

Church of St Michael and All Angels, Fenny Drayton churchyard

A ring of 27 Yew trees, one newer tree and 1 missing Yew, a sapling has just been discovered growing in the correct location.

Survey on 15th December 2019 by Helen Bullivant and Duke of Edinburgh award student. The first tree is on the right hand side of the main gate, off the road. All trees are approximately 1 metre from church wall and an equal distance apart. Planted to form a ring shape that follows the churchyard boundary. The average girth is 2.59m and the largest Yew is number 15, girth is 3.40m. Trees show wind direction to be from a S-SW direction. In between Yew trees numbered 24 & 25 Hawthorn and Silver Birch have grown to replace the missing Yew tree- see note above.

Yew tree number 1 is the first tree on the right hand side of the main churchyard gate.

No	Girth (m)	Description of Yew Tree in Fenny Drayton Churchyard
1	3.00	Tallest in churchyard, ivy, lower branches removed
2	2.90	Trunk separates into 3 branches higher up, ivy, lower branches remain
3	1.83	Lower branches removed, ivy
4	0.39	Young Yew tree planted in a gap where an old Yew tree stood.
5	2.77	Owl box on trunk, ivy
6	2.56	South of churchyard, corner tree, trunk separates into 4 branches higher up, ivy
7	2.18	Bird box on trunk
8	1.80	A few dead branches near the crown, Blue Tit in branches
9	2.80	2.5m up tree the trunk splits in 4 branches, girth >3.5m, ivy, dead wood
10	1.80	Heart rot, ivy
11	2.26	2.5m up trunk splits into several branches.
12	3.23	East of churchyard, corner tree, sheltered position, 2.5m up trunk splits into branches
13	2.85	2.5m up trunk splits into branches, ivy
14	2.93	Positioned 2.5m away from church wall, lots of lower branches (climbing tree)
15	3.40	Largest girth, 2.5m up trunk splits into several branches, ivy
16	2.87	2.5m up trunk splits into several branches, ivy
17	2.00	RH side of rear gate, heart rot
18	3.19	2m up trunk splits into several branches, bird box (small opening)
19	1.58	4m up trunk splits into several branches, bird box with 2 holes, ivy
20	2.87	A little ivy
21	1.69	Decay in core, ivy
22	2.63	North of churchyard, corner behind shed,
23	3.159	Large hole 1.3m up trunk, 45cm deep into heart of tree, ivy
24	2.50	Lots of splits up through the trunk, little ivy
25	3.33	Lots of lower branches, ivy, little plaque for 'John'
26	2.30	Some ivy, little plaque for 'Joseph'
27	2.87	A little ivy

Tree number 22 in the corner of the churchyard behind the shed, nearest to the site, has a girth of 2.63m, very hard to measure! To get the diameter you divide the girth (circumference) by Greek letter π , pi. I did this on a calculator and got 0.83m. Please check my maths.



N.B. Approximate girth measurements. The girth is measured at a distance of 1.3m above the ground, around chest height. This is difficult as often the ground is uneven, there are side branches and many of the trees were covered in Ivy.