

St Denys' Church and the Village of Aswarby

- Information for Schools



St Denys' Church is a historic place of worship in the heart of Aswarby, a Lincolnshire village steeped with features for teaching and educational opportunities.

If your school is looking for a place to base a local history study or to study significant historical events, people and places in your own locality, then St Denys' Church in Aswarby has the ideal teaching resources for you.

Tell me more about St Denys Church and Aswarby

- St Denys' Church is a grade 1 listed building with huge historical importance and many architectural features of interest.
- George Bass, the famous Royal Navy surgeon and explorer, was born in Aswarby and baptised in the church. The Bass Strait between Tasmania and mainland Australia is named after him, as are many other places in Australia.
- The village is the home of the descendants of one of England's Baronetcies, the Whichcotes..
- It used to have a spa where people travelled miles for the allegedly medicinal qualities of its waters.



- The county's agricultural show took place in the village when it was a touring event in the 1950s.

- And there are other local tales linked to the village, including one about an elephant buried nearby. One of the country's most famous ghost story writers, M R James, based one of his stories in Aswarby.



What is available?

An on-line teachers' resource pack, including teaching ideas, background material and links to the National Curriculum.

Also, a *Hazard Awareness* sheet with key information for teachers which will help them write their risk assessment ahead of a visit.

Background source material available includes:

- a guide to the church and the village,
- a travelogue booklet tracing the roots of George Bass in modern day Australia and maps of places related to George Bass in the local Lincolnshire town of Boston and in London – called *In search of George Bass*
- An illustrated children's booklet called *A boy called George*
- I-spy booklets featuring history, religious and architectural features of St Denys, testing powers of observation.

Bulk copies available for order.

For more information about school visits or copies of literature, contact

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Image of George Bass overleaf from engraving from a photograph of an original portrait that has been lost. (Mitchell Library, State Library of New South Wales)



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