

Civic Trees delivers Chelsea showstopper



In Spring 2013 Civic Trees excavated and delivered a tree and its entire rootstock to Chelsea Flower Show to form the centrepiece of East Malling Research's (EMS) centenary display.

The chosen tree, a mature Malus, was selected from one of the EMR orchards and Civic Trees provided assistance in creating a rootball large enough to retain the tree's furthest roots which were an essential part of the display.

Traditionally a tree of a similar size would require a 3.0m diameter rootball, but an investigation showed that, on this occasion, it would require a 6.0m diameter rootball in order to retain enough roots as well as lift the entire rootstock safely.

Deric Newman, sales manager at Civic Trees, picks up the story: *"We began by excavating a trench around the tree, 3.0m radius from the stem and 1.2m deep. We then used an air spade to blast air at high pressure at the soil to loosen it from the roots. Slowly we worked our way around the tree and back in towards the main stem. A very slow and painstaking process."*

Due to the selected specimen being a very delicate tree with delicate rootstock, one of EMR's greatest concerns was how to transport it to the site of the Chelsea Flower Show. EMR's team encased the tree in a wooden frame in order to keep it upright during its journey. Civic Trees transported the tree to the show avoiding any low bridges as the tree had to remain upright on the back of the vehicle at all times.

The end result was one of the most spectacular exhibits that the show had ever witnessed. The EMR display showcased the incredible network of roots that a tree puts out over the course of its existence in order to sustain life.

East Malling Research is an independent provider of first-class research, development and consultancy serving the food chain and other sectors of the land-based industry.



Supply, Plant, Relocate
civictrees.co.uk

T: 0208 950 4491
E: info@civictrees.co.uk

