



MICHAEL SUKKAR MP

Federal Member for Deakin



Deakin Community News | Spring 2016

Dear fellow 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 45th Parliament of Australia.

I am humbled and grateful for your support, and I will continue to be your strong advocate in Canberra, working tirelessly to deliver positive outcomes for our community.

It has been a busy few months since the election.

Deakin welcomed Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull to Heathmont Village, where he greeted local residents and traders and reaffirmed the Coalition Government's commitment to upgrading Canterbury Rd.

I've started work on the delivery of all of my election commitments for Deakin, including new and improved local sporting facilities, upgraded roads, better health services, additional safety infrastructure and the rejuvenation of local parks and open spaces.

In Parliament, I have been appointed Chair of the Parliamentary Joint Committee on Intelligence and Security and the re-elected Coalition Government remains focused on building a strong economy.

As always, I've enjoyed spending time with local schools, businesses, community groups, families and individuals from across the electorate. I hope to see you out enjoying the warmer weather soon!

Yours sincerely,

Michael Sukkar MP



First step towards new netball stadium

The re-elected Coalition Government has reconfirmed our commitment to provide \$10.5 million for a new regional indoor netball centre at Heathmont's HE Parker Reserve.

Maroondah City Council and the Melbourne East Netball Association, ably led by President Kylie Spears (pictured), have welcomed this first step towards realising our shared vision of a quality indoor facility that will boost participation in women's sport.



EACH opens innovative development

It was an honour to help open EACH Housing's specialist disability development in Ringwood.

Supported through a Federal Government grant, the innovative new residence has six apartments designed specifically to allow people with significant physical limitations to live independently, while sharing the additional support that they each require.

Fixing Maroondah Hwy/Dorset Rd

Critical upgrades to reduce congestion at Croydon's Maroondah Hwy and Dorset Rd intersection will go ahead, thanks to an \$8 million investment from the returned Coalition Government.

Backed by the Maroondah City Council and local residents, including Cr Rob Steane and Tasa Damante (both pictured), this road project will slash travel times and improve safety.

The Government is investing \$9.3 million in local roads, including Canterbury Rd and Bedford Rd in Heathmont and Dunlavin Rd, Nunawading.



"We're lucky to have a member who really supports small business. I appreciate him visiting my shop to talk about what matters to me as a small business owner."

– Bill Ma, Ausmart, Nunawading



Intelligence & Security Committee

It was an honour to be appointed Chair of the Parliamentary Joint Committee on Intelligence and Security, which has oversight of our security and intelligence agencies, including ASIO.

At a time of significant volatility, the committee's work will be crucial in keeping Australia safe from the many threats we face.



Survey supports East West Link

The RACV's Red Spot survey proves again that the Eastern Fwy at Hoddle St and Alexandra Pde is Victoria's most hated intersection. More Victorians are spending more and more of their time stuck in traffic instead of being home with their families.

No wonder Victorians are so angry with Daniel Andrews for wasting \$1.1 billion to not build the East West Link.



MRI facility opens

Maroondah Hospital's new MRI facility was recently opened by Kristie, the first patient to use the MRI.

The facility will also soon become the first bulk-billed MRI service in our region, with the re-elected Coalition Government providing \$6 million for an ongoing full Medicare licence.



PM visits Heathmont Village

The Prime Minister made a post-election visit to Heathmont Village shops to greet local residents and shop owners.

It was also an opportunity for the Prime Minister to acknowledge and thank the Deakin electorate for supporting the Coalition Government.



Manufacturing investment

Blackburn-based RayGen Resources will benefit from the Coalition Government's Next Generation Manufacturing Investment Programme.

The business will receive a \$1.6 million grant to help establish a new manufacturing facility to better compete in the global market.



Protecting CFA volunteers

The Coalition Government has introduced legislation to amend the Fair Work Act and protect CFA volunteers from a hostile union takeover.

CFA volunteers support Victorians in their hour of need - the Parliament now has a duty to stand up for them.



Hospital car park increase

Parking shortages at Maroondah Hospital are set to be addressed, with the re-elected Coalition Government contributing \$2 million to improve parking facilities.

Residents have consistently voiced their frustration about the lack of parking, and I also want to acknowledge the advocacy of my state colleagues, Ringwood MP, Dee Ryall, Croydon MP, David Hodggett, and Bayswater MP, Heidi Victoria, in helping to secure this funding.

Battle of Long Tan commemoration

Croydon RSL Sub-branch hosted a moving service for Vietnam Veterans Day, which this year also marked the 50th anniversary of the Battle of Long Tan.

It was an important opportunity for our community to remember the service and sacrifice of those who served in Vietnam.



"Michael is a very supportive and approachable local representative and I thank him for all of the support his office provides."

– Su Dempsey, Blackburn Lake Area, Neighbourhood Watch Whitehorse



Donwood Aged Care expands

The not-for-profit organisation, Donwood Community Aged Care Services, in Croydon is adding 15 new rooms and refurbishing 30 rooms to help cater for the area's growing ageing population.

It was a pleasure to join the Donwood team, including Board of Management Chair Richard Carter, for a progress inspection of the \$9 million extension.



New Norwood stadium

Norwood Secondary College will receive \$1.6 million from the re-elected Coalition Government to build a new multipurpose stadium.

The funding will contribute to a quality indoor facility and enable a new partnership between the school and the Ringwood Hawks Basketball Association.



Win for local sport

Community sport in Deakin was a big winner at the recent election, with the Coalition Government reaffirming our commitment to provide \$13.5 million for sporting facilities.

The projects set to proceed include the upgrade of club rooms at Mitcham's Walker Park, Blackburn's Morton Park and Heathmont's HE Parker Reserve.



Sporting champions

Another round of Local Sporting Champions grants have been awarded to young athletes, aged between 12 and 18 years, assisting them to take part in competitions.

Congratulations to the recent recipients: Shiori Bak, Koby Bland, Zachary Busch, Cade Cavanagh, Charlise Dunn, Bevan Fernandes, James Harland, Ronan Keating, Jackson Keogh, Ivan Rajher, James Richardson, Jasmine Rowe, Sofia Sakalis, Alia South, Ellen Walker, Michelle Wu and Sarah Zhang.



Community grants

The Stronger Communities Programme has enabled me to deliver many small grants to help build vital community infrastructure.

Round 2 recipients include North Ringwood Senior Citizens Centre, Ringwood Bowls Club, Mitcham Bowling Club, East Ringwood Community Hub, Croydon West Girl Guides, Ringwood Ballet, U3A Ringwood, Salvation Army Just Brass Band and SALT – Sport and Life Training.



Green Army

The Green Army will get to work again under the re-elected Coalition Government.

Two new environmental projects will include revegetation works at Yarran Dheran Nature Reserve, Antonio Park, Schwerkolt Cottage, Loughies Bushland and BJ Hubbard Reserve.



45th Parliament

It is an honour to serve you in the 45th Parliament of Australia.

The Parliament opened with the usual pomp and ceremony, including my nomination of the Member for Casey, the Hon Tony Smith MP (pictured), as the Speaker of the Parliament.

Out and about in the electorate of Deakin



Prime Timers group at New Hope Baptist Church



With paralympian Matthew Haanappel



Blackburn business Cnaptic



EFL finals with Blackburn Football Club



Maroondah Citizenship Ceremony



Melba College's Wizard of Oz production



Mitcham Bowling Club



Melbourne East Netball Association Blue Day



Sky News



Vermont Uniting Care Op Shop



Women in Charity Breakfast with Mitcham Junior Football Club



Opening of the new Nunawading Seventh Day Adventist Church



National Tree Day at Nunawading Christian College



Taralye Market Day



Croydon Junior Football Club

Out and about in the electorate of Deakin

- ✓ Supported the Melbourne East Netball Association's Blue Day at HE Parker Reserve in **Heathmont** to raise money for beyondblue
- ✓ Hosted the **Mitcham** Junior Football Club Girls' team at the Women in Footy Charity Breakfast
- ✓ Enjoyed watching Melba College's production of the Wizard of Oz in **Croydon**
- ✓ Dropped in to **Vermont** South Cricket Club to check on the progress of their new club rooms
- ✓ Joined in the fun at the annual Spring Celebration at the Tintern Grammar farm in **Ringwood East**
- ✓ Planted trees with students from **Nunawading** Christian College for National Tree Day
- ✓ Held a market stall at the annual Taralye Market Day to help support the Oral Language Centre for Deaf Children in **Blackburn**
- ✓ Visited the wonderful volunteers at Uniting Care's Op Shop in **Vermont**
- ✓ Attended the opening of the new building at the Dr Stanley Cochrane Memorial Kindergarten in **Mitcham**
- ✓ Viewed the beautiful work by students at the Ainslie Parklands Primary School Art Show in **Croydon**
- ✓ Congratulated the new future leaders at St John's Parish Primary School **Mitcham** and presented plants for National Tree Day
- ✓ Presented student awards and spoke at **Heathmont** College's Academic Awards
- ✓ Delivered the guest speech at the "Prime Timers" group meeting at NewHope Baptist Church in **Blackburn**
- ✓ Dropped in to a meeting of the **Heathmont** History Group to chat with members
- ✓ Joined the **Mitcham**-based president, Dr Ka Sing Chua, and his team at the Chinese Association Of Victoria's Grease themed ball
- ✓ Supported Livingston Primary School's "Go for Gold" Gala event in **Forest Hill**



- ✓ Watched various football games including **Vermont** Football Club's win over Noble Park
- ✓ Chatted with members of the Maroondah Brits at the **Ringwood** RSL Sub-branch
- ✓ Helped out on the Rotary Club of **Nunawading's** egg and bacon stall at the Whitehorse Farmers Market
- ✓ Dropped in to **Blackburn** business, Cnaptic, to learn more about the STEM education programs they provide for young people
- ✓ Attended the **South Croydon** Football Club's Sponsors Function at Cheong Park

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 in the Federal Parliament. 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.

