

In the past:

1835: Described as 'a yew tree of many centuries, standing still, by its perpetual verdure remains an emblem of the resurrection'. Horsfield's *Sussex*

1855: Mary Matilda Howard noted 'a large yew tree of great age' in *Hastings, past and present*.

1895: Mr Seeley described a 7' bole, also that the tree was 'perfectly hollow, and split in several places, and a fresh trunk appears to have arisen from the ground'. In the same article from *The Yew Trees of Great Britain and Ireland*, Lowe reported that 25 years earlier it had lost 10 or 12 feet of its top in storms.

1999: The female yew, growing south of the church, has become two fragment trees. The main fragment supports several thick branches above about 12'. The second leans before dividing into a main upright and 3 smaller lateral branches. From each fragment, branches dip towards the ground. Foliage was plentiful and healthy and the yew was already laden with ripe arils. Ivy could become a problem with stems 15" round growing up against the largest fragment. Beneath the branches a pile of grass clippings had been allowed to accumulate and was already several feet deep.



Girth:

1895: Mr Seeley measured the tree for Lowe as 19' at the ground and 18' 6" at 3'.

1994 : 10m tall x a diameter of 201 cm @ 0.3m Owen Johnson *Sussex Tree Book*

1999: 20' 11" at 3' - Tim Hills

30<sup>th</sup> Oct 2015: Peter Norton described the fragmented female yew growing near to the southeast corner of the church, as in two distinct halves and surrounded by vegetation, churchyard debris, earth, bramble and ivy.

The photos below were taken by Cliff Hansford in 2009

