

The yew was recorded by Fred Holbrooke in 1806 as 'a very fine Yew Tree in the churchyard'. The tree apparently appears in his drawing of the same time entitled *Angmering Church*.

Mee wrote in his *King's England* series that 'for most of its centuries the 590 year old tower has had as its companion a fine yew'.

In 2009 Owen Johnson described it as 'a forking tree, just starting to hollow, with a girth of 590cm (19ft 4in) around the base (allowing for two gravestones which it is in the process of swallowing)'. He observed that it was regrowing vigorously after having been cut back severely about 40 years ago.

In October 2009 Angmering Village Life News Archive published the following:

'Earlier this year, the Church authorities, with the agreement of Arun District Council, reduced the crown of the Yew by one third. A tree expert's opinion was that incorrect advice had been given which has resulted in serious damage to the tree which will take a number of years to recover. What is of concern is that, such is the present poor state of the tree, a number of people have been overheard saying that the tree is in a sad state, or is dying, and should be removed. We must not allow this to happen. The tree has recently been added to the Tree Register of the British Isles as a Notable Tree and has been entered on the Ancient and Veteran Yew National Gazetteer. Notwithstanding this, the tree is in danger of future inappropriate treatment if action is not taken to prevent this by placing a Tree Preservation Order (TPO) on it. Mike Pearn, a village resident with a particular interest in trees, has written a definitive article on the churchyard Yews and the need for TPOs to be placed on both the ancient tree and a 19thC one. Arun District Council for some reason does not think the ancient tree meets the TPO criteria but Mr Pearn, Dr Owen Johnson (the tree expert) and others think they are seriously mistaken. Angmering Village Life supports Mr Pearn's campaign to have a TPO placed on these trees to safeguard them for future generations of villagers as they are part of our heritage'.

