

**Submission
No 23**

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

Name: Ms Diane Lyons

Date received: 29/07/2013

The Hon. Robert Borsak, MLC
Chair, Select Committee on the Agistment of Horses at Yaralla Estate
Parliament House
Macquarie Street
SYDNEY

Dear Mr Borsak

Although I am certain that much information has been sent to you for consideration, I would like to add my thoughts to those already forwarded.

Have you thought about why do we live where we do?
There are many reasons that we choose where we live - proximity, economy, convenience.

One of the reasons we chose to live in Concord more than 20 years ago was the amount of green space incorporated into the suburb.
It's not just the golf clubs and sports fields. Concord's parklands give the area it's sense of space, of being able to take a deep breath and not feel closed in.
To be able to take a walk around the a suburb that feels safe and has a strong sense of community.

The grounds of Yaralla have provided my family with a green space that is both valuable and valued.
Having the horses there for a pat or a short ride has allowed my children to experience a little piece of country in the city. They have been able to develop a respect for these beautiful animals in a way that can't be gained by short visits to the Easter Show.
This respect and sense and affinity has led to one of my daughters now seeking a career in veterinary health.

Removing the horses and access to Yaralla is not simply an attack on the owners and these well cared for and much loved animals.
It is a direct attack on the residents and our way of life - our expectation that the suburb we call home and where our peaceful enjoyment of our lives, will continue and will be supported.

But removing the horses? **They and their owners are a part of our community and deserve to remain here!**

By all means, rehabilitate the land - this is something that the landlord should have done in any case.

If we as a community allow this to happen - if the Government allows this to happen - then what's next? What's the next step to be taken that will continue this destruction of our community?

I ask you and your colleagues to remove this uncertainty, to stop this insidious spread before another community is lost.

Bring the horse **BACK** to Yaralla.

Keep the land open to the community.

Help us to preserve the life we chose in the place we chose it.

Thank you for your consideration.

Kind regards

Diane Lyons