

City, to D. Wheeler

1 November 1982

Dear Dr. Cheyne,

I've just got back from Barcelona where I was staying for a week with Rosa Leveroni. Rosa has been for many years a member of the Anglo Catalan Society and in the Jocs Florals held in 1956 (in exile) at Christ College, Cambridge she won the prize for lyric poetry. In the late autumn of 1981 owing to the interest of the younger poets of Catalonia and Maria Aurèlia Capmany a collection of her Poesia was published in the 1 creu 62 number 32. This had terrific reviews in all the most important Catalan papers, prior to publication in 1982. On 15th June this year Rosa was one of 43 Catalan personalities including poets, <sup>novelists</sup> painters, historians, critics etc. who were awarded the Creu de Sant Jordi for their services to Catalonia. They included among others who have been associated with the Anglo-Catalan Society, Professor Arthur Terry, Pedro Grasses, Father Miquel Batllori. I have the complete list as published in Vanguardia, 15.6.82. The first list of these so honoured in May 1981 included R. Aramon, who also has links through Institut d'Estudis Catalans.

I can let you have the complete lists of both those in first and second group if you have not already got them.

I think it might be thought appropriate to make reference to this important event at the Annual General Meeting on 20 November and perhaps send <sup>and</sup> those honoured who have had some connection with the Anglo Catalan Society our congratulations. I may have omitted <sup>some</sup> some names of those who have links with us of which I was not aware.

I was rather sad that last year no mention was made in the minutes of Rosa Leveroni's Poesia, although she did present copies to the Society. I was also sorry

that the Bulletin of Hispanic Studies did not give it any review, not even a shorter notice. Rosa's poems are appreciated by such eminent poets as Salvador Espriu and the late Carles Riba whose introductions to previous volumes of her poems are reproduced in this latest collection (as near as no matter her complete poems). Apart from being the winner of the Flor Natural dels Jocs Florals in Cambridge in 1956 she was present at many meetings over the years of the Anglo-Catalan Society and a strong anglophile. She has, as you may have heard, had several operations over the last six years yet she still retains her lively interest in everything. Last year she was well enough to <sup>stay</sup> spend ten days in Cambridge and was royally entertained by our Treasurer, Geoffrey W lker.

She asked me to give her very best wishes to the Anglo-Catalan Society and to all those whom she knows personally.

I look forward to seeing you on 20th if all goes well.

Yours very sincerely,

Helmut J. Raab