



MICHAEL SUKKAR MP

Federal Member for Deakin



Deakin Community News | Autumn 2016

Dear fellow resident

Welcome to another edition of the Deakin Community News.

Parliament has resumed after the summer holidays, and we are back into the full swing of things.

I had an enjoyable time over the past few months getting to spend more time with local schools, businesses, community groups, families and individuals from across the electorate.

Visiting all the local primary, secondary and special schools to present Deakin Shield Awards to around 150 local students has been an absolute highlight. At the numerous end-of-year assemblies and graduations last year, the display of talent and extraordinary achievements of our young people is a testament to our great local schools.

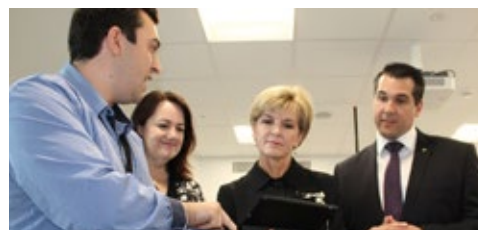
Deakin welcomed the arrival of the Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull during the opening week of Realm at Eastland. The Prime Minister met with local traders and students, and even stopped to read Possum Magic with parents and their children during story time in the library.

A big thank you to all those who invited me to celebrate the end of the year and Christmas with them last year.

I wish all those celebrating this month a very Happy Easter, and I look forward to seeing you around the electorate.

Yours sincerely,

Michael Sukkar MP



Realm opening

Maroondah's new town square precinct including library, learning and cultural centre at Realm has recently welcomed the Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull and Foreign Minister Julie Bishop as part of its opening.

Realm is a proud collaboration between the Maroondah City Council and the Australian Government, which benefits our local region.



Heatherdale Creek Green Army Project

The Heatherdale Creek Parklands Green Army project has been a resounding success.

The Green Army, along with the Whitehorse City Council and the Heatherdale Creek Parklands Advisory Committee have spent the last six months revegetating and rehabilitating Heatherdale Creek.

Aside from delivering real environment and conservation benefits for our community, young Green Army participants gain valuable on-the-job training and qualifications.

East West Link Update

Late last year the Victorian Auditor General's Office reported that Victorian Government will have spent more than \$1.1 billion not to build the East West Link.

The East West Link will also save residents of the eastern suburbs, on average, three hours per week in travel time.

The Coalition has a plan to fix Melbourne's traffic woes with upgrades to the Monash Freeway, improved train & rail infrastructure, and of course the vital East West Link city crossing.

To continue the fight to build the East West Link, I need your ongoing support this year.



Enhancing Next Generation Manufacturing

Trajan Scientific and Medical, a local company and employer located in Ringwood, is among eleven Victorian manufacturers sharing in \$27.4 million worth of Next Generation Manufacturing Investment Programme grants.

Trajan secured \$756,195 to help it with its \$1.8 million project to develop its high precision advanced medical manufacturing.



Investing in Local Automotive Jobs

Local Bayswater North business, Luna Nameplate Industries, has received around \$500,000 in Australian Government grants to diversify their auto component manufacturing into new products and industry sectors; helping to retain important skills and jobs in our local manufacturing sector.

“Trajan is grateful for the genuine support and interest Michael has shown towards our business. He has worked to highlight Trajan’s model of scientific collaboration between Industry and Research, and how this activity will support Australia’s innovation future.”

– Stephen Tomisich, CEO, Trajan SciMed



Stronger Foreign Investment Rules

The Australian Government has put in place new, tougher foreign investment rules and penalties for foreign buyers of Australian residential and agricultural properties.

Greater enforcement and compliance powers have been given to the Australian Tax Office to pursue those who break the rules, and also impose fines and force the sale of properties.

While the Government welcomes foreign investment, we must always protect our own national interest.



Norwood Sporting Club Upgrade

Norwood Sporting Club has completed its upgrade of the Kevin Pratt Pavilion with the assistance of a \$400,000 grant from the Australian Government.

The new state of the art club rooms at Norwood delivers on the 2013 election commitment to upgrade these facilities.



Chinese New Year Celebrations

I joined thousands of local residents as they converged on Box Hill central to celebrate the 2016 Golden Age Box Hill Chinese New Year Festival hosted by the Asian business Association of Whitehorse.

This Luna New Year marks the Year of the Monkey, which according to Chinese zodiac tradition is a symbol of innovation, agility and charisma.



Australia Day Celebrations

Australia Day celebrations were held across the electorate with citizenship ceremonies taking place in Whitehorse and Maroondah.

Congratulations all those who made the Oath or Affirmation of Allegiance in becoming our newest Australians.

A special congratulation to those who received Australia Day awards and honours, especially those named Citizen of the Year and Young Citizen of the Year.

“We really value having a member who genuinely cares about the community, takes the time to do the things that are often not seen, but really matter... [And] just being clearly passionate about all things Maroondah and the wider Deakin community is something we all value.” – Edwina from Croydon



Ringwood & Croydon chambers of commerce fundraiser

The Ringwood and Croydon chambers of commerce held a joint function at Bram Leigh Receptions in Croydon with the former Minister for Small Business, Bruce Billson, as the special guest speaker.

Proceeds raised on the evening will be used to developing a business focussed program on wellbeing that engages with schools and sporting clubs in the local area.



Supporting Local Champions

Local Sporting Champions grants provide young local athletes aged between 12 and 18 years with financial support to participate in in state, national and international sporting competitions.

Callum Gosbell, Ellen Walker, Charlise Dunn, Natasha Chase, Michelle Wu, Isaac Aedo Kailea, Dacia Koelmeyer, and Jack Dammers (pictured) are Deakin's latest round of Local Sporting Champion grant recipients.

For information or to apply visit: www.ausport.gov.au



Café House Opening

Café House is a social enterprise initiative by the Vermont South Community House that encourages greater social inclusion and engagement with disadvantaged people in our community.

With the local Member for Forest Hill Neil Angus, I was honoured to open the Café House, and I encourage you to head down and support its great work



2015 Deakin Christmas Giving Tree

The Deakin Christmas Giving Tree was a major success. With the help of the St Vincent de Paul Society and Deakin residents, hundreds of local families and individuals enjoyed a more comfortable Christmas.

Thank you, to all those who donated food, clothing, blankets, gift vouchers, and children's toys to the Giving Tree. Your generosity is greatly appreciated, especially by those who needed it the most.



2015 Deakin Shield Awards

Now into its third year, the annual Deakin Shield Awards is an opportunity to celebrate the outstanding achievements and abilities of our local young people.

The Deakin Shield Awards are presented to local school students in recognition of academic excellence, leadership, community service, and musical, sporting or artistic achievement.

With almost fifty schools across the electorate participating in these awards, this is a great opportunity to see first-hand the great educational results in our local schools.

Your Voice in Canberra

It's important to be a strong voice for all those you represent. I regularly speak in Parliament on local and national issues including:

- White Ribbon Day and campaign against domestic violence
- Better enforcement and rules around foreign investment
- Australia's free trade agreements with China, Japan and Korea
- Combating multinational tax avoidance

You can read my speeches by visiting my website:

www.michaelsukkar.com.au

Out and about in the electorate of Deakin



Maroondah Handicrafts 40th Anniversary Celebrations



Dads Group Inc



Knaith Road Childcare Centre
30th Anniversary



Grace Community Church



Melba College's Victoria Police Youth
Corps Advance Program Graduation



Australian Chin Community
Harvest Festival



St Timothy's Primary School Fair



Maroondah Relay for Life



Rotary Club of Ringwood's
Peace Garden Opening



Carmela's surprise birthday visit



Deakin Community Cup



Heatherdale Community Action
Group Drug and Alcohol Forum



St Marks Anglican Church
Community Meal



Circolo Pensionati Italian
Club Nunawading



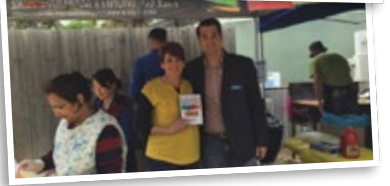
Blackburn Craft Market -
Rotary Club of Forest Hill



Tarralla Kindergarten
Bunnings BBQ

Out and about in the electorate of Deakin

- ✓ Visited the Rotary Club of **Nunawading's** end of year party
- ✓ Attended the **Ringwood** Salvation Army's Christmas Carols
- ✓ Shared a laugh and some songs with the **Ringwood** Seniors
- ✓ Celebrated with the **Croydon** Football Club at their Christmas party
- ✓ Shared a meal with the **Maroondah** Italian Senior Citizens
- ✓ Enjoyed a Christmas feast with the Greek Elderly Citizens Club of **Nunawading**
- ✓ Dropped in to Koonung Cottage Community House in **Blackburn North** for lunch
- ✓ Visited the Senior Citizens of the Greek Community **Forest Hill**
- ✓ Visited the **Blackburn** RSL for a Christmas meal
- ✓ Spent an afternoon with the Italian Senior Citizens Club of **Croydon**
- ✓ Attended Stairway Church's Sunday service in **Vermont**
- ✓ Supported Tarralla Kindergarten's sausage sizzle fundraiser at **Vermont** Bunnings
- ✓ Flipped a few burgers and sausages at St John's Primary School fete in **Mitcham**
- ✓ Spoke at the Chinese Women's Association's annual general meeting in **Blackburn**
- ✓ Hosted an afternoon tea and chat Victoria Grange Aged Care in **Vermont** South
- ✓ Guest speaker at **Croydon** Main St Traders Association meeting
- ✓ Unveiled the Rotary Club of **Ringwood's** Peace Garden at Ringwood Lake Park
- ✓ Helped out at the Livingstone, Tinternvale, Holy Spirit and Sacred Heart primary school fetes
- ✓ Attended the Dads Group Inc with their barbecue fundraiser in **Ringwood**



- ✓ Celebrated the first anniversary of Evocca College's **Ringwood** campus
- ✓ Attended the Chin Harvest festival in **Ringwood**
- ✓ Attended the Grace Community Church's Sunday service in **Nunawading**
- ✓ Attended the annual **Maroondah** Mayoral Charity Ball in support of EACH
- ✓ Visited the Jing Song Men's Club in **Blackburn**
- ✓ Attended the 2015 **Whitehorse** Excellence in Business Awards Gala Dinner
- ✓ Attended the **Heatherdale** Bowls Club Social Day

Community Noticeboard

Australian Flags

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

Fundraising hampers

I would be delighted to personally donate a hamper to assist your community group or school with fundraising in 2016.

About Michael

I have lived, worked and been a part of the Deakin electorate all of my life.

Born and raised in Ringwood, I learnt the virtues of hard work from my parents, who ran a local small business.

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 represent the electorate of Deakin. As a local, I understand the issues that concern residents and I am working hard to be a strong voice on key local, national and international issues in Parliament.

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

