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**Newsletter No 80
March 2010**

"Daffodils,
That come before the swallow dares,
and take the winds of March with
beauty."
William Shakespeare

Celebrate this long awaited spring
with our [Book of the Month](#) BURNT
SHADOWS by Kamila Shamsie. See
the [competition](#) page to win a copy
and read our [interview](#) with the
author.

The [recommended titles](#) this month
include the curiously titled BOTH
WAYS IS THE ONLY WAY I WANT IT
a wonderful short story collection by
Maile Meloy; Pulitzer prize-winning
THE BRIEF WONDROUS LIFE OF
OSCAR WAO by Junot Diaz and
BURNT OUT TOWN OF MIRACLES
by Roy Jacobsen.

Contemplate a pensive view of spring
with Emily Dickinson on the [Poetry
Page](#)

Do you agree with our reviews?
Would you like to have your say?
Leave your comments - we'd love to
hear them.

Can you [Spot the Bookshop](#)?
Congratulations to Tina Smith the
winner of February's competition. A
£10 book token is on its way.

Congratulations to the ten winners of
FEBRUARY by Lisa Moore. They are:
Tracy Atchison, Uckfield; Melanie
Dye, Tunbridge Wells; Caryne
Pearce, Frome; Sam Stevens, Redhill;
Joyce Ballingall, Dundee; Hannah
Harvey, Brighton; Linden Sweeney,
Birkenhead; Scott Shaw-Smith, York
and Robin Price, Camelford.
Many thanks to Chatto & Windus
publishers.

Welcome to all the new groups who
have recently registered with us. Now
is the time to request your **FREE
BOOKS!** Just go to the [offers](#) page.
This is for **ALL** registered groups
(sorry, UK and Ireland groups only)
not just new ones. If your group is not
registered then just fill in the [form](#). It's
a very simple process.
N.B. You only need to register once.

Did you miss this offer last month?
Our friends at *newbooks* magazine
are offering their Reading Group
Starter Pack to our bookgroups *and*
readers at a hugely reduced rate –
more than £85 worth of materials
delivered to your door for just £15! For
more information, and to see what the
pack contains, click [here](#).

Read about our [Bookgroup of the
Month](#) the Raglan Readers from
Bromley.
Fill in the [questionnaire](#) if you'd like to
be a BGoTM.

Bookgroup Info and National Book
Tokens will shortly be sending one of
the new gift cards to all our registered
book groups. Some of the cards will
have £2 - £5.50 already loaded on
them - so look out for yours and good
luck!

[Cambridge Wordfest](#) on 9th, 10th and
11th April 2010 promises to be as big
and exciting as ever. Get your tickets
now to hear Philip Pullman, Hilary
Mantel, Will Hutton, Hanif Kureishi,
John Simpson, AL Kennedy and Don
Paterson. There's also workshops,
quizzes and much, much more.

Join the The Literati Book Club at the
Grosvenor Hotel, Park Lane, London
to meet and discuss literature with
leading authors. The next meeting is
on Tuesday 13th April at 6.30pm when
Libby Purves will discuss her novel
SHADOW CHILD. The £10 ticket
includes a copy of the book, a glass of
wine and canapés. For more
information, and to book a place on

the Literati events email
literati@marriotthotels.com

This month sees the start of [First Capital Connect's book club](#) for commuters. The company says it hopes the scheme will brighten journeys and help improve its service. Mmm...

THE CLOTHS OF HEAVEN by Sue Eckstein (see our [review](#)) will be the Radio 4 Woman's Hour serial from Monday 15th – Friday 19th March.

The top three [most-borrowed authors](#) from UK libraries for July 2008 – June 2009 were all Americans. James Patterson, Nora Roberts and Danielle Steele topped the charts overshadowing the previously most-borrowed, Catherine Cookson. How times change.

[Radio 4 Bookclub](#) on Sunday 7th Thursday 11th March features Douglas Coupland talking about his worldwide best-selling novel GENERATION X. You can "listen again" if you miss either of these programmes and hear it on the i-player and on podcast during that week.

Many thanks to all of you have emailed us to thank us for helping with setting up your group and making your reading choices. Please do remember to forward the newsletter to other members of your group so that they can take advantage of the offers and competitions.

Please email us at info@bookgroup.info if you wish to unsubscribe to the newsletter.



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