WINSHAM St Stephan ST3746806272 8th April 2006 and 31st October 2016 Of the eight yews that grow in this churchyard, tree 8 is the ancient specimen.



Tree 1, SE of the church, is male with a girth of 11' 5" at 1' in 2006. In 2016 a girth of 11' 8½" at 2' was recorded. On the side facing the path it is thickly fluted. Ivy stems had been recently cut. It is a tall tree, with no branching below a height of 10'/12'. On the west and south faces a large number of branches had been removed at a height of about 8'/9'.

Tree 2, south of the tower, is a large bushy female, surely too large to be a millennium tree. I discovered that it had self-seeded in a garden adjacent to the church some time prior to 1985 and was donated to the church for the millennium.



Tree 3 is a four stemmed female SW of the church. Girth was 10' 6" at about 6".

Tree 4 is a male of unusual shape caused by a large amount of branch removal. Ivy had been removed. This is a difficult tree to reliably measure but close to the ground I recorded a girth of 9' 10".

In this part of the churchyard the perimeter is planted with yew. This has taken place in two stages, with one section more developed than the other.





Tree 5 to 8 grow along the northern boundary of the churchyard.

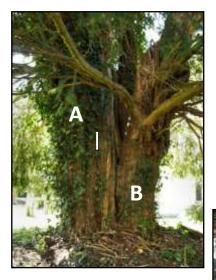
Tree 5 is male, an oil tank stored beneath. It has a short elongated trunk with many prominent angled branches. Its bark was particularly red. Girth was about 10' 6" at 15".

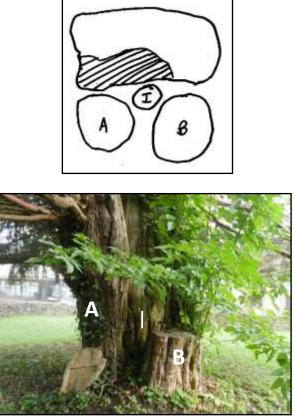
Tree 6, female, has an elongated trunk, with several upright branches. Girth was 10' 7" at about 6".

Tree 7, female, has twin rising branches from about 4' and upwards. Girth was 8' 9" at about 2'. A piece of wire is being swallowed up in the tree.



Tree 8, below, is the largest of the yews here. In 2006 I drew a ground plan of this fragmenting male yew which had a girth of 14' 5" close to the base of the tree. Letter | shows an internal stem which was attached to stems A and B, while the shaded section is dead wood. I also observed that an excessive amount of ivy filled the tree. On this occasion I took the photos seen either side of the ground plan. When I returned in 2016 all that remained of stem B was a piece of sawn off stump. I would not be surprised if the weight of ivy played a part in the collapse of this part of the tree?







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