

MONMOUTHSHIRE churchyard sites with younger yews

The Churchyard yews of Gwent - Revd J.Daryll Evans

BASSALEG St Basil ST2772587125 3/10/1986 Revd J.Daryll Evans

2 churchyard yews, largest 317cm at 100cm, south of church. The smaller of the two Common Yews actually appears to be older than the other, in having a less symmetrical shape.

BEDWAS St Barrwg ST1710989199 05/08/1987 Revd J.Daryll Evans

Three churchyard yews. Largest 324cm at base is in the centre of the churchyard, south of the church. "It has six main stems. Erosion of soil on its southern side has exposed the roots".

BEDWELLY St Sannan SO1665700314 14/08/1987 Revd J.Daryll Evans

A hilltop site with views in all directions. Three yews, the largest east of the church. Girth of 303cm at 1m is of largest yew in churchyard.

BISHTON St Cadwaladr ST3866087292 25/8/1987 Revd J.Daryll Evans

One yew SW of church. Girth of 288cm at 1m.

BRYNGWYN St Peter SO3905609325 C1980 Percy Morgan

Percy Morgan recorded 14 churchyard yews, the largest 10 and a half feet in girth at 3'. Included in *The Churchyard yews of Gwent*.

BULMORE, CAERLEON Christchurch Parish Mission 13/09/1986 Revd J.Daryll Evans

The site of Christchurch Parish Mission Church, but site itself is possibly pre-1800. Church was originally a Baptist Chapel. One churchyard yew near the entrance gate with a girth of 236cm at 100cm.

CHRISTCHURCH, NEWPORT Holy Trinity ST3469089357 Revd J.Daryll Evans

Girth of 146cm at 100cm. One yew grows here: "Its presence on an ancient site suggests that the one, young Common Yew is the descendent of a more substantial trees now vanished".

COED-Y-PAIN Christchurch ST3345698510 15/10/1986 Revd J.Daryll Evans

The Churchyard yews of Gwent - Revd J.Daryll Evans includes this in 1988 book. Three yews here, the largest girthing 231 cm at 1m.

DIXTON St Peter SO520136 24/01/1987 Revd J.Daryll Evans

11th century church at a site older still. According to Evans there were only 2 common yews, both close to the west boundary, the largest measuring 190cm at 1m. Percy Morgan later noted 4 yews, the largest being 6 and a half feet in girth, SW of the church.

GOVILON Christchurch SO265139 Percy Morgan 1980s

The Churchyard yews of Gwent - Revd J.Daryll Evans includes this in 1998 book. He noted 6 churchyard yews on 28/2/1987.

Percy Morgan reported 4 churchyard yews, the largest 9½ feet at 3', south of the church.

LLANBADOC St Madoc SO3760100070 12/8/1986 Revd J.Daryll Evans

In The Churchyard yews of Gwent Evans describes a visit on 12/8/1986, recording 5 yews, the largest 240cm. He says "it has been provided with a circular stone border. The present trunk grows from a mound."

The site is mentioned in the 1802 Diary of Sarah Anne Wilmot.

LLANELLEN St Helen SO303109 1/9/1986 Revd J.Daryll Evans

Evans described "2 yews, west of the church, with both having "sprawling habits". I only noticed one in 2000. I was not sure of giving ancient or veteran status to this tree. It has many branches from a low bole, all young. Numerous trunks close to the ground had been cut off, and new wood could already be seen wrapping around. Some of the cut trunks/branches exuded small quantities of the red fluid. I was not certain, but thought this to be female.

The tree asks many questions about yew growth patterns - this was a bit of a one off but may point in the direction of how some of the true veterans once looked. At one stage it must have spread far and wide from almost ground level on huge branches. Its training upwards probably makes it a much better looking tree.

LLANFAIR Chapel, nr Grosmont SO39001934 1987 Revd J.Daryll Evans

Llanfair Chapel (formally known as St Mary's, Llanfair Green) is described as a quiet, historic church located in Llanfair Green, near Cross Ash, roughly 4 miles south-east of Grosmont. Evans noted 2 yews, the largest with a girth of 238cm at 1m.

LLANISHEN St Dennis SO4749003235 15/11/1986 Revd J.Daryll Evans

When J. Daryll Evans visited on 15/11/1986 he recorded two yews, the largest with a girth of 244cm at 1m growing NW of the church. He notes that "The size of these two trees suggests they were planted about the time the church was rebuilt in 1854, during the incumbency of Revd. Henry Warrilow."

LLANTILIO CROSSEN St Teilo 18/10/1986 SO3988514985 Revd J.Daryll Evans

No fewer than 11 churchyard yews, the largest 281cm at 1m. Also noted outside of the churchyard are several yews nearby.

LLANTRISANT Illtyd, Gwynno and Dyfodwg ST3912596926 11/8/1986 Revd J.Daryll Evans

One yew, with a girth of 280cm at 1m, "tucked away in the SW corner of the churchyard".

LLANVACHES (Tabernacle United Reformed) ST4284691437 31/1/1987 Revd J.Daryll Evans

The single yew is adjacent to the entrance gate. Girth of 250cm at 1m recorded.

LLANVETHERINE St James the Elder SO364171 7/1/1987 Revd J.Daryll Evans

Percy Morgan: 1 yew, girth of 8 and two thirds feet at 3'. In J.Daryll Evans he has one yew 260cm at 1m SW of church.

LLANWERN St Mary ST371879 01/08/2009 Tim Hills

Evans notes "all the yews are near the north boundary of the churchyard". Tim Hills 1 August 2009: 4 younger yews on the north side perimeter.

MAGOR St Mary 31/10/1986 ST4252886973 Revd J.Daryll Evans

14 churchyard yews "There are three groups of quite young common yews around the margin of the churchyard."

MALPAS St Mary 19/09/1986 ST3029790165 Revd J.Daryll Evans

Three churchyard yews, the largest, with a girth of 310cm NW.

MARSHFIELD St Mary 9/9/1986 ST2617382572 Revd J.Daryll Evans

The largest yew grows SE. "Most of the yews line the grass paths leading to the south porch. There are none near the paved path from the lychgate to the west door, which may not have been the original main entrance." Largest 282cm at 1m.

MONKSWOOD St Matthew 11/08/1986 SO3466202718 Revd J.Daryll Evans

4 churchyard yews, the largest 304cm at 1m.

MONMOUTH St Mary 17/01/1987 (no GR) Revd J.Daryll Evans

1 churchyard yew - south of church. Girth of 237cm at 1m.

MONMOUTH St Thomas 17/01/1987 (no GR) Revd J.Daryll Evans

1 yew north – girth of 198cm at 1m

NEWPORT St John Baptist 23/09/1986 (no GR) Revd J.Daryll Evans

1 yew, west of church described as " a bushy tree of an ugly, artificial appearance". 224cm at 1m

NEWPORT St Mark 23/09/1986 (no GR) Revd J.Daryll Evans

"All 3 trees are near the south boundary." Largest a girth of 325cm at 1m.

OLDCASTLE St John the Baptist SO325245 Percy Morgan 1980s

A few yews, the largest being about 5 feet in girth.

The (former St John's) church is at Oldcastle near Pandy, Abergavenny, Monmouthshire though very close to the border of Herefordshire and just a few miles from Longtown. It is situated next door to Court Farm, Oldcastle and it is also within the Brecon Beacons National Park. (Apparently the planning notice for the conversion of the church was not published in local newspapers, but in one for Brecon & Radnorshire, which is why the locals did not find out until it was too late to protest, or so I am told).

OVERMONNOW St Thomas a Becket SO505125 Percy Morgan 1980s

1 yew, girth of 6 and a half feet north of the church.

PETERSTONE, Wentloog St Peter ST2681380134 03/09/1986 Revd J.Daryll Evans

The church has now been converted to a 5 bedroom luxury house. The yew, on the north side, had a girth of 196cm at 1m

PONTLLANFRAITH St Augustine 21/02/1987 Revd J.Daryll Evans

One yew south of church. "A symmetrical, spreading young tree." Girth of 211cm at 1m.

REDWICK St Thomas ST4121684133 25/8/87 Revd J.Daryll Evans

One yew, west of the church "The tree is noteworthy for the length of its undivided main trunk."

RISCA St Mary ST23639117 06/01/1986 Revd J.Daryll Evans

The yew grows south of the church. Girth 343cm at 1m

St. ARVANS St Arvan ST5166496522 23/12/1986 Revd J.Daryll Evans

The tree grows on a mound. Girth 135cm at 1m

St. MAUGHANS Parish church SO461172 26/06/2011 Tim Hills

A male/female pair of yews SE and E of the church. Male is most southerly at 11' 4" at 1', the female is 10' 8" at 2'. Both have been cut off at about 8ft in the past.

TRELLECH St Nicholas SO5004805495 31/01/1987 Revd J.Daryll Evans

The largest of 6 yews here had a girth of 199cm at 1m.

WHITSON St Mary ST3823484639 25/8/1987 Revd J.Daryll Evans

Two yews here, the largest SE, with a girth of 347cm at 1m. Plans to convert church to home so this is probably no longer a churchyard.

WONASTOW St Wonnow SO486108 24/01/1987 Revd J.Daryll Evans

16 Irish and 12 churchyard yews, the largest 6 and a half feet in girth at 3'. Eight of the churchyard yews are outside of the churchyard wall.