

Felling of the Cilmerly Yew - 2009
SO 00905172

I visited the site of Llanganten church, in the parish of Cilmerly/Cilmeri, on 20th August 1999. The yew, which grew SW of the church, was recorded with a girth of 15' 1" around the base. Its bole height was about 5', above which the tree narrowed before sprouting new growth in all directions. A vigorous and healthy yew was noted, confirmed by the photo taken in 2005. Height of the tree was about 25'.



Cilmerly Yew in 1999 - Tim Hills



Cilmerly Yew in 2005 - Geoff Garlick

In 2009 I was informed that “the yew has been felled recently...., it is a tiny church in a very out of the way place and we could see no reason for it.”



In 2012 I took these photos of the stump. The only information I have is that a group of parishioners complained that the yew cast too much of a shadow on that part of the churchyard. I was also told that the tree feller gave assurances that because it was yew it would re-grow from the stump.

It is another instance of the needless destruction of our yew heritage. This church is one of the Llangammarch Group of Parishes, the same parish responsible for allowing the destruction of the Llanlleonfel Yew in 1999.