

1926: 'A private path ran through this enchanted wood, over a wooden bridge that crossed a tiny stream, and finally led to the ancient churchyard with its solitary yew of immense age and girth. In my mind the memories of Llangoedmor house and church are inseparable'. This extract is from *The South Wales squires* published in 1926 and written by Herbert M. Vaughan.

David Lloyd Owen, in the Cardigan area church 'Group Magazine', no.12 Christmas 2006 wrote: 'At a glance, its girth of five or so metres is clear evidence that the tree as it stands today has been growing from 500-1,000 years. The fact that it grows on a mound suggests the current tree has in fact regenerated from an even older tree. That would mean that the tree would have flourished at the time of St Cynllo in the fifth century with its roots drawing the waters that also fed St Cynllo's well. The tree is one of the jewels of the churchyard, and its long term preservation must be one of our top priorities'.

In 2005 Arthur O.Chater reported a girth of 571 cm girth (at the base) and a height of 16m.

My own visit in 2006 noted a tall male yew, bole of solid appearance, growing on a mound SE of the church and above a steep drop to the stream below. An approximate girth recording of 19' 6" (594cm) was taken at the top of the mound, keeping tape horizontal. While 500 –1,000 years is possible for this tree, there is no evidence to suggest that it flourished 1500 years ago.



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