

**Submission  
No 400**

**INQUIRY INTO MANAGEMENT OF PUBLIC LAND IN  
NEW SOUTH WALES**

**Organisation:** Uralla Pony Club  
**Name:** Mrs Margaret O'Connor  
**Date received:** 31/08/2012

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## Submission Uralla Pony Club

The members of Uralla and Districts Pony Club Inc wish to alert the Inquiry to the difficulties we have as historic and present stakeholders in the Uralla Showground.

The increasing costs for use of our home ground, Uralla Showground, are such that it threatens our Club's ability to operate. We understand the dilemma of the Showground Trust Board in having to levy fees on us to use the showground but in a community ravaged by drought, poor agricultural margins and decline of the economy of our nearby city Armidale the costs to us of meeting the showground usage fees are such as to make our Club (which is basically there to provide sorely needed entertainment for rural children, and skills acquisition for the young farmers of the future) financially unviable.

So it is not just the showground trusts that are suffering but all the not for profit stakeholders that cannot support, in kind or by payment of fees, the basic running costs of the public lands which comprise our showground.

Additionally our users face repeated bio security threats since the USTB cannot afford to control noxious weeds on the grounds but we have to use our farm vehicles (utes and horse trailers) when bringing animals onto the grounds.

Sincerely  
Margaret O'Connor  
Vice President  
Uralla and Districts Pony Club Inc.