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**Newsletter No 83  
June 2010**

"There is no frigate like a book to take us lands away nor any coursers like a page of prancing poetry."  
Emily Dickinson

Be transported by our [Book of the Month](#), LIVING IN PERHAPS, the brilliant debut novel by Julia Widdows. See the [competition](#) page to win a copy and read our [interview](#) with the author.

The [recommended titles](#) this month are AS THE EARTH TURNS SILVER by Alison Wong and THE BOOK CLUB by Marjolijn Februari.

Jamie Byng, highly successful independent publisher of Canongate books, is our guest in this month's [What Are You Reading?](#)

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 Maureen Julian the winner of May's competition for spotting the Harlequin Bookshop in Totnes. A £10 book token is on its way.

Congratulations to the winners of A GATE AT THE STAIRS by Lorrie Moore. They are: Caroline Amour, Treforest; Caroline Colley, Laughterton; Rick Dawson, Ilkeston; Christine Bull, London; June Newton, Riding Mill; Helen Phippard, Brighton; Judith Parslow, Strood; Ruth Lennon, Dronfield; Alston Crowden, Wigan; Diane Carey, Normanton; John Tooth, South Shields; John Morey, Great Harwood; Emma Cowling, Sheffield; Robert Strange, Basingstoke; Joshua Tennant, Liverpool; Stewart Smith, Tadley; Karen Green, Gravesend;

Catherine Radomski, Nottingham; Maureen Julian, London; Phyllis Ellett, Great Yarmouth; Carol May, Chesham; Laura Love, Londonderry; Debra Shaw, Skelmersdale; Janet Devine, Holmfirth; Helena Haddock, Bolton; Simon Jones, Folkestone; Doreen Plumridge, Colchester; Heather Baker, Upminster and Sue Hoar, Teddington. Many thanks to Faber, the publishers.

The winners of the Brett Easton Ellis competition are: Carmelita Archer, Christien Clark, Michael O'Sullivan and Sheila Kennedy. Many thanks to Picador, the 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.

Read about our [Bookgroup of the Month](#) the Southway Readers – a lively group of men and women from Plymouth. Fill in the [questionnaire](#) if you'd like to be a BGoTM.

Have you booked your Book Club Tour yet? Pick and mix from the suggested tours such as Jane Austen in Bath or Inspector Rebus in Edinburgh or use the company's considerable experience and get them to design a bespoke break specifically for your group. Visit the [website](#) or call 0208 979 2285.

Or try an English Bookclub Break in northern England. These tailor-made breaks explore novels, poetry and plays that have inspired writers such as the Brontës and Elizabeth Gaskell in the dramatic northern settings in which they were written. For more

information see the [English Bookclub Breaks](#) website.

TROUBLES by J.G. Farrell, has won the [Lost Man Booker Prize](#) - a one-off prize to honour the books published in 1970, but not considered for the prize when its rules were changed. It won by a clear majority, winning 38% of the votes by the international reading public, more than double the votes cast for any other book on the shortlist. See our [review](#) of this amazing novel, and we're pleased to say, our favourite to win.

The winner of this year's [Independent Foreign Fiction Prize](#) is BRODECK'S REPORT by Philippe Claudel. Read our [review](#) of this extraordinarily powerful novel.

Ian McEwan's latest novel SOLAR was chosen unanimously from a shortlist of five books to win the [Bollinger Everyman Wodehouse prize](#) for comic fiction. Ian, McEwan, comic – do these three words really go together in the same sentence?

The guest on [Radio 4 Bookclub](#) in June is Lynne Reid Banks talking about THE L-SHAPED ROOM, first published fifty years ago. Catch it on Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> June at 4pm and again on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> also at 4pm and on the i-player and as a podcast.

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