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**Newsletter No 90
February 2011**

Happy New Year to you all. It's good to be back and, as ever, we have lots of great reviews, interviews, news and goodies to give away. Don't miss out!

Our [Book of the Month](#) is the delicious NOURISHMENT by Gerard Woodward. See the [competition](#) page to win a copy and read our [interview](#) with the author.

The other [recommended titles](#) this month are: THE GOOD PSYCHOLOGIST, a mind-bending first novel by Noam Shpancer; REPEAT IT TODAY WITH TEARS a controversial debut by Anne Peile and, the very darkly comic, BANK OF THE BLACK SHEEP by Robert Lewis.

Let us know what you think of our reviews. Leave your comments at the bottom of any review - we'd love to hear them.

Can you [Spot the Bookshop](#)? Congratulations to Donna Barrie, the winner of December's competition, for spotting Book-Cycle in Exeter. A £10 National Book Tokens gift card is on its way.

The 10 winners of THE YEAR OF THE FLOOD by Margaret Atwood are: Ann Howes-Can, Luton; Victoria Ramsay, London; Sarah Foulds, Burnley; Sarah Docherty, Paisley; Pamela Gossage, Leeds; Kevin Cunningham, Blyth; Barbara Bradley, Leicester; Margaret Latham, Leyland; Geoff Dagger, Blackburn and Sarah Spencer, Great Yarmouth. Many thanks to Virago, the publishers.

And the very lucky winner of a set of beautifully re-packaged Margaret Atwood books is Lorraine Bishop from ??? Many thanks again to Virago.

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. Does your bookgroup info need updating? Email us at info@bookgroup.info and we'll amend your directory entry for you.

This month's [Bookgroup of the Month](#) is the Garston Book Club from the beautiful Moray Firth. Do you want to be our BGoTM? Just fill in the [questionnaire](#) and win a £10 National Book Tokens Gift Card if you're chosen.

Get involved in World Book Day on 3rd March with Book Aid International. Did you know that a contribution of only £2 will send a new book to a school library, public library, refugee camp, prison or rural community in sub-Saharan Africa? Organise a special "Meet, Talk, Give" meeting with your reading group or assemble a group of friends to raise a small amount of money for Book Aid International on or around World Book Day. With recommended reads and past and present quizzes to test your literary knowledge any group can make a difference while having fun. For more information visit [Book Aid International](#)

World Book *Night* takes place on 5th March 2011 when 20,000 volunteers will give one million free books away. See how you can become involved at the [World Book Night](#) website.

Bookclub Tours is offering a 2-night stay at Christ Church College during the Oxford Literary Festival in April 2011 including tickets for the Gala Banquet in the Tudor Great Hall. To book early and for details of this

fantastic cultural event see the [Bookclub Tours](#) website.

The Spring Literati, at the Grosvenor Hotel on 9th March 2011, features Peter Snow who will be discussing his compelling new book TO WAR WITH WELLINGTON which recounts the 7 year campaign that saved Europe from Napoleon.

To reserve tickets and for more information see the Literati [website](#).

Would your group be interested in reviewing for a magazine? MSLEXIA is looking for reading groups to review books for them. If you'd like to be considered, please email submissions@mslexia.co.uk with a list of the three books you've read most recently as a group, to give them some idea of your interests. If you are selected, MSLEXIA will choose a new book for you to review and arrange for free copies to be sent to you.

MSLEXIA is a quarterly magazine for women writers, but they like men, so mixed groups are welcome to put themselves forwards. To find out more about the magazine, visit www.mslexia.co.uk

Richard Meier is the winner of the inaugural [Picador Poetry Prize](#) which recognises the best new, previously unpublished poetry in the UK. It is awarded for a representative selection of a poet's work, rather than a single poem.

The poet Jo Shapcott has won the [2010 Costa Book of the Year](#) for her collection OF MUTABILITY. This is the second year running that a poet has won this award and as, apparently, thousands are crowding into readings Jackie Kay asks what is going on. Read what she has to say in [the Guardian](#).

Would you like to broaden your poetic horizons? The Online Poetry Reading Group offers you a chance to do just that. Intended to attract a whole new audience of poetry lovers, the new

Online Poetry Reading Group is free and open to everyone. See more at the [Online Poetry Reading Group](#) website and register to join.

James Naughtie and readers talk to journalist Tim Butcher about his bestselling travel book BLOOD RIVER on [Radio 4 Bookclub](#) on Sunday 6th and Thursday 10th February both at 4pm. It's also available online too on the i-player and as a podcast.

Bookclub needs readers to attend a recording with Nicole Krauss discussing her novel THE HISTORY OF LOVE (see our [review](#)). It's on 5.45pm Monday 28 February at BBC Broadcasting House, Portland Place London W1A 1AA. If you'd like to attend find out how at the [Bookclub website](#). Male readers are particularly welcome!

See what's on in your area on our list of [festivals and events](#). If you want us to include something **free** on the listings page then complete the [registration form](#) or contact us at info@bookgroup.info

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