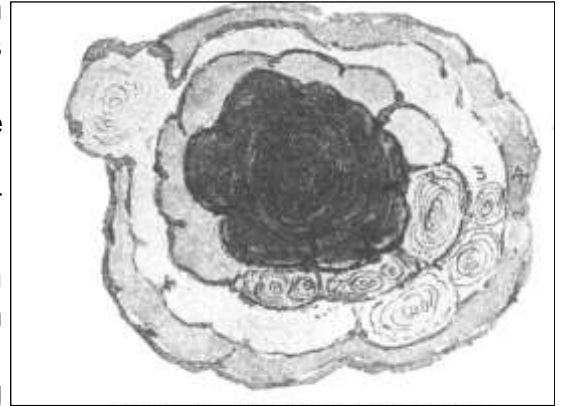


1886: 'The tree in Bredhurst churchyard is very remarkable. It is a fine pollard, in which I first noticed the features which give rise to the present inquiry'.

Lowe's inquiry led to the publication of *The Yew Trees of Great Britain and Ireland* in 1897. He was the first to carry out systematic yew research and it was here in Bredhurst that he discovered aspects of their growth patterns that led to further study.

Lowe wrote a full description of the yew: 'A fine pollard.....The original trunk is dead, but fairly sound, and can be seen through openings in the surrounding layers of new growth. The diameter of the central trunk is 2'. The surrounding ring has a radius of 1'; the wood is quite distinct from the central shaft, and differs in colour. It, too, is dead. Some of the branches which still remain attached have a diameter of 10". The third circle of wood, which for the most part is living, has - together with a commencing fourth ring - a radius of 18".'



This fourth ring is covered with young spray, some of the shoots having grown to 4 or 5 feet in length, and begun to coalesce at the bases, which are much swollen, but most of the shoots die off after a few years' growth, being smothered by the foliage above them'.

1999: The church sign is supported by two upright branches, behind which the main substance of the tree grows from a bole of about 4'. Girth close to the ground was 20' 8". As such a significant tree it deserved better than sharing its space with an oil tank and builders' materials. These had gone by the time Cliff Hansford took the remaining photos in 2009.





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