

**Submission
No 41**

**INQUIRY INTO AGISTMENT OF HORSES AT YARALLA
ESTATE**

Name: Miss Andrea Limbo

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This submission regards matters of the Agistment of horses at Yaralla Estate, and provides recommendations in support of its longevity and continued access by the community.

The information provided in this submission comes from my personal experiences with the land and the community it has influenced. I believe that my opinion is valuable in this inquiry as I have lived in the Canada Bay Area for most of my childhood, from 4 years old to ten years later into current time. I can provide personal accounts of the agistment's benefits within Yaralla Estate.

The Yaralla Estate has supported in shaping my growth into adulthood, through promoting sustainability and respect to its variety of flora and fauna. An example of this is a memory I have growing up in Concord, where I laboured in the paddock during balmy afternoons to fill bags of horse manure. I was instructed to do this so my mother had fertiliser for her garden and compost for the whole year round. At the time, I didn't understand why we used horse excrement for food for our plants that gave us vegetables. This was an experience I look back on with fond memories. Although at the time I did not appreciate its teachings, it will be greatly disappointing to know future generations of children will not have the same access to learning in this way.

The agistment of horses has also allowed my family to access an Australian pastime that would not otherwise be available to us in an urban environment, and/or unless we had the financial luxury of owning our own horse. During my growing years, I had the opportunity to watch and interact with the horses as a family past-time event on a regular basis. My mother grew up in Philippines in a remote village and had found the migration to Australia very isolating. I can say that the agistment at Yaralla Estate allowed my mother to participate within her community independently through walking its paths. I vividly remember my mother going to Yaralla Estate's horses while she was pregnant with my brother, as a remedial therapy from the stress of daily living. This helped her to make friends in the community, and provide emotional relief of isolation. Without Yaralla Estate's existence, I believe that it would disservice the community for all its future populations of a similar situation to my family, new coming into Australia.

I believe that Yaralla Estate has been a gem in the Sydney area and should be promoted for its uniqueness. It is rare to see a place such as this in an urban landscape. It reflects how development and nature can marry in an organic way to inspire its current and future communities.