



Speech By  
**Charis Mullen**

**MEMBER FOR JORDAN**

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Record of Proceedings, 9 May 2023

## ADJOURNMENT

### Jordan Electorate, Events

 **Mrs MULLEN** (Jordan—ALP) (7.15 pm): I want to highlight three very special events that have been held in my electorate just in this past week. It was an absolute pleasure, along with the federal member for Oxley, to host 190 very sprightly seniors for morning tea. This was a very popular event and in fact we had some rather disappointed seniors as we physically could not take any more RSVPs. As well as providing a delicious morning tea courtesy of the Springlake Hotel, we also held informative presentations from the ACCC talking about preventing scams, the Office of Fair Trading which focused on consumer rights and Crime Stoppers which gave an update on its work. We were also grateful for the support of Services Australia, My Aged Care and the lovely Joe, a retired accountant who volunteers in my office with the ATO's Tax Help. The feedback from the morning tea was so positive. Everyone loved the social connection and we look forward to doing it all again next year.

May also marks Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Month. I am very proud that our local community has once again stepped up to raise ongoing awareness and to say that domestic and family violence is never acceptable. I host a now yearly domestic and family violence Night of Remembrance and Candlelight Ceremony, and proudly so. The event is held around the Orion Lagoon—a well-known landmark in our community—and I want to thank everyone who joined us in support. This year I was deeply honoured to welcome Vanessa Fowler OAM, Chair of the Allison Baden-Clay Foundation and Co-Chair of the Queensland government's Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Council. Vanessa's words to those gathered were deeply personal and impactful and I am very grateful for her support. Thank you as always to the team from the Domestic Violence Action Centre who co-support this event with me and who each and every day undertake critical work in supporting victim-survivors in our local community.

Finally, on Saturday I was so pleased to attend the Greater Springfield Community Festival. This is a special event in our community which had its original inception 11 years ago as a celebration of the Indian and Tamil new year. I am so proud to represent a very large and growing Indian community and this event has always been a wonderful showcase of the rich culture of our Indian residents. For the last few years the event has morphed into a truly multicultural event, with a greater focus on the incredible diversity of our community. Last weekend we experienced an amazing array of cultural performances—in fact, 62 individual performances, and all just outstanding. Over 300 performers with 18 cultures and languages were represented, including from India, China, Mexico, PNG and Thailand, just to name a few. I am so proud to once again be the event ambassador for the Greater Springfield Community Festival and I congratulate the terrific Varnam Cultural Society and all of the incredible volunteers who organised this spectacular festival in our community which was attended by an estimated 13,000 across the day.