, conferences and examinations for the arboriculture industry. Many of these are equally relevant to arborists throughout Europe and a warm welcome is extended for those wishing to attend any of the events. The main arboricultural organisations in the UK have produced a combined calendar of events for 2002. Further information can be found at the website of the Arboricultural Association: <http://www.trees.org.uk/>

**Mick Cottam**  
**UK Representative**

---

## News from France

In September 2001 we held our annual championship and conference in Lille. The subject was the Management of Street Trees.

There was an attendance of 250, almost twice than usual, which means that our association is getting recognition. The increasing of our membership (from 200 to 400 in the last 2 years) reinforces this feeling.

We were pleased to welcome Glen Read to the Treeworker Certification. Unfortunately none of the candidates passed the exam this time but we will work to prepare them for the future.

In mid-December a local conference was held in the eastern suburbs of Paris whose title was: Trees and People, Communication for a better Management. Every city, which has wanted to set up a strategy of communication with its inhabitants, was able to renew its trees without conflict.

Also a presentation of the Amenity Tree European Charter was made by Yael Haddad, our technical director.

In June 2002 the annual conference will take place in Paris. The subject will be the Management of park trees.

**Jean-Louis Morel**  
**French Representative**

# News from Member Countries

## News from Denmark

DTF (Danish Treecare Federation) has today 107 members, all working within arboriculture. DTF is a chapter of ISA, and we receive the two good magazines: 'The Journal of Arboriculture' and 'Arborist News'. Furthermore we have our own Danish newsletter, which comes out 3 times a year.

Dr. Thomas Randrup has - as it is the custom - left office as chairman at our annual general meeting on 11 October 2001, and Ole Sejr has taken over. He is a teacher and instructor at the Danish school for forest workers and arborists.

11 persons were certified as European Treeworkers in 2001, and our next certification will be on Saturday 6 April 2002, north of Copenhagen. We have by now established a routine in certification of treeworkers and look forward to participating in the development of the European tree technician, hopefully in the near future.

European guide to urban tree planting. I am going to co-ordinate it, and we will start writing it this spring. The first draft will be based on a pilot study carried out by COST Action E 12, 'Urban Forest and Trees' (EU supported) and the park division in Copenhagen and volunteers. The Scandinavian Research Trust for Urban Trees has donated 2.000 EURO towards the secretarial function, run by The Danish Forest and Landscape Research Institute.

When the first draft has been prepared in English it is my plan first to send it to Holland for comments and corrections. A second draft will then be sent to the other 2 members of the working group - the Czech Republic and Poland. A third draft will after comments and corrections be sent to all members for comments and corrections.

**Niels Hvass**  
**Danish Representative**

## News from Finland

The year 2001 proved to be a year when the activities of the Finnish Association Puunhoidon Ystävät became established and stabilized. As a consequence the number of members increased rapidly after April 2001 when the renewed board started to work. This brings further credibility to our efforts.

A major event for the Association was the Viherympäristö Exhibition held in Marketta Park in Espoo in Southern Finland during the 16th - 18th August. This Exhibition is a 3-day event run annually by the Finnish Association of Landscape Industries. Puunhoidon Ystävät belongs to it as a communal member. The Association arranged tree climbing shows and advice for the public plus sold professional books and recruited new members. In addition our former chairman Per-Johan Backstrom was elected honorary chairman. As a remembrance a solitary tree (*Ulmus glabra*) was planted in the park.

Our annual Arboricultural Seminar was held on the 14th December in Hyvinkää. This time the subject was the nursery production of urban trees and maintenance after transplantation. The Seminar was jointly presented by the Finnish Association of Nurserymen. Our international speaker was Niels Hvass. He taught us about the latest know-how of nursery production and his experience from Denmark. The Seminar was a great success.

Work has started in the City of Espoo on tree work and safety regulations. We hope the work will be successful and accepted by the Finnish Safety Authorities. More of this subject later.

**Aki Mannisto**  
**Finnish Representative**

## THE EAC NEWSLETTER

Is published twice a year in February and August

Final copydates:

**7<sup>th</sup> January and 7<sup>th</sup> July**

# News from Member Countries

## News from Norway

All our energy over the last months has been devoted to arranging and preparing for the 5th ISA European Congress, to be held in Oslo, 19-22 of June 2002. "Ancient Quality and New Technology".

NTF / Norway Chapter wish to invite you to the best European congress ever.

The educational program includes sessions on:

### **Arboriculture at the northern rim, confirmed speakers;**

Dr. Per H. Salvesen, Dr. Ola Heide, Dr. Ole Billing Hansen, senior landsc. Rainer Stange and landsc. prof. Arne Sælen

### **Current research projects on trees and arboriculture, confirmed speakers:**

Dr Kim Coder, Dr Thomas Randrup, Dr Gary Watson, Dr Per Anker Pedersen, ass. Prof. Eva Vike, Dr Arne Sæbø, Dr Jim Clarke, Dr Nelda Matheny

### **Ancient trees in urban areas, tree care, evaluation, protection and renewal timing, confirmed speakers;**

Dan Haugbo, Arthur DeHaek, Nina Bassuk, Roy Finch, Dr Jim Clarke

### **The tree as a living community – considerations in connection with the Rio Convention, confirmed speakers:**

Dr Simund Hågvar, Peter Trowbridge, Dr Francesco Ferrini, Gunnar Telnes

Cyberlounge, presentations on the latest in arb computer software and equipment.

To be held for the first time, "The European Arbor Games" International teams of 4 compete in various events for fun and fund raising for research.

The European Tree Climbing Championship. See the top climbers in Europe in action.

Workshops on climbing and rigging.

A spouse programme will be arranged for the first time at a Euro Congress. 2 days of activities / tours that include local historical/cultural tourist attractions e.g. boat tour and amusement park, featuring Northern Europe's largest wooden rollercoaster.

Don't miss this unique chance to visit Norway, the land of the midnight sun.

See you there!

For more information and registration check our web site: [www.isa-eurocongress.com](http://www.isa-eurocongress.com), [ics@ics.no](mailto:ics@ics.no)

**Glen Read**  
**Norwegian Representative**

## News from the Netherlands

During the second part of 2001 we proceeded with the introduction of the European Treeworker Certification. 12 candidates passed the certification.

The KPB-ISO organised several workshops, one them dealt with new methods for cabling and bracing. This year KPB will celebrate its 20th birthday with a symposium to be held on 17th and 18th of May. The subject is "The conflict between tree roots and other users of the underground space."

The Dutch climbing championship will also be held on 18th of May in the beautiful parks of the Keukenhof in Lisse. On the 14 of April we will organise our first Arbor Day.

The NVB held a symposium about several ways of contracting relating to the quality of tree work.

The draft safety guidelines with practical information in arboriculture according to Dutch law were spread among members of the NVB. Before March 2002 they will be evaluated and spread wide among tree care companies and municipalities.

In December there was a meeting with our German colleagues to think about starting up two new projects:

- European Tree Technician
- European Arbor Network,

both under the framework of the Leonardo da Vinci project. We hope that the proposals will be a success and help us to improve arboriculture and the exchange of knowledge, information and experience.

**Thale Roosien**  
**Dutch Representative**

## Tree doctor now available!

Tree diseases are very much on the increase – because of drought, parasites, pollution and so on - and until now, non-specialists had few ways of learning how to diagnose pathological conditions in trees, either for prevention or cure.

This CD-Rom in four languages (French, English, Italian and Dutch) provides a synopsis of expert knowledge on European trees. The text, along with some 2600 drawings and 1000 photographs, has been compiled to help non specialists identify the most common disease factors (insects, fungi, infectious diseases and abiotic factors) affecting 196 of the most common tree species in Europe, using a fast, simple symptom recognition approach. Numerous hypertext links are provided to help users navigate between the two databases on species and likely pathogenic factors, the glossary and bibliographic data.

Anyone working with forest or ornamental trees – foresters, parks and gardens managers, experts, advisors, trainers, students and enlightened amateurs – will soon be wondering how they coped without Tree Doctor and its user-friendly diagnostic approach.

Tree Doctor was produced by pooling the expertise of 6 research and development organisations in the professional forestry and arboriculture sectors in France, Italy, the Netherlands and the UK, along with data from the scientific experts contributing to their networks. Their work on Tree Doctor was supported by the EU Leonardo daVinci programme.

To receive the Tree Doctor CD-Rom, please contact : IDF Diffusion, 23 avenue Bosquet, 75007 Paris, tel. +33 (0)1 40 62 22 81. Your payment (VAT inclusive) of 72,93 Euros (478,40 F) per copy (plus postage charge of 8 Euros or 40 F) should be sent by cheque.

## UK New Year honours list

EAC Founder Member and first Chairman Arborist Bill Matthews has been awarded the Order of the British Empire (OBE) for “services to arboriculture” in the UK’s 2002 New Year Honours.

This award is in recognition of Bill’s very considerable commitment to and involvement in the development of arboriculture in the UK over more than 40 years.

He was a founder member of the Association of British Tree Surgeons and Arborists, the Arboricultural Association and the Tree Council. He was instrumental in the formation of the European Arboricultural Council and he has been a long time supporter of the International Tree Foundation (formerly The Men of the Trees).

During his involvement with arboriculture Bill has chaired the Arboricultural Association, the Tree Council, the EAC and currently he is Chairman of the Tree Advice Trust, and still he has found time to champion education, safe working practices, the organisation of conferences and unstintingly he has shared his knowledge, experiences and continuing love of trees with the emerging profession.

Bill says: “This is a wonderful recognition of the arboricultural profession in its own right, and also of the many people who have done so much to plant and care for trees throughout the United Kingdom”.

## EUROPEAN TREEWORERS

The names of all Certified European Treeworkers are listed on our website:

[www.eac-arboriculture.com](http://www.eac-arboriculture.com)

# M E M B E R S

## Belgium:

Vereniging Boomverzorging (VSW)  
(Flemish Tree-care Association)  
Tel: (32) 3 646 45 73  
Fax: (32) 3 646 45 73  
email: kris.hofkens@natuurreservaten.be  
or dehaeck.dendroconsult@skynet.be

## Czech Republic:

Czech Tree Care Society  
Tel: (42) 0325 57 55 23  
Fax: (42) 02 81 92 29 29  
email: marek.zdarsky@arboristika.cz

## Denmark:

Dansk Traeplejeforening  
Tel: (45) 44 65 05 65  
Fax: (45) 44 65 08 74  
email: trees@sitas.dk

## Finland:

Puunhoidon Ystävät ry  
Tel: (358) 40 587 7098  
email: aki.mannisto@pp.inet.fi

## France:

French Chapter of ISA  
Tel: (33) 04 75 90 81 49  
Fax: (33) 04 75 90 81 85  
email: jean-louis.morel@fnac.net

## Germany:

Interessenvertretung Deutsche Baumpflege (IDB)  
Tel: (49) 22 24 77 07-47  
Fax: (49) 22 24 77 07 77  
email: w.gross@galabau.de

## Italy:

ISA (Italia)  
Tel: (39) 39 230 2979  
Fax: (39) 39 325 309  
email: fito@fito.consult.it

## Netherlands:

Nederlandse Vereniging van Boomverzorgende Bedrijven  
Tel: (31) 30 6595650  
Fax: (31) 30 6595655  
email: nvb@vhg.org  
or t.roosien@arcadis.nl

## Norway:

Norsk Trepleie Forum  
Tel: (47) 67 17 57 80  
Fax: (47) 67 17 57 81  
email: glen@ab-trepleie.no

## Poland:

International Society of Tree Cultivation & Protection  
Tel: (48) 0504064336  
Fax: (4) 22 6424460  
email: biuro@siewnick.pkt.pl

## Spain:

Spanish Society of Arboriculture  
Tel: (34) 96 315 68 20  
email: aea@aearboricultura.com

## Sweden:

Swedish Tree Federation  
Tel: (46) 451 313 93  
Fax: (46) 451 315 93  
email: tradvard@algonet.se

## Switzerland:

Bund Schweizer Baumpflege  
Tel: (41) 61 713 08 19  
Fax: (41) 61 713 08 19  
email: verband@baumpflege-schweiz.ch

## United Kingdom:

Arboricultural Association  
Tel: (44) 1794 368717  
Fax: (44) 1794 368978  
email: mcottam@myerscough.ac.uk

## EAC Secretariat:

c/o The Tree Advice Trust  
Alice Holt Lodge, Wrecclesham, Nr Farnham,  
Surrey, GU10 4LH, United Kingdom  
Tel: (44) 1794 522599  
Fax: (44) 1794 521640  
email: secretary@eac-arboriculture.com