

1790/91: The *Topographer* quoted a 16th century source: 'Plymtree (perchance Palm-tree) of a fayr Yew tree used to be carried by some instead of palms, and such a tree is there curiously cutt and kept, like a pyramis but circular and in grandation, near the river Clyst'.

A Devon Churches website describes it as follows: 'The most ancient relic at Plymtree Church is the great yew tree in the churchyard which experts tell us is some 1,100 years old! It probably replaced a ritual tree of the pagan Saxons, perhaps even the Celts and the village is almost certainly named after it. The adjoining church was erected on the site of a previous building in 1261, though much of the present building is 14th century'. [www.britannia.com/history/devon/churches/plymtree.html](http://www.britannia.com/history/devon/churches/plymtree.html)

1998: All signs of topiary have long since disappeared. The yew of today has a particularly fine, straight, thickly fluted and solid looking bole, though a small gap at the base reveals that inside are large hollow spaces with internal growth. The tree was in excellent condition. Girth was 21' 6" at 3'.



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