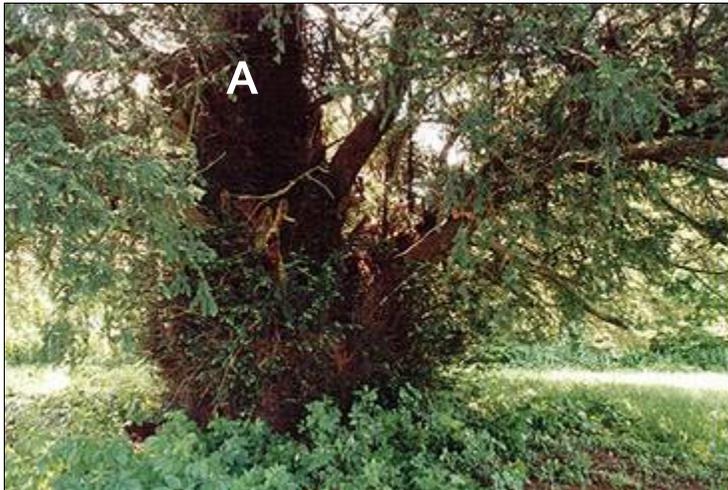




This churchyard is about a mile from the village. The church is deemed to be in an unsafe condition and is no longer used for worship. This will probably mean that the extensive grassy area around the yews will in time become overgrown and calls into question what will happen to the two ancient yews. In 1986 J.Daryll Evans recorded 'three impressive yews' at this site, but by 1997 one had been reduced to this stump, found in the lane outside of the churchyard and now removed. The reason for its felling is not known. The two survivors are female, and a formidable presence in this churchyard.



This yew, south of the church and with a distinctive pyramidal canopy has a huge bole from which rises a prominent central branch (A), so thickly covered with upright



twigs that little of the bark was visible. Numerous smaller branches fill the bole from 4' upwards.

Several metres away (right) is a young yew that has layered from the 'parent tree'. This was either produced either from a branch touching the ground or the resurfacing of a root. Perhaps in 1000 years time these will look like the trees at Defynnog, where 38' and 22' 'mother and daughter' grow side by side.

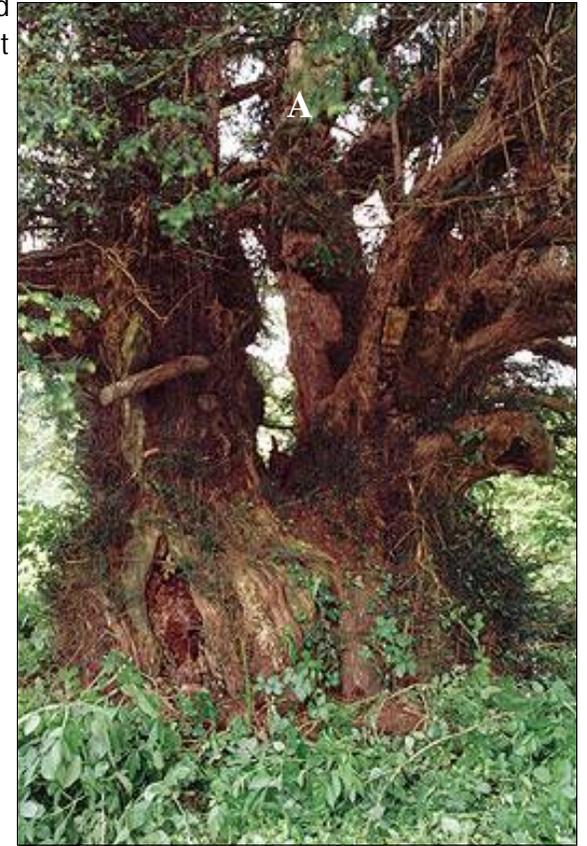
Evans recorded a girth of 880cm (28'10") at 1m in 1986. In 2000 I recorded 27' 4" at the ground.



The second yew has two distinct areas of growth from its 4' high bole. To the south is a thick, knobby trunk covered with adventitious shoots and supporting much branching. A newer, very straight branch with flaky bark looked out of place (A).

To the north, dividing into 2 growth areas, another thick and knobby trunk grows around an old dead branch. All around the tree lower branches had been sawn off.

Girth 2000: 27' 4" at the ground and 23' 2" at 4'.



© Tim Hills 2013