



Image: Clare with SEMVAC and the Vietnamese community celebrating Mid-Autumn Festival in Springvale

Clare O'Neil MP

Spring Reflection

Dear resident,

With the warm weather upon us, I've been reflecting on what has been an incredibly busy and rewarding year in our community and across the country. Since the Albanese Labor Government's re-election in May, we have been working hard to deliver on the commitments we made to you, especially when it comes to easing cost-of-living pressures.

We've rolled out practical support that's making a real difference in people's lives, including:

- ✓ **More free GP visits** thanks to increased **bulk billing** support
- ✓ **20,000 new home care packages** delivered to help older Australians live independently
- ✓ **Student debt reduced by 20%**, and repayments now start later
- ✓ **5% deposits** now available for all first home buyers
- ✓ **Social media now age-restricted for kids under 16** to help keep them safe online
- ✓ **Penalty rates are now protected by law**
- ✓ **And many more**

Closer to home, the brand-new Jack Edwards Reserve Pavilion in Oakleigh is now complete. After keeping you updated throughout the construction journey over the past couple of years, it's fantastic to see the doors finally open. This space was built for our community, and I know you are going to love it.

I've also enjoyed visiting the suburbs new to Hotham this year – whether I'm exploring the Koornang Road shops with the Carnegie Traders' Association, or meeting bright politics students at Mazenod College in Mulgrave. I look forward to seeing you around at a local school, community event, or just enjoying the sunshine in one of our beautiful parks.

I'm proud to represent this diverse, vibrant community. Hotham is my home, and I'm deeply grateful for the trust you've placed in me.

As always, please stay in touch. Wishing you all the best for the holiday season.

Clare O'Neil

– **Clare**

Federal Member for Hotham



Hotham Highlights



Oakleigh

Celebrating Glendi

We were grateful for the perfect weather to celebrate the 10th annual Glendi. I was proud to be part of this vibrant display of community spirit. A huge thanks to the Greek Orthodox Community of Oakleigh for another successful year celebrating Greek culture and Ohi Day.



Springvale

SEMVAC Mid-Autumn Festival

Thank you to SEMVAC for having me to celebrate Têt Trung Thu in Springvale. Seeing the kids running around, surrounded by joy, tradition, and community - it's a reminder of how wonderful organisations like SEMVAC keep culture and history alive.



Clayton

Visiting the CSIRO

Minister for Science, Senator Tim Ayres, and I toured the CSIRO facilities in Clayton to see firsthand their world-leading work with critical minerals. This kind of innovation will deliver clean energy, strengthen our industrial capabilities, and build a future made in Australia.



Murrumbeena

Lighting upgrades for local sport

Brighter, safer sporting facilities are here at Murrumbeena Park. Thanks to the Albanese Labor Government, new LED lighting has been installed so players can train and play well into the evening without disturbing the neighbours.

You only need a **5% DEPOSIT** to buy your first home!

From October 1st, all first home buyers can access a 5% deposit with:

- ✓ **Big savings on rent by owning a home sooner.**
- ✓ **No expensive Lenders Mortgage Insurance.**
- ✓ **No caps on places or income.**
- ✓ **Increased property price caps.**



Visit **firsthomebuyers.gov.au** to learn more and see how much you could save!



In my role as Minister for Housing, the Prime Minister and I visited a first-home buyer who purchased their new home by accessing this scheme.



New Aged Care Reforms

From November 1st, the Support at Home program has replaced existing home care packages. The new system simplifies services and strengthens consumer rights. With these changes, we are also delivering 83,000 brand-new aged care packages to reduce wait times.

Minister for Aged Care and Seniors, Sam Rae MP, and I visited the Cambodian Association of Victoria in Springvale and Estia Health in Oakleigh East to discuss these important reforms.





Oakleigh's Jack Edwards Reserve Pavilion now open

Thanks to the support and investment from the Federal and State Labor Governments, along with Monash City Council and the Oakleigh Cannons, we're proud to deliver this brand-new pavilion - featuring some of the finest facilities for local football, right here in Hotham.



Double-story pavilion

Serving as a central gathering place for community events and social activities.



Four modern change rooms

Providing improved amenities for women and girls.



A grandstand with seating for 500 people

Increased capacity for local sporting events.

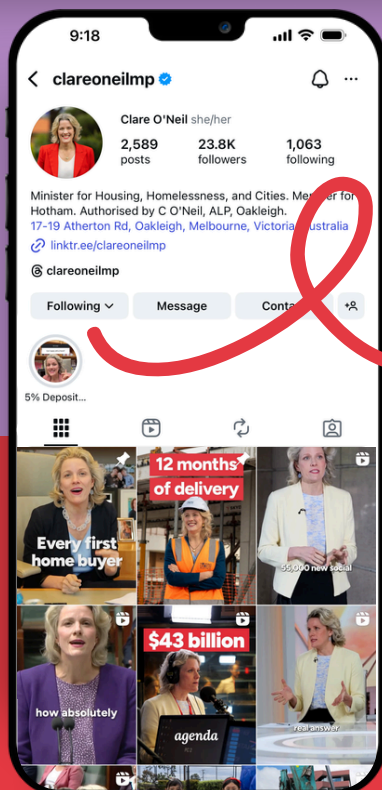


A new media room

Making the venue equipped to host broadcasted National Premier League matches.



Visit my website to sign up to receive Hotham news in your inbox.



Follow along on my social media to stay up to date on all the great things the Albanese Labor Government is delivering!



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My office is here to help

You can contact me for help with Federal Government services – like Centrelink, aged care and the NDIS – using my contact information.

Labor

