

NEWS RELEASE

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TREE SURGEONS COME TO THE RESCUE

Tree surgeons swung into action to help the Police and the public when a huge tree blocked a main road in Northampton yesterday afternoon (Thurs).

When PC Ian Ross, from Northamptonshire Police, turned up to deal with the tree which had fallen across the A4500 just before Lings Way, he was keen to get it moved as soon as possible but faced a mammoth task on his own.

A public-spirited man and his friend who were in the area at the time, jumped out of their car to see if PC Ross needed some help. When PC Ross said thanks but they would never be able to move it on their own, he was amazed when the man replied that he was a qualified tree surgeon so could definitely help.

The man – Sebastian Leighton-Lever - phoned his boss, James Hughes, of Greenscene Landscape Services Ltd, who also made his way to the scene to help shift the tree. James, Sebastian and his friend Rowan Sidders, together with PC Ross, worked tirelessly for an hour and a half to move the tree so that the road could re-open to traffic.

"It was incredibly public-spirited of these men who stopped and offered to help. They couldn't have been more helpful. They carried out really heavy work in very unpleasant weather conditions and did it all for free," PC Ross said.

"The road would have been blocked for far longer if it hadn't have been for these men and this company and they deserve some credit," PC Ross added.

Landscape Services Ltd, said: "Our normal line of work is garden design and construction but Sebastian and I are qualified tree surgeons, so we were more than happy to help."

ENDS

NOTE TO NEWS EDITORS: For more information/interviews please contact the Press Office.