

Appendix B

Mary on the Green goals: a participatory memorial and an educational trust
<http://maryonthegreen.org/index.shtml>

Who was Mary Wollstonecraft?

- **The foremother of feminism:** *A Vindication of the Rights of Woman* (1792) was the first call for equality of the sexes in the English language. She argues women are capable of Reason; education and financial independence are key
- **An Enlightenment philosopher:** Nobel Laureate and Motg supporter Amartya Sen calls her “the most underestimated thinker of the C18th”
- **A political activist:** “She claims for women the right to share in the advantages of representation in Parliament, nearly seventy years before women's suffrage was heard of in the House of Commons.” Millicent Fawcett
- **An early human rights champion:** *A Vindication of the Rights of Men* (1790) demands human equality “Virtue can only flourish among equals”
- **An educational pioneer:** William Gladstone drew on her writings in his designs for state education
- **The world's first female war correspondent.** At personal risk she wrote on the French Revolution while living under the Reign of Terror

Mary Wollstonecraft is an **icon of social mobility**. She was a working single mum from a downwardly-mobile family. She survived domestic violence from her alcoholic father, and became the first woman to earn her living from writing.

What?

1) The participatory memorial will be in London's Newington Green, developing the area as a centre of historical significance. Wollstonecraft lived and worked here - a mixed community with areas of social deprivation. Unlike Westminster (bristling with monuments) this location would be particularly well served by the memorial, and draw in local people and school children.

2) The educational trust (Wollstonecraft Society, domain name registered) will provide original and inspiring teaching materials.

Why now?

She was airbrushed from history following the scandal that met her husband's biography. Her legacy was toxic for over a century. The Suffragist Millicent Fawcett acknowledged this injustice, describing her as a leader in “the battle.”

During 2018's centenary celebrations of the Representation of the People Act there will be heightened debate around the suffragette legacy: *it is critical that Wollstonecraft does not remain overlooked.*

What's next?

We already have extensive local and grassroots networks, council and planning support, and a vibrant events calendar of community outreach. We have developed an expanding list of influential supporters reaching across Europe, Asia and the Americas. We have local and national cross-party political support including commitment to maintaining a memorial. And we have raised almost a third of the money. Here's what's next:

- 1) Create secure supporters' database, launch regular Newsletter SEPTEMBER
- 2) Announce shortlist of artists OCTOBER
- 3) Energetic fundraising events THROUGHOUT 2018

Quotes:

"I do not wish [women] to have power over men, but over themselves."
A Vindication of the Rights of Woman, 1792

"It is necessary emphatically to repeat, that there are rights which men inherit at their birth.. We have only to cultivate our Reason."
A Vindication of the Rights of Men, 1790

"It is Justice not charity that is wanting in the world."
A Vindication of the Rights of Woman, 1792

"I am the first of a new genus!" (Letter to her sister)

"Nothing, I am sure, calls forth the faculties so much as the being obliged to struggle with the world." *Thoughts on the Education of Daughters*, 1787

"Every woman who wants to make an impact on the way this country is run – from the House of Commons to the pub quiz – has Mary Wollstonecraft to thank."
Professor Mary Beard, Motg supporter

"I thank you Miss W, may we long enjoy your esteem." John Adams US President 1797-1801

In 2012 we lit up Parliament with her image, this year a print of our iconic Stewy portrait became the first ever street art to enter the Government Art Collection

