

1827: An account of *Llangollen and its vicinity* by W.T Simpson contains the following description: 'It is a neat little edifice, with a very pleasant churchyard, and contains nothing very ancient in the monumental way; but there are around it many venerable yew trees, with their wide spreading sombre foliage. I had the curiosity to measure one, and found it above twenty feet in girth'.

1996: The Clwyd Powys Archaeological Trust recorded '2 yews of some considerable age, on West. Just inside perimeter wall on North, 5 other mature yews'.

2004: The only yew of considerable age grows just northwest of the church. It was a leaning hollow fragment with an internal stem, and a girth of 14' 1" around the base. The tree was inundated with ivy and any evidence that it might once have been larger was hidden in the long grass. Foliage was thin and there were many yellow leaves.

It was Andrew Morton's 2009 *Trees of the Celtic Saints* that enticed me to revisit. He wrote that 'at first appearance the male yew looks insignificant, but on closer inspection the remains of a much larger base can be found in the ground surrounding the remaining piece'.

July 2014: I was informed that a heavy fall of snow had caused the yew to lean even further. It has been neatly cut off at a point which would have been at a height of about 15ft, and as can be seen in the photographs has made a remarkable recovery, with much vibrant green foliage showing that its roots remain well connected with the ground. In a now well tended churchyard it was possible to see some of the remnants of the tree that was lost long ago. Girth around all of these was about 28ft, confirming this to be a fragment of an ancient yew.

