

1834: 'The tower of the church is seen just rising above the dark foliage of the venerable yews by which it is surrounded'. Lewis's *Topographical Dictionary of Wales*

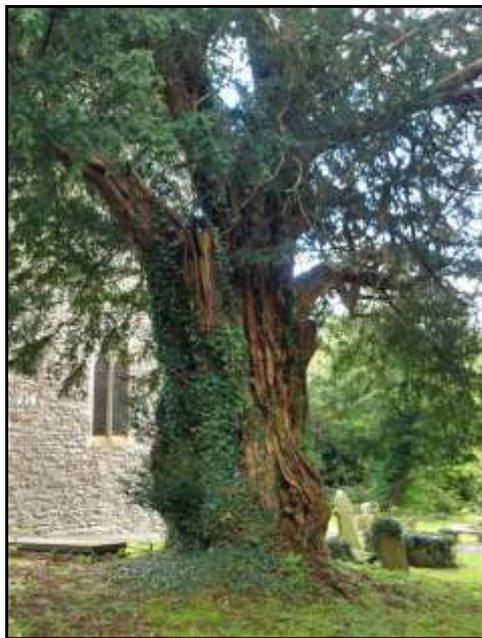
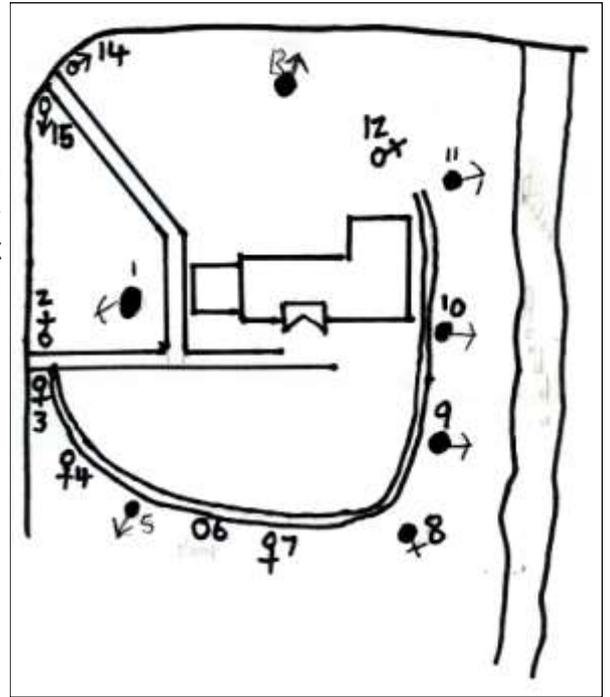
1862: 'Here (in the churchyard) the Brichmail stone with the warrior still stands in a wall under one of the venerable yew trees'. Anon/1862

1946: '15 trees, four of them between 16' and 20' 6"'.

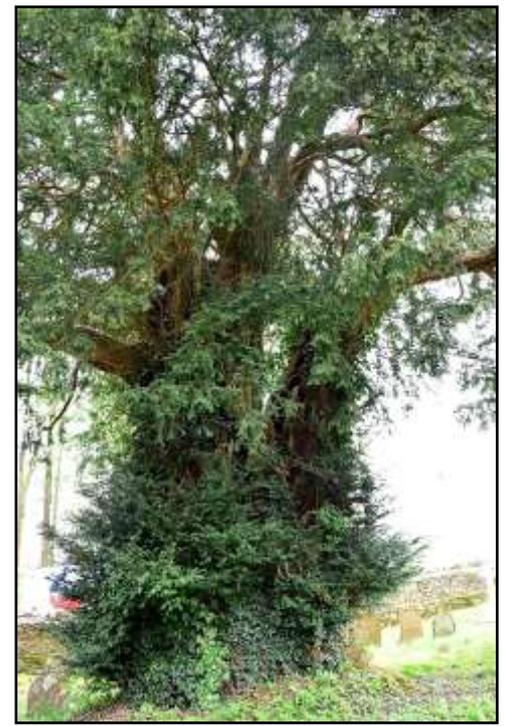
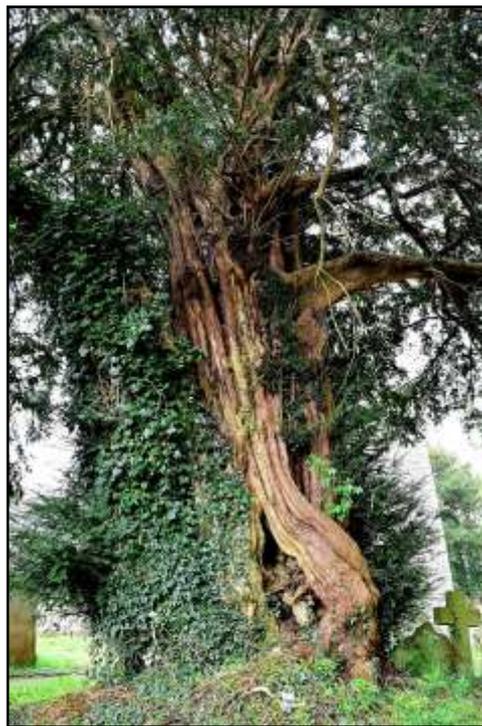
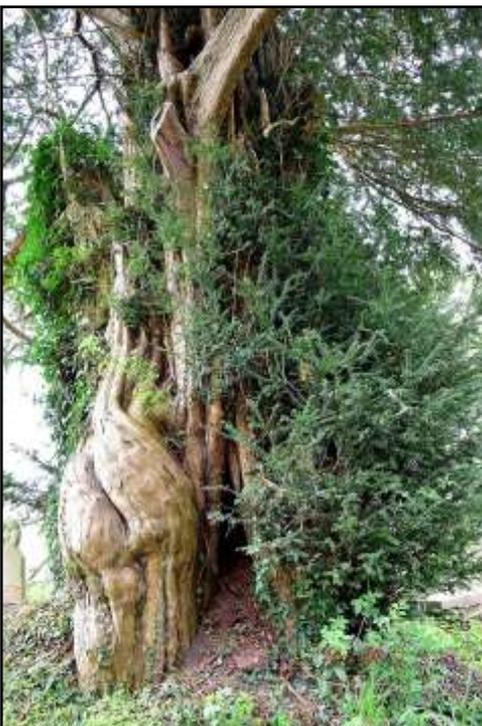
Tim Hills: I visited the site in 1998, 2001 and 2013.

The most significant yews are 1, 5, 8, 9, 10, 11 and 13.

Tree 1 has two hollow trunks, the largest filled with several feet of drying grasses in 1998. Evidence of burning was all too obvious when we returned in 2001 and we were told of a fire that smouldered in the tree for several days. By 2013 (left) it had made a good recovery. Girth in 2001 was 21' 10" at the ground.



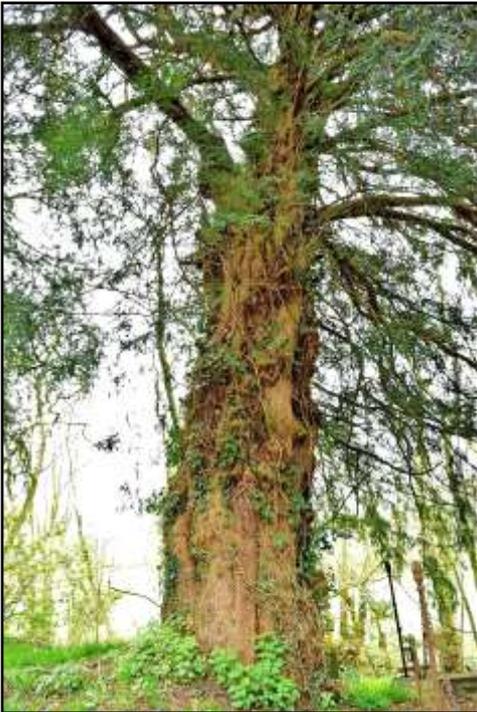
Paul Wood's 2016 photos (below) show how rapidly ivy grows in only 3 years. Much twiggy growth on the east side was also noted. He measured at the ground over the cushion of ivy and recorded a girth of 21' 11" (6.68m). He described the tree as hollow with extensive internal growth, though a spine of white wood the height of the bole means this fine yew will in the future become horseshoe shaped.



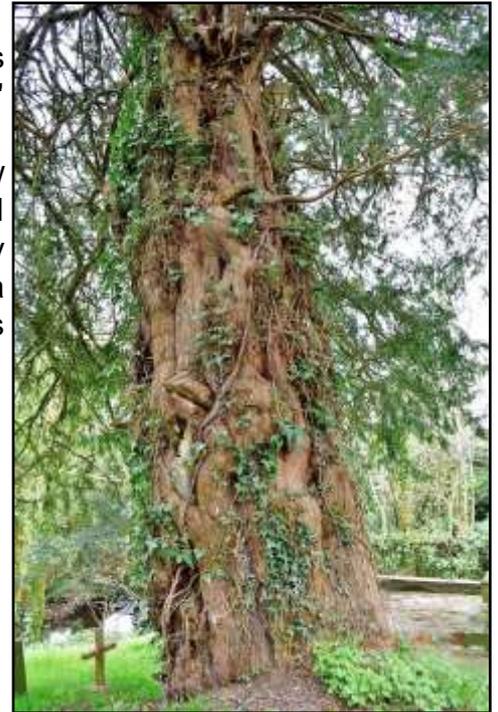
Tree 5 (right) is almost concealed behind twiggy growth. Its main branch rises through lower sawn off growth. A girth of about 17' near the ground was recorded in 2001. The photo is from 2013.



Tree 8 (left) has a portion of the tree missing and a girth of about 15' recorded in 2013. Its tall straight bole divides into 3 main branches at about 20'. It has a prominent internal stem now on the outside of the tree.



Tree 9, while it appears to be solid is quite hollow. Girth in 2001 was 13' 8" at 4'. Paul Wood's photos (2015) show that all lower limbs are removed regularly. A small amount of ivy grew sporadically on the bole and a girth of 13' 10" (4.22m) at 4' was recorded.



Tree 10 grows at the top of a slope above the river Honddu. It had lost several large branches. Girth of 16' 8" above a limb which emerges just above ground level was recorded in 2001. It is seen here in 2013, when the entire tree was concealed by ivy.





Tree 11 (left) has a girth of between 13' and 14'.

Tree 13 (right) measured 13' 5" at 1'.



Yews 10 - 9 - 8 - 7



Yews 5 - 4 - 3 - 2 - 1

