



MICHAEL SUKKAR MP

Federal Member for Deakin

Assistant Minister to the Treasurer



Deakin Community News | Winter 2017

Dear fellow resident

Welcome to another edition of the Deakin Community News.

We've recently wrapped up the 2017-18 Budget, with many positive outcomes for Deakin residents.

As Assistant Minister to the Treasurer, I was pleased to play an active role in the budget process, especially with respect to addressing the issue of housing affordability. The Coalition Government is making changes that will help more people realise their goal of home ownership.

I have also secured funding to upgrade our roads, with the Budget confirming that more than \$11.5 million will be invested in Deakin. Improving our local road network remains a high priority for me and our campaign to build the East West Link is unrelenting.

Many community groups will benefit from an investment of more than \$16 million in new infrastructure in the Budget, and it has been exciting to see a number of ongoing projects reach completion in recent months. I will continue to deliver on my commitment to provide better infrastructure for Deakin.

The Deakin Community Awards are coming up this month, as we uphold our tradition of honouring the unsung heroes who volunteer their time to our community.

I also continue to hold regular listening posts throughout the electorate and encourage you to drop by to share your views.

On a personal note, I'm very happy to have recently become a father and sincerely thank you for your kind wishes. We look forward to introducing Leo to you all over time.

Yours sincerely,

Michael Sukkar MP



Netball stadium

Construction for the new state-of-the-art HE Parker Multi Sport Complex in Heathmont is set to start late 2017.

The final plans are being drawn up and \$10.5 million is available from the Federal Government.



Lights switched on

Having initiated and funded the Bedford Rd and Great Ryrie St signalisation project in Ringwood, it was exciting to see the new traffic lights turned on.

If you have suggestions about other roads in Deakin that should be upgraded, please email me at Michael.Sukkar.MP@aph.gov.au.

East Ringwood Pavilion opens

The impressive new multipurpose pavilion in Ringwood East – named after local stalwart, Brian Coopersmith – has officially opened its doors.

I was thrilled to open the new facility after securing \$500,000 funding to get the project off the ground, plus a further \$40,000 to fit out the community hub and install a new scoreboard. A great result for our community!

Backing volunteers

The Coalition Government is investing in our community through Volunteer Grants, which provide up to \$5000 for the purchase of equipment, training and transport.

Congratulations to the recipients: **3rd Croydon Scout Group, Aspergers Victoria, Boys' Brigade 21st VIC, Chin Community Victoria, Eastwood Primary School, Heathmont Inter Church Help, Mitcham Junior Football Club, Multiple Sclerosis Singing Group, The Dining Room Mission, The Lions Club of Croydon, and The Lions Club of Heathmont.**



“We really appreciate the continued support of Michael and his help in promoting women’s football.”

– Pat Mannix, President, Blackburn Junior Football Club



Bowled over

Ringwood Bowls Club has opened its new facilities, which include an outside patio and newly refurbished indoor area where members can relax before and after a game.

I was delighted to assist with the upgrades by providing \$20,000 through the Coalition Government's Stronger Communities Programme.



Maroondah Hospital parking boost

The Coalition Government has approved up to \$2 million in funding to help build more than 350 new parking spaces at Maroondah Hospital.

This funding delivers on my 2016 election commitment to address the longstanding shortage of parking at the hospital for the benefit of residents, patients and visitors.

Norwood SC scores funding

Norwood Secondary College has received exciting news – \$1.6 million is now available from the Coalition Government to build its new multipurpose stadium.

Delivering on my 2016 election commitment, the funding will assist with the construction of a quality indoor facility for the benefit of the school and Ringwood Hawks Basketball Association.



Space for seniors

Members of the North Ringwood Senior Citizens' Centre have been enjoying their newly refurbished hall, funded through the Coalition Government's Stronger Communities Programme.

I was pleased to support this project to provide much-needed space for the centre's growing membership.



Keep up to date with Michael on Facebook:
facebook.com/Michael.Sukkar.MP



Follow Michael on Twitter at:
[@MichaelSukkarMP](https://twitter.com/MichaelSukkarMP)



Young champs

Another successful round of Local Sporting Champions Grants has been awarded to assist young athletes to take part in sporting competitions around the country.

Congratulations to **Jordan Busch, Gary Haasbroek, Harry Morgan, Ryan Bicknell, Geromi Tucker, Paul Haasbroek, Mietta Kendall, Bianca Hansen and Brook Mullenger.**



Get us moving - EW Link

Melbourne's eastern suburbs are being crippled by traffic congestion and Labor has no plan. We know there is no substitute for the East West Link when it comes to combating congestion on the Eastern Freeway.

As the Budget confirmed, the Coalition Government still has \$3 billion on the table for any government willing to start the shovel-ready East West Link. **Just build it!**



Upgrading our roads

Improving our local road network is a priority for me. I've been working to deliver Coalition Government funding for vital upgrades to make our roads safer and ease congestion including:

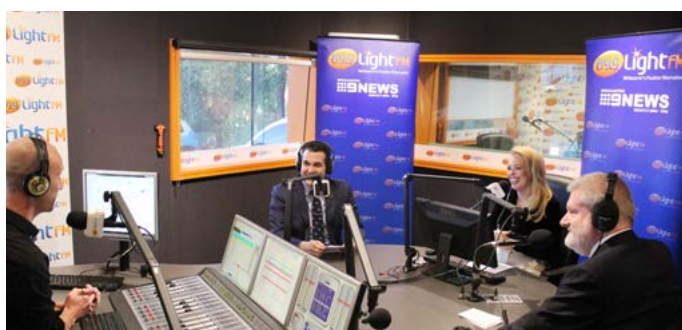
- **Dorset Rd/Maroondah Hwy – \$8 million** has been allocated to ease congestion at this notorious intersection. Consultation has commenced, with works expected to start before the year's end.
- **Dunlavin Rd/Maroondah Hwy – \$100,000** has been approved to upgrade this trouble spot, making it safer for motorists to turn in traffic. Work is expected to be completed by early next year.
- **Canterbury Rd, Heathmont Village – \$1.2 million** will enable works to improve safety and access for motorists entering Heathmont Village.



CCTV up and running

CCTV cameras are now operating in Ringwood and Ringwood East.

It was a pleasure to recently meet with Café Emjay owner and CCTV advocate, Bill Buchanan (pictured), to share the good news after delivering \$400,000 in funding for this vital project to make our neighbourhood safer.



Radio boost

The Coalition Government has announced \$6.1 million in new funding for the community radio sector.

It was great to visit the local community radio station, 89.9 LightFM in Mitcham, to make the funding announcement with the Minister for Communications, Senator the Hon. Mitch Fifield.

Budget 2017-18: Better days ahead

As Assistant Minister to the Treasurer, I worked with my parliamentary colleagues to ensure this year's Budget delivered fairness, opportunity and security for all Australians.

Here are some key facts and figures about how Deakin will benefit:

- **24,159** students will benefit from a \$261 million funding increase
- **2,841** people will be helped once the NDIS is fully rolled out
- Over **14,000** small businesses will benefit from tax breaks
- **7,670** families use Government supported child care, which will be more accessible and affordable
- More than **2,417** preschool children will benefit from additional funding
- Record Medicare funding will protect vital services, with bulk billing rates at **81.3%**
- **713** veterans and their families will receive free mental health support
- **1,599** Department of Veterans' Affairs clients will have easier access to services and improved processing times for claims
- **1,400** young people will receive training to get a job

"We're very grateful to Michael for securing Federal Government funding for...our school."

– Andrew Sloane, Principal, Norwood Secondary College



Mental health support

Looking after the mental health of our young people is an absolute priority for the Turnbull Government.

I joined the Minister for Health, the Hon Greg Hunt MP, at Vermont Secondary College to announce a \$73 million investment in two mental health programs for school-aged children.



Aged care extension

I was honoured to officially open the extension to the Ringwood Area Lions Aged Care Home.

The \$4 million extension, funded by the Federal Government, provides additional beds and space for residents.



Housing affordability

Everyone should have a realistic opportunity to own their own home.

As Assistant Minister to the Treasurer, I've outlined a targeted and comprehensive plan to tackle housing affordability and improve economic and social outcomes for all Australians.

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

Out and about in the electorate of Deakin



22nd Engineer Regiment with Minister for Defence Personnel the Hon Dan Tehan MP



39th City of Maroondah Athletics Carnival



Antonio Park Primary School Fete



Vermont South Cricket Club



Heathmont Jets Junior Football Club



Clean Up Australia Day



Mitcham Bowling Club



Croydon Primary School ANZAC Plinth



Student Leadership Roundtable



Heatherdale Recreation & Bowls Club



HE Parker Tennis Club Championships



Listening Post - Ringwood East



Salvation Army Multicultural Launch



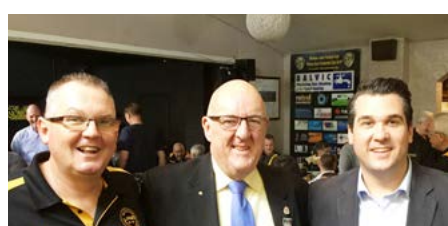
Maroondah Community Assist



Heathmont Interchurch Help Op-Shop



East Ringwood Junior Football Club



Mitcham Football Club

Out and about in the electorate of Deakin

- ✓ Enjoyed the Tintern Grammar School Fete and Fireworks in **Ringwood**
- ✓ Spoke to students about democracy at **Bayswater North** Primary School
- ✓ Held a forum for residents at Cherry Tree Grove Village in **Croydon**
- ✓ Attended the Rotary Club of **Croydon's** Changeover Dinner
- ✓ Watched numerous football games, including the **South Croydon** versus **Blackburn** match on ANZAC Day
- ✓ Presented leadership badges at various schools, including St John's **Mitcham**
- ✓ Spoke to residents at Forest Hills Retirement Village in **Nunawading**
- ✓ Supported the launch of the **Melbourne Eastern** Residents Association
- ✓ Attended a morning service at **Croydon's** Hope City Church
- ✓ Visited New Hope Baptist Church in **Blackburn**
- ✓ Dropped by the Norwood Sporting Club to chat with members of U3A **Ringwood**
- ✓ Visited the Emmaus Community Housing Project facilities in **Bayswater** North
- ✓ Joined residents at the Blues at Buckanbe in **Vermont**
- ✓ Dropped in to **Blackburn's** Pope Road Kindergarten
- ✓ Hosted a coffee & chat with residents at Mishou's Café in **Mitcham**
- ✓ Enjoyed the City of Whitehorse Band Annual Concert in **Nunawading**



- ✓ Attended the **Ringwood** Esteiddfod to formally open the event
- ✓ Celebrated the 50th anniversary of the **Blackburn** and District Tree Preservation Society
- ✓ Opened the extension of RALAC's Lionsbrae Aged Care Home in **Ringwood**



Community Noticeboard

Biggest survey

Thank you to everyone who completed my recent survey. Your feedback will help me to better serve the electorate of Deakin.

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.



About Michael

Born and raised in Ringwood, I learnt the virtues of hard work from my parents who ran a small local 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 and serve as the Assistant Minister to the Treasurer.

My wife, Anna, and I feel blessed to have recently welcomed our son, Leo, into our lives and look forward to raising him here.

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