



MICHAEL SUKKAR MP

Federal Member for Deakin

Assistant Minister to the Treasurer



Deakin Community News | Summer 2017

Dear fellow resident

Welcome to the first issue of the Deakin Community News for 2017.

Last year was very exciting for our community, with many projects being completed and a number of new initiatives getting under way. This year holds even more promise, and I look forward to working with you as we continue to make Deakin a better place to live.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the selfless volunteers who contribute so much to our community. Many of these volunteers were out in force supporting school and church fetes as well as various end-of-year fundraising drives for those in need, including the Deakin Christmas Giving Tree.

As always, it was an honour to award the Deakin Shield to students who excelled during 2016. With school now returning from the summer break, I extend my best wishes to all of our students and encourage them to make the most of the exciting opportunities that this year presents.

It was also my privilege to be recently sworn in as Assistant Minister to the Treasurer.

I would like to acknowledge the support I've received from the Deakin electorate. It is only due to the trust I've been given as your elected representative that I am able to serve in this new role that serves the whole nation. Indeed, it will be the experiences I had growing up in the Deakin electorate – in a small business family – which will inform and motivate my work in this portfolio.

Best wishes for a safe and prosperous New Year and I look forward to seeing you out and about in the electorate.

Yours sincerely,

Michael Sukkar MP



Deakin Shield

The Deakin Shield, generously sponsored by Eastland, is awarded to local students who have excelled during their school year.

It was my great pleasure to recognise more than 150 talented and hardworking students, from 46 local schools, at the end of last year for their musical, sporting, artistic, community service and academic achievements.



Maroondah Hospital receives MRI licence

I was delighted to recently deliver on my election commitment to secure a full Medicare licence for the new MRI (Magnetic Resonance Imaging) service at Maroondah Hospital.

Patients now have bulk billing access to the new MRI, with the Turnbull Government providing \$7.3 million in funding for the much-needed licence. This is a major boost to health services in Melbourne's east.

Tougher terrorism laws

The Parliamentary Joint Committee on Intelligence & Security, on which I served as Chairman, recently reviewed the High Risk Terrorist Offenders (HRTTO) Bill.

The Bill is a critical measure to help protect our community by ensuring that unrepentant terrorists remain in custody at the end of their prison sentences.

The Government accepted all of the Committee's recommendations about the Bill, which has now passed through the Parliament.



“It’s been wonderful to receive advocacy for the needs we have raising a child with special needs. We have battled bureaucracy for years to gain support and funding that has recently been released after the involvement of Michael Sukkar. We are eternally grateful and utilising the new funds to assist us with raising our child.”

– Marita McKeon, Heathmont



Community spirit

Thank you to everyone who generously donated to the Deakin Christmas Giving Tree in support of the Eastern Emergency Relief Network in Mitcham.

With your support, the EERN organised hampers so that the most vulnerable in our community still experienced the joy of receiving something special at Christmas.



School upgrades

Nunawading Christian College has received a \$790,000 grant from the Coalition Government for much-needed works at the school.

The school will undertake large-scale refurbishments to science laboratories, the library and class rooms as well as the installation of a new lift.

Croydon CCTV funding

The Coalition Government has delivered \$435,000 in funding to upgrade 14 existing cameras and install seven new cameras in central Croydon.

It is important for everyone to feel safe in our community, and I will continue to work with local residents, traders, police and the Maroondah City Council on ways to improve safety.



Indo Pacific internships

The New Colombo Plan is an Australian Government initiative to increase our knowledge of the Indo Pacific by giving undergraduate students the opportunity to access internships.

Ringwood resident Daniel de Waard is this year's Taiwan scholar. A Monash University student, Daniel will study electronics and Chinese at the National Taiwan University and intern with an electronics company.



Deakin needs East West Link

I hope you will join me this year in continuing to push for the East West Link.

By shutting down construction, the incoming Andrews Labor Government denied us the vital road link we needed and cost taxpayers more than \$1 billion with nothing to show for it. It is hard to imagine a more detrimental outcome for Melbourne's eastern suburbs.



Sporting grants

Ten inspiring young athletes recently received grants through the Local Sporting Champions programme to help them take part in state, national and international competitions.

Congratulations to the recipients: Kaelan Boundy, Tobias Cox, Byron Fernandes, Nicole Grimbeek, Alexandra Harland, Dacia Koelmeyer, Lexiie Leloudas, Shelby Mcveagh, Ethan Newnham and Scott Sturrock.



Sponsored parent visas

Our community has provided input into the introduction of a Temporary Sponsored Parent Visa, which aims to make it easier for parents living overseas to visit their families here.

Having strongly advocated for this new visa, I was pleased that the Assistant Minister for Immigration and Border Protection, the Hon Alex Hawke MP, could visit Deakin to receive feedback from people who will benefit from this new visa.

“Michael’s membership of Rotary and support for other local charities gives us a Federal member with local caring - the best of both worlds.”

– Ian Armstrong, President of Eastern Emergency Relief Network, Mitcham



New Vermont hospital

It was an honour to open the new Vermont South Medical Centre and Vermont Private Hospital.

This \$50 million medical facility offers many health services to the community including general practice, pharmacy, optometry, diagnostic radiology and pathology, a private surgical hospital and specialist consulting clinics.



Listening to locals

I host regular listening posts throughout the electorate, including at shopping centres, markets and festivals, so I have an opportunity to chat with local people about what really matters to them.

Please come and say hi to me in 2017! For more information, go to www.michaelsukkar.com.au



International Disability Day

Glen Park Community Centre hosted a fantastic celebration for the International Day of People with Disability.

Congratulations to all of the Monkami clients and staff who took part in the Community Shed and other programmes in 2016, and best wishes for another successful year.

Local innovation

The Turnbull Government is continuing to implement our \$1.1 billion National Innovation and Science Agenda to boost investment, generate jobs and improve the quality of our lives.

Industry, Innovation and Science Minister, the Hon Greg Hunt MP, recently visited Trajan Scientific and Medical in Ringwood, which is leading the way in niche medical and scientific technologies.



Keeping score

A new scoreboard has been installed in Ringwood's Jubilee Park.

I was pleased to help the Ringwood Football, Cricket and Spiders Clubs to secure funding for this much-needed upgrade through the Coalition Government's Stronger Communities Programme.

A special visit

I was very lucky to be visited by my little mate Evan, who I was able to assist in obtaining a Cochlear implant nearly two years ago.

Evan has come a long way in the past couple of years, and is a testament to our medical professionals and teachers at Aurora School and Taralye.



Your voice in Canberra

I will continue to stand up in the Parliament for the issues that matter to the Deakin community. Matters I've spoken on recently include:

- Stamping out gang violence in Victoria
- Acknowledging the hard work of local community groups and volunteers who are the backbone of our community
- New and improved community infrastructure including better roads and upgraded sporting facilities

The Coalition Government has also delivered on our mandate, passing legislation through the Parliament that will bring back the Australian Building and Construction Commission to stop union corruption.

Out and about in the electorate of Deakin



Chin New Year Festival



Cr Robert Chong Retirement Dinner



Blackburn Lake Sanctuary Cultural Day



Infinity Church Ringwood



Greek Elderly Citizens of Nunawading



Sri Vkrathunda Vinayagar Hindu Temple



Great Ryrie Primary School fete



Heatherdale Tennis Club 50th anniversary



Marlborough Primary School 40th anniversary



Maroondah Italian Senior Citizens



Melbourne East Netball Association presentation



St John's fete



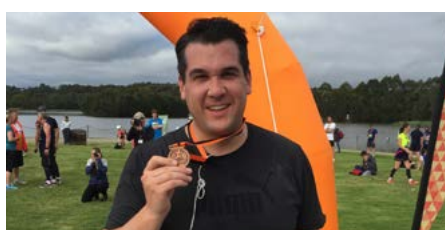
Remembrance Day at Ringwood RSL



Student Leadership Roundtable



McHappy Day in Ringwood



Run for the Young



Ringwood Ballet Group's A Midsummer Night's Dream

Out and about in the electorate of Deakin

- ✓ Attended the **Ringwood** & District Historical Society AGM
- ✓ Attended the annual Christmas luncheon at Koonung Cottage Community House in **Blackburn North**
- ✓ Watched cricket with **Vermont South** Cricket Club at their new pavilion and club rooms
- ✓ Dropped in for lunch with participants at the **Croydon** Men's Shed
- ✓ Enjoyed a festive afternoon tea at **Mitcham** Community House
- ✓ Opened the new building at Our Lady of Perpetual Help School in **Ringwood**
- ✓ Spoke to Victorian School of Languages students at their end-of-year concert at Melba College in **Croydon**
- ✓ Opened the new community day centre at Donwood Community Aged Care in **Croydon**
- ✓ Helped out at numerous church and school fetes, including the **Ringwood** Uniting Church Preschool Night Market and the Old Orchard Primary School Fete in **Blackburn**
- ✓ Congratulated volunteers on the 50th anniversary of the **Mitcham** Maroondah Hospital Auxiliary
- ✓ Hosted stalls at the Whitehorse City Council's Spring Festival and the Maroondah Festival in **Croydon**
- ✓ Addressed a meeting of the Melbourne Eastern Branch of the Association of Independent Retirees in **Nunawading**
- ✓ Hosted stalls at the Whitehorse City Council's Spring Festival and the Maroondah Festival in **Croydon**
- ✓ Visited numerous local small businesses including Made Locally in **Ringwood North**
- ✓ Joined in the monthly community meal at St Mark's **Forest Hill**
- ✓ Helped **Mitcham's** Heatherdale



Community Action Group to facilitate a discussion on local homelessness

- ✓ Visited the **Croydon** and **Forest Hill** police stations to get feedback about the issues currently facing police officers
- ✓ Attended meeting of the **Nunawading** Gymnastics & Sports Club
- ✓ Dropped in to the **Ringwood** Church of Christ Youth Evening
- ✓ Listened to the MS Singers perform at The Nerve Centre in **Blackburn**



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 2017. Please contact my office.



Appointment as Assistant Minister to the Treasurer

I am humbled to be given the opportunity by the Prime Minister to serve as the Assistant Minister to the Treasurer and look forward to advancing the economic interests of all Australians.

At a time of global economic uncertainty, it's never been more important for us to continue implementing our national economic plan; that includes promoting investment, driving innovation, reducing the tax burden on investment and enterprise, opening up new export markets and building economic infrastructure.

I am proud to be the first Federal Member for Deakin appointed to the Ministry and I thank the Deakin community for the trust you have placed in me.

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