

The red sandstone church is circa 1300. One of its windows is a memorial to Sydney Smith, the celebrated cleric and wit who lived in the Old Rectory for 15 years in the 19th century.

Two female yews grow in this churchyard, an ancient specimen south of the church and a young tree northwest.

In 1997 I observed a small platform in the heart of the tree from where three distinct areas of growth develop; one consists of thick rising branches, a second of thinner more recent growth and a third containing much dead wood and sawn off branches. Two large branches dominate the tree.

I measured the yew in 2000 as follows:

25' 11" between the ground and 1'; 27' approx. at 3' and 29' approx. at 5'. Approximations are due to considerable twiggy growth on the bole.



In 2012 Peter Norton recorded a girth of 26' 7" close to the ground, which had increased to 26' 8" by July 2015. At that time I noted that it was becoming difficult to find places for accurate repeat measuring. It was also clear that measurements at 3' and 5' are no longer possible because the twiggy growth close to the bole has developed into long twigs. This is seen in the 2015 photograph.



The younger yew, growing only 4m from the church tower, has a trunk that divides a few feet above the ground into several rising branches. In 2015 its girth was 7' 6" at 1' 6" above the higher ground.

