



# MICHAEL SUKKAR MP

Federal Member for Deakin  
Minister for Housing and Assistant Treasurer



## DEAKIN COMMUNITY NEWS SUMMER 2019

### MESSAGE FROM MICHAEL

Thank you for taking the time to read the latest edition of the Deakin Community News.

I would like to take this opportunity to again thank you for entrusting me with your support at the election in May.

I will continue to be your voice in Canberra, fighting for common sense and delivering the best possible outcomes for our local community.

It has been a busy few months since the election.

I've continued work on the delivery of our commitments in Deakin, including upgrades to local roads, new train station car parking, investments in grassroots community and sporting groups, improved community safety infrastructure, as well as improving our local health and education services.

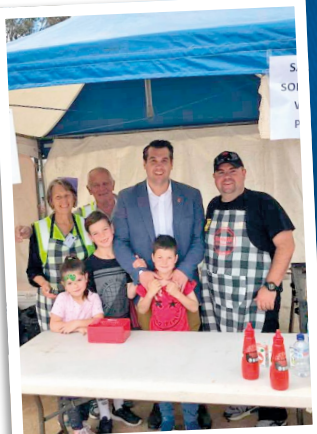
I was also given the great honour of being sworn in as the Minister for Housing and Assistant Treasurer.

It is only because of the trust you continue to give me as your Federal Member of Parliament, that I am able to serve the whole nation in these important ministerial portfolios.

As always, if there is anything I can do to help you or your family, please do not hesitate to get in touch with me or my office.

Yours sincerely

**Michael Sukkar MP**  
Federal Member for Deakin  
Minister for Housing & Assistant Treasurer



### MAROONDAH NETS OFFICIAL OPENING

I was thrilled to attend the official opening of Maroondah Nets, our new netball and multi-purpose stadium at HE Parker Reserve.

Having kicked-off this project with \$10.5 million from the Federal Government, it's an honour to have worked with so many local individuals and community groups to deliver this important project. None more so than Cr Kylie Spears, Maroondah City Council, who was the driving force behind the stadium we see today.

This wonderful project is an example of what we can achieve together as a community. I am confident this stadium will provide countless happy moments and memories for the community members that use this facility now and well into the future.



### MAROONDAH HWY / DORSET RD UPGRADE COMPLETED!

I'm pleased to have delivered on another election commitment, with the Federal Government funded upgrade to Maroondah Hwy / Dorset Rd / Exeter Rd now complete. Having secured funding for the \$8 million upgrade it is fantastic to see the works finished. The upgrade will dramatically improve traffic flow through this intersection. During peak hour, delays will be reduced from 4 cycles of lights to just 1 cycle.

Michael Sukkar MP | Federal Member for Deakin

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# OUR LOCAL COMMUNITY



## LOCAL SPORTING & COMMUNITY PROJECTS



### BRENTFORD SQUARE NEW CCTV

New CCTV safety cameras and improved lighting have been installed at Brentford Square in Forest Hill. Supported by \$160,000 from the Federal Government, these improvements will help combat break-ins and anti-social behaviour.



### MAROONDAH HOSPITAL CARPARK

542 new car spaces at Maroondah Hospital have now been delivered! This project was made possible with a \$2 million grant I secured at the last election. Parking for patients, visitors, staff and local residents has been a terrible problem and these extra spaces will significantly improve these parking issues.



### HE PARKER PAVILION REDEVELOPMENT

After kicking off the HE Parker Reserve Pavilion redevelopment with a \$500,000 grant from the Federal Government, and with a significant investment from Maroondah City Council, work has finally commenced. This is a much needed upgrade to the home of the Heathmont Jets Football Netball Club and the Heathmont Cricket Club and will soon be the new home to SALT – Sport and Life Training.



### JUBILEE PARK – NEW TENNIS LIGHTS

With a \$105,000 grant from the Federal Government, it was great to visit the Ringwood Central Tennis Club and to see the newly installed light towers. The new lighting will ensure more courts are available for use at peak times in the evening, encouraging even more participation in tennis!



### WALKER PARK UPGRADE

Three years after kicking off this project with a \$400,000 contribution from the Federal Government, it's exciting to see real progress on the redevelopment of Walker Park in Mitcham. There are few more deserving clubs than the Mitcham Football Club, Mitcham Cricket Club and Mitcham Junior Football Club, and it is exciting to see that works are well on the way to delivering the first class facility that they deserve.



### NUNAWADING GYMNASTICS

I recently enjoyed visiting Nunawading Gymnastics to catch up with the Club and have a look at the recent upgrades funded by the Federal Government, via the Stronger Communities Programme.





### RINGWOOD RSL NEW MINI-BUS

The Ringwood RSL recently received their new mini-bus. I was very happy to have secured a \$33,000 grant for this bus that services the War Widows, Women's Auxiliary and general club members.



### TINTERVALE PRIMARY SCHOOL

It was wonderful to visit Tinternvale Primary's new innovative playground! I was happy to support this project with a \$20,000 contribution from the Federal Government's Stronger Communities Programme.



### HEATHMONT HORNETS AND HEATHMONT EAST PRIMARY SCHOOL NEW STADIUM

\$3 million in federal funding has been announced for the construction of a new indoor single court basketball stadium on the grounds of Heathmont East Primary School. The new indoor stadium will allow the school to hold assemblies undercover as well as cater for the ever growing membership of the Heathmont Hornets Basketball Club.



### NEW SCOREBOARD AT LIVINGSTONE RESERVE

The Vermont Junior Football Club and Vermont South Cricket Club have a new scoreboard funded through the Stronger Communities Programme. These are two great clubs and they are putting the facilities at Livingstone Reserve to excellent use.



### WHITEHORSE NETBALL ASSOCIATION

I recently joined players and coaches from the Whitehorse Netball Association to announce a \$1.5 million upgrade to Sportlink in Vermont South. The Whitehorse Netball Association runs a number of competitions with more than 200 teams playing at Sportlink each week.



### VERMONT MEN'S SHED UPGRADE

\$20,000 is being provided by the Federal Government for the extension of the Vermont Men's Shed facility in Vermont. The upgrade to the facility will provide a safer working environment for its regular users and will help attract greater membership to the community organisation.



### EASTFIELD PARK

It was fantastic to visit Benson Oval at Eastfield Park to announce \$1 million of funding to redevelop and upgrade the Benson Oval Pavilion. This will support the Eastfield Cricket Club and South Croydon Junior Football Club who use the facility all year round.



### VERMONT GIRL GUIDES

I was very pleased to recently announce \$50,000 for upgrades to the Vermont Girl Guides Hall. This funding will provide significant upgrades to the existing facilities, including improving safety and security in the hall. A big thank you to Girl Guides Victoria for its tireless advocacy for this much-needed project.



# OUR LOCAL COMMUNITY



## LOCAL SPORTING AND COMMUNITY PROJECTS



### AINSLIE PARK PAVILION UPGRADE

A major redevelopment is underway at Ainslie Park Pavilion following my commitment of \$500,000 towards the project. The planning and consultation process is advancing and the project is set to begin in 2021. This redevelopment will provide the Ainslie Park Cricket Club and East Ringwood Junior Football Club with a home that meets the needs of these outstanding clubs.



### DORSET RESERVE COMMUNITY HUB

I am very happy to have secured \$2 million in funding for the construction of a multi-purpose community hub at Dorset Reserve. The funding will also provide for major upgrades to the other facilities at Dorset Reserve, including those used by Croydon City Arrows Soccer Club.



### CHEONG PARK UPGRADE IN CROYDON SOUTH

A \$500,000 funding commitment from the Federal Government will go towards the redevelopment of Cheong Park. The redevelopment will mean newer and bigger club facilities, benefiting all players, spectators and supporters of the South Croydon Football and Cricket Clubs.



### HEATHERDALE PAVILION REDEVELOPMENT

I was thrilled to announce \$2 million in funding to upgrade the Heatherdale Reserve Pavilion. Planning and consultation are now well under way, with Whitehorse City Council committing to co-fund the project. This is great news for the Heatherdale Cricket Club, Heathmont Jets Junior Football Club and Mitcham Eagles Junior Football Club. The pavilion is also utilised by other clubs and community groups throughout the year.



### VERMONT RESERVE UPGRADE

\$250,000 has been secured for the upgrade of Vermont Reserve. The funding will provide much needed funding for a new air conditioning system, refurbishment of the toilets and change rooms, upgrade of the kitchen & bar, and installation of a new audio system.



### SUPPORTING LOCAL KINDERGARTENS & PRE-SCHOOLS

I was very pleased to visit a number of kindergartens and pre-schools across the electorate in recent months to announce over \$750,000 in funding to support their ever growing needs. If your local kindergarten or pre-school needs support please do not hesitate to contact my office for assistance.



### SILCOCK RESERVE REDEVELOPMENT

To support the Croydon Ranges Cricket Club, Croydon Ranges Football Club and the Croydon & District Dog Obedience Club, I recently announced \$500,000 to redevelop Silcock Reserve Pavilion. This project will be delivered in conjunction with Maroondah City Council and means that these clubs will finally have the facility they deserve.



### SUPPORTING LOCAL SCOUTS

Local Scout Halls in Deakin will be provided with \$1.175 million in funding for significant upgrades to existing facilities. I had a great time visiting the many Scout Halls that will benefit from this funding!



# MY PLAN TO KEEP DEAKIN MOVING

## TRANSPORT PROJECTS



### **\$4 BILLION FOR EAST WEST LINK**

With traffic becoming worse every day, the Eastern Freeway has become a carpark. This is why I have continued our fight to build the East West Link and secured \$4 billion in federal funding to build the link. Sadly, the State Labor Government does not support the building of this vital infrastructure and continues to neglect residents in the Eastern Suburbs of Melbourne.



### **NEW TRAIN STATION CARPARKS!**

\$75 million in federal funding has been secured for new multi-level carparks at Croydon, Ringwood, Heathmont, Heatherdale and Mitcham Train Stations. Negotiations are well under way with local councils and rail authorities for each of these projects and construction is set to commence next year. I am pushing for the construction of these projects to begin as soon as possible and will keep the local community updated of our progress.



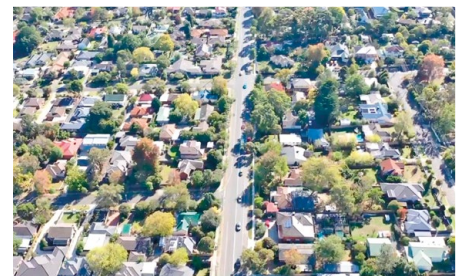
### **TORTICE DR, RINGWOOD NORTH**

The intersections at both ends of Tortice Dr, Ringwood North are being upgraded thanks to a \$600,000 grant from the Federal Government. Negotiations and planning are currently under way with Maroondah City Council and VicRoads. Tortice Dr has long been a traffic nightmare at both ends during peak times and these upgrades will finally see traffic flowing more freely and safely through this area.



### **CANTERBURY RD, ADDITIONAL LANES**

Work is commencing on a \$44.5 million upgrade to Canterbury Rd, which will include the addition of a third lane along Canterbury Rd in both directions between Dorset Rd and Liverpool Rd. VicRoads are currently working on a detailed plan for this project and will provide more details once these plans are finalised.



### **DORSET RD UPGRADE**

The \$50 million being invested to upgrade Dorset Rd between the Maroondah Hwy and Hulls Rd will include a road widening as well as new and reconfigured turning lanes, significantly reducing congestion by catering for a higher volume of traffic. The upgrade will complement and integrate with the recently completed \$8 million Maroondah Hwy / Dorset Rd intersection upgrade funded by the Federal Government in 2016. The local community will benefit from reduced travel times, improved aesthetics, the removal of open drains and the reconstruction of footpaths.



### **REILLY ST & WANTIRNA RD UPGRADE IN RINGWOOD**

\$3 million has been secured to upgrade the Reilly St / Wantirna Rd intersection in Ringwood. With the installation of traffic lights, a widening of Wantirna Rd with a dedicated right turning lane into Reilly St and better pedestrian crossings, traffic flow and safety will be significantly improved at this busy intersection. Maroondah City Council will now work with VicRoads to finalise the detailed design and determine timeframes for this important project.



### **PLYMOUTH RD UPGRADE IN CROYDON**

The Federal Government is investing \$2.5 million to upgrade Plymouth Rd in Croydon. Plymouth Rd experiences high traffic volumes due to the number of schools and commercial premises in the area, with significant congestion at its intersection with Kirtain Dr. The delivery schedule will be determined as planning on the project progresses and in consultation with VicRoads and the Maroondah City Council.



### **AIRPORT RAIL LINK**

Thanks to the Federal Government's \$5 billion city-changing investment, Melbourne will finally have a rail link to the airport!



# LOCAL COMMUNITY



## MITCHAM COMMUNITY MEAL

Thanks to all the team from Mitcham Community Meal for their generosity in supporting the vulnerable. It is always an honour to visit and see them in action. Their contribution to our local community is immeasurable and I sincerely thank them for their outstanding work and community spirit.



## SHADES OF PINK FUNDRAISER

I was very happy to attend and support the Eastern Health Foundation Shades of Pink lunch raising money for Maroondah Hospital's Breast Cancer Centre. Over 400 women were in attendance at the event, which was held at the Karralyka Centre. The Federal Government was very proud to support the Shades of Pink Fundraiser with a \$50,000 contribution last year.



## VERMONT FOOTBALL CLUB

Sporting clubs can only operate because of the many people who give their time and don't ask for any recognition. So I enjoyed dropping into the kitchen at the Vermont Football Club to thank Pauline, Kathy and Lucille for their dedication to the Club over many years.



## PINCHAPOO BAYSWATER NORTH

Great to catch up with an outstanding person I've known for many years, Kate Austin from Pinchapoo in Bayswater North. Pinchapoo is a not-for-profit which has collected and donated more than 3 million personal hygiene products to hundreds of thousands of disadvantaged men, women and children nationally!



## RINGWOOD LAKE PEACE GARDEN

I was honoured to join members of the Rotary Club of Maroondah to officially open the Peace Garden's enhancement project. This was made possible by a Federal Government Grant to commemorate the Centenary of Armistice.



## TARRALLA KINDERGARTEN RINGWOOD EAST

I always enjoy visiting Tarralla Kindergarten in Ringwood East! The work of Parent Committees is a particularly outstanding feature of how our kindergartens are run and Tarralla is a great example of this. I was also pleased to announce additional funding for Tarralla, which will help support this very successful kinder to provide the best facilities possible.



## RINGWOOD BOWLS CLUB SEASON LAUNCH

It is always a fun day when I visit the Ringwood Bowls Club! I was lucky to be invited to attend their season launch and Leo was very happy to learn about bowling!



## ST MARK'S FOREST HILL COMMUNITY LUNCH

St Mark's Forest Hill generously hosts a monthly lunch for the community, and it was brilliant to be back with the wonderful volunteer team and to catch up with so many local residents.



## WHITEHORSE CITIZENSHIP CEREMONY

Congratulations to all of our newest Australian citizens. It is a privilege to recognise and welcome Deakin's newest citizens on behalf of the Federal Government. I always love meeting our new Australians.

## ZOMI YOUTH ASSOCIATION OF MELBOURNE

Members of the Zomi Youth Association of Melbourne dropped by my office to chat about local and national issues that are of concern to them and their local community members. Wonderful to see young people taking on leadership roles to help and support their local community.



# OUT AND ABOUT IN DEAKIN



1st Mooroolbark Scouts



Dr Stanley Cochrane Memorial Kinder visit



Chin Community Cup Opening



Donwood Community Aged Care drop in



Maroondah Citizenship Ceremony



East Link Call Centre



Mitcham Cricket and Football Club



Village School Opening



Tintern Grammar's annual Spring Celebration!



Punjabi School visit



Lipscombe Park Kindergarten



Duralift local business visit



Nelson Bourke apartments sod-turning



Mizo Community Members catch up

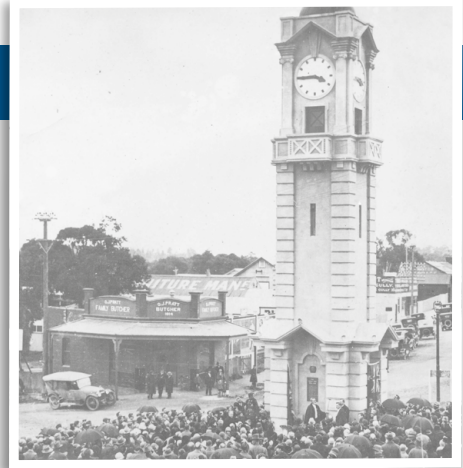


Ringwood RSL morning tea



# Out and About in Deakin

- ✓ Opened the new season for the **Ringwood** Croquet Club
- ✓ Dropped into Livingstone Primary School's 40<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebrations in **Vermont South**
- ✓ Visited Stairway Church for their Sunday service in **Vermont**
- ✓ Attended a meeting with the Association of Independent Retirees in **Forest Hill**
- ✓ Viewed the wonderful art exhibition at Yarrunga Community Centre in **Croydon Hills**
- ✓ Assisted the volunteer team at the ADRA Op Shop in **Mitcham**
- ✓ Celebrated Pink Day with the Whitehorse Netball Association in **Vermont South**
- ✓ Supported the **Heatherdale** Cricket Club's Blue and White Ball
- ✓ Enjoyed the local derby between the **Croydon** Ranges Football Club and Muvanlai (Ringwood)
- ✓ Caught up with the Greek Elderly Citizens of **Nunawading**



## DID YOU KNOW? RINGWOOD CLOCKTOWER

Since 1928, locals have come to pay their respects to our volunteers, some with a small prayer or a tear to remember their relatives. The fallen, whose graves lie thousands of kilometres away in a foreign country, have only a name on a small plaque on the clocktower to remember them by.

The original clock was later knocked down in the 1960s, due to Eastland's encroaching car traffic, and rebuilt in the area of the old Coolstore's dam at the Wantirna Road corner.

The Clocktower has always been a central part of our community. It is the logo of many local organisations, including the Ringwood & District Historical Society. It was there when Ringwood became a city in 1960. It was there for other formal occasions such as Anzac and Armistice Days. It has always been there for relatives and friends to sit quietly, and reflect on the loss of our Ringwood volunteers.

Courtesy of Ringwood & District Historical Society



## Community Noticeboard

### Australian flags

Community groups and exchange students travelling overseas can request flags and flag packs from my office.

### Fundraising hampers

I would be delighted to personally donate a hamper to assist your community group or school with fundraising. Please contact my office.

### Congratulatory messages

My office can help organise congratulatory messages from the Queen, Governor General and the Prime Minister for milestone birthdays and wedding anniversaries.



## About Michael

Born and raised in Ringwood, I grew up in a small business family.

I attended Aquinas College in Ringwood before earning a double degree in Commerce and Law from Deakin University and later, a Master of Laws at the University of Melbourne.

I am honoured to have represented the electorate of Deakin in the Federal Parliament since 2013 and serve as the Minister for Housing and Assistant Treasurer.

My wife Anna also grew up in the local area, and we are fortunate to be raising our sons, Leo and Nathan, in our local community.

With the support of my family, I am committed to making a real difference to the lives of people living in Deakin.

Visit [www.michaelsukkar.com.au](http://www.michaelsukkar.com.au) for more information and to fill out an online survey.

