



# MICHAEL SUKKAR MP

Federal Member for Deakin  
Minister for Housing and Assistant Treasurer



## DEAKIN COMMUNITY NEWS AUTUMN 2020

### MESSAGE FROM MICHAEL

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

After what has been a horrible bushfire season, I would like to take this opportunity to thank our dedicated emergency services workers and volunteers for their tireless contribution in support of the communities affected by the devastating fires throughout Victoria and the rest of the country.

It is a great testament to the Australian spirit to witness how we've come together as a country to provide support and assistance to those individuals and communities affected during this time and to see the ongoing work taking place rebuilding the fire ravaged areas.

On a brighter note, it's been really pleasing to see the benefits that have started flowing from some of the big, local road projects that have been completed or are nearing completion in our area. This is set to continue throughout 2020 with more upgrades on the way for some of our key local roads that will improve traffic flow and help ease congestion at some of our more notorious traffic bottlenecks. We're also continuing work on new car parks at key local railway stations with construction set to commence this year.

At the same time, work continues to improve a whole range of community infrastructure, including sporting stadiums and grounds, schools, parklands and community halls – with more local facility upgrades than ever before being funded and completed in Deakin.

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.

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



### WALKER PARK UPGRADE

The Walker Park redevelopment is almost complete! Having kicked off the project in 2016, it is very exciting to see this progress. This will be a new home for the Mitcham Football Club, Mitcham Cricket Club and Mitcham Junior Football Club. The upgrade is expected to be completed by the end of March this year.



### THE ANNUAL DEAKIN SHIELD AWARDS

The Deakin Shield, generously sponsored by Eastland, is awarded to local students who have excelled during the school year.

It was my great pleasure to recognise talented and hardworking students from 51 local schools in the Deakin Electorate for their community service, academic, sporting, artistic and musical achievements.

The award recipients included Ryan, Thomas and Georgia from Rangeview Primary School in Mitcham (pictured above).



### SILCOCK RESERVE REDEVELOPMENT

Jointly funded by the Federal Government and Maroondah City Council, the Silcock Reserve Pavilion redevelopment is soon to be underway! The Croydon Ranges Football Club, Croydon Ranges Cricket Club and Croydon Ranges All Abilities will benefit from female friendly change rooms, a multipurpose social space, a covered outdoor spectator area and new first aid and bathroom facilities. With hundreds of locals using these facilities each week, this is a wonderful investment for our community.



# LOCAL COMMUNITY



## LOCAL PROJECTS



### HE PARKER PAVILION REDEVELOPMENT

The redevelopment of the HE Parker Pavilion is well underway and set to be completed in April. Having kicked off this project about 4 years ago, I can't wait to see how much benefit Heathmont Jets Football Netball Club, Heathmont Cricket Club and SALT - Sport and Life Training get out of this new community facility.



### CROYDON HILLS BAPTIST CHURCH

The Croydon Hills Baptist Church recently received a federal government grant that will contribute to the building of a secure covered area.



### GLEN PARK COMMUNITY CENTRE

It's always a pleasure to visit Heidi and the team at Glen Park Community Centre, where I got to check out their new café furniture which was partly funded through a grant from the Federal Government.



### HEATHERDALE TENNIS CLUB

The Heatherdale Tennis Club recently held an opening ceremony for their new outdoor viewing deck! The deck was made possible with the support of a federal government grant and it was a fabulous night to celebrate the achievements of the club.

### MITCHAM BOWLING CLUB

During my visit with members of the Mitcham Bowling Club, I was happy to see work commencing on the newly surfaced green which was partly funded through a \$12,500 Stronger Communities Grant.



### HEATHERDALE PAVILION REDEVELOPMENT

At the election I was proud to kick off the redevelopment of Heatherdale Pavilion with a \$2 million grant which will be a new home to the Heatherdale Cricket Club, Heathmont Jets Football Club and Mitcham Eagles Junior Football Club. Since that time I am very pleased that Whitehorse City Council has also committed to co-fund the project with planning and consultation well under way.



### RINGWOOD MEN'S SHED

It was great to visit the Ringwood Men's Shed to see their new equipment, funded through the Federal Government's Stronger Communities Programme.



### VICTORIAN CHIN BAPTIST CHURCH

Community Safety has always been a priority of mine, so I was very pleased to support the Victorian Chin Baptist Church with a \$121,000 grant from the Safer Communities Fund. These funds will go towards security upgrades at the church.



### WHITEHORSE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Whitehorse Historical Society does outstanding work for the local community and I was very pleased to support them with a small federal grant to help in their everyday office activities.



# TRANSPORT PROJECTS



## \$75 MILLION FOR NEW TRAIN STATION CARPARKS

Planning is well underway with local councils and rail authorities for each of the following projects. Construction is set to commence later this year.

PT>	PT>	PT>	PT>	PT>
Croydon Station	Ringwood Station	Mitcham Station	Heatherdale Station	Heathmont Station
487 CARPARKS	482 CARPARKS	500 CARPARKS	447 CARPARKS	300 CARPARKS



### TORTICE DR, RINGWOOD NORTH

\$600,000 has been secured to upgrade both ends of Tortice Dr. Negotiations and plans are underway with Maroondah City Council and VicRoads to get the work started.



### CANTERBURY RD ADDITIONAL LANES

\$45 million in funding has been allocated for an additional lane along Canterbury Rd in both directions between Dorset Rd and Liverpool Rd.



### REILLY ST & WANTIRNA RD, RINGWOOD

\$3 million has been secured to install traffic lights, widen roads and include a dedicated turning lane.



### WALKER AVE UPGRADE, MITCHAM

\$331,440 in federal funding has been secured for the upgrade of Walker Ave in Mitcham as part of the Roads to Recovery Program, in partnership with Whitehorse City Council. As the road pavement and kerb have reached the end of their useful life, this upgrade will see the road rehabilitated with drainage along the road to also be upgraded. Thank you to all the local residents that raised this important issue with me!

### EAST WEST LINK

The Federal Government will fully fund the Government component and deliver East West Link Stage One. Our \$4 billion commitment for the eastern section of East West Link means NO funding is required from the Victorian Government. Our investment is about standing by Melbourne's eastern suburb commuters who want to get out of the gridlock. Only Labour stands in the way of this vital project for the eastern suburbs.



### DORSET RD UPGRADE, CROYDON

\$50 million has been committed to widen roads and reconfigure turning lanes to help reduce congestion and will complement the recent \$8 million upgrade to the Dorset Rd/ Maroondah Hwy intersection.



### AIRPORT RAIL LINK

\$5 billion is being invested into a city changing rail link. Melbourne will finally have a rail link to the airport! Construction is expected to commence in 2022.



### PLYMOUTH RD UPGRADE, CROYDON

We are investing \$2.5 million to improve safety and reduce congestion. Works are expected to be completed by early next year.



# LOCAL COMMUNITY



## FIRST FRIENDS OF DANDENONG CREEK

I was very pleased to support the First Friends of Dandenong Creek with:

- ✓ \$20,000 to survey the local Sugar Glider population;
- ✓ \$13,000 for sensitive vegetation and habitat creation to benefit native animals in the local area.



## ANNUAL DEAKIN CUP

I am extremely proud to sponsor the Annual Deakin Cup, a competition between junior cricketers from the Ringwood & District Cricket Association and the Box Hill Reporter District Cricket Association. This is part of my commitment to support local sport in our area.



## ST JOHN'S PARISH FETE

It was great to get along to the St John's Parish Fete in Mitcham, which is one of the biggest local community events each year.



## MAROONDAH COMMUNITY ASSIST

It was an honour to deliver the donations from the Deakin Christmas Giving Tree to Maroondah Community Assist. I want to thank our community for your amazing generosity in donating vouchers, food, clothing and toys to those in our local area that need some help.



## LOCAL SPORTING CHAMPIONS

It's fantastic to be able to recognise Deakin's young athletes through the Local Sporting Champions Grant Programme. Do you know a local sporting champion? Application details for the next round of grants can be found at [https://www.sportaus.gov.au/grants\\_and\\_funding/local\\_sporting\\_champions](https://www.sportaus.gov.au/grants_and_funding/local_sporting_champions).



## MAROONDAH FESTIVAL

The Maroondah Festival is an amazing community event! It is always a wonderful opportunity to chat with many local residents. Thank you to everyone that dropped by to say hello.



## CHINESE WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA

Thanks to the energetic and organised members of the Chinese Women's Association of Victoria, for inviting me along to their Annual General Meeting.



## RINGWOOD LAKE CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION

It was wonderful to join residents from Vermont and Vermont Sth for the 3133 Christmas Celebration at Ringwood Lake!



## REMEMBRANCE DAY

Remembrance Day is a time to reflect on those who gave their lives in service of our country, protecting the freedoms and values that matter most. It was an honour to be able to lay a wreath at the Ringwood RSL's Remembrance Day Community Memorial Service.



## NEW AUSTRALIAN CITIZENS

There is no better way to celebrate Australia Day than welcoming some of our newest Australians at the Australia Day Maroondah City Council citizenship ceremony! It is a great day to make this life changing commitment to Australia.



# Out and About in Deakin



Croydon Ranges Football Club



Maroondah Christmas Carols



Glen Park Community Centre Visit



Whitehorse Citizen of the Year Award



100<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebrations



1st Croydon Hills Scouts



Advent Care Opening Ceremony



Mitcham Primary School Ninja Warrior Fete



Access Workwear & Safety Visit



Wat Lao Buddhist Monastery Opening



Ringwood East Community Christmas Street Fair



Maroondah Nets 'Net Set Go' Matches



Sacred Heart Parish School Fete



# Out and About in Deakin

- ✓ Caught up with the dedicated team at Eastern Volunteers, **Ringwood**
- ✓ Launched the Deakin Challenge Trophy at the Heathmont Bowls Club, **Heathmont**
- ✓ Toured the MVC Boxing facilities in **Ringwood**
- ✓ Spoke at the Whitehorse Activities Club AGM in **Forest Hill**
- ✓ Joined the 30th Birthday Celebration service at Stairway Church, **Vermont**
- ✓ Enjoyed lunch with members of the Croydon Men's Shed, **Croydon**
- ✓ Attended the Ringwood Cricket Clubs Presidents lunch, **Ringwood**
- ✓ Celebrated the 72<sup>nd</sup> Chin National Day in **Ringwood**
- ✓ Commemorated Karen National Day in **Croydon Hills**
- ✓ Attended the Melbourne Mizo Association 10 year celebration in **Ringwood**



## DID YOU KNOW? MITCHAM POST OFFICE

The first Mitcham Post Office opened on 1 June, 1884, in Mitcham Railway Station.

By 1900, the post office had moved into a wooden shop three doors from McGlone Street (today, approximately 476-478 Whitehorse Road). By 1913, Mrs Bertha Markham was Postmistress.

The building at 528 Whitehorse Road was completed in 1924 and opened in 1925 as the Mitcham Post Office. The picture above was taken shortly after the opening. The Markhams lived in the double storied residence, which had its entry off Station Street, until they both passed away in 1944.

The building then became a mixed goods shop operated by Mary Millane until 1957 when the Post Master General bought the premises and re-established the Mitcham Post Office on that site.

Courtesy of Whitehorse 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 in 2020. 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 now 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.

