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"We read to know we are not alone."
C.S. LEWIS

We're certainly not alone in Sarah Waters latest novel the incredibly spooky THE LITTLE STRANGER our [Book of the Month](#). See the [competition](#) to win a copy and read our [interview](#) with the author.

Our other [recommended titles](#) are: GOD'S OWN COUNTRY an intriguing debut novel by Ross Raisin; the haunting LATE NIGHTS ON AIR by Elizabeth Hay, THE WAKE, the moving second novel by Jeremy Page and LITTLE HUT OF LEAPING FISHES by Chiew-Siah Tei.

Recommend a book to Bookgroup Info by sending a review (no more than 500 words) to info@bookgroup.info and we will put the best on the site as a guest review. We'll also send you a £10 book token.

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

Can you [Spot the Bookshop](#)? Congratulations to Samantha Riley the winner of last month's competition for spotting Abbey's in Sydney, Australia. A £10 book token is on its way.

Congratulations to the winners of WILDERNESS by Samantha Harvey. They are: Pat Owen, Walsall; James Fenlon, Havant; Jackie Youel, Barnsley; June Coxon, Pontefract; Harry West, Warrington and Samantha Mackie, Glasgow. Many thanks to Jonathan Cape publishers.

Has your group recently joined our directory? If you have then don't miss

out! Claim your [FREE BOOKS](#) and special offers. 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.

Read about our [Bookgroup of the Month](#), the Random Readers from Oxford.

Fill in the [questionnaire](#) if you'd like to be a BGoTM. http://www.bookgroup.info/041205/bg_otm_questionnaire.php

In August 2009 a worldwide readalong of Booker prize-winning THE LIFE OF PI is taking place. Whether you're new to Pi or whether the book is an old favourite, sign up to join in a shared reading experience with people all over the world on the LIFE OF PI website. Congratulations to all our groups who won copies. They, and you, should sign up now to find out more at www.lifeofpi.co.uk

The [Festival Theatre, Chichester](#) is performing Frank Galati's ground-breaking adaptation of John Steinbeck's shattering novel, The Grapes of Wrath, published in 1939. This adaptation, which won two Tony Awards on Broadway, will run from 10 July – 28 August.

There is a plethora of recent prizes and awards, many we might add, former recommendations by Bookgroup Info.

We were lucky enough to see Marylinne Robinson receive the [2009 Orange Prize](#) for the much acclaimed HOME. See our [review](#) of this moving novel and our [interview](#) with the author.

Tim Winton wins his fourth [Miles Franklin award](#) for his (appropriately enough) breathtaking novel, BREATH. See our [review](#) and [interview](#) with Tim.

Former grass-strimmer and conservatory salesman Edward Hogan takes the [Desmond Elliott award](#) for BLACKMOOR. Read our [review](#) of this accomplished debut novel.

A novel completed just three months before she died made Siobhan Dowd the first-ever posthumous winner of the most prestigious prize in children's literature, the [Carnegie medal](#).

Debut novelist Michael Thomas's MAN GONE DOWN has won the €100,000 [IMPAC Dublin prize](#) beating literary giants Philip Roth, Doris Lessing and Joyce Carol Oates.

The French author, Fred Vargas, has won the [Dagger Award](#) for crime fiction for her novel THE CHALK CIRCLE MAN. Vargas has won the prize in three out of the last four years!

The New Writer magazine is now taking entries for the Prose and Poetry Prizes 2009. The closing date is 30th November. For further information go to [The New Writer](#) website.

Anthony Browne, internationally acclaimed award-winning author and illustrator, is the new [Children's Laureate](#).

See the [Independent Booksellers book prize](#) shortlist. Customers can vote for their choice at independent bookshops around the country until 28 August, with the winner to be announced in September.

[Radio 4 Bookclub](#) on Sunday 2nd August and Thursday 6th August features mystery writer C.J. Sansom talking about DISSOLUTION the first of his popular Tudor series featuring the hunchback lawyer Matthew Shardlake.

Would you like to attend a recording of BBC Radio 4 Bookclub? On

Thursday 3 September at 4.30pm at the BBC studios in Central London Douglas Coupland will be the guest author when he will discuss his novel GENERATION X.

Tickets are free - more details from the [Bookclub](#) website.

If you have anything to say about these or any other book-related topics leave a message on our [notice-board](#).

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.

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