

Italy honours Sydney woman

AN Italian woman, who has lived in Sydney for the past 11 years, has been awarded Italy's second highest honour—the "Cross of the Cavaliere."

Mrs Lena Gustin has received the award, because of her interest in Italian migrants in Australia.

To migrants she is known as "Mamma Lena."

Mrs Gustin has worked for Radio 2CH for eight years.

Her bi-lingual programs, broadcast twice a week, include news from Italy and Italian music.

She offers advice to newly-arrived migrants.

Mrs Gustin is president of the Family Migrant National Association.

Mrs Gustin will visit Italy next month for a conference of the Association and will be the guest of the Italian Government.

• The O.B.E. awarded to Mrs. Maddalena Gustin, of Bankstown, in the Queen's Birthday honours list, Mrs. Gustin—"Mamma Lena"—broadcasts to the Italian community throughout Australia from 2CH in a bilingual program which has done an enormous amount to make migrants feel at home, and a good deal to assist in their integration. Mrs. Gustin also edits an Italian newspaper. We know quite a few Australians who listen with great pleasure to the Italian music she plays in her programs. Mrs. Gustin has a very modest, youthful and kindly personality, which shines through her broadcasts like a beacon. She has been honored by the Italian Government with the Cross of the Cavaliere, Italy's second highest award. Her husband, Dino, assists her with her work on 2CH and elsewhere. In a hundred ways they have helped new arrivals from Italy with no English.



SUE
(the girl
who gets
around)
SAYS

I'll bet you can't guess who receives more fan mail than any other radio personality in Sydney. Her name is Lena Gustin, the news reader on 2CH's Italian radio programme. Her weekly mail averages over 2000 letters (and that's some load).

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ITALIAN GUEST

Radio personality Mamma Lena, Mrs. Lena Gustin, of Punchbowl, was guest speaker at Bankstown VIEW Club's last meeting.

Known as the mother of all Italians, Mrs. Gustin spoke about ways of helping migrants over difficulties when they first arrive in Australia.

Mrs. Gustin is well known for her work on behalf of Italian community through her programme on radio station 2CH.

The VIEW Club meeting, the first for 1968, was held in the Metro Bowl, Bankstown.

At the next meeting in February, State Councillor of Zone 13, Mrs. V. Fairbairn, will conduct elections for the new committee.

Next discussion group will gather at the Guido Hall on February 14.



Royal Approval was given Mrs Lena Gustin's meritorious service through AWA Broadcasting Station, 2CH and the Italian programs, with the Birthday Honour of the M.B.E. for service to migrants. This follows an honour last year, the Cross of Chivalry, bestowed on Mrs Gustin by the Italian Government for similar service, through 2CH and the Italian programs over 2CH from 1954 are recalled with especial pride in the fact that they have attained the largest Italian audience in Australia, with reciprocity through Radio Rome, and the approval and commendation of the Department of Immigration in Canberra.

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