

**Submission
No 29**

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

Name: Mrs Tracy Bucciarelli

Date received: 30/07/2013

My submission really centres around the use of Yaralla by my family which includes a 3 year boy and a 9 month old girl. We live a few streets from Yaralla and frequently walk the grounds. It is such an oasis in the middle of the city and whilst we can walk the streets, my son has so far grown up visiting the animals at Yaralla that included all the horses, chickens, dogs and at one point a goat! To this day he is obsessed with animals and I wonder did this come from our walks each week to visit them so close to our home. He asks me each day as we drive past "mum where are the horses" and I dont know what to say. I try and tell him they have gone to another farm, and he says but "why?" and I really dont know. It all happened so fast after so many years of community horses living there. It is so lonely there now, but we hope that it still stays open to the public to enjoy this open space. My dream would be that the State Government would invest in creating a nice pathway through the grounds to join Kokoda Track and the council walkway on the other side. Whilst there are lots of maps showing a walkway I have tried it and it is really a swamp on one side and access on the dirt pathway on the other side is not very easy with a pram or kids bikes. I need a four wheel drive with mud flaps sometimes! It could be such a improved community asset if it was invested in like the Bay Run at Leichhardt. But no one seems to own this parkland, its run by a health body which I am sure does not prioritise its maintenance in front of managing our state healthcare. Seems so strange to me. Please lets utilise this beautiful oasis for what it could be. Let the horses back, so kids can grow up learning about them and ensure proper public access that is safe and easy to use. i really hope my 9 month old will enjoy as much as we have in the past and I can tell my 3 year old "look the horses are back"! That would be great.