

Australian SENIOR

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Immigration and Ethnic Affairs Minister, Phillip Ruddock, listens as Mamma says a few words at the party.

Happy birthday Mamma Lena!

Three hundred well-wishers recently gathered to celebrate the 88th birthday of perhaps Australia's best-known Italian-Australian resident.

For 30 years Mamma Lena was a journalist and radio announcer on 2SM, 2CH, 2KY and 2SER in Sydney — the first voice of Italian women on radio.

A dedicated and passionate woman, her humanitarian efforts contributed to the special needs of the Italian Australian community.

Dignitaries at the lunch included Immigration and Ethnic Affairs Minister Phillip Ruddock, State Tourism Minister Sandra Nori and State Fair Trading Minister John Aquilina.

To celebrate her birthday, Mamma Lena gave all 150 ladies in attendance her special medal — the heart of Mamma Lena — with the inscription "Life passes but the good one remains".

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