

# Newport Women's History Mosaics

St Pauls Walk  
Commercial Street, Newport





# Mosaic 1

## Rise

Designed & made with  
the assistance of Linc  
Cymru Extra Care  
Scheme Tenants and  
the Go Girls

# Mary Brewer & Joan Williams



Mary Brewer came to the forefront as a Chartist organiser in Newport, following the imprisonment of Henry Vincent and her brother, William Edwards. She collected lodge subscriptions and sold Chartist newspapers. Elsewhere landladies of public houses also roused support. Joan Williams, the wife of Zephaniah Williams, organised the Blaina Female Chartist Lodge that met at their beer house, the Royal Oak. ([http://chartist.cynefin.wales/female\\_patriot](http://chartist.cynefin.wales/female_patriot))



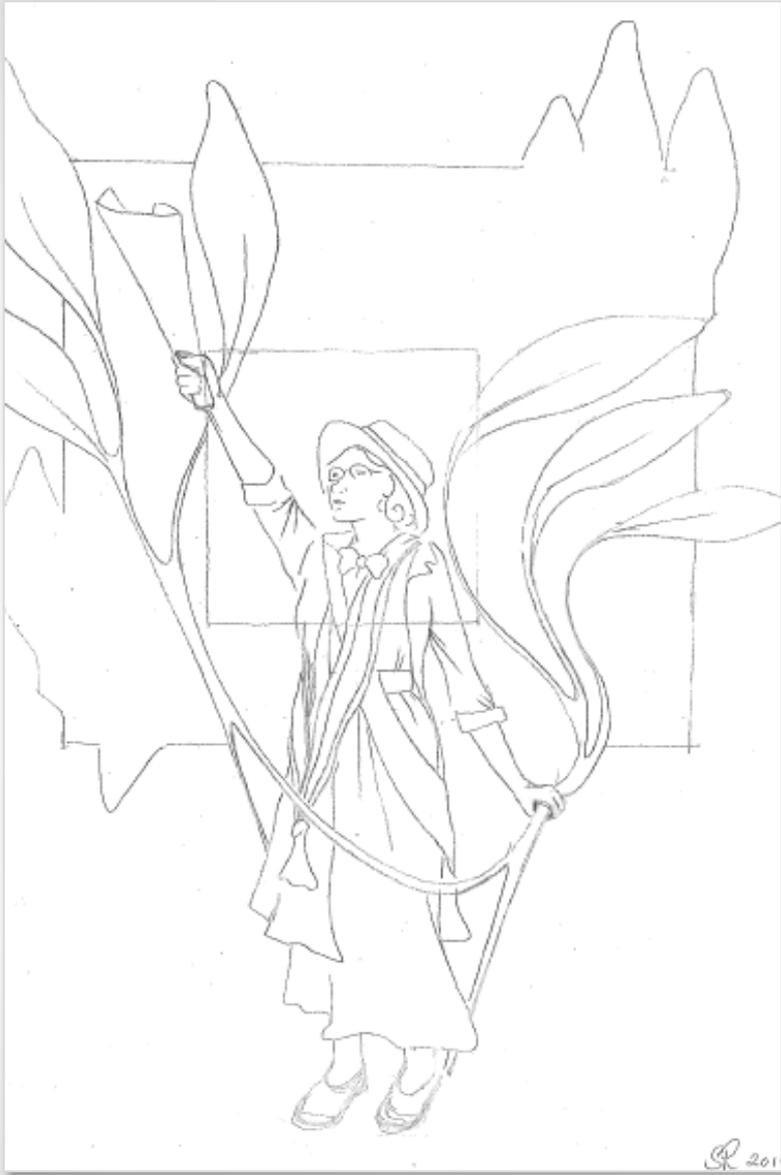
Over a thousand Monmouthshire women signed the National Petition to Parliament in 1839. Counted separately, women contributed one in five of all signatures, even though the charter would not get them the vote. With women involved, Chartism in south Wales developed as a family movement and many of the mass Chartist meetings of the summer of 1839 were family affairs with a carnival atmosphere. Some in authority put the blame for Chartist activities firmly on women, who had urged their menfolk on.



# Mosaic 2

## Suffrage

Designed & made  
with the assistance  
of Women's  
Institute,  
Coffee'n'Laughs &  
Ffrind I Mi members



# Suffragists



Suffragists campaigned vigorously for women's suffrage but would not break the law. Mabel Vivian was Chair of the Newport Branch of the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies.

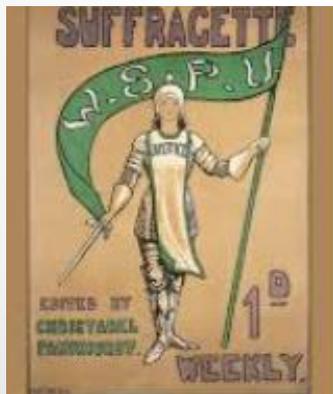
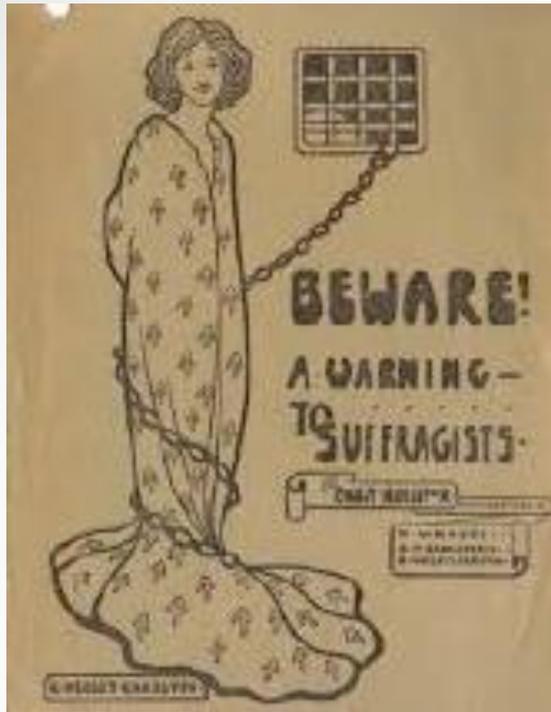


# Suffragettes



Members of the Women's Social & Political Union, known as suffragettes, also campaigned energetically but they were prepared to break the law to get their voices heard. Lady Rhondda was a suffragette, global businesswoman, editor and lifelong campaigner for equality from Newport.







# Mosaic 3

## Workforce

Designed & made with the assistance of year 6 pupils at Pillgwenlly Primary school

# Ruby Loftus screwing a breech ring



Ruby Loftus Screwing a Breech Ring is a 1943 painting, painted at the Royal Ordnance Factory in Newport, by the British painter Laura Knight depicting a young woman, Ruby Loftus (1921–2004), working at an industrial lathe as part of the British war effort in World War II.

# Ruby Loftus



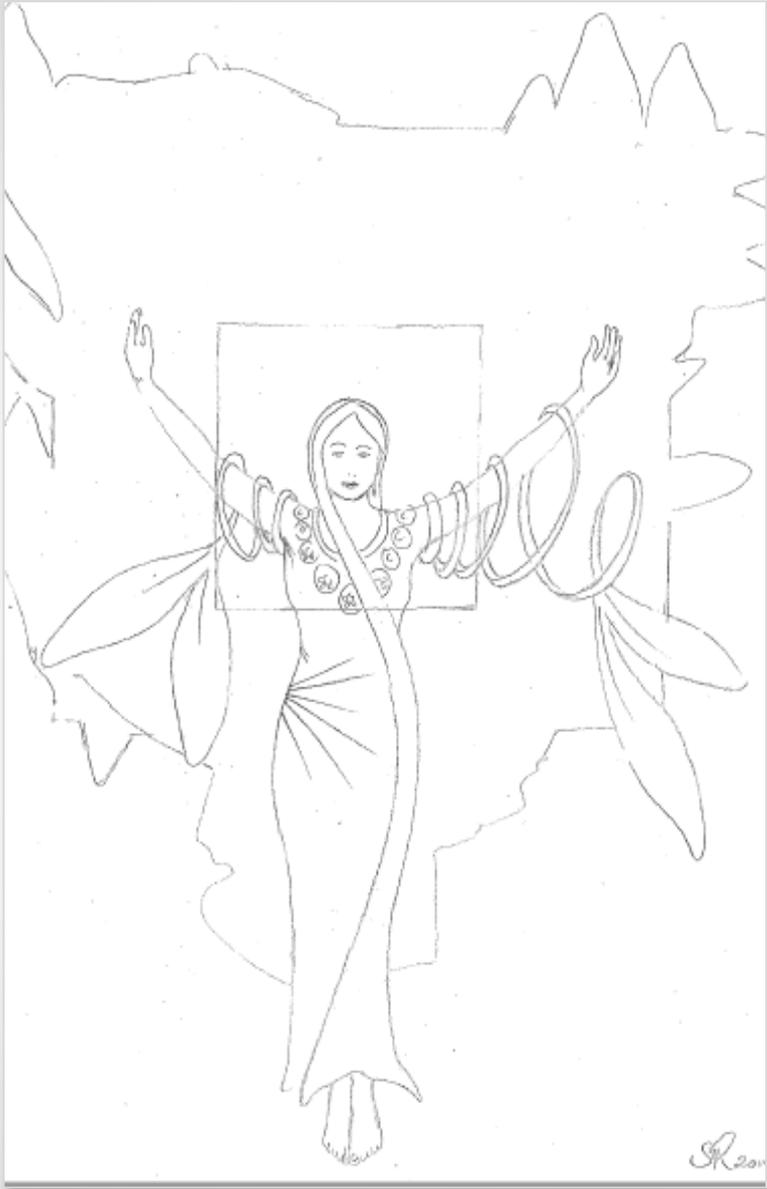
Ruby was an outstanding factory worker who had mastered complex engineering skills in a very short space of time and Knight was commissioned to paint her at work in the factory. Industrial machinery was a wholly new element in Knight's work but her technical accuracy was praised in contemporary reports: Knight, like Loftus, was proving herself in a traditionally male environment.



# Mosaic 4

## Public Face

Designed & made  
with the assistance of  
St Michaels RC  
Primary School



# Mary Hart

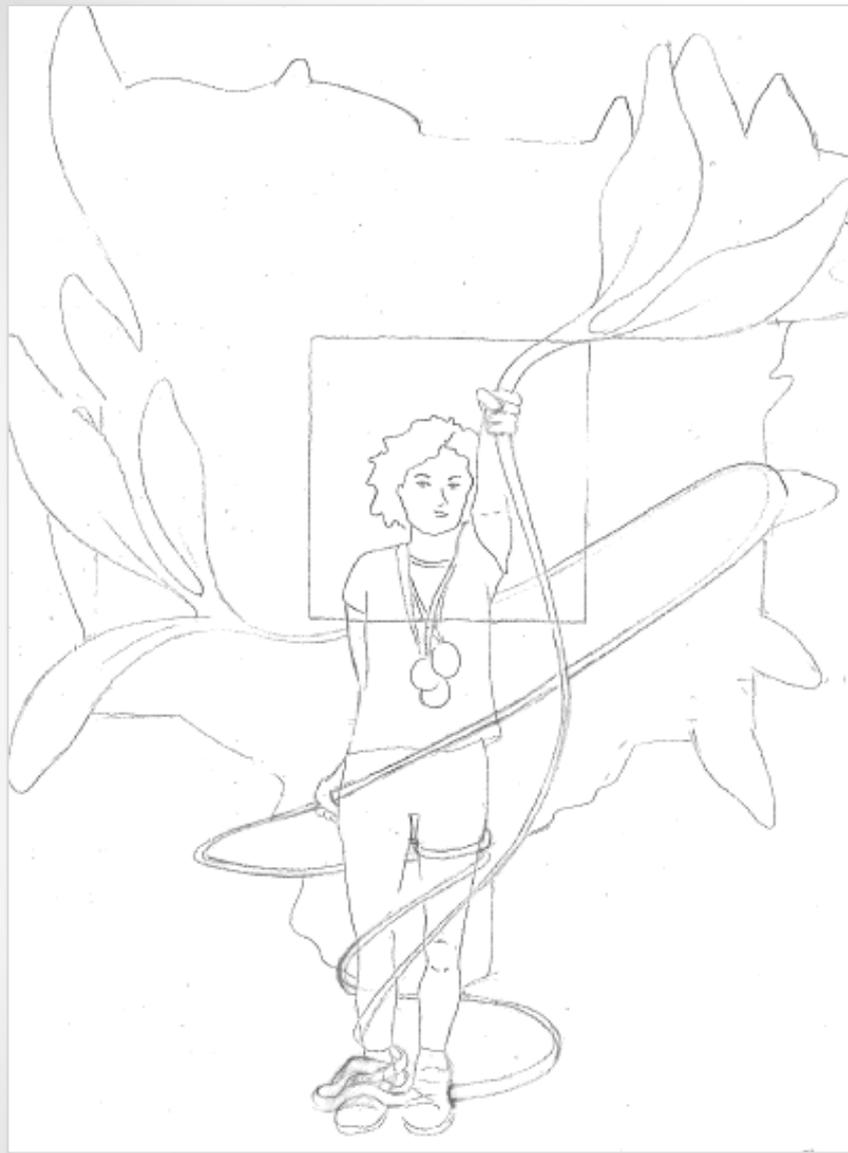


Mary Hart was Newport's first Lady Councillor, Magistrate, Mayor & campaigner for equal rights, paving the way for others.



Mary supported the call to give women the vote. She fought for the rights of women railway workers who were employed on the railways when the war started. She was a fundraiser who worked hard to help children & families.





# Mosaic 5

## Sport

Designed & made  
with the  
assistance of year  
5 pupils at Ysgol  
Gymraeg Bro  
Teyrnnon



Newport born Liza Burgess is a Welsh women's rugby union player who was a member of the 2018 World Rugby Hall of Fame.



Natasha Cockram, female winner of Newport's first marathon in April 2018







# Mosaic 6

## Education towards equality

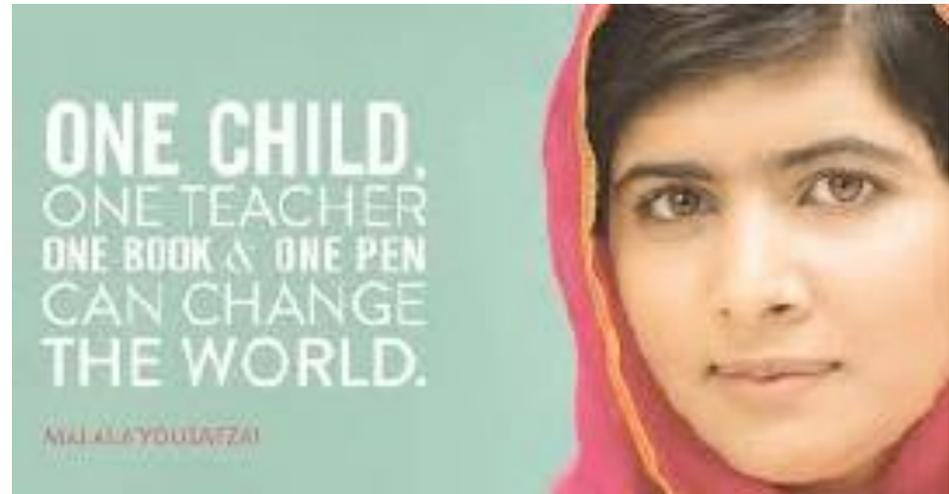
Designed & made with the assistance of Newport City Homes Extra Care Scheme Tenants

# Mabel Vivian



Mabel Vivian moved to Newport in 1896 to become the first Head of Newport High School for Girls.

She retired in 1931, having spent 35 years dedicated to the education of girls in Newport.



Research for these mosaics identified women from Newport who have made a significant contribution to society and the heritage of Newport.

**Do you know of others?**

For more information or to share your knowledge about Newport Women's History visit [www.newport.gov.uk/St-Pauls-Walk.aspx](http://www.newport.gov.uk/St-Pauls-Walk.aspx)