Conference News
I have attached the latest programme for our fifty-first annual conference. There may be one or two changes before November, but we will keep you informed of these on the relevant ACS web pages. Please note, in particular, that this year’s conference will begin early in the afternoon of 18th November. We hope to be able to secure a theatre event for the evening of 19th November, but will confirm arrangements at a later date.

Please return your registration form to Dr Kathryn Cramer at the University of Lancaster before 30th October 2005.

Annual General Meeting
Minutes of last year’s meeting were sent out earlier in the year, although further copies will be made available at this year’s AGM. Members are reminded that we shall be required to elect a new president at this year’s AGM. (Thanks to Montserrat for all her hard work over the past three years). Nominations may be sent to the committee before the conference. We will also be looking for two other new members of the committee.

Federation of Catalan Associations
As you can see from the agenda for this year’s AGM, you will be requested to vote on the creation of a Federation of Catalan Associations, in accordance with the protocol signed at the First Symposium of International Catalan Associations in Brussels this year. We are currently in the process of drawing up a draft constitution for the Federation, and will post further details on the ACS website in due course.

Scholarships
Up to 10 bursaries of up to £100 are available for undergraduate and postgraduate students who wish to attend the conference. Check the Anglo-Catalan Society Web Page for further details, or contact Elisenda Marcet at the University of Birmingham, emarcet@hotmail.com.

The new Batista i Roca grant, created by the DURSI to support genuinely Anglo-Catalan projects, will probably be advertised at the beginning of November 2005, with a closing date of 29th November. Full details and links to the new application form will be published, when available, on the ACS website.

Publications
Enclosed with this circular is a flier for Montserrat Guibernau’s latest book on Catalan Nationalism.

Centenaries
There are two important anniversaries to be celebrated in the next twelve months. The first, the twenty-fifth anniversary of the death of Josep Pla, will be marked at next year’s conference by a special session to be organised by Gerald Crowson. If you have any proposals for the session, please contact me before or during this year’s conference. We may also, as a Society, wish to mark the centenary of the birth of Joan Coromines: all proposals are welcome.

Please do not hesitate to contact me for further information.

Yours truly,
Dr Helena Buffery

Email: hbuffery@hotmail.com

Please note that I am on maternity leave at the moment, so it is better to contact me at my hotmail address.