

9.1 6 Eel Tarn (page 20)

Images from the walk to the waymarker tree.



A broad-crowned sessile oak marks the location of the gate recessed on the right with the unique profile of the monkey puzzle ahead, within the Gill Bank intakes.



Standing straight and tall, just as it would in the mountains of Chile, its native home. This tree is known to indigenous Mapuche people living in the southern Andes as 'pehuen' – a magnificent, if unexpected, Lakeland waymarker.



The open crown, having lost numerous lower side branches due to wind damage, is typical for a specimen in open exposed positions (whereas those trees grown in more protected sites may retain branches almost to the ground). A smaller younger tree – probably an adventitious shoot stimulated into growth by the partial loss of so much photosynthesising foliage – rises from the trunk base, adding a slightly bizarre tree-in-tree effect. Otherwise and anyway, this is altogether a marvellous tree in great condition and more than likely set to see in the next millennium.



Looking from the Gill Bank farm road, a blackthorn and rowan stand nearby in close proximity – but I am unable to reconcile them as being the two trees in question, as their positions do not seem to fit AW's general description. Their existence is undeniable, but does not translate to the actual scene as AW described it.