

St Mary's church dates to Norman times, though the name Slaugham implies habitation in Anglo-Saxon times. The yew was first noted in the 1911 *History of Sussex* as 'a large yew tree'. The postcard states that it is 'over 1000 years old', which might well be true.

2004 and 2012: This exceptional female yew grows south east of the church. From all viewpoints it appears solid and substantial. Its hollow spaces are well concealed behind small holes in the bole. The main central branch is very thick, rising next to a piece of the old trunk and a smaller parallel branch to a height of over 40'. There are 4 prominent limb like branches. Metal bracing around the tree is beginning to be covered by new growth and below this the bark has become discoloured as the metal rusts.



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Girth:

1996: 15 metres tall x 224cm diameter at 1.5m - Owen Johnson

2013: With slightly undulating tape a minimum girth of 24' 4" was obtained at a height of 2' as taken from the ground close to the cavity - Peter Norton



Also found at Slaugham is a yew of known planting date - 31st March 1800, when 'a yew tree was planted in a line with the SW corner of the church'.