

SUNBURY

# Big boost for Boardman

Jessica Coates

Labor offers \$2m to include new female-friendly change rooms and carpark

BOARDMAN Reserve could take on a whole new look if Labor returns to power at the November state election.

Sunbury state Labor MP Josh Bull has pledged \$2 million to the home of the Sunbury Kangaroos.

The upgrade would include new female-friendly change rooms in pavilions two and three, an expansion of the so-

cial room to provide a larger space, the installation of lights on the second oval and a new carpark to meet increased demands.

Hume Council has promised to fund a third of the project, bringing its total scope to \$3 million.

The pledge came the month after Liberal Sunbury candi-

date Cassandra Marr promised \$500,000 towards upgrading the Kangaroos' clubrooms.

Kangaroos president Allan Walters told the *Leader* people at the club had been working hard behind the scenes with the council and Mr Bull to secure funding.

"With football exploding

like it is, our change rooms just really needed an upgrade," he said.

"With council adding the an extra million, it's just amazing.

"In the last year, people had to sit on the floor because we didn't have enough room for everyone to sit down."

Eric Boardman Reserve is

regularly used by a number of local groups including Sunbury Kangaroos Football Club, Sunbury and Ashfield cricket clubs, junior football clubs, dog clubs and angling groups.

Mayor Geoff Porter said works were scheduled to begin over the next five years.

"Council is committed to delivering high-quality sporting facilities to ensure athletes of all levels and abilities can thrive and reap the benefits of being physically active and socially engaged," he said.

"The upgrade works will also create additional opportunities for participation in all sports that are located at the reserve."

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Business owners and councillors are looking forward to the Sunbury StreetLife festival.

## FESTIVAL TO BRING SUNBURY STREETS TO LIFE

SUNBURY'S business excellence is set to shine at the sixth annual StreetLife Festival.

More than 120 businesses are slated to set up shop across O'Shanassy St to promote shopping local.

Event co-founder and business owner Sharyn Snook said the event was about working together.

"The biggest focus we've been pushing is that we can only make Sunbury shopping great again if we work

together," she said. The family-friendly event will also bring together community displays and children's activities.

Sunbury Community Health building healthy communities manager Bernadette

Hetherington said the event provided an opportunity to engage with residents.

"For organisations like ours, it's a great opportunity to tell people what we do through a conversation, rather than a flyer," she said.

"It's a fantastic event where you're not only seeing what businesses are out there, but how community can get involved."

The festival will take place on Sunday, November 18, from 10am to 3pm.

SUNBURY

## Hospital hours promise

Jessica Coates

SUNBURY Day Hospital could get "significant upgrades" if Labor retains office at the state election.

It comes as part of a \$675 million promise to build or upgrade 10 community hospitals across Victoria.

Under the proposal, Sunbury Day Hospital would be expanded to provide more urgent care and after hours services.

Sunbury state Labor MP Josh Bull confirmed no dollar figure had yet been set aside for Sunbury, but the process would involve working with Western Health and Sunbury Day Hospital.

"I think it's really worth noting the staff at Sunbury Day Hospital do a terrific job. It's a well-used service, but we think it can be better again," he said.

"The biggest need is on weekends and after 5pm."

Mr Bull said the full scope of the upgrades would be decided after an initial consultation phase.

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