



Anne Fine



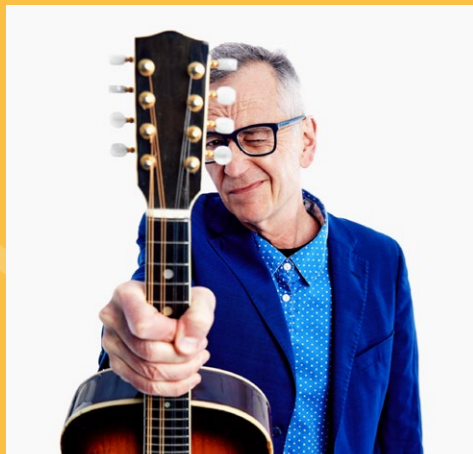
William Coles



Harriet Constable



Paul Sinha



John Hedgley



Joanne Harris

## How to find Helmsley Arts Centre...

Helmsley Arts Centre  
Old Meeting House Court  
YO62 5DW

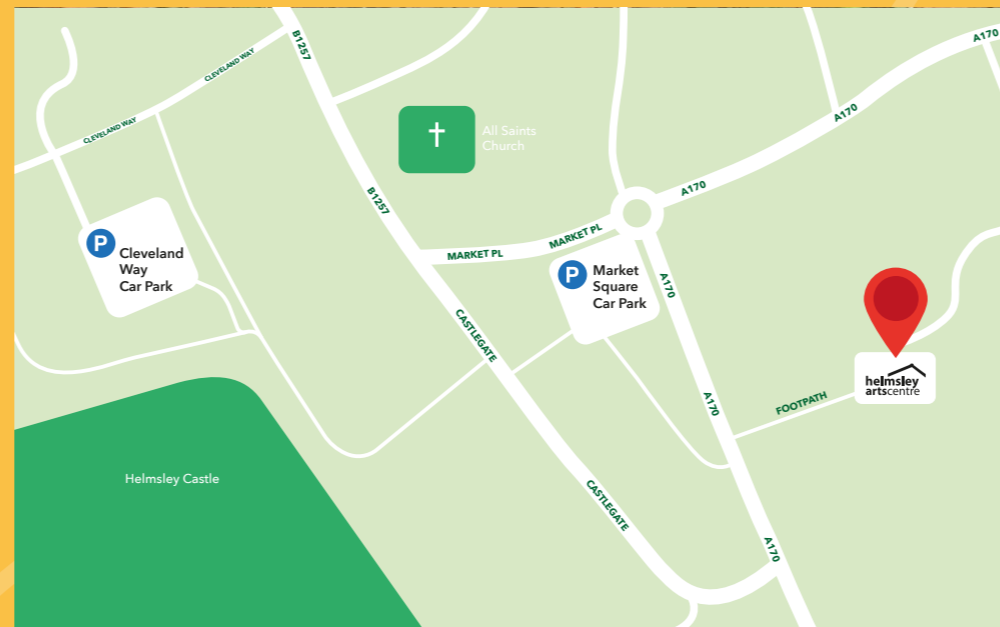
what3words: calculating.mammoths.thankful

### Accessibility info:

@sociability App or [www.helmsleyarts.co.uk](http://www.helmsleyarts.co.uk) | 01439 771 700

### Parking:

Market Square, YO62 5BL / Cleveland Way Car Park, YO62 5AZ



**THE  
HELMSLEY  
BOOKSHOP**

The Helmsley Bookshop  
11 Market Place, Helmsley  
YO62 5BL  
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Helmsley Literary Festival  
logo by Panna Chauhan



T-shirts provided by Foxstitch, Thirsk

Join us in our beautiful  
market town for...



# Helmsley Literary Festival

at Helmsley Arts Centre

Saturday 21 & Sunday 22 Sep 2024

*A highly entertaining weekend with writers, comedy  
and poetry, finishing with a literary quiz night!*



## Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> September

2 - 3pm | £12

### ANNE FINE: Fine Writing

*Anne discusses her writing career in interview*

Anne Fine has been writing for over fifty years, producing over seventy children's books, which suggests she is more likely to suffer from writer's cramp rather than writer's block. Winner of numerous awards for works such as *Madame Doubtfire*, *Goggle-Eyes* and *Flour Babies*, she was Children's Laureate 2001-2003 and subsequently received the OBE for services to literature. Hear Anne talk about her writing and enjoy the opportunity to ask questions of your own. *Chaired by Kate Fenton.*



4.30 - 5.30pm | £12

### WILLIAM COLES

*You've eaten Eton mess - now meet Eton Rogue...*

Fenton William acknowledges that, for Old Etonians like himself, becoming a journalist with *The Sun* is not a well-trodden career path. In recent years, he has produced a number of books, including *Lord Lucan: My Story*, purporting to be the memoir of the fugitive seventh Earl of Lucan edited by William; *Palace Rogue*, a story about Kim, an undercover Sun reporter who has tricked his way onto the staff at Buckingham Palace; and his latest offering, *Eton Rogue*, featuring seventeen-year-old Cary in his final year at the famous public school while Prince William is a pupil. A school for scandal, perhaps? *Chaired by Martin Vander Weyer.*



7 - 8pm | £12

### JOHN HEGLEY

*New & Selected Potatoes*

Poet, comic, singer, songwriter and glasses-wearer, John Hegley has captivated and devastated audiences all over the country, in theatres and festivals, at gigs at the Edinburgh Festival, and with numerous appearances on radio and television. This new compilation shows the breadth of his appeal, with seriously funny, cleverly comic poems on every-thing from love, family, France, art and the sea to dogs, dads, gods, taxidermy, carrots, spectacles and - of course - potatoes.



8.30 - 10.30pm | Free!

### OPEN MIC POETS' CORNER

*Being Different / Being the Difference*

This is an opportunity to share and listen to different ideas and experiences, and to consider how we can make a positive difference to the lives of others. Feel free to bring your own poetry or your favourite poem by someone else on this theme.

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REQUIRED

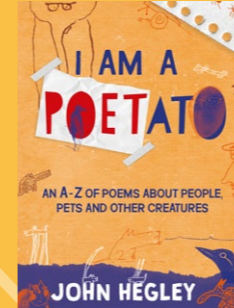
## Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> September

11am - 12noon | £12 / U16 £6

### JOHN HEGLEY - I am a Poet-ato

*An A-Z of Poems about People, Pets and other Creatures!*

H edgehogs  
E lephants  
L aughing  
M andolin  
S inging  
L uton  
E ven a cardboard camel with moving parts  
Y o!



2 - 3pm | £12

### JOANNE HARRIS

*Visit The Moonlight Market with the Yorkshire author*

Born in Barnsley to an English father and a French mother, Joanne spoke only French until she started school. Both her parents taught French at Barnsley Girls' High School. After studying modern and mediaeval languages at St Catharine's College, Cambridge, and training at Sheffield University, she, too, became a teacher. She wrote a couple of novels while teaching before *Chocolat*, which went on to sell more than a million copies, following the success of the film version of the same name starring Juliette Binoche and Johnny Depp. Listen to her discuss her writing, including her latest book, *The Moonlight Market*, which will be available to buy at the event. *Chaired by Kate Gray.*



4.15 - 5.30pm | £15

### HARRIET CONSTABLE - The Instrumentalist

*The moving story of a Venetian virtuoso violinist*

We are delighted to host Harriet with her first novel at Helmsley's first Literary Festival. We are convinced *The Instrumentalist*, her account of the life of Anna Maria della Pietà, will be a massive success. Born around 1696, Anna Maria's surname came from Ospedale della Pietà, the orphanage run by nuns where she spent her whole life until her death in 1782. She was taught the violin by the school music director, Antonio Vivaldi, who wrote many of his compositions for her, and the novel explores this master-pupil relationship in depth. *Chaired by Francesca Nider.*  
*The event will feature pieces played by violinist, Nina Kumin.*



15% OFF  
your bill

Come and join us for a pre-event dinner or after show dinner with a booking. Present your ticket and receive 15% off your bill on the performance night stated on your ticket.

Tel 01439 771044 | [www.fatchefcompany.co.uk](http://www.fatchefcompany.co.uk)

## Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> September

7 - 8pm | £12

### PAUL SINHA

*You've seen 'Beat the Chasers' on TV - this is your chance to meet one of them...*

Paul Sinha is an award-winning comedian, a quizzing mastermind and a happily-married husband. But for much of his life none of these seemed remotely imaginable. As a boy, Paul struggled to find his place in a world where he didn't quite fit. Amid life's mayhem, it was frequently Paul's love of facts in which he found solace, whether funding his lifestyle through quiz machines or simply trying to show off to his mates. Stumbling serendipitously into both a career in stand-up and the clandestine network of competitive quizzers introduced him to a new sense of purpose, a new identity, and, eventually, new love... *Chaired by Marc Gonsalves*



8.30 - 10.30pm | £8 for a table of 4

### HELMSLEY LITERARY FESTIVAL QUIZ

We conclude our festival weekend with a quiz at which at least one of our authors will be in attendance. But which author will it be? Paul Sinha the Chaser or William Coles the chancer...? This is your opportunity to pit your literary wits against a former quack or a former hack. Ten tables of four are available to be booked by bookworms, bibliophiles or people who just like reading. Members of the winning team will each be able to choose a signed copy by one of our authors, as well as claim victory in the first Helmsley Literary Festival quiz. If you don't know for whom the bell tolls, where the crawdad sings, or who's afraid of Virginia Woolf, try to find three teammates who might. *Hosted by Steve Harvey*

IMAGE  
REQUIRED

## Booking Info

### Ticket package deal

Book 3 same day events in one day and save £5

Or book 6 events over the weekend and save £10

### Book Tickets

Visit: [www.helmsleyarts.co.uk](http://www.helmsleyarts.co.uk) (+£1.50 booking fee per ticket)

Call: Box Office 01439 771700

Pop in: Box Office - Wed-Fri 10am-2pm & Sat 10am-12noon in term time

[www.helmsleyarts.co.uk](http://www.helmsleyarts.co.uk)

