

A SOCIAL day at Club Marconi last week was a smorgasbord of happenings neatly put together by the ladies auxiliary, under the direction of their president Mrs Vicki Fontana.

Among the 450 guests gathered in the club auditorium was the Italian vice-consul, Mr Eugenio D'Auria.

Next month, Mr D'Auria, together with his wife and two children will leave Australia to travel to Cairo, where he has been appointed consul.

Also present was the commissioner for Ethnic Affairs Dr Totaro, and the co-ordinator of the Italian Pensioners Association Mr Livio Benedetti.

More than 100 aged pensioner members of COASIT came from Wollongong to join their friends for the day at Club Marconi.

A topical post budget talk on pension entitlement was presented by

MAMMA LENA AT MARCONI

Mr Benedetti.

His news, views and advice stimulated a mixed response from his audience of groans as well as cheers but had no effect on their appetite!

A huge birthday cake, marking the first anniversary of the pensioners association was cut by Lena Gustin MBE and Mr Benedetti.

D Affectionately known as 'Mamma Lena', Signora Gustin is regarded as number one on their list of top radio personalities by tens of thousands of listeners to Radio 2SERFM.

Broadcasting on Saturday and Sundays 6 pm to 7pm, Mamma Lena is

a vital link in drawing together Italian speaking peoples throughout Sydney and the outer suburbs.

It was obvious that this warm, delightful woman dis respected and loved by an army of regular devotees who tune in to her own particular brand of easy entertainment.

A few light hearted rounds of Bingo, plus a selection of songs sung by Robert Berry from the Mike Walsh show, and of course a more than adequate lunch, completed the social day program at Club Marconi.



From left are Ladies Auxiliary President, Vicki Fontana, Livio Benedetti and "Mamma Lena"