

# 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.

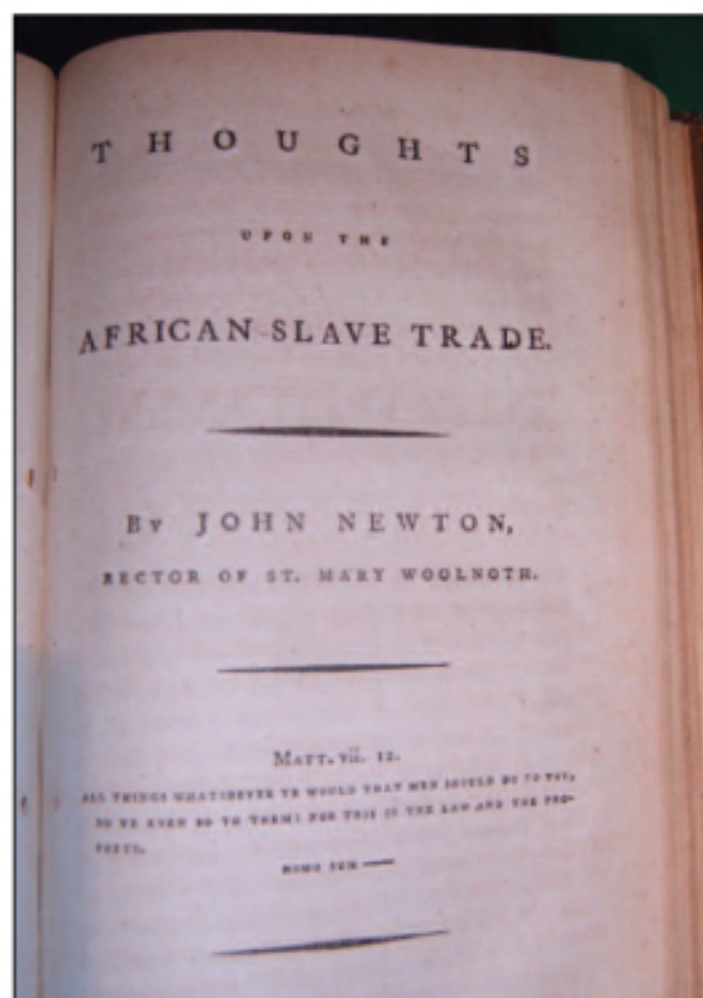
After a long struggle the campaign was successful, and the slave trade was abolished throughout the British Empire in 1807, shortly before Newton's death.



*Model of a slave ship in the museum*



*Wedgwood Medallion*



*Thoughts upon the African Slave Trade (title page)*



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