

Enclosed is my
30 SECOND SURVEY



SUMMER 2022

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.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you, once again, for the honour of representing you in the 47th Parliament of Australia.

I am humbled and grateful for your support, and I will continue to be your strong advocate in Canberra, fighting for common sense and the best future for our community and country.

It has been a busy few months since the election. I've continued to work on delivering the projects that the former Coalition Government commenced, including upgrades to local roads and infrastructure along with significant investments in grassroots community and sporting groups.

Disappointingly, the new Labor Government have cancelled a number of important projects in Victoria, including many in our own area. I am working hard to fight against this and will continue to push for what our community needs and deserves.

Despite the Australian economy emerging from the pandemic better than other comparable countries, challenges loom on the horizon. Cost-of-living, power prices, taxes, interest rates, unemployment and the deficit are all going up, according to the government's budget papers. And sadly, Labor's first budget is making these problems worse, not better.

In my new role as the Shadow Minister for Social Services, the National Disability Insurance Scheme, Housing and Homelessness I have worked to hold the new Government to account for the many ambitious promises they made to the Australian people before the election.

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 Eastland Table Tennis Championship

I was proud to support the recent Deakin Cup, a table tennis competition for year 6 students from primary schools within the Maroondah area. The competition was generously sponsored by **Eastland** and held in its world class competition facility, which hosted the 2022 International Table Tennis Federation Oceania Championships.



Vermont Football Club Presentation Night

It was great to join the **Vermont Football Club** for their 2022 Presentation Night, where I also got a chance to catch up with the outstanding premiership netball team (pictured).



Maroondah Calisthenic Club

Congratulations to **Maroondah Calisthenics Club** on their 50th annual concert. It was an amazing show and a great credit to all performers, coaches, parents and volunteers for such a huge effort.

Annual Teal Cup

I was pleased to join the **Vermont Cricket Club** and **Heatherdale Cricket Club** for their annual Teal Cup to raise funds and awareness for ovarian cancer.



Local Citizenship Ceremonies

Congratulations to all our newest Australians at the recent ceremonies in **Maroondah** and **Whitehorse**.



Eastwood Golf and Bowls Club



I was pleased to join **Eastwood Golf and Bowls Club** recently for the opening of the new season.

Chinese Association of Victoria



It was wonderful to catch up with many old friends at the **Chinese Association of Victoria** 40th Anniversary Ruby Gala event.





Our Local Community

Chin Championship Cup at Dorset Recreation Reserve



I was proud to join in the first major day of activities at the new (and nearly complete) Dorset Recreation Reserve, for the **Australia Chin Community (Eastern Melbourne)** Chin Championship Cup.



Maroondah Festival

The community recently came together for a fantastic day at the Maroondah Festival. Thanks to everyone who stopped by my stall for a chat and to **Maroondah City Council** for organising a brilliant community event.



Croydon Park Probus Club

Congratulations to the **Croydon Park Probus Club** on their recent anniversary celebrations. I enjoyed visiting on the day.



Croydon Hills Community Men's Shed Car Show

There was a huge turnout for the recent **Croydon Hills Community Men's Shed** Car and Bike Show. It was great to join the guys from the Shed who contribute so much time to our community.



Holy Name Anglican Church



It was wonderful to visit the **Holy Name Anglican Church** Fete, where each year Helen (pictured) and her team make the best Devonshire Tea!

Ringwood Training



I was happy to visit **Ringwood Training** recently to catch up and see the team in action. It was also an opportunity to thank **Ringwood Secondary College** for their continued support of the important work of Ringwood Training.

St. James Primary School



Thanks to **St. James Primary School** for inviting me to speak to their students and answer all their interesting questions about parliament and democracy.



Our Local Community



Local School Fetes



It has been a busy time, with a number of school fetes raising funds and bringing the community together, including Our Lady's Fete and Holy Spirit Community Fete (pictured).

Lane 88 Auto Museum



Many thanks to the team at **Lane 88 Auto Museum** for inviting me to check out the impressive collection. Car enthusiasts throughout Melbourne regularly enjoy this wonderful history which is generously made available.

Lions Club of Nunawading



It was wonderful to mark 75 Years of Lions at a celebration hosted by the **Lions Club of Nunawading**. We are fortunate that Lions still offers so many opportunities to get involved and contribute to our local community.

Croydon U3A 30th Birthday



Congratulations to the **Croydon U3A** on their 30th birthday celebration, where I enjoyed catching up with the Line Dancing group (pictured).

Anna and I were thrilled to join **Tintern Grammar** for the 2022 Presentation Ball, with each of the Presentees making their school and families proud.

Tintern Grammar 2022 Presentation Ball



Ringwood Bowls Club



I enjoyed dropping into **Ringwood Bowls Club** for Friday afternoon 'happy hour' recently, and was grateful to be presented with a personalised Ringwood uniform!

Summer Housing



Many thanks to the team from **Summer Housing** for showing me the Pace development in Blackburn, including the customised apartments for people with disability, who they are supporting as part of the project.

Local Sporting Champions



Congratulations to all of our local young athletes who recently received a Local Sporting Champion grant. I enjoyed meeting some of the recipients and congratulated them on their achievements.



Our Local Community

2022 Chin Harvest Festival



It was wonderful to join the **Australia Chin Community (Eastern Melbourne)** for the 2022 Chin Harvest Festival.

Combined Probus Club of Tunstall



Congratulations to the **Combined Probus Club of Tunstall** on their 25th anniversary.



Ability Works Australia

I recently visited **Ability Works Australia**, where I met employees with a disability who are meaningfully contributing to this thriving social enterprise.



Eastern Food Rescue

Thanks to the team at **Eastern Food Rescue** for their wonderful work supporting our community and keeping good food out of landfill. It was great to drop into **Nunawading Bunnings** to see the operation in full swing.

HE Parker Reserve Foundation



It was great to join the **Heathmont Jets Football Netball Club** and **Heathmont Cricket Club** for the unveiling of the HE Parker Reserve Pavilion Foundation. It was wonderful to be able to recognise everyone who contributed to this brilliant facility.

Croydon Rangers Gridiron Club



Thanks to the **Croydon Rangers Gridiron Club** and **Gridiron Australia** for having me down to see such a high level of competition at their new facility at Springfield Reserve.



Forest Hill Chase Community Space

It was great to be invited by the team at Forest Hill Chase Community Space to drop by and visit them. This is a wonderful collaboration between **Forest Hill Chase** and **Whitehorse Churches Care** to bring our community together.



Coles Vermont South Opening



Congratulations to the team at **Coles Vermont South** on the opening of their newly refurbished store. It was wonderful to mark the occasion of this significant investment into our local economy, and to also thank the Coles staff for their exceptionally hard work over a very challenging period.

Community Projects

Dorset Recreation Reserve, Croydon



The major development of the Dorset Recreation Reserve is nearly complete. 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**.

Heatherdale Pavilion, Mitcham



The new Heatherdale Pavilion in Mitcham is nearly finished. The pavilion will include a large multi-purpose function space, improved spectator viewing, a new kitchen, multiple change rooms and many other amenities to cater for the growing needs of the **Heatherdale Cricket Club**, **Heathmont Jets Junior Football Club**, as well as our community more broadly. I'm proud to have kick-started the project with a \$2 million grant from the former Coalition Government.

Cheong Park Pavilion, Croydon



Works at the redevelopment of Cheong Park are progressing. The upgrades will improve the entire pavilion with more space, updated facilities and much needed female friendly change rooms. This will be 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

Sportlink Redevelopment



The redevelopment of Sportlink is starting to take shape, with work continuing thanks to some slightly better weather! The project includes a new roof over the outdoor courts, upgraded court surfaces, LED lights, and improved drainage. I was proud to kick-off this project with a \$1.5 million grant to the **Whitehorse Netball Association**, and it's great to be partnering with **Whitehorse City Council** to make it a reality.

Ainslie Park Pavilion, Croydon

The new pavilion at Ainslie Park is complete. This is the home of the **Ainslie Park Cricket Club** and **East Ringwood Junior Football Club** which includes: multipurpose space, female friendly player change rooms, umpire change rooms, first aid room, and kitchen and kiosk. I have again enjoyed working with **Maroondah City Council** to deliver another important project for our community.



Croydon Park Oval



Prior to the election I was very proud to support **Croydon Football and Netball Club** and **Croydon Cricket Club** with the announcement of \$500,000 for new lighting at Croydon Park Oval, to be constructed by **Maroondah City Council**.

Wantirna Rd and Reilly St, Ringwood





The upgrades to the **Wantirna Rd** and **Reilly St** intersection in Ringwood are nearly complete. This upgrade is funded by a \$3m grant that I was pleased to secure for our community. The upgrades include new traffic lights, pedestrian crossings, and a dedicated right turn lane from Wantirna Rd. The project has been managed by VicRoads and we are awaiting the final minor steps for the project to be completed.



Canberra Update

LABOR'S 2022 FEDERAL BUDGET

In October, the Albanese Government handed down their first Budget. While we all know these are difficult times, the budget papers made clear that the Coalition's economic management put Australia in a stronger position than any major advanced economy. **However, the budget papers also confirm cost-of-living, power prices, taxes, interest rates, unemployment and the deficit are all going up. Under Labor's budget the average family will be \$2,000 worse off by the end of the year.** Electricity bills are also expected to go up by more than 50%, despite Labor's promise that they'd go down by \$275. And even though Labor promised "cheaper mortgages", interest rates have continued to increase.

Promise "cheaper electricity" <small>Source: Labor Campaign Launch</small>	Reality Electricity prices to increase by more than 50% <small>Source: Labor's Budget</small>
Promise "cheaper mortgages" <small>Source: Labor Campaign Launch</small>	Reality Cash rate  by 2.5% and forecast to go higher 

LABOR IS DEMONSTRATING ONCE AGAIN THEY CAN'T MANAGE THE ECONOMY

A number of important local projects in our community have been cancelled, including new train station car parks at Heatherdale and Heathmont (\$34m of funding cut), as well as the upgrade of Dorset Road in Croydon (\$50 million of funding cut).

I know that our community has fought hard for these and many other important local projects, and I am standing against these cuts and will continue to fight for what our community needs and deserves.



Before the Election "Our plan...will cut power bills for families and businesses by \$275 a year" <small>Source: Labor's election policy, May 2022</small>	After the Election "Electricity and gas prices are expected to rise sharply over the next 2 years" <small>Source: Labor's 2022-23 Budget, October 2022</small>
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National Disability Insurance Scheme



I have outlined the need to ensure that the money spent through the National Disability Insurance Scheme is directed where it is most needed, so that we can make sure the scheme remains financially sustainable and can continue to support those that need it in the future.

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. Labor's decision to axe the card will have devastating consequences for disadvantaged remote communities, with more alcohol and drugs flooding in.

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Labor have refused to support – and cancelled - a range of local community projects. Outlined below are the Coalition projects that have been cancelled or not supported by Labor, meaning our community misses out.



Ringwood City Soccer

New Soccer Pitch at Aquinas
\$2 million



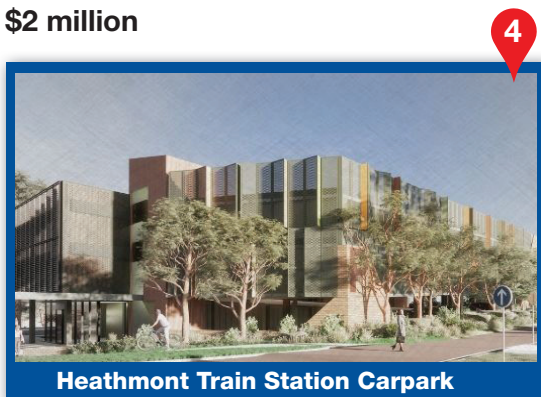
Maroondah Nets

New netball courts
\$1 million



Heatherdale Train Station

300 new car spaces
\$15 million



Heathmont Train Station Carpark

300 new car spaces
\$19 million



Dorset Rd

Upgrade
\$50 million



East West Link

Building the East West Link
\$4 billion

- 7 **Burnt Bridge Tennis Club**
Court and lighting upgrades
\$140,000
- 8 **Croydon East Kilsyth Tennis Club**
New Synthetic Courts
\$180,000
- 9 **Gracedale Park Tennis Club**
Upgrades to the facility
\$180,000
- 10 **North Ringwood Tennis Club**
New fencing and lighting upgrade
\$150,000

- 11 **Parkwood Tennis**
Resurfaced courts
\$120,000







Out and about in Deakin



Christmas Giving Tree

I am again asking local residents, community groups and businesses to support the **Deakin Christmas Giving Tree** by donating non-perishable food items including Christmas puddings and cakes, along with vouchers, children's toys and other essentials such as new clothing, blankets and toiletries. This year the Deakin Christmas Giving Tree will provide much-needed support to local families through **Hope City Mission** in Croydon. Donations can be dropped off at my office in Mitcham or the **Bendigo Bank Ringwood East** until Tuesday, 20 December.



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.

