



# KELLY ODWYER

Federal Member for **Higgins**

Community Newsletter Autumn 2018



Peter Friend and Nick Coker have helped secure CCTV cameras.



## CCTV cameras delivered in Higgins

**Ashburton residents, shoppers and traders can go about their business feeling safer after the switch-on of 19 CCTV cameras in and around High Street.**

I am delighted to have secured federal funding for this important project, which will help to combat crime and anti-social behaviour, protecting the family-friendly atmosphere of Ashburton Village. Thanks must go to Peter Friend,

Nick Coker and the Ashburton Traders' Association. Their hard work was essential to securing the funding and the locations of the cameras.

Safety in and around Malvern will also receive a boost, with a new mobile CCTV camera expected to be delivered in the first half of this year. Stonnington Council is rolling out this federally funded project, in association with our local police.

Importantly, these projects both deliver on election commitments and are funded by the Federal Government's Safer Communities program, which helps local communities tackle crime.

These commitments follow funding previously delivered for CCTV cameras in South Yarra, Prahran and Carnegie. To read more, visit: [kellyodwyer.com.au/search/cctv](http://kellyodwyer.com.au/search/cctv)

# Celebrating our young leaders

Pictured with some of the recipients of the 2017 Higgins Medal.



**Each year I award the Higgins Medal to celebrate and recognise young and emerging leaders.**

It was an honour to recognise the achievements of so many of our future leaders at the Malvern Banquet Hall in December.

Twenty-six schools from Higgins

nominated students who have demonstrated leadership, been an active participant in our community and shown an awareness of others and their needs.

Congratulations to the 2017 Higgins Medal recipients!

## Australians have their say on marriage

**I am delighted that Australians voted Yes for marriage equality.**

I am proud that, together, we have been able to bring about this important change to the Marriage Act.

It is clear that Australians wanted to have their say, with 80 per cent of the Australian public participating.

It is also clear that support for marriage equality in our community is strong.

Of those who participated in Higgins, 78.3 per cent voted Yes.

This change has been a long time coming and I commend all of those who contributed respectfully to this important decision.



With some of my federal colleagues after hearing the result of the marriage survey.

## Fighting to remove level crossings

**The removal of level crossings on the Glen Waverley line is vitally important. They limit the capacity of our railways, divide our community and encroach on time that could otherwise be spent with family and friends.**

In particular, the RACV Redspot survey continues to rank the Toorak Road level crossing in Victoria's top ten worst congestion spots. According to the State Government's own Level Crossing Removal Authority, the boom gates can be down for up to 45 minutes in the morning peak, causing chaos.

In a recent speech in Parliament, I called for more action from the State Government, which has no firm plans to remove crossings on the Glen Waverley line. I have also urged the State Government to remove other frustrating level crossings, such as those at High Street, Glenferrie Road and Tooronga Road. Importantly, they must be removed with rail-under-road solutions, as the community expects.



Level crossings like the one at Toorak Road are frustrating and must be put below ground.

# Community News



Inspecting the plans for the new Craig Family Centre outdoor activity space with Samantha Huddle.

## Support for the Craig Centre

**Ashburton's Craig Family Centre has been welcoming members of our community for 60 years, offering programs including playgroups, kinder, disability support and neighbourhood house activities.**

This vibrant community hub will soon have a revitalised multi-purpose courtyard, partly funded by a Federal Government grant.

I am very pleased to have secured this funding which will help the Craig provide a new outdoor activity space, incorporating a play area featuring indigenous plants.

## Helping those in need

**Christmas is a time for giving and for thinking of those less fortunate.**

Thank you to everyone who donated to the Higgins Christmas Appeal.

Together, we donated hundreds of books to the Smith Family's Toy and Book Appeal.

Thank you also to Linda and her team at Jeffreys Books in Malvern for providing a great selection of books for kids and young people in need.

As well as books, people were extremely generous with supplying food and toys, which were distributed by South Yarra's St Joseph's Outreach Services.



With Linda from Jeffreys Books, who made a generous contribution to the Appeal.

## Additional federal support for mental health programs

**Around four million Australians experience a mental health condition every year.**

That is why the Turnbull Government is expanding mental health programs for young people, as well as delivering a further \$110 million to organisations such as beyondblue and headspace.

In addition, \$1.8 million will deliver further digital mental health services so that people from across Australia can get greater access to the help they need.

If you, or someone you know, are in need of support, **contact beyondblue on 1300 22 4636 or [www.beyondblue.org.au](http://www.beyondblue.org.au).**



# Helping to grow the economy

With Governor-General Peter Cosgrove.



## Two new ministerial roles

I was delighted to have been given two extra responsibilities by the Prime Minister recently, in addition to my ongoing role as the Minister for Revenue and Financial Services.

I very much look forward to the opportunities the additional responsibilities as Minister for Women and Minister Assisting the Prime Minister for the Public Service present and have been working hard to hit the ground running in my extra roles.

**My role as a Cabinet Minister and member of the Budget Expenditure Review Committee remains focussed firmly on our priorities of growing the economy, creating jobs and keeping Australians safe.**

If you would like to read more about my ministerial work, visit:

[kellyodwyer.com.au/category/press-releases](http://kellyodwyer.com.au/category/press-releases)

## Consumers the big winners

**Millions of Australian consumers and small businesses are the big winners, after the passage of legislation to establish the Australian Financial Complaints Authority (AFCA).**

Significantly more consumers and small businesses will have access to free, fast and binding dispute resolution.

AFCA will provide a one-stop shop to ensure consumers get a fair deal in resolving disputes with banks, insurers, super funds and small amount credit providers, without the expense, inconvenience, and trauma associated with going to court.

With Treasurer Scott Morrison and small business owner Daniel.



## Jobs growth and tax cuts

**2017 was the best year for jobs growth ever, demonstrating that the Turnbull Government's plan to help grow jobs is working. Since the 2013 election, the policies of the Coalition Government have helped create 971,500 jobs, with 1,100 jobs created each day last year.**

Our business tax cuts are helping small businesses invest, employ and grow.

The next step is further economic reform that provides relief to middle income Australians, building on the tax relief we have already provided to 3 million Australians from 1 July 2016.

# Local environmental works



It was an honour to unveil the new native garden planted by students at St Anthony's PS.

## Protecting our reef

**It is vital that the Great Barrier Reef remains strong and healthy for future generations.**

That is why the Turnbull Government is delivering an additional \$60 million towards the reef, funding research and science, reducing pollution, providing equipment to battle crown-of-thorns starfish and putting more reef officers in the field.

We are also focussed on reducing emissions and are on track to meet and beat our 2020 and 2030 targets. Our emissions are now at their lowest level in 28 years on a per-person basis.



The Great Barrier Reef will benefit from an additional \$60m of federal funding.

## Planting trees at school

**St Anthony's Primary School in Glen Huntly has created a wonderful native garden with the help of funds provided under the Federal Government's Sustainable Native Gardens Project.**

This project has been a fantastic effort by the parents, students and teachers who worked

together to create this special space, dedicated to the memory of Paul Vella, a stalwart of the school community for 40 years until his passing.

I am looking forward to seeing how other schools have used the funds to make a practical difference to protecting our local environment.

## Investing locally in renewable energy

**New solar panels have been installed at Koornang Park in Carnegie, helping to reduce emissions and save money for local sports clubs.**

Koornang Park is one of six community buildings in Higgins to receive solar panels under the Turnbull Government's Solar Communities Program. The Caulfield Bears use the facilities in winter and the Caulfield Cricket Club in summer.

The solar panels will reduce their power bills, which means more money for the clubs to spend on equipment for their players.



Workers installing the first solar panel at Carnegie's Koornang Park, which will help to save money for local clubs and reduce emissions.

# Raising funds to fight ovarian cancer

Ovarian cancer is estimated to be the eighth most commonly diagnosed cancer in Australian women. Sadly, survival rates are at just 44%.

**That is why I am proud that the Turnbull Government is providing \$3 million to support a new project to help women identify whether they are at risk of developing ovarian cancer.**

This funding builds on the \$33 million we have already provided for dedicated research into ovarian cancer.

Thank you to everyone who supported my annual Ovarian Cancer Morning Teal with fellow Ovarian Cancer Australia Ambassador Debra Lawrance to raise funds towards research, support services



Our Morning Teal raised funds towards ovarian cancer research.

and to assist with raising awareness of the symptoms of this devastating disease.

To learn more about the symptoms of ovarian cancer or to donate, visit [ovariancancer.net.au](http://ovariancancer.net.au)



My annual Diwali event is just one of many ways we celebrate diversity in Higgins.

## Celebrating our diversity

Diwali is an important event for many Australians of Indian heritage and one of the most important events in the Hindu calendar.

I was thrilled to celebrate my second Diwali event in

Carnegie with members of the Indian community.

We have over 6,000 people of Indian heritage living in Higgins and it was an honour to enjoy traditional food and dancing to celebrate Diwali.

### Community Morning Tea

If you would like to share an early morning coffee or tea with me, please phone my friendly electorate staff on **9822 4422** to register for an upcoming community morning tea.

### Have your say!

If you can't make it to a community event, please visit my website and fill out an online survey or call my office to discuss any issues.

### Arrange a visit

If you would like me to attend your community event or visit your organisation or business in Higgins, please send me an email at [kelly.odwyer.mp@aph.gov.au](mailto:kelly.odwyer.mp@aph.gov.au)

### Electorate Services

If I can help you with any of the following services please phone my office or send me an email at [kelly.odwyer.mp@aph.gov.au](mailto:kelly.odwyer.mp@aph.gov.au)

- Milestone birthday and anniversary messages
- Grants Assistance
- Nominate Local Sporting Champions
- Borrow my community marquee

**KELLY ODWYER**  
Federal Member for **Higgins**

**I'm here to help** If I can assist you, please don't hesitate to get in touch.



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