LOCKERLEY

St John the Evangelist

Diocese of Winchester

SU2985226701

Site of a Saxon church, of which all that remains is a rough hewn circular stone font.

The ancient yew 'nearly 25 feet round' was noted in Mee's The King's England (1939).

1999: At the time of my first visit the massive bole of this fine healthy yew was partly obscured by elder and twiggy growth and this was the only available photograph. The yew was not obviously hollow, though some of its many large upright branches showed signs of hollowing. Throughout the tree the bark was unusually flaky. When I returned in November 2005, it was to find that numerous low branches had been removed, so that there was no longer a rich cover of foliage, but a tree looking sparse and denuded.

Girth:

1999: 25' 8" close to the ground - Tim Hills 2002: 7.98 at 1.1m (26ft 2in) - Russell Cleaver 2009: 25' 8" at root crown - Peter Norton



When Peter Norton took the photos below in 2009 the land around the yew had been cleared and the tree was again focal point in the churchyard.







A second, smaller yew grows NNW. It had a slightly elongated hollow with a large gap and thickening at the edges. Girth was 14' 3" between the ground and 1' in 2005. Photos are from Peter Norton in 2009.

