

Hampshire Yews - Southleigh Forest

Southleigh Forest is situated south of Rowlands Castle village. It is mainly in Hampshire with a small section to the east in Sussex. The forested area comprises roughly 158 hectares, split between Hollybank Woods (61ha), Southleigh (79.1ha), Barton's Copse and The Slip (18.28ha). All are designated as Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC).

Underlying the woodland and extending east into West Sussex the geology is of gravel underlain by good quality clays. Within Southleigh Forest gravel has been extracted and replaced by landfill operations. The eastern section of the gravel site, comprising some 7 hectares is now refilled and restoration to wooded countryside is complete.

Southleigh Forest was so named in the early 20th century and belonged to one family until it was sold in 1968. It once formed the northern edge of Emsworth Common, documented in Saxon times as wooded pasture and wooded common.

Three areas in Hampshire stood out during this recording. In Hollybank Woods is a line of approximately 30 yews bordering the Emsworth Common road; these may have been planted as a decorative feature. To the north of the gravel extraction area in Southleigh is a small grove of large girthed yews and finally in The Slip are the remains of an enclosure bank with a few young yews growing on top.

Not all the yew discovered are listed in detail on page two and of these only 35 had their girths recorded.

A map showing the locations is found on page three, followed by photographs of the larger yews, each linked to Street Map for its precise position.

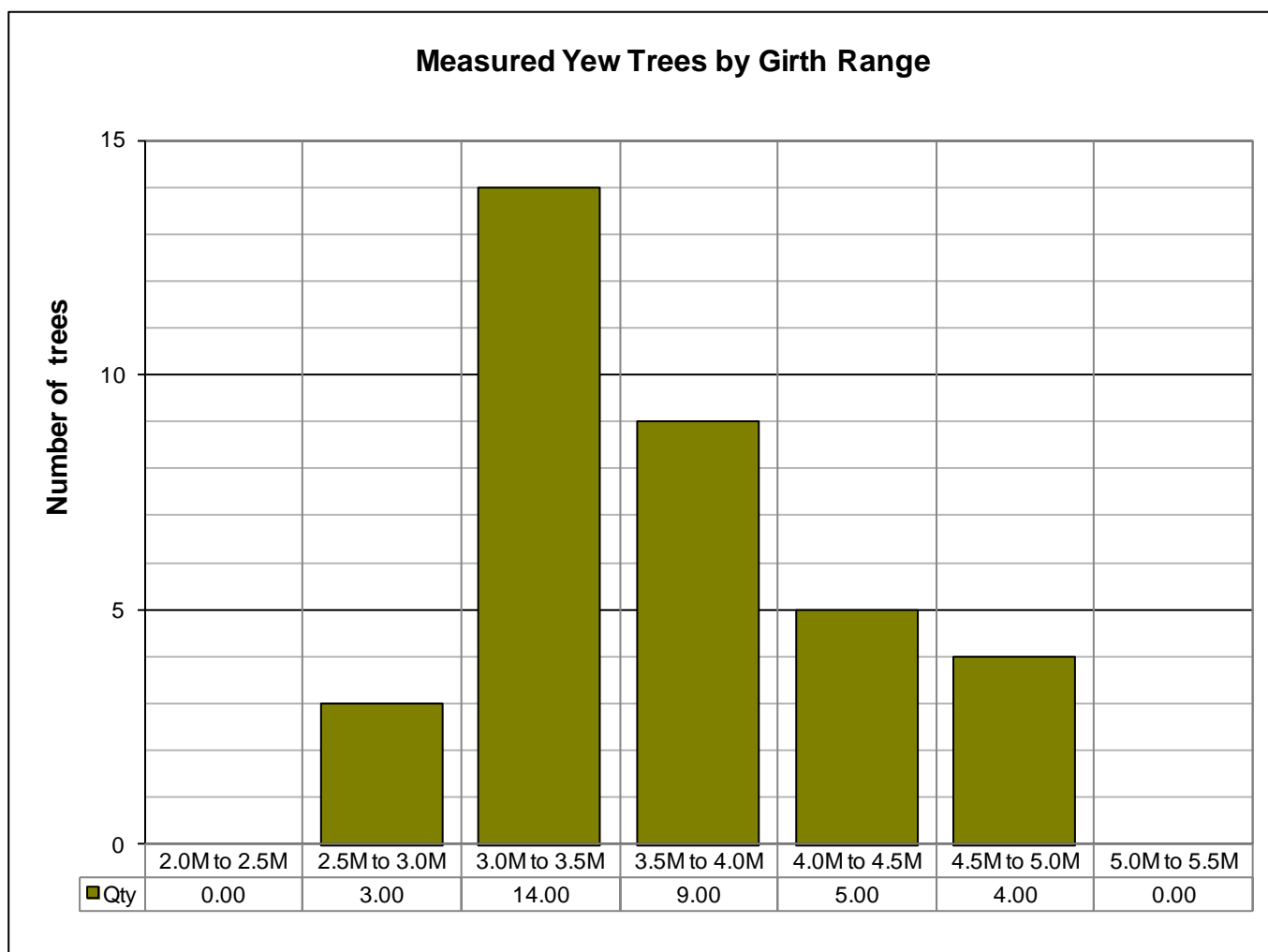


Table of Recordings

Grid Loc (SU)	Sex	Girth			Height measured	Comments
		Ft	Ins	Mtrs		
Hollybank Wood						
7437407899	Male	10	9	3.2766	1'	Four stems from a short bole
7432207902	Female	11	6	3.5052	2'	Reduced canopy
7431507916	Male			0.0000		Heaved - Not measured
7432407842	Female	12	4	3.7592	6"	Not flourishing, very sparse foliage on one small branch
7461008047				0.0000		Seven trees on side of bank approx 3ft dia - behind fence
7467008276	Female	11	10	3.6068	Root crown	
7439508212	Female	10	11	3.3274	1'	3 yew close together in clearing of old cottage (demolished)
7433708100				0.0000		Not measured
7436708066	Female	11	11	3.6322	1'	Four stems from a 2ft bole
7435708041	Male	12	7	3.8354	1'	Excluding side limbs
7424608190	Female			0.0000		Not measured
7395908173	Male	11	1	3.3782	Root crown	
7401308186				0.0000		First six yew of approx 27 in total that line the road (planted)
7407408244	Male	10	1	3.0734	1' 8"	(7th tree)
7410008260		10	3	3.1242	1' 6"	TPO-03073 - evidence of layering (10th tree)
7412108267	Male	10	8	3.2512	2'	TPO-03077 - this height to miss large limb (15th tree)
7420108338	Female	9	11	3.0226	Root crown	TPO-03091
7428308312	Male	11	6	3.5052	Root crown	
7428808349	Female			0.0000		Not measured
7427408397	Female	15	10	4.8260	2'	Already recorded in gazetteer (25th tree) - lost limb
7433908460	Male	11		3.3528	Root crown	
Southleigh Forest						
7437908558	Female			0.0000		Not measured - sparse foliage
7469809172	Male	11	1	3.3782	2'	
7471309335	Female	13	8	4.1656	1'	Fungi Ganoderma valesciacum. It occurs most often on dead tissues but can occasionally kill trees. Verified by FC at AH
7471409336	Female	11	3	3.4290	Root crown	Close to above
7464009366	Male	14	3	4.3434	2'	Measured above cut stems - 2' 6" bole
7397308820	Male	13	3	4.0386	Root crown	Sloping tape to miss large limb
7401708820	Female	15	9	4.8006	Root crown	Excluding two side limbs - in a group of 13 yew
7402008839	Female	13	2	4.0132	Root crown	
7403208843	Male	13	1	3.9878	1'	Excluding one side limb
7398708867	Female	11	6	3.5052	2' 6"	Sparse foliage - Group of 23 yew
7400808864	Male	10	5	3.1750	Root crown	Sparse foliage - Group of 23 yew
				0.0000		General view of group
7401608875	Female	16	4	4.9784	1" 6"	Excludes side limb - Sparse foliage - Group of 23 yew
The Slip						
7348508691	Male	10	8	3.2512	Root crown	On boundary bank
7345808665	Female	9	7	2.9210	Root crown	
7354608499	Female	9	10	2.9972	Root crown	
7353908245	Male	13	4	4.0640	Root crown	On boundary bank
7355908270	Male	9	6	2.8956	Root crown	
						General view
7360708314	Female	10	8	3.2512	2, 3"	
7364608331	Female	14	11	4.5466	2' 6"	
7360908478	Female	12	5	3.7846	1'	
Bartons Copse						
7336608628	Male	10	4	3.1496	1'	
7343108336	Female			0.0000		Not measured

Map of yew positions

- ↑ Not measured
- ↑ Measured male
- ↑ Measured female

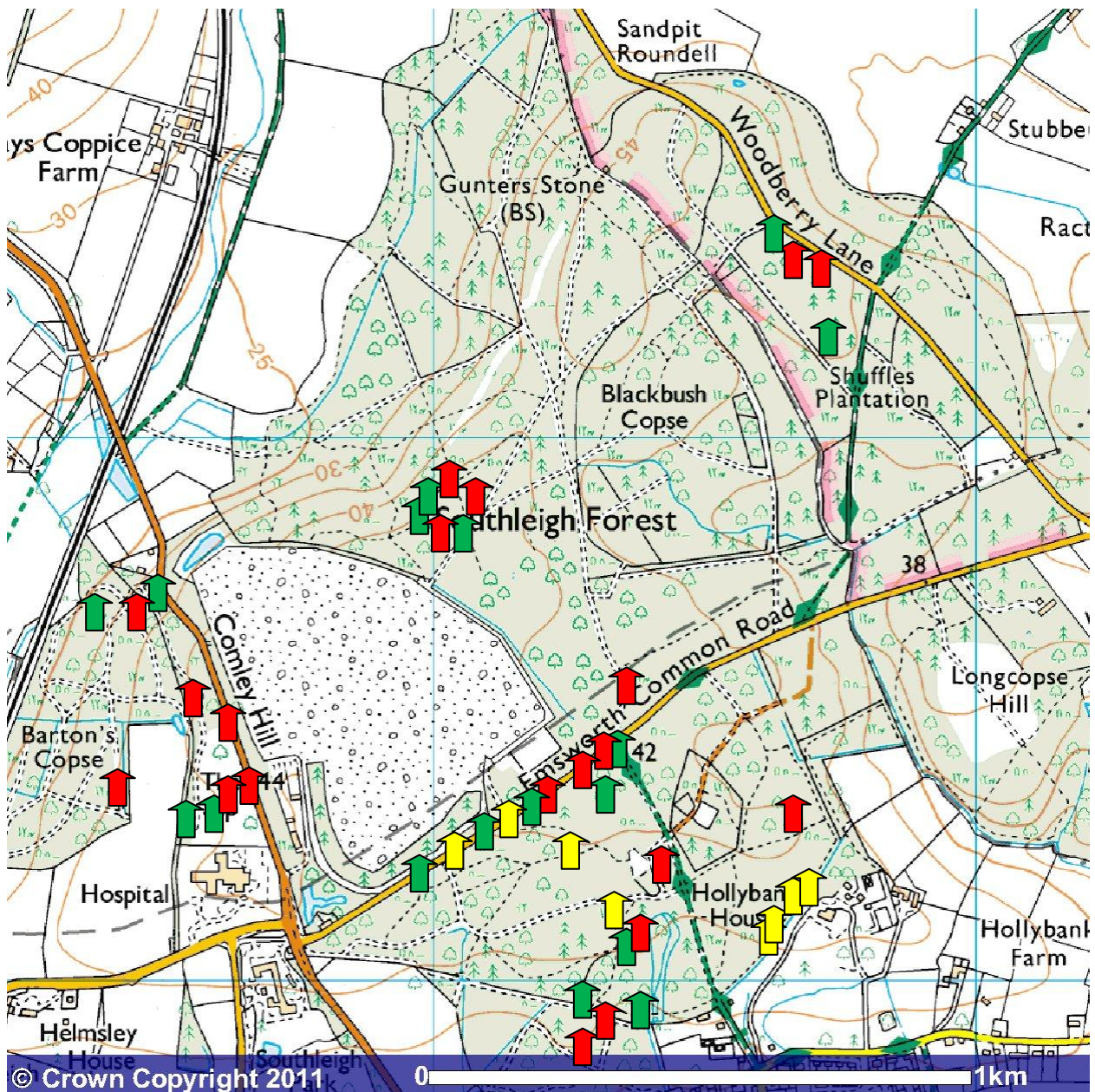


Image produced from Ordnance Survey's Get-a-map service. Image reproduced with permission of Ordnance Survey and Ordnance Survey of Northern Ireland.

Click on the embedded link – Street Map will open in a separate window and indicate the exact position. You may have to increase the zoom control on the R/H side of the map to level 3 or 4.

All measurements are taken at the narrowest point being the root crown unless otherwise stated.

[SU7432407842](#)

F 12' 4" at 6"



[SU7435708041](#)

M 12' 7" at 1'



[SU7401308186](#)

First six of 27 that line the road



[SU7410008260](#)

Evidence of layering



[SU7427408397](#)

F 15' 10" at 2'



Indicating the lost section



[SU7471309335](#)

F 13' 8" at 1'



Ganoderma valesciacum



[SU7397308820](#)

M 13' 3"



[SU7402008839](#)

F 13' 2"



[SU7401708820](#)

F 15' 9"



[SU7403208843](#)

M 13' 1" at 1'



[SU7400808864](#)

General view of grouping



[SU7401608875](#)

F

16' 4" at 1' 6"



[SU7353908245](#)

M

13' 4"



[SU7364608331](#)

F

14' 6" at 2' 6"



General view



[SU7360908478](#)

F

12' 5" at 1'

