

## DETLING

St Martin of Tours

Diocese of Canterbury

TQ79185814

John Lowe's 1897 *The Yew Trees of Great Britain and Ireland* reported girths for this tree of 17' 6" at 4' and 18' 4" at 3'. In 1999 girths of 17'11" at 1', 18' 6" at 3' and 18' 1" just above slight bulging at 5' were recorded. The female yew grows south of the church. Its branches carried thick foliage and many had been allowed to dip to 4/6' from the ground all the way around the tree. Bole height was about 8'.

In *St Martin of Tours Detling Kent - A short History* the story is told that a road was once diverted to protect its overhanging branches. "The most notable feature of the churchyard is the massive yew tree beside the path from the porch to the gate with its imposing trunk. At one time its branches overhung the roadway but by the generosity of Mr S Rugg and his brother-in-law Mr William Peale of Loose the roadway was diverted and its original site thrown into the churchyard. Detling church owes a great deal to the generosity of the Rugg family and Mr Peale".



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