

1880: In a paper read to the Croydon Natural History and Scientific Society on December 15th 1880 Straker recorded the yew growing WSW of the church with a girth of 18' 6" at 5'.

1895: In *The Yew Trees of Great Britain and Ireland* by John Lowe was informed by Rev A Carr of a yew with 'a measurement of 15' at ground level and 17' at 3', a bole 7' high and the overall height of the tree 40'.' It was described as hollow, and surrounded by young growth.

1912: *A History of the County of Surrey: Volume 4* observed that there were in fact 'two ancient yews' in this churchyard.

1913: Wm H Mills recorded a girth of 18' 6" at 4'. This information appears in Cornish's *The Churchyard Yew and Immortality* published in 1946.

July 1999: The female tree, on the left as you enter the churchyard, is split into two. The larger section, next to the road, further divides into two main areas of growth at a height of 6'. There was evidence of fire having damaged parts of this. Considerable low growth covered the bole making it difficult to view. The smaller section revealed signs of new growth wrapping around old wood. Girth was 16' 10" at the ground. Any other height would give a misleading figure, affected by the lean of part of the tree and twiggy growth. Foliage was thick and a healthy green.

The 2nd yew is to the right of the churchyard entrance. At the time of my visit it was an unsightly mess. Beneath its branches was a bin for garden waste that had burst and spilled plastic bags over the ground. Ivy covered a large part of the tree and elder grew so prolifically I was not able to get close to the tree to realise any of its possible merits.

