

MICHAEL SUKKAR MP

Federal Member for Deakin



Deakin Community News | Summer 2013

Dear fellow resident

As the new Federal member for Deakin I'm delighted to be sending you the inaugural edition of Deakin Community News.

This quarterly newsletter is an important way for me to stay in touch and to let you know what activities I've been involved with as your representative, both here in Deakin and in the Parliament. I encourage you to please provide feedback and inform me of any community events in your area.

It is a great privilege to represent the people of Deakin and I sincerely thank you for your support. I have been hard at work since the election result on September 7. My new office has opened at 5/602 Whitehorse Road in Mitcham. Please drop in or phone on 9874 1711 if there is any matter I can assist you with.

I've also been busy with numerous community events and activities in the lead up to Christmas. I'm very grateful to the community for extending me such a warm welcome.

As the year draws to a close, I would like to wish you and your family all the very best for Christmas and the New Year.

Yours sincerely

Scouts Victoria Awards Night

I had the pleasure of addressing the Scouts Victoria Mt Dandenong Region Awards Night in Nunawading. I am pictured here with Region Commissioner Gary Park and a number of dedicated scouts.



Flag presentation at Mitcham RSL

I recently visited the Mitcham RSL to present a new Australian Flag. The Parliament provides the Australian Flag, the Aboriginal Flag and the Torres Strait Islander Flag to community groups.

If you would like to request a flag, please contact my office.



Eastern Palliative Care Quilt Show

Eastern Palliative Care held a spectacular Quilt Show in Nunawading. The show raised funds to support the vital work that the organisation does delivering free, home-based palliative care services in the eastern region.



Grants for community-based health projects

Eastern Melbourne Medicare Local, in partnership with the Outer East Health & Community Support Alliance, has provided grants for six local health projects. I presented the grants to the recipients such as Maroondah City Council, which will support older, isolated people to catch public transport.



Commemorating the Centenary of Anzac

The Coalition Government has increased funding to commemorate the Centenary of Anzac in Deakin to \$125,000. I have set up a local committee to help guide our approach and review proposed commemorations.

For more information go to www.anzaccentenary.gov.au



A happy day at McDonald's

I greeted customers and collected donations in Ringwood on McHappy Day. It was great to see so many people supporting this worthy fundraiser.

Stepping out for Spring

The Whitehorse and Maroondah Festivals attracted hundreds of people outdoors to enjoy good food and entertainment. I headed to the festivals with my supporters and had great fun chatting with local residents.



A local hero

It was a privilege to be welcomed into the home of World War II veteran Ted Grice. Like so many others of his generation, this 91-year-old made huge sacrifices to protect our way of life here in Australia.



The Deakin Shield

Deakin has a long tradition of the Federal member recognising our school students. I have recommended the Deakin Shield to recognise the valuable contribution of students from each participating school. I congratulate all of our students on reaching the end of another school year.



Maroondah Citizenship Ceremony

It was an honour to address Australia's newest citizens at a recent Citizenship Ceremony and to share in the warmth and friendship of this important occasion. I congratulated our new citizens on their commitment to our country and all it stands for.



New member of the 44th Parliament

I sincerely thank you for the opportunity to represent Deakin. I took my oath to serve in the 44th Parliament with a deep sense of the responsibility and trust that comes with holding this privileged position.



Supporting small business

Small businesses in Deakin were given a real boost when the Prime Minister visited Croydon to launch Shop Small Australia. The Minister for Small Business also joined me at Ronald King in Croydon's Main Street. Small businesses are the backbone of our country so I urge you to think small when you shop!

Building the East West Link

I am working with the State Government to ensure the Federal Coalition Government's \$1.5 billion commitment to the East West Link is put to good use as soon as possible. I am also working to deliver on other local road projects in Ringwood and Blackburn North.



Schools celebrate

I've enjoyed supporting a number of school fetes, including opening Tinternvale Primary School's event and serving at the hot chip stall with Fr. Andrew Keswick at Our Lady's Primary School in Ringwood.

Eastland's \$575 million expansion

Ringwood is buzzing with excitement over the expansion of Eastland. I am pictured here at Eastland's announcement with the Premier Denis Naphthine, Minister Ryan Smith, Jan Kronberg MLC and Maroondah Mayor Nora Lamont.



Chin New Year Festival

We have a vibrant Burmese Chin community in Deakin. I joined in the celebration of this year's New Year Harvest Festival, and enjoyed traditional Chin dance performances and songs.

Out and about in the electorate of Deakin

- ✓ Met with **Nunawading** Vikings Basketball Club
- ✓ Spoke at the Whitehorse Ratepayers & Residents' Association AGM in **Blackburn**
- ✓ Attended Whitehorse Community Dinner in **Nunawading**
- ✓ Raised money for McHappy Day in **Ringwood**
- ✓ Attended Dinner Tonite at NewHope Church in **Blackburn North**
- ✓ Presented Scouts awards in **Nunawading**
- ✓ Presented an Australian Flag to **Mitcham RSL**
- ✓ Visited the Eastern Palliative Care Quilt Show at the **Nunawading** Uniting Church
- ✓ Attended the Whitehorse Business Group's Excellence in Business Awards
- ✓ Attended **Vermont** South Cricket Club Lunch
- ✓ Held stalls at Maroondah Festival in **Croydon** and Whitehorse Festival in **Nunawading**
- ✓ Opened the Tinternvale Primary School fete in **Ringwood East**



- ✓ Helped at a stall at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Primary School fete in **Ringwood**
- ✓ Spoke at Lao Elderly Association's community safety initiative launch in **Mitcham**
- ✓ Presented grants for health projects at Eastern Melbourne Medicare Local in **Croydon**
- ✓ Spoke at a Citizenship Ceremony in **Ringwood**
- ✓ Attended the Maroondah Mayoral Charity Ball in **Ringwood**
- ✓ Attended the launch of a new transport software platform at Eastern Volunteers in **Ringwood**
- ✓ Visited Whitehorse Community Men's Shed at Nadrasca in **Nunawading**
- ✓ Enjoyed afternoon tea and presented Australian Flag at the **Vermont** Elderly People's Homes
- ✓ Attended Victoria Cross Print unveiling in **Mitcham**
- ✓ Attended Livingstone Primary School fete in **Vermont South**
- ✓ Raised awareness about human trafficking by participating in "Ping-Pong-a-Thon" at NewHope Church, **Blackburn North**



Community Noticeboard

Community forums 2014

I will hold community forums in 2014 so that you can voice your concerns and ask questions about the Coalition Government's policies. Details of the forums will be publicised in the new year.

Congratulatory messages

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

Australian Flags

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

About Michael

I've 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 before earning a double degree in Commerce and Law from Deakin University and later, a Master of Laws from the University of Melbourne. I went on to develop a career in the law.

I'm fighting for local small businesses and jobs, and easing the burden on families by abolishing the carbon tax. I'm also working hard to implement the Coalition Government's local commitments.

With the support of my wife Anna, I am committed to making a real difference.

