St Illtud's (or St Illtyd) church stands in the centre of a circular churchyard. The present church was founded in the 13th century.

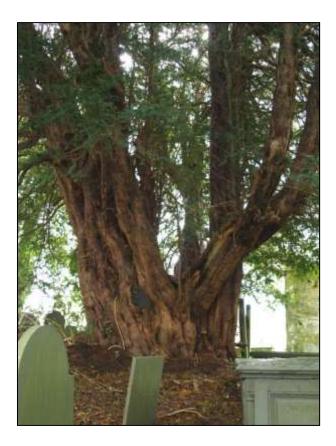
In 1891 Lowe described 'two trees about same size; the tops have been broken, and they are evidently compound trees'. Yew –Trees of Great Britain and Ireland

The church guide states that there are no fewer than four ancient yew trees; I am more inclined to agree with the Rev. J.W.Jones who reported to Cornish (1946 *The Churchyard Yew and Immortality*) that there were only 'two ancient yews of about 21' in girth...also younger yews'.

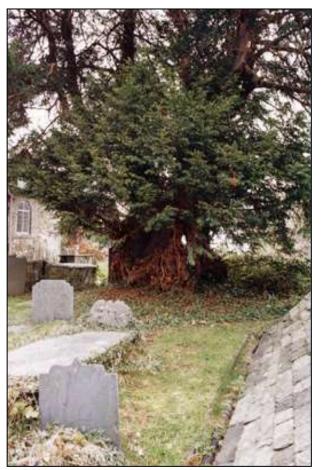
I visited in 1998 and recorded two yews. This male yew grows NE of the church on a mound. It is a tree of many fragments, some upright, others stretching outwards away from the centre. Girth close to the ground was about 30'. In 1983 Reg Wheeler's recorded a girth of 25' 9" at the base.

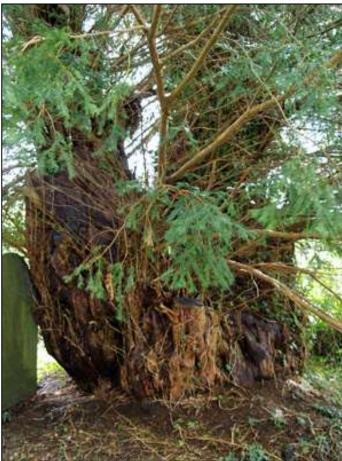






The 2nd aged yew (below) is female and grows southeast of the church. In 1983 Reg Wheeler recorded a girth of 21' 4" at the ground. In 1998 I recorded a tree consisting of two huge trunks, one hollowed out and a girth of about 22', measured over twiggy growth.





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