

## WHO WROTE THE LYRICS TO 'AMAZING GRACE'?

Former slave ship captain and **clergyman John Newton** wrote the famous hymn 'Amazing Grace' in 1772, for his 1793 New Year's Day service.

The hymn's emotional lyrics tell Newton's story, how he believed God saved him and showed him the errors of his ways.

The hymn was then published in 1779 as part of the *Olney Hymns*, a group of hymns he and his poet friend, William Cowper wrote. It was set to the now very familiar tune in 1835 by American composer William Walker.