

Another milestone

Popular Bankstown identity Mamma Lena recently celebrated her 84th birthday at the Conca D'ora Reception Centre in Riverwood.

Mamma Lena is a renowned journalist and radio presenter who for the last 40 years has been helping Italian migrants with her voluntary social work.

Helping to celebrate were the Minister for Immigration Phillip Ruddock and his wife Heather; NSW Minister for Education John Aquillina and his wife Anne; Hurstville MP Morris Iemina and Marie Ficarra, representing the Leader of the Opposition, Peter Collins.

Concetta Fieravanti-Wells, a Senate candidate, read out and presented Mamma Lena with a letter from Prime Minister John Howard.

Mamma Lena also received a congratulatory message from the Mayor of Bankstown, Cr Kevin Hill.



Mamma Lena (second from left) celebrates her 84th birthday with Mr Ruddock, her children Rosalba and Roberto, and husband Dino Gustin.

"Bankstown has been fortunate to have Mamma Lena reside in our fair city for the last 40 years, reaching out with her help and compassion to all Italo-Australians who needed her assistance," Cr Hill said.

After the official speech-

es, Mr Ruddock unveiled a bronze bust of Mamma Lena.

Mamma Lena in turn handed 20 'Heart of Mamma Lena' medals to those who have helped and supported her social work.