

The History of Milton Keynes IN 100 Objects... ...the first 15

Cowper and Newton Museum

The Abolition Campaign



'The Negro's Lament'

Newton was persuaded to join the campaign, and his first-hand evidence to Parliament of the horrors he had witnessed made a strong impression. He followed this up with a hard-hitting and widely-read pamphlet, 'Thoughts upon the African Slave Trade'.

William Cowper supported the campaign by writing a number of poems against the slave trade, the most famous being 'The Negro's Complaint' which sold many thousands of copies when published as a broadsheet and sold on the streets of London and other big cities.

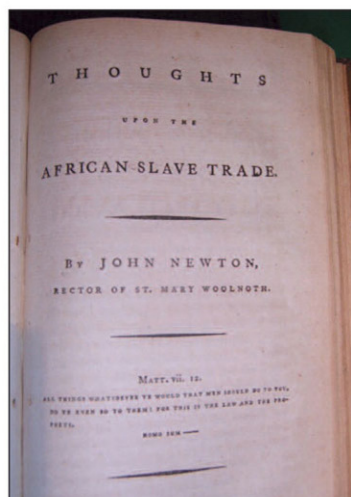
After a long struggle the campaign was successful, and the slave trade was abolished throughout the British Empire in 1807, shortly before Newton's death.



Model of a slave ship in the museum



Wedgwood Medallion



Thoughts upon the African Slave Trade (title page)



The Cowper and Newton Museum