

ACCESS TO COSMIC COUNTY AND THE FREEZER

Over the years land along Donald Rd Clarence has been subdivided and changed ownership. Local activism to prevent access to the County for sandmining has also contributed to access permission changing. Most importantly, the area where climbers used to walk down the road past the locked gate below Donald St has become an important prayer area of a Buddhist Monks' Retreat, complete with large budha! We can no longer walk down the bitumen road for access, it now crosses three private properties a number of times.

There have been a number of incidents where climbers have unwittingly trespassed on private land and some climbers have acted aggressively towards land owners when challenged. This has led to Police involvement and unnecessary angst between land owners and climbers. The owners are very decent, reasonable people and if you speak to them appropriately you will find them friendly, approachable and very fair minded. It is in our own interests to stay on good terms with our neighbours.

A number of climbers have approached the owners and good relations have once again settled in. The owners are happy to allow climbers to "drift" onto their land below the Big Tree but DO NOT want climbers walking down their blocks from Donald Rd, past their houses, which have been exposed by the recent fires. This is a very reasonable request. The road is NOT a public road and is privately owned.

CLIMBERS TRACK

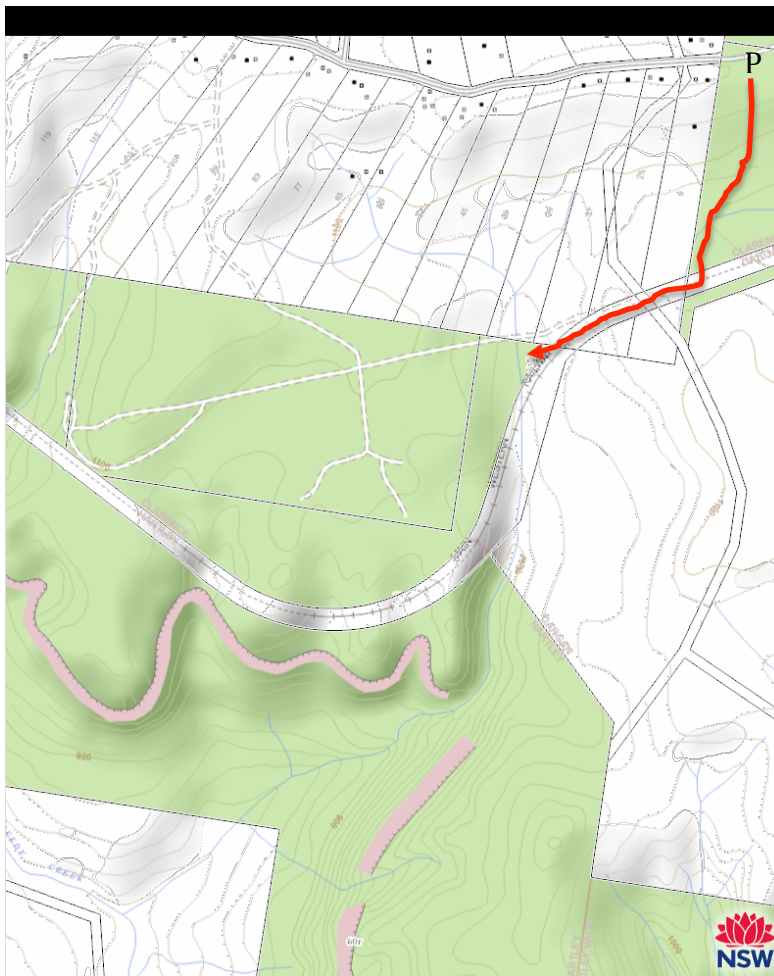
Climbers access has been established by parking in the usual spot on the Dargan Creek Reserve at the end of Donald Rd, Clarence. Just step out of your car and look for the cairn and marked track that countours down the hill, across the bog (on log) and emerges on the bitumen road at the bottom of the hill.

This brings you out of the Reserve and onto the rail corridor. Turn right and follow the bitumen road along the rail corridor (the land on either side is private land) to just before the big tree. Turn left through the old gate posts, following the rail corridor fire trail over the hill under the power lines, keeping to the left to stay on railway land. You hit the Cosmic County Road just above where it crosses the railway tunnel.

Turn left for the County (back onto private property for a while). Head straight ahead across the dirt road for The Freezer. Follow the track and re-join the bitumen road halfway down the hill. You are now back in the Dargan Creek Reserve all the way to The Freezer.

Have a great day climbing and do what you can to keep our tracks open. None of us want access hassles out there - and, it is pretty cool that the new Reserve preserves our climbing areas!

The Cosmic Track Fairies



The red track shows the route crossing Dargan Crk Reserve (Green) then using the rail corridor to cross the private blocks on Donald Rd before returning to Dargan Crk Reserve. The roads shown on this map are incorrect and the rail easement roads are actually in different spots. The County Rd and carpark remain on private land but there is an obvious way around this using the rail corridor to the South. Future project.

Walking time is exactly the same as using the private road access, except you'll see more waratahs and wallabies.

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