

This 'yew tree of considerable girth' was first noted in the *Little Guide to Monmouth* of 1909. In 1986 J.Daryll Evans in *The Churchyard Yews of Gwent* referred to it as 'an unsung veteran'. He considered that 'the original has probably disintegrated and nine later shoots now surround a secondary trunk in the centre. The base of this is raised above the stock of the tree, being supported on sturdy legs'.



I visited in February 1998 and November 2006 to record a male yew growing on a low mound SE of the church. Though not particularly tall it has a large spread of branches supporting a lush green canopy. Its main branch rises above a central hollow and around the outside are many upright branches, each carrying abundant lateral growth. At the time of the second visit we discovered this single female branch on the otherwise male tree.

In 1986 Evans recorded a girth of 850cm (27' 11") at 1m. In 1998 I recorded 28' 7" at the ground.

There are more substantial yews in fields adjacent to the churchyard and in 2006, as the November light faded, I was able to make brief notes. Growing due east of the church and forming part of the boundary with the adjacent field is a female girthing 18' 3" at about

1', with a large section facing the field becoming detached. About 40m north of this and possibly on the churchyard perimeter is a large bulging female that appeared to be about 20' in girth. By now it was too dark to take details.

