The Very Revd William Barker, DD (1838 – 1917)

Rector of St Marylebone (1882 – 1908)
Dean of Carlyle (1908 – 1917)

Born in London on 1 December 1838, son of Wilberforce R Barker, William was educated at Worcester College, Oxford and ordained in 1862. He began his ecclesiastical career as Curate of Hanover Chapel, Regent Street after which he was the Chaplain to the Royal Ophthalmic Hospital, Moorfields. He was Vicar of St Mary’s, West Cowes from 1873 to 1882 and an Honorary Chaplain to the Queen. From 1882 to 1888 he was a member of the London School Board, representing Marylebone. He was Rector of St Marylebone from 1882 until his elevation to the Deanery of Carlisle in 1908. It was under Barker’s direction that the parish church was enlarged and completely reordered achieving the internal appearance that it retains to this day. Barker died on 28 January 1917 and is buried in Carlisle Cathedral.

His wife was Ann Ross*, born 26th July 1846 died 30th November 1922, was the only daughter of Sir James Clark Ross and Ann his wife.

Rear Admiral Sir James Clark Ross Kt. FRS was the famous Arctic and Antarctic Explorer and Discoverer of the North Magnetic Pole who died at Aston Abbots House April 3, 1862 Age 62 years.

His wife Ann, was the eldest daughter of Thomas Coulman, Esq., of Whitgift Hall, Coole.

*Buried in the churchyard of St James the Great, Aston Abbots, in tomb with parents Sir James Clark Ross and his wife Ann, with inscription: "In affectionate memory of Ann Barker, only daughter of Sir James Clark Ross and Ann his wife and widow of William Barker DD, Dean of Carlisle born 26th July 1846 died 30th November 1922"