

Enclosed is my
30 SECOND SURVEY



AUTUMN 2023

Deakin Community News



THE HON
MICHAEL SUKKAR MP
FEDERAL MEMBER FOR **DEAKIN**

Shadow Minister for Social Services
Shadow Minister for the NDIS
Shadow Minister for Housing
Shadow Minister for Homelessness



Michael's Message



Dear Local Resident

Welcome to the latest edition of the Deakin Community News.

With 2023 now well underway the last few months have been a busy time for our community, with our children back at school and so much happening with our local community groups and sporting clubs. There have also been celebrations for important occasions including Australia Day and Lunar New Year.

I've been pleased to see progress on several important infrastructure projects that I have committed to, with each of these projects set to make a real difference for our community.

I know for many individuals and families 2023 will be a challenging year with cost-of-living pressures getting worse, particularly with higher mortgage interest rates, higher rents, and enormous gas and electricity price rises. In Parliament, I have continued to draw attention to these important issues as well as the Government's numerous broken promises to address these problems.

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.

The Hon Michael Sukkar MP
Federal Member for Deakin
Shadow Minister for Social Services
Shadow Minister for the NDIS
Shadow Minister for Housing
Shadow Minister for Homelessness



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Our Local Community



Deakin Christmas Giving Tree 2022

I had the honour of delivering last year's donations from the Deakin Christmas Giving Tree to **Hope City Mission** in Croydon. I want to thank everyone in our local community who generously donated to the appeal. Hope City Mission has made very good use of all the donations, brightening the Christmas of many families in our local community.

Lunar New Year 2023



It was wonderful to attend a number of Lunar New Year celebrations, including with the **Asian Business Association of Whitehorse** at their outstanding festival in Box Hill!



Deakin Shield Awards

Congratulations to our 2022 Deakin Shield Award recipients. With nearly 50 local schools participating in the Deakin Shield again last year, it's always a wonderful opportunity to acknowledge the achievements of our students. I want to particularly thank **Eastland** for generously sponsoring the Deakin Shield again this year and demonstrating their support for our local school students.





Our Local Community



Ainslie Park Cricket Club

I enjoyed catching up with the **Ainslie Park Cricket Club** and the **East Ringwood Junior Football Club** to check out their brilliant new facility. It was great to work with these clubs to kick-start the project with funding back in 2018.



Heathmont 100 Year Family Fun Day

Our family really enjoyed the Heathmont 100 Year Family Fun Day. It was a great celebration of Heathmont.



Youth Education Support

I recently visited the **Youth Education Support Op Shop** in Forest Hill to congratulate Julia Mosley OAM on receiving an Order of Australia, for her work sponsoring education and training opportunities for disadvantaged youth.



Ringwood Cricket Club

Here I am drawing the first numbers for the **Ringwood Cricket Club** 'Rams Raffle'.



Blackburn Tennis Club

It was a nice trip down memory lane when I attended the 120th birthday of the **Blackburn Tennis Club**, which recognised the countless past and present volunteers who have made the club such an important part of the community.

Lions Club Vermont South

As a proud member of the **Lions Club of Vermont South** we recently had a Bunnings BBQ to raise funds for community projects.



Croydon RSL



I recently dropped into the **Croydon RSL** for a Friday afternoon beer and am grateful to Ken who is a tireless volunteer for the RSL.

Italian Senior Citizens Club



It was great to join in on the Christmas celebrations with the **Italian Senior Citizens Club** of Maroondah.

Parliament House School Visit



It was wonderful to welcome students and teachers from **Good Shepherd Primary School** to Parliament House in Canberra.

Our Local Community

Deakin Community Update
Autumn 2023



North Ringwood Cricket Club



Here I am with Hayley and Mahla, two hard working volunteers for the **North Ringwood Cricket Club**.

Carer Solutions



It was good to recently meet with the team at **Carer Solutions** to hear about their work with NDIS participants.

Great Ryrie Primary School



Congratulations to all of the 2023 student leaders at our local schools. I was honoured to visit **Great Ryrie Primary School** and help present their student leadership badges at assembly earlier this year.



Kenworth Trucks

I always love visiting the team at **PACCAR** in Bayswater North who manufacture the iconic Kenworth trucks right here in the Deakin electorate.

Local Manufacturing

Thanks to the team at **Accent Aluminium Windows & Doors** for having me visit. I'm very proud of this outstanding local business in Bayswater North who are creating great opportunities for their growing workforce.



Communities of Wellbeing

I was proud to sponsor this year's **Jazz at the Lake** festival at Ringwood Lake. It was a fantastic event where I also had the chance to catch up with the wonderful team at the **Communities of Wellbeing Hub**.



Heathmont Bowls Club

The **Heathmont Bowls Club** recently hosted the 'AMAROO Classic' tournament with teams from around Melbourne. The volunteers at the club made it a great day for all participants.



East Ringwood Cricket Club

Over summer there are a few things better than a Saturday afternoon at the cricket, so I enjoyed catching up with the **East Ringwood Cricket Club**.



Chin Community Victoria Education Awards night

I was honoured to join the celebrations for the **Chin Community of Victoria Education Awards night**.



Our Local Community

Australia Day Ceremonies

I enjoyed meeting this year's Australia Day award winners as well as our newest citizens in **Whitehorse** and **Maroondah** on this important day of celebration.



McHappy Day

Thanks to the brilliant team at **McDonald's Ringwood** for having me down to do a shift for McHappy Day again this year, where we were raising funds for Ronald McDonald House Charities.



Lantern Festival

It was fantastic to be with our community at the **Asian Business Association of Whitehorse** Lantern Festival.



Local Cricket

It's been great to be able to get along to some of our local cricket games, including a close contest between **Vermont South Cricket Club** and **Blackburn Cricket Club**.

Local Business Award Winner

I visited local business **Green Eco Technologies** to congratulate them on receiving the Australian Export Award in the Small Business Category. This Ringwood-based business is being recognised for its innovative food waste repurposing systems.



Ringwood Ballet Group



I really enjoyed the **Ringwood Ballet Group's** community matinee performance which the group performs each year at no cost to community members.

Vermont South Neighbourhood House



It was wonderful to catch up with the outstanding team at the **Vermont South Neighbourhood House** for their Open Day.



Our Local Community



Clean Up Australia Day

We had a huge turnout to the annual Heatherdale Creek Parklands Clean Up Australia Day event. I want to thank the **Heatherdale Creek Parklands Advisory Committee**, **1st Heatherdale Scout Group** and **Heatherdale Tennis Club** for helping make it such a success. I also want to thank everybody who helped out any of the multiple Clean Up Australia Day events throughout our local area.

Our Newest Australian Citizens

I am always honoured to welcome our newest Australians at local citizenship ceremonies.



Working with Local Government

I work closely with our local councillors in Maroondah and Whitehorse to try and deliver better outcomes for our community. I recently met with the Deputy Mayor of Whitehorse, Prue Cutts at **Two Brothers Café** in Mitcham to discuss a number of issues concerning our community.



3133 Good Neighbours

It was wonderful to join in the Christmas celebrations with the **3133 Good Neighbours** community in Vermont South.



Croydon Hills Baptist Church

It was great to join the **Croydon Hills Baptist Church** for the 17th anniversary of the Karen congregation!



Community Projects

Sportlink, Vermont South



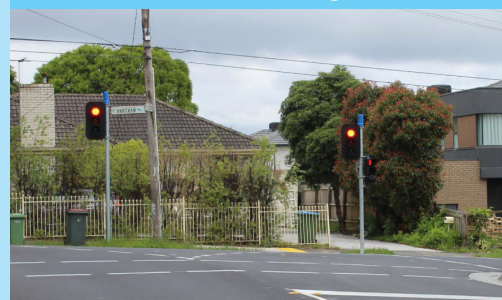
The Sportlink redevelopment is nearly complete. I was proud to kick-start this project with a \$1.5 million grant in 2019, which includes a roof over the outdoor courts to allow for all weather play, as well as new court surfaces and lighting. Supporting our local netball clubs and competitions has been a long-term priority of mine, so it will be wonderful to see our local netballers at the **Whitehorse Netball Association** enjoying this new facility soon.

Heatherdale Reserve Pavilion, Mitcham

The new Heatherdale Reserve Pavilion will be complete very soon. The pavilion, which is the new home of the **Heatherdale Cricket Club** and **Heathmont Jets Junior Football Club**, is looking even better than we ever thought! Having kicked this project off in 2019 with a \$2 million grant, I'm thrilled that our local community will have a state-of-the-art facility for players, volunteers, and spectators alike.



Wantirna Rd / Reilly St Intersection, Ringwood



I am pleased to have delivered on my commitment to upgrade the Wantirna Rd / Reilly St intersection in Ringwood. The new traffic lights, pedestrian crossing and dedicated right turn lane are already improving traffic flow and safety in the area.

Hughes Park, Croydon North



I recently enjoyed visiting the new multipurpose courts at Hughes Park in Croydon and seeing them put to good use. I am proud to have delivered the funding for this brilliant new community facility.

Cheong Park, Croydon South

The Cheong Park redevelopment is due to be completed in April. The upgrades provide more social space, updated kitchen and canteen facilities, and much needed female friendly change rooms. This is a significant improvement to the home of **South Croydon Football Club** and **South Croydon Cricket Club**, as well as other community groups like **U3A Croydon**.



Community Projects

Dorset Recreation Reserve, Croydon



The Dorset Recreation Reserve is very close to completion. This facility now includes a new multipurpose community sports pavilion, new main soccer pitch with lighting and a synthetic soccer pitch with lighting. It also includes new outdoor volleyball courts and enhanced open space and carparking. I was proud to kick-start this project with a \$2 million grant from the former Coalition Government, which will serve our community for many years to come. This will be home to the **Croydon City Soccer Club** and our local Burmese community groups.



Tortice Drive, Ringwood North Upgrade



I was pleased to secure \$4.8 million of funding to improve this congested and dangerous intersection. Thankfully, Labor has backed down on its attempt to cancel the funding for this project which will include:

- Installation of traffic lights at Tortice Dve and Warrandyte Rd;
- Extending the right turning lane onto Tortice Dve from Warrandyte Rd;
- Safety improvements such as a bus stop, footpath connections and dedicated bicycle stopping bays at the intersection.

Due to a combination of VicRoads delays, and the new federal Labor Government lowering the priority of this project, the new construction start date is now anticipated to be mid-2023.

Plymouth Road, Croydon Upgrade

Work is commencing on the upgrade to Plymouth Rd, Croydon (between Narr-Maen Dve and Yarra Rd) with funding committed by the former Coalition Government. The \$4.4 million upgrade will include new traffic lights and pedestrian crossing facilities at the Kirtain Dve intersection, new lane markings, sensors, and a variety of other traffic improvements. These works are due to be complete by June 2023, weather permitting.





Canberra Update

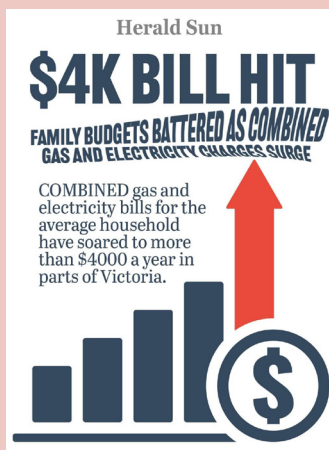
Cost of Living Crisis

With inflation still at record high levels, more than ever people across the country are feeling the squeeze of a growing cost of living crisis. With higher interest rates leading to increased mortgage rates and rental costs, we've also seen first home buyer rates reach their lowest level in five years.

On top of this, through the course of this year, energy bills will rise by more than 50 per cent, despite Labor's promise that they'd go down by \$275.



Recently in Parliament, I provided examples of the pressure local residents are under when it comes to higher gas and electricity prices with one resident recently informing me that their gas bill alone will be increasing by \$602.74 this year.



Labor's Broken Promises

In Parliament, I've spoken about the broken promises made by Labor. Before the election, they committed to providing 'cheaper mortgages' and a \$275 per year energy price reduction. Now, with interest rates at a ten-year high, mortgages are getting more expensive while energy bills keep going up and are tipped to rise by 20 per cent again in July. In addition, they've also moved to wind back franking credits and make changes to superannuation, both of which they committed not to do.

With all of these broken promises, sadly it will be Australian households who will continue to suffer the economic consequences.

Cashless Debit Card



In my role as Shadow Minister for Social Services, I have fought against the move by Labor to abolish the Cashless Debit Card. Already, we are seeing the devastating consequences of this decision in vulnerable communities with increases in alcohol-fuelled violence, kids going hungry and chaos across regional and remote communities.

Support for Ukraine



As the world marks the first anniversary of Russia's illegal full-scale invasion of Ukraine, the Parliament paused to reflect and stand in solidarity with the people of Ukraine as they bravely fight for the freedom of their country.

Ethnic Business Awards



I was honoured to attend the **Ethnic Business Awards**, which recognises the outstanding accomplishments of migrant and indigenous entrepreneurs.





MICHAEL SUKKAR MP

FEDERAL MEMBER FOR DEAKIN



30 SECOND SURVEY

The issues

Please number the four issues that concern you most.

- ☐ Keeping taxes low
- ☐ Keeping our borders strong and secure
- ☐ Better hospitals and health outcomes
- ☐ Investing in better education, skills, training opportunities
- ☐ Building better and safer roads
- ☐ More secure jobs with higher wages
- ☐ Tackling climate change
- ☐ Helping small businesses get ahead
- ☐ Reducing cost-of-living pressures for families
- ☐ Tackling local crime and drugs
- ☐ Affordable and reliable electricity
- ☐ Supporting older Australians and Aged Care
- ☐ More affordable housing

The issues

If you could raise one issue in the Federal Parliament, what would it be?

The issues

If you could fix one problem in our local area, what would it be?

About Politics

Please select one of the following options: (optional)

I ALWAYS support the following party

- ☐ Liberal ☐ Labor ☐ Greens ☐ Independent/Other

OR I USUALLY support the following party

- ☐ Liberal ☐ Labor ☐ Greens ☐ Independent/Other

Your details

Please complete the following details so that I can stay in touch and keep you informed.

Name

Address

Home phone

Mobile phone

Email

Your work

Please select the option which best reflects your current situation:

- ☐ Full-time ☐ Part-time ☐ Self-employed
☐ At home parent ☐ Unemployed ☐ Student
☐ Age pensioner ☐ Disability pensioner ☐ Self-funded retiree

Your Occupation



Thank you for completing this survey.

Simply take a photo and email your completed survey to:
Michael.Sukkar.MP@aph.gov.au

Alternatively, you can scan this QR code to complete the survey online.



Out and about in Deakin



Community Noticeboard

Congratulatory messages

My office can help organise congratulatory messages from the King, 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 2023.

Australian flags

Exchange Students and Community groups can request flags and flag packs from my office.

Times tables charts

My office has times tables wall charts available for local primary school students.



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, serving as a Minister in the former Coalition Government. I am now honoured to be the Shadow Minister for Social Services, NDIS, Housing and Homelessness.

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 continuing to make a real difference to the lives of people living in Deakin.

