



## The Revd John Leathley Chater (1929 – 2022)

### Rector of St Marylebone, 1990 – 1996

John Chater was ordained deacon in 1956 and priest the following year in the Diocese of Bath of Wells following studied at Ridley Hall and Queen's College Cambridge.

Parish posts included a Title post at Bath Abbey. He served as an Industrial Chaplain in the Southwark before becoming Viar of Bermondsey, St Anne. Between 1964 and 1969, Chater served as Vicar of Heslington in the Diocese of York and as a University and Polytechnic chaplain in York. Later parochial posts included Lawrence Weston and Wraxall in Bristol before moving to be Vicar and Dean of Battle in the Diocese of Chichester.

During his incumbency, Chater, reinstated the Apse windows which had been bricked up during extensive war damage to St Marylebone Parish Church.

In 1990, Chater was appointed Rector of St Marylebone where he served until his retirement in 1996. Chater married Elizabeth (née Devonshire Jones) in 1957. She died in 2010 and was known to the acting world by the stage name Elizabeth Havelock.

During the Second World War, Elizabeth served at Bletchley Park, and was selected as one of 100 Wrens who took part in the VE day march in London in 1945.

Elizabeth did four seasons in rep, from 1952 to 1956, at Gainsborough, Chesterfield, Colchester. On retiring to Brighton from St Marylebone, John and Elizabeth co-founded *Poetry for Pleasure*, a poetry programming, performance and recording group, in 1999.

John and Elizabeth had a son and three daughters.