

Heritage

The four villages each have a distinct heritage.

Handcross

Despite considerable modern expansion, Handcross retains a historic core centred on the High Street. The majority of the buildings date back to the 19th century, but a number, including some that are listed, are 18th century or earlier.

The High Street is a busy through route and suffers from the effects of heavy traffic. Nevertheless, it is still visually attractive and the buildings substantially retain their original character and appearance and there are a number of interesting features.

Further south is Nymans, a National Trust property with a historically significant garden and house. Both Nymans and High Beeches (about a mile northeast of the village) are listed in English Heritage's Register of Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest. The extensive Hyde Estate around the north of the village is forested for commercial timber and is used for breeding and hunting game.

There are two public houses: The Royal Oak, on Horsham Road and The Red Lion, an old coaching inn. In addition, there is the Handcross Parish Hall and the Sports and Social Club. The recreation ground in the High Street is owned by the Parish Council and contains the Pavilion. There are two churches: All Saints, C of E in the Horsham Road and Zoar Baptist Chapel in the High Street.

Pease Potatge

Pease Pottage is so called because convicts on their way to Horsham Gaol were given a bowl of pottage here. There is a public house in the village, The Black Swan, on Horsham Road. The village has a florist which is a reminder of the extensive nurseries which were once there.

Slaugham

Slaugham was originally one of the 'iron villages' of the Sussex Weald. Slaugham, which is designated a conservation area, includes a variety of building styles and ages including a number of buildings which are timber framed, red brick with half tile hung and tiled roofs and others which are constructed with sandstone blocks and occasionally with stone roofs.

The parish church of St Mary is a Norman church with a 13th century clock tower and a Victorian clock. Lord Nelson's sister is buried here. The southern side of the churchyard provides views towards the ruins of Slaugham Place, an Elizabethan mansion, which is a scheduled ancient monument and a registered park and garden. The white telephone box is a Grade II Listed Building. The Street also has two unique lampposts, topped with the royal crown

Warninglid

Warninglid dates back to Saxon times and had connections with the medieval iron industry. It contains the Seaforth Hall and a cricket ground. The Street is the focus of the conservation area and contains a number of buildings dating back to the 16th century. Some of these are listed as being of special architectural or historic interest.

The attractiveness of The Street is due to the variety in ages and styles of building; the predominant use of traditional and natural building materials, e.g. sandstone, brick, timber and clay roof tiles; the traditional style street lamps and road signs directing traffic to adjacent villages/towns; the sense of enclosure created by the buildings and the banks, hedges and trees adjacent to The Street; and the village pond with an arching sandstone bridge leading to the drive of Lyndhurst Estate, creating a focal point.

At the centre of the village is a crossroads and the Half Moon public house, a Grade II listed brick and stone building dating back to the 19th Century. Nearby, the former St Andrew's Church, built in 1935 and now converted to a residential property, has some of the finest examples of modern stained glass in the south of England. On the outskirts, old buildings like Bells Farm, Harveys Farm, Freechase Farm, Portways Farm and Routwood, all dating from the 15th and 16th centuries, have developed into charming houses in delightful rural settings. The oldest recorded house is on Cuckfield Lane but the Street is the oldest residential road.

In summary Slaugham Parish has:

- One Scheduled Ancient Monument at Old Slaugham Place
- Three Registered Park & Gardens at Nymans and High Beeches, both Grade II* and at Old Slaugham Place
- 37 listed buildings, including the Grade II* Parish of St. Mary Church; Blacksmith's Cottage, Old Place, Warninglid; and the Ruins of Old Slaugham Place