

The 'stone of Twrog' near the church porch is said to have been hurled by St Twrog (believed to have died in 610) in an attempt to destroy a pagan altar on the site of the present church.
 (B.Bailey - *Churchyards in England and Wales*)
 It is suspected that this site was a former bronze age settlement.

The yews here first receive mention in the Journal of proceedings vol xxxviii 1903/1904 Sat July 11th as part of a week's 'long excursion' undertaken by members of the North Staffs Field Club. 'The walk was then continued to Maentwrog, and the church with its immense yew trees and St Twrog's stone inspected'.

1998: The 3 significant yews at this site are all female. Tree 1 (SE) had a girth of about 21' and consists of several thick branches, mostly fluted, which rise from a short bole.
 It was recorded by Reg Wheeler in 1983 with a girth of 562cm (18' 5") at 90cm.



1998



2008

In 1998 tree 2 had three substantial main branches rising from a short bole. One was dead (A) and I anticipated that it would be removed. I was surprised to find on my return 10 years later, that the living trunk had also been felled, leaving this stump with a girth of 19' 5".



Tree 3, with a girth of about 22' in 1998, has two main fluted branches rising from a short bole of about 3'. It grows WSW of the church.

Reg Wheeler recorded it in 1983 as follows: 515cm (16' 11") at the ground. Three stems (one divides to make four) a - 260cm; b - 260cm; c - 205cm; d - 110cm.

There is such a difference between our ground measurements in 1983 and 1998 that one would seem to be misrecording.



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