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Newsletter No 26
May 2005

Dear readers,

May's new [reviews](#) are *The School of Night*, a brilliant collection of poems by Anne Rouse. *At Swim Two Boys* by Jamie O'Neill is a beautiful and poetic story set in Ireland as the Troubles begin.

This month we interviewed Anne Rouse. Go to our [interview](#) page to read her fascinating, thought-provoking responses.

Our **Bookgroup of the Month** is the London Gay Reading Group, a formidable 60-strong group with its own website. Read all about them on our [news](#) page and if you'd like to be our next BOTM just answer the questions and send them to us at info@bookgroup.info. If you are chosen you will be rewarded with a book voucher for your group

This month's [competition](#) winners will win a copy of *The School of Night*.

In Norfolk, local poets are visiting library reading groups and talking about their work. The project is run by Pen & Inc Press who publish a poetry anthology, *Reactions*, as well as the excellent literary journal, *Pretext*. To buy copies of either, go to www.inpressbooks.co.uk/penandinc

If you'd like to read or hear more poetry, find out what's on at the [Poetry Society](#) or visit London's Poetry Cafe in 22 Betterton St, WC2, 0207 420 9887 – delicious food as well as live performance. Feed your soul and stomach at the same time.

Prizes: James Tait Memorial Prize for fiction went to David Peace for *GB84*.

Go to our events page to find out about this month's **festivals and literary events**, including the Brighton Festival, the Kingston Readers' Festival, involving 100 authors and speakers, and Hay on Wye.

Penguin/Orange Reading Group Prize. If your reading group shows individuality and you tackle a diversity of reads, Penguin/Orange would like to hear from you. A prize will be awarded to the book group who demonstrates the above, plus the pleasure of shared reading. Entry forms for the prize are available from the Orange Prize web site (<http://www.orangeprize.co.uk>), the Penguin web site (<http://www.penguin.co.uk/readers>) as well as in local libraries. Closing date is 30th June.

The Orange Award for New Writers will be awarded for the first time in 2005 to coincide with the Orange Prize for Fiction's 10th birthday celebrations. The winner will receive £10,000 to help her pursue her work with greater freedom. Shortlisted are Meg Rosoff, *How I Live Now*, Diane Evans, *26a* and Nell Freudenberger, *Lucky Girls*. We are giving away five sets of the three novels in our [competition](#).

R4 Bookclub

Check out listings/book a place www.bbc.co.uk/radio4/arts/bookclub
Next recording will be Joyce Carol Oates discussing *We Were The Mulvaneys* recording 20.5.05 at The British Library.

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