

1834 and 1849: Lewis's *Topographical Dictionary of Wales* described 'two yew trees of remarkably fine growth' at Llanddervel.

November 30th 1904: Rev JE Cardigan Williams: "Near the north end of the church, a yew 33' 4" in girth. There is another yew in the same churchyard but it is only 10 feet in circumference." Source of this information not known. This same girth was also reported in 1977 in Hyde's *Welsh Timber Trees*.

1983: Reg Wheeler saw the yew and recorded a girth of 17' 0" at 18", describing the tree as "concreted within at one time." It is more accurate to place the large old yew at the west end of the church on the north side.

It would seem that at some time between 1904 and 1983 much of this yew was lost, leaving only the fragment we see today. In 2000 I noted its position at the edge of a large circular space and its hollow facing the centre indicating that it is probably a well developed fragment of a once larger tree. Girth of this fragment in 2000 was 17' 8" between 1' and 2'. It looked green and healthy, with many foliage laden smaller branches cascading around the tree.



All that remains of the 2nd yew is a stump with a girth of 12' 14', inside a circular wall at the east end of the church. A millennium yew had been planted to replace it, thus maintaining the yew tradition at this site. This yew was still alive in 1983, described by Reg Wheeler as a 'male tree with broken bole' and a girth of 11' 7" at 4'.

