

JUSTINE DAVIS MLA

INDEPENDENT MEMBER FOR JOHNSTON

integrity | action | community



A message from your local representative in NT Parliament

Welcome to the Johnston end of year newsletter!

As 2025 draws to a close we are well into Balmba (rainy season), with Dalay (monsoon season) just around the corner. What a year it's been, both in our community and in Parliament.

I wish you and your loved ones a safe, joyful and connected festive season, however you celebrate. I hope it brings rest, renewal and moments of real joy.

To everyone across Johnston - volunteers, supporters, businesses, teachers, families, elders and young people - thank you. Representing this community is an honour.

As we head into 2026, I'm more committed than ever to working alongside you for a fairer, safer and more connected Territory - one where community voices shape decisions, and where people, not politics, come first.



Local Businesses

Our local businesses have shown incredible resilience and community spirit, especially through Cyclone Fina - supporting local jobs, backing community causes and shaping Johnston's character.

To our Schools

Teachers, staff, principals and students - thank you for a wonderful year. Your focus on the whole child is inspiring, and I look forward to working with you in 2026.

A Thank You to our Seniors

Our seniors are at the heart of Johnston. Many drop into the office - sometimes for support, sometimes to lend a hand, or simply to share a cuppa. From the painting group to those who brighten our space with plants, your presence and generosity make our community stronger.

Rapid Creek Markets

I've been working with Rapid Creek Markets manager Costa, community members, shop owners, market stall holders and the City of Darwin council to make our Rapid Creek Markets more accessible, sustainable and comfortable. We've begun working on practical solutions from shade and layout, to waste management and safety. Please keep letting me know what is important for you to make sure our iconic local markets remain vibrant, welcoming and resilient for many years to come.



Future Generations Bill

We are continuing to work with the community on developing our Future Generations Bill. This Bill will make sure that when our Government makes laws, they think about the long term impact on our children and our children's children, and protect them from harm. We want to know what is important to you and would love you to work on this project with us. Find out more:

 justinedavis.com.au/future_generations_bill

Homegrown Art and Recipe Project

We're so excited about our Homegrown Project, created with the wonderfully talented local artist Tisha Tejaya. Together we ran drawing workshops at the Rapid Creek Markets, inviting locals to sketch artwork inspired by our beautiful seasonal produce, followed by a screen-printing workshop where those designs were printed onto t-shirts, tea towels and bags. These will help raise funds for our Johnston Community Benefit Fund - a way for community to support community while celebrating local produce and creativity.



Parliament Update

Holding Government to Account

The final sittings of Parliament have been busy, with more laws rushed through without proper scrutiny. Parliament is the people's house and I'm committed to keeping you informed and making sure your voice is heard. You can see all my speeches on my website and follow my social media for daily updates.

Community Scrutiny Forum

When proper scrutiny is denied and the Government chooses politics over people, we step up, because in a healthy democracy Territorians deserve to be heard. That's why I established the Community Scrutiny Forum: to give Territorians a genuine say on proposed laws. We've now run two forums and provided reports to Parliament before Bills were debated - all submissions and reports are here:

 justinedavis.com.au/community-scrutiny

Integrity & Ethics Commissioner Bill: This Bill merged our four integrity bodies into one, despite clear warnings from national integrity experts and local community voices received by our Community Scrutiny Forum that this would weaken an already fragile system. By ignoring that advice and pushing the Bill through, the Government missed a real opportunity to strengthen integrity for Territorians.

Anti-Discrimination Act changes: In October the Government weakened the Anti-Discrimination Act, making it harder to fight discrimination and easier for institutions to discriminate, despite clear risks raised by our community forum.

I'm grateful to everyone who contributed to the Community Scrutiny Forum on this Bill, and I'll keep pushing for proper process, scrutiny and expert input - the foundations of good lawmaking Territorians deserve, even when the Government refuses to listen.

Other Laws Passed in the Last Two Parliaments

Parliament passed several other bills, including one creating new quasi-police patrolling public housing and transport. These officers will be armed and undergo far shorter training than regular police, with established integrity requirements for these roles removed. This punitive and surveillance-focused

approach to community safety is not evidence-based, yet it continues to be the Government's chosen strategy.

The Government also passed changes that make the NT's Freedom of Information laws among the most restrictive in the country, meaning more decisions are now being made behind closed doors.

You can see my speeches on all the bills voted on in Parliament here:

 justinedavis.com.au/parliament



RIP Stevo. Thank you for your advocacy.

Voluntary Assisted Dying

Last year the major parties treated voluntary assisted dying as a non-priority, but the recent committee report is clear: Territorians deserve the same end-of-life rights as all other Australians. I'm proud my motion brought this issue to the fore and ensured our community's voice was heard. The Bill is still to be debated, and I welcome your views.

Gambling

Recent reports show the NT has become a de facto national regulator for online gambling, with the lowest taxes and weakest rules in the country. When gambling goes unchecked, people are harmed – and Territorians deserve better. I raised these concerns in Parliament, but the Minister refused to refer the legislation to a committee. I'll now introduce a Private Members' Bill to fix the key issues, and I'd welcome your thoughts on the Bill in 2026.

Jobs for Mates

In a place as small and connected as the NT, strong integrity measures matter. That's why I've put forward a motion to strengthen anti-corruption and accountability across the public service - something Territorians and our hardworking public servants deserve.

Next Parliament sitting dates

February	March	May
3 - 5	10 - 19	5 - 14



JUSTINE DAVIS MLA

INDEPENDENT MEMBER FOR JOHNSTON

Doing politics differently

Cyclone Fina

Cyclone Fina was a reminder of the extraordinary way our community comes together during difficult times. Thank you to everyone who stepped up to help - whether you were cooking meals to share, helping clear debris, keeping an eye on elderly neighbours, or simply being a steady voice of reassurance for those who were frightened. Here in the Electorate Office, we had many volunteers helping us check in with vulnerable people in the Johnston community and ensuring that people had access to the information and services that they needed.



Celebrating Diwali

It was wonderful to celebrate this festival of light with Brahma Kumaris in October and be reminded of connection, joy and love.



Meeting with Local Councillors

I have been busy meeting with the new and re-elected local councillors who look after Johnston - we cover 3 wards! Chan (Millner and Jingili), Waters (Moil) and Richardson (Alawa). I am really looking forward to working together for our community.

It was also wonderful to meet with two of our youngest NT councillors, Patrik from Waters and Yolanda from Palmerston, to talk about youth representation and our Future Generations Bill.

Clontarf and Stars

It was an honour and inspiration to attend the Casuarina Senior College Awards nights including the Stars and Clontarf Foundation's awards night. These amazing young men and women are leading their community - congratulations for your hard work and commitment.



Catching up with Bridie on World Sight Day.

I had the privilege of presenting the Danila Dilba Footy Tipping Awards, despite knowing nothing about footy!



End of Year School Events

It has been great to attend lots of end of year events at schools around Johnston this month. Thanks to Nemarluk School, Casuarina Senior College, Jingili Primary, Millner Primary, Alawa Primary and Moil Primary for having me!





JUSTINE DAVIS MLA

INDEPENDENT MEMBER FOR JOHNSTON

Doing politics differently

Vision for the year ahead

In 2026, my focus remains the same: *putting people above politics*. Johnston is a vibrant, diverse community, and the best way I can serve you as your elected member is by keeping community at the heart of everything I do. I am committed to listening to you and working with you to create the change we need.

I will keep advocating for a Territory that is safer, more accessible, more just, and sustainable for everyone.

I'm excited to keep working alongside you next year - listening, collaborating, and building together. We will continue empowering community to shape policy, future-proof the Territory, and show what politics can look like when it truly belongs to the people.

Come say hi at the Mobile Office!

One of the ways I make myself available outside Parliament and office hours is by setting up at Rapid Creek Markets every Sunday morning, and outside one of our local shops each Tuesday from 5 - 6pm. Find me here on the following dates:



Alawa
10 Feb, 24 March

Jingili
17 Feb, 31 March

Millner
24 Feb, 7 April

Moil
3 March, 14 April



Image source: City of Darwin Council

Some more good news from the electorate...

Jingili Water Gardens Bridge reopened!

We are so lucky to have the incredible Water Gardens right here in our electorate, with the beautiful Gurambai (Rapid Creek) flowing through the heart of Johnston. It's amazing to have a natural waterway running through the middle of our suburbs. So it was wonderful to see the new 'red bridge' reopen in October. The bridge links Millner and Jingili and is used by so many of us every day, connecting our community.

School Holiday Activities

Head to darwin.nt.gov.au/school-holidays for a full program of activities for the young ones over the school holidays.

Office Close Down

Our office will close down for a brief period from **Thursday 25 December**, and reopen on **Friday 2 January**. We look forward to seeing you in the new year!

2026 Community Calendar

Keep an eye out for the Johnston Community Calendar 2026 - featuring art from our Home Grown workshops, seasonal recipes using local produce, and important dates and contact numbers. This will be a collector's item! Free copies are available from my office or Rapid Creek Markets stall on a Sunday. Get in quick!

Free!



Stay connected by subscribing to our email updates.

If you'd like receive this newsletter digitally, please subscribe to my regular email updates using the QR code below.



Scan me!

