

All Saints is a single chamber church in a small raised churchyard. In *Collections Historical & Archaeological Relating to Montgomeryshire, Volume 4* of 1881, Craufurd Tait Ramage, Lld wrote the following: "Thus, we have a few miles from Guilsfield, a yew-tree at Buttington, and so far as I could judge, growing very much under the same conditions of soil and climate. I paid a visit to it, and was amazed by its gigantic dimensions. Those at Guilsfield are mere pigmies when they are brought in comparison with it. Near the ground it is twenty-three feet in girth, and its four branches, which spread out six feet from the ground, have the girth of large trees. One which I measured five feet from where it sprouted out from the trunk, was eight feet six inches in girth. Applying the same mode of calculation to this tree of Buttington, I find its *minimum* age to be six hundred years; but we may reasonably conclude that, as it grows old, the average growth will decrease yearly, so that after it has reached its four hundredth year, it will not increase more than one foot in a hundred years. This tree would be in girth sixteen feet in its four hundredth year, but it is now twenty-three feet, having grown seven feet since that period. Adding seven hundred to four hundred, we have eleven-hundred as the approximate age of this yew-tree, which it may very well be from its antique appearance, though it is still fresh, and sending forth from its roots young branches of a bright green colour. In fact, if no accident befal it, it has to all appearance another thousand years' life before it. My calculation would place the planting of the yew-tree in the eighth century."

1999: I was informed that this well tended male tree had received a 'thorough overhaul' two years earlier. A 3' gap in its 27' girth gives access to a vast hollow interior lined with old white sapwood. Three main

areas of growth spread from the bole. On the outside, fluting and buttressing is visible behind the trimmed twiggy growth. Sizeable branches had been removed, especially where they grew towards the garden whose boundary with the churchyard is now marked by a neat line of tombstones. The tree appeared to be in fine health. Girth: 26' 11" at 1'; 28' 6" at 3'; 28' 6" at 5'.



In July 1986 Reg Wheeler measured the yew at 30cm and recorded a girth of 805cm (26' 5").

In 2008 Russell Cleaver recorded a girth of 27' 11" (8.51m) at the ground and described it as a healthy, open crowned large tree, 3 main leaders, and much twiggy growth around its bole.