



# WESTERN CLIMBER

**2019 WA Lead State Titles**  
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***Access Update***

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**Self-rescue course**

**Kalbarri Trip Report**

Chris on Glass Slipper (29), Kalbarri.

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**Handstands on the Kalbarri Trip.  
Photo: NK**

## From the committee:

The views expressed in Western Climber are not necessarily those of CAWA.

We know you have been chomping at the bit for the next edition. So here it is. Enjoy. Remember we want news and reports from members to include in Western Climber. We know you have been sending, but we haven't heard from you in while. So please remember next time you do, see or hear something interesting (it must be climbing related) let us know.



<https://www.instagram.com/climbersassociationofwa/>



<https://www.facebook.com/climberswa/>

## 2019 WA Lead State Titles



SPORT  
CLIMBING  
WESTERN  
AUSTRALIA



city summit



SUMMIT  
CLIMBING WALLS

# CAWA 51st Birthday Bash, 21 February 2019

## CAWA GYM CRASH & 51ST BIRTHDAY BASH

### WHEN

**February 21st, 2019  
6:30PM-10:00PM**

### WHERE

**The Hangout  
12 White Street,  
Bayswater**

<http://thehangout.com.au/>

**FEATURING • Free Plaza • Door Prize •  
Lots of climbing • Socialise • Friendly • Chill atmosphere  
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**[WWW.CLIMBERSWA.ASN.AU](http://WWW.CLIMBERSWA.ASN.AU)**

**ALL AGES  
EVENT**

### ENTRY

**\$13 CAWA Members**

### BECOME A MEMBER

Thinking of becoming a member. Come along and have a social climb. You don't have to pre-register. Just turn up on the night.

[https://  
www.climberswa.asn.au/cawa/  
membership/](https://www.climberswa.asn.au/cawa/membership/)

### JOIN US FOR CAWA'S 51ST BIRTHDAY

Oh boy we missed CAWA's 50th birthday bash. So come and celebrate CAWA's 51st birthday. Come and join us. What's more important than climbing after work on Thursday?

Peter Zhang Kalbarri Gold, Kalbarri

# We Want You!

## Western Climber is YOUR Voice

Western Climber relies on contributions from members.

**ALL** submissions are welcome!

If you have any photographs or articles you would like to submit to the Western Climber, please send them with full details to [cawa@climberswa.asn.au](mailto:cawa@climberswa.asn.au).

For the next issue of Western Climber, all submissions must be made by 31 March 2018. We welcome all climbing related material including trip reports, new routes, technical, safety, equipment, book/DVD reviews, crag information and climbing gossip. We love photos of locations around the world as well as WA and most of all, people having fun climbing!

We to know about all climbing EVENTS in WA. If there is a competition or something else happening then let us know so we can pass on the word. We are here to promote climbing in all forms.

## Help us help you!

We are always looking for volunteers and helping hands. You can contact us by e-mail at [cawa@climberswa.asn.au](mailto:cawa@climberswa.asn.au) if you would like to get involved and contribute to the WA climbing community in any way whatsoever.

## Website

Visit [www.climberswa.asn.au](http://www.climberswa.asn.au) for more CAWA information, keep up to date with activities, and send us your feedback.

## Instagram

You can also follow us now on Instagram ([climbersassociationofwa](https://www.instagram.com/climbersassociationofwa)). Hurray! If you have any interesting photos, then please e-mail them to us so we can post them on Instagram.

# 2019 AGM Photo Comp is On

## VP's Report

A belated Happy New Year from the CAWA crew! So much has happened in WA since the last issue of *Western Climber*.

The longest wettest winter finally come to an end. WA climbers emerged from their indoor hibernation to enjoy the fine spell of 'warm' weather.

On a sad note, WA climbers lost two crags, Wallcliffe and Gooseberry Hill. In neither case, was CAWA consulted. If you were out of the loop, have a look at the posts on the CAWA website. The losses highlight how important access and ethics are to climbing. With more climbers getting outdoors these days, it's likely that we may have more access issues in the future. So it's a reminder to be aware of access issues and ethics when you head to the crag and follow CAWA's [Code of Conduct](#) and [Code of Bolting and New Route Development](#).

The [2018 Open Boulder Championships](#) were held at the Adrenaline Vault. It was good to see the turnout. The psych was high. WA was well represented. Jordyn Damasco and Anna Davey making the finals in the Open A Women. Alan Pryce making the finals in the Open A Men. Reminder that the [2019 WA Sate Lead Titles](#) at City Summit are on 23 February 2019. Early Bird entry is closed. But entries are still open and you can still get involved.

The Skyfall Lead & Tope Rope Comp was held on 24 November 2018 at City Summit, which was good to see. We will hopefully see more comps in the future.

Tommy's *Dawn Wall* and Alex's *Free Solo* came to town. If you haven't seen [Free Solo](#), there are still screenings in Perth. It's a must see for every climber. I felt inspired to try something harder for sure. Also, if you have seen the film you might want to watch the [Free Solo Parody Trailer](#). It made me laugh.

Need more inspiration, Connor Herson free climbed the Nose on El Cap. He's only 15.

CAWA had a whole bunch of stuff on. Big shout out to my fellow Committee Members for making it all happen. We held the Self-Rescue Court in conjunction with Adventure Out. We held a bunch of gym crashes. We had the Kalbarri, Albany and Wilyabrup Trips. We had the Dawn Wall Film Night, Boya Quarry Crash, Boya Cleanup Day, Christmas BBQ and Film Night at Adrenaline Vault.

We missed CAWA's 50th Birthday last year. So we are celebrating CAWA's 51st Birthday Bash and Gym Crash at the Hangout on 21 February 2019. We have another Film Night earmarked for early March and the Peak Charles Trip for Easter.

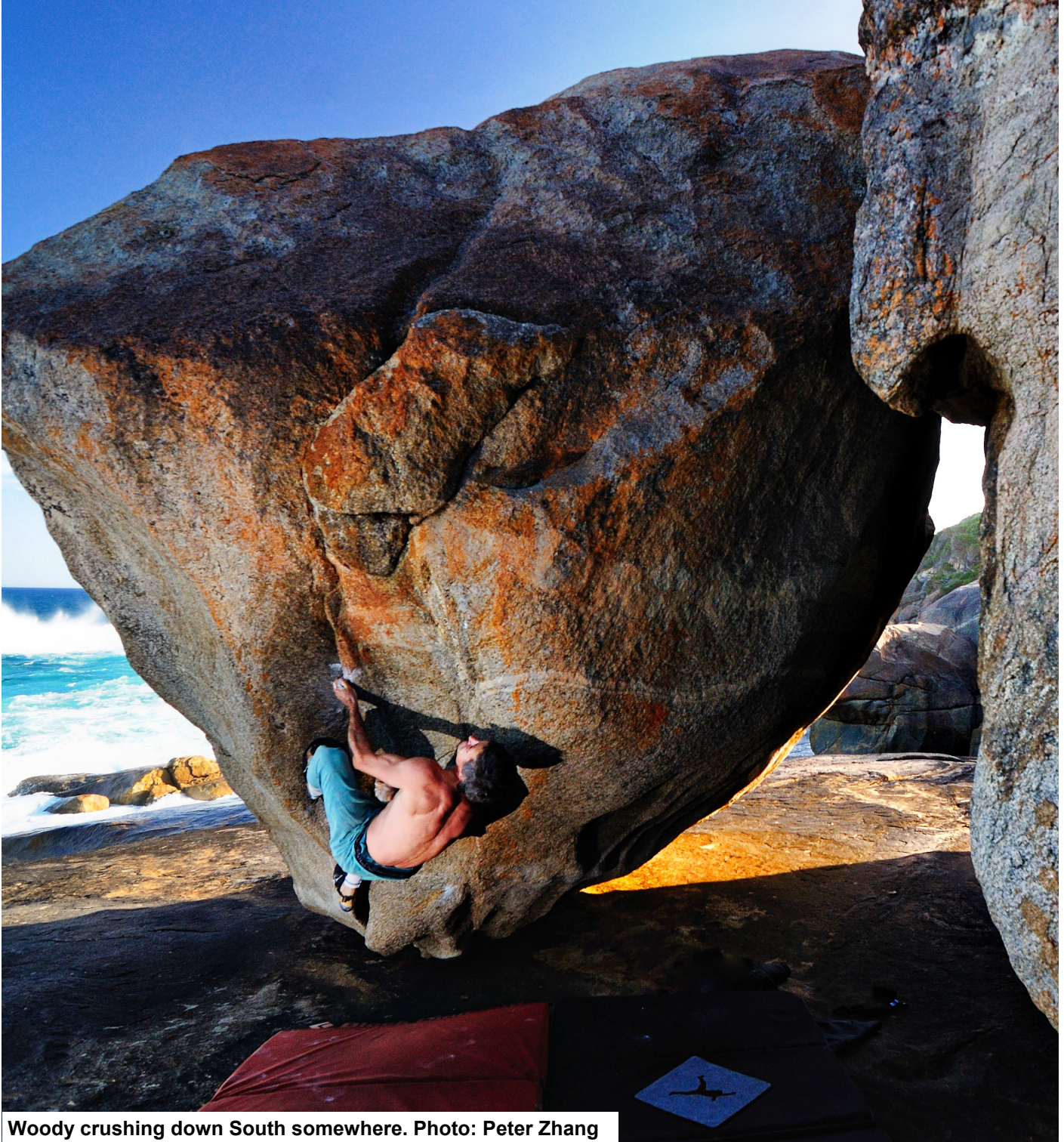
FYI we may see a new indoor climbing gym in Perth soon.

So get out and enjoy the warm weather before we roll back into autumn and winter and head back indoors to hibernate.

Climb safe and responsibly,  
Dirk Klicker

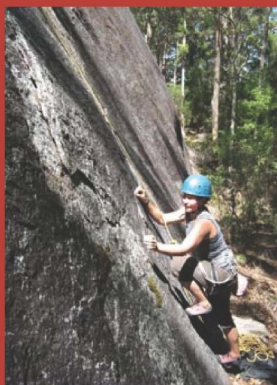
## Events Calendar

Below is a list of the events that are on for 2019 so far. Don't forget to check the events page on the website (at <http://www.climberswa.asn.au/events/>) from time to time, because it is likely that events will be added during the year.



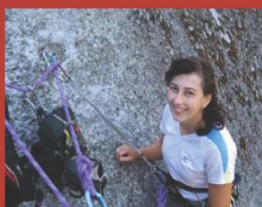
Woody crushing down South somewhere. Photo: Peter Zhang

- **CAWA Birthday Bash 21 Feb 2019**
- **CAWA Film Night early March 2019**
- **Peak Charles Trip, 19-22 April 2019**



Kylie on  
'Granitarium' (17)

*"We are indeed  
blessed to be  
living in this  
amazing area of  
Western  
Australia..."*



Our intrepid CAWA  
president, Dena at Mt  
Frankland

## Mt Frankland and March Flies

By Jolene Sheldon in consultation with Richard Haynes.

**Only** the most intrepid CAWA members braved the march flies and bull ants to attend this year's full frontal assault on the slabs of Mt Frankland. This year saw blue skies and hot temperatures in contrast to last year's rain and lightening. Here is the truth; dry slab is oh so much easier to climb than wet slab. Along those lines, sensei Ross had his ego pegged back a couple of grades as the two climbs he bolted last year, were so much easier when not dripping wet. Most climbers however concede that the requirement to shed steel during vicious lightening storms, significantly influenced the grading system in 2009. While the two climbs from 2009 were very enjoyable, it was the latest one just finished on this trip that really won my heart. Sure, I was already knackered. It felt like 32 degrees, but I can't be sure of the actual temperature. All I know is that I couldn't keep the chalk on my hands for the sweat, so I felt challenged to say the least. A mixed route, yet to be named or graded, I was fortunate to be the first to sample the taunts and delights that awaited after Ross and Dena had done the first climb. I felt honored.... dang, I gave it a solid 17 and in my heart named it "Grow a Pair", though I'm sure Ross will come up with a much more appropriate and genteel name. The climb is 3 pitches. I have to admit I only had time to lead the first pitch, but it is a ripper! Once I reached safety, I realised that I had thoroughly enjoyed the climb, and am looking forward to the lead when I am fresh and less distressed by heat stroke. I would give the first pitch 3 stars!

Ashley List, one of the newest committee members was in attendance. Recently transplanted from the U.K., he was heard to say, he is 'more of a crack whore than a slab master'. It was refreshing to get into some multi-pitch routes after all the local crags around Perth, which are sadly lacking in height.

Amenities were in Fernhook Falls campground. A lovely place which provided a pool for cooling down and cleaning up after a hard day of slab mastering. The intrepid group gathered for dinner Saturday evening to enjoy the camaraderie and healthy appetite that only a great day of climbing seems to inspire. The rum and coke/beer/wine, added to the comfortable happy-tired feeling and joviality at the tables.

As the sun rose the last day, members of the group were off to pursue other areas, and activities. We are indeed blessed to be living in this amazing area of Western Australia where we are constantly awed by the beauty of the surroundings we climb in.

## New Bolted Routes at Mt Trio

### Brothels of Baghdad 25m 20

Climb Hail Salathe past first two carrots, then head diagonally left towards left line of 6FH. Climb the steep face direct to ledge. 2RBB. Mark Thake August 2009.

### Wormsley's Circus 22m 21

Start up Hail Salathe past two carrots, then trend left to right line of 5FH. Climb to ledge and 2RBB. Mark Thake August 2009

## Peak Charles Easter Trip, 19-22 April 2019

***Want an adventure?***

***E-mail Jorge Peres if you are interested  
[jorgep@climberswa.asn.au](mailto:jorgep@climberswa.asn.au).***



# Climbing in the Central Mexican Highlands by Erin Coates

"In the jungle, you cannot tell the difference between the sound of the climber and the sound of an animal" Woody

I've encountered several ideal 'holiday climbing' spots in the world, where the combination of great rock, variety of styles and grades, good climate, ease of access, interesting cultural context and chilled atmosphere unite to make it perfect to just relax and climb. Kalymnos is one, La Mojarra in Colombia another. And yes, Jilotepec in central Mexico!

Pena de Jilotepec is a highland region and national park less than 2 hours north of Mexico City, yet worlds apart. At a comfy yet crisp altitude of around 2000m, the rocky mountain range is covered in lush and tranquil forest. The climbing is on a dozen sectors of hard grey volcanic conglomerate - all within easy walking distance of the car park. The jewel in the centre is the spectacular Egg; a flat clearing that is loomed over by a gigantic egg-like dome of featured rock, with some of the longest monster sports routes I've ever seen. Pena de Jilotepec has it all - friendly routes on gently sloping faces with bomber holds, technical climbing on crimpy and pocket laden vertical walls, and epic overhanging cliff faces with classic routes. It is a well-established crag and was the site of a Petzl rock trip in 20.., which saw many of the harder routes bolted. On the weekends it gets busy when climbers from Mexico City de-camp to the park, but is virtually deserted the rest of the week.

We spent nearly 3 weeks in the area and didn't come close to tiring of the climbing or the location. After picking up our hire car from the charming city of Queretaro we drove about 2 hours to a cosy, rustic and ideally located AirBnB cabin, just 5 mins drive from Pena de Jilotepec. Once you get used to

the quirks of driving here (livestock on the road, no one indicates, everyone speeds, and these insane camouflaged homemade speed bumps called 'topes') it makes for great convenience, cuts out the arduous uphill hike to the base of the crag and allows for fascinating day trips on rest days (the giant pyramids of Teotihuacan for example).

The rock at Jilotepec took a few days to get used to - some jutting holds of conglomerate look like they are about to pop right out of the rock, and the sheer volume of options for holds creates many red herrings - apparent jugs can be total sloppers, while smaller key holds hide behind them. The friction is conditional (if the mountain is in a cloud, forget it) but generally very good ... as long as you avoid smearing on moss or lichen. The outstanding features of Jilotepec are its tranquillity and the



## Climbing in the Central Mexican Highlands by Erin Coates

impressive length of the routes, with most over 20 meters and some up to 45 meters. For the WA climber, this will test and push your endurance. A route may have many phases to it, sometimes surprising you right at the end, and rarely allowing you to read the route from the ground, makes on-site flashes hard. For me, it was both challenging and gratifying to remember the sheer number of moves and sequences each route contained. Between climbs I found the forest a beautiful place to explore, and with patience you can find hummingbirds, lizards, squirrels and dozens of species of wild flowers and fungi.

While we spent only one day at Pena de Bernal, this is another spot we highly recommend for climbing in Mexico. It is only another couple of hours northwest from Jilotepec and has a gorgeous little village with

lots of cheap sleeping options and easy walking access. Apart from the obvious epic monolith of rock - the third largest in the world - which holds some great multi-pitch routes (research first, you'll need extra ropes and a rappel plan), there are several areas with fun single pitch routes and an absolute bounty of bouldering to be had here. Sadly, we didn't have a pad so we couldn't really commit to the harder problems. We also saw stacks of great crags as we passed through Oaxaca, but we'd moved into the party-time part in the trip and didn't even have our gear with us. Mexico, we will be back!



# Climbing in the Central Mexican Highlands by Erin Coates



# Access Update by Dirk Klicker

We lost Gooseberry Hill and Wallcliffe. Access and ethics are back on the agenda.

If you look around the country and overseas right now, you can see that there are a number of crags at risk. For example, [CliffCare Victoria are having major issues in the Grampians](#). Another example, [the private landowner has just closed access to Hillwood in Tasmania](#). The US *Access Fund* estimates that 1 in 5 crags are at risk in the US.

The behaviours complained of by the Shire and Traditional Owners at Wallcliffe were as follows:

- Leaving chalk on the cliff.
- Pruning of trees at the waters edge.
- Defecation in caves.
- Playing of loud music in caves.
- Graffiti and vandalism.
- Entering the caves.
- Intentional damage to vegetation.
- Damage to cliffs from bolting.

Climbers raised concerns that some of these same things were happening at *Bob's Hollow*.

With more people now climbing outdoors, we have to be more conscious of access and ethics in climbing. Access is not a right, but a privilege that can be lost at any time. The fly-under-the-radar approach is outdated. Climbers have to keep landowners onside.

As a bare minimum, climbers should follow:

- [CAWA's Code of Conduct](#).
- [CAWA's Code of Bolting and New Route Development](#).
- [The 7 Principles of Leave No Trace](#).
- [The Climber's Pact](#).

The CAWA Access Subcommittee's role is to identify, investigate and address access issues when they arise. If you have any access questions or issues or want to report an access issue you can e-mail CAWA ([cawa@climberswa.asn.au](mailto:cawa@climberswa.asn.au)) or the CAWA Access Subcommittee ([access@climberswa.asn.au](mailto:access@climberswa.asn.au)) or any of the [CAWA Committee Members](#).

If you want to get involved and help with access then shoot CAWA an e-mail.

## CAWA Self-Rescue Course by Dirk Klicker

The self-rescue course run by Adventure Out finally took place on the 10th and 11th of Nov 2018, after being postponed a tad too many times by poor weather.

The forecast looked bleak for Saturday morning, but both days were mostly hot. There was a short period of thunder, lightening and rain, which was fun and made for good self-rescue training.

Terry and Jack Hewett were very motivated to teach the crew, which was great. Everyone who did the course either learned completely new stuff or re-learned stuff that they had completely forgotten. Bad habits and questionable techniques were challenged by Terry and Jack in an engaging and simplified way. Terry and Jack provided plenty of rescue and epic stories to illustrate their points. They essentially have over the years deconstructed every aspect of rock craft. Then they have reconstructed it in a systematic way to make it more teachable.

One of the hot topics for debate on the day was whether climbers should be heading out at all without knowing self-rescue. A few harrowing stories being told in support.

Terry is very keen to work with and impart his significant knowledge to climbers going forward. Adventure Out will be holding **Shed Crashes** where they will teach rock craft in a social setting for a token price. Terry and Jack have a phenomenal knowledge of rope craft. They break every aspect of rope work down and have established techniques to make it simple and almost automatic. For example, they will show you how to tie the perfect length figure 8 every time. If you plan to do big multi-pitch routes, time is of the



essence and stuffing around on every pitch to re-tie knots is counter-productive and may lead to that unintended overnight epic. CAWA will send notices about the Shed Crashes

## Self-Rescue Course by Dirk Klicker



## Self-Rescue Course by Dirk Klicker



## Kalbarri Trip Report by Elinor Fleming

After a late night (or early morning) driving to Kalbarri, the weekend started off well on Saturday morning with Catpass Clanky cruising up his long-time project *She Magic*. Andy, Sonia, James, John and I spent most of the day relaxing in the shade of the Promenade and the Pit, getting on *F\* the Law*, *She Magic*, *Heavy Petting*, *Brotherhood* and *Homophobia*.

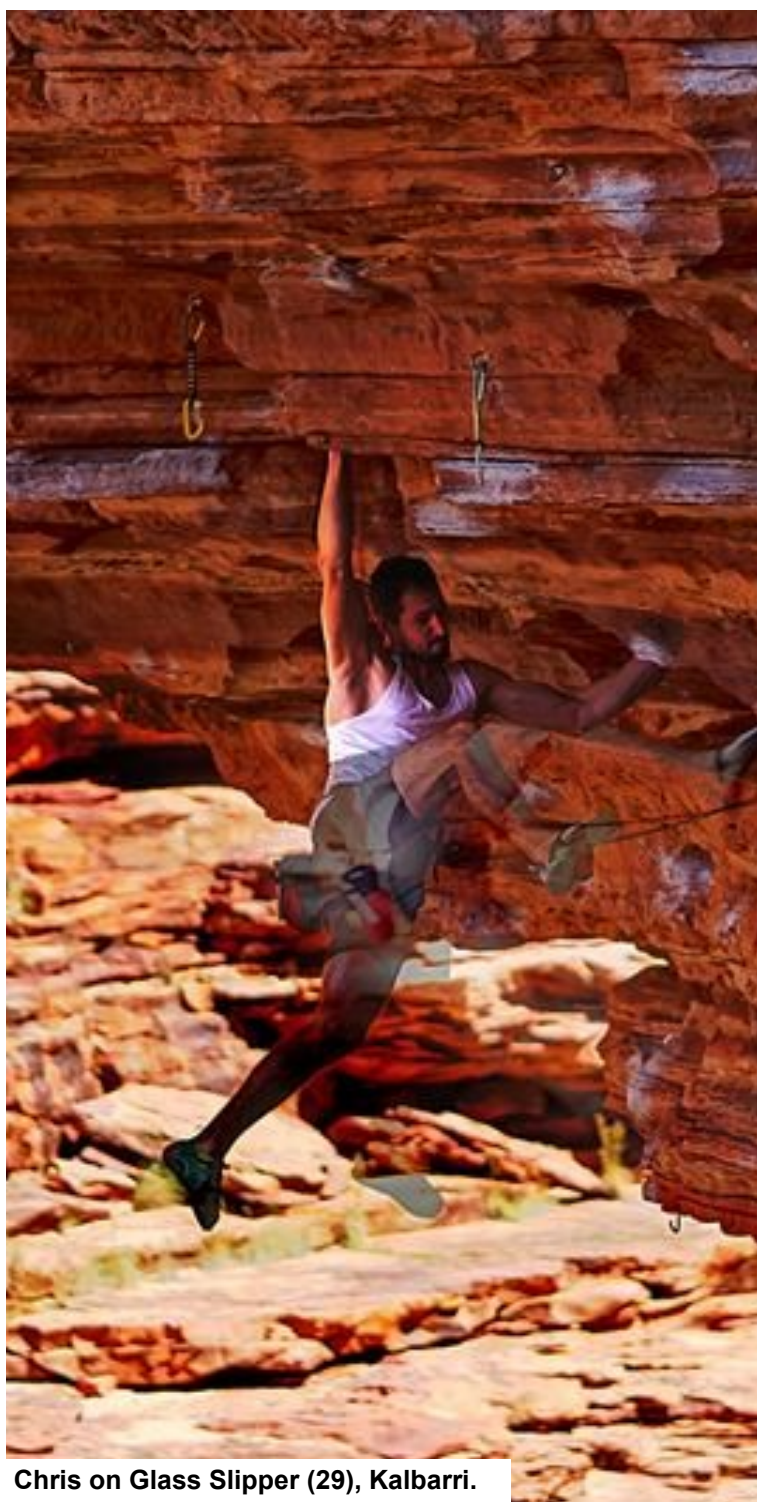
Pete, Kate and Jimmy drove into Kalbarri National Park after leaving Perth in the small hours of the morning. They got straight into climbing when they arrived, pulling onto *Keith Goes Blank*, a three-star classic that lets you feel some exposure. By the evening everyone was socializing in the Promenade and ready for a relaxing night.

The next day Pete and I went on an adventure to the Amphitheatre. The plan was to climb *Pissing in the Gene Pool*. An airy traverse lead to the start of the first pitch, Pete tied in and cruised up some 3-star climbing, that gives you an unparalleled view of the Kalbarri Gorge. I finished off the last two pitches of easy climbing and topped out to a nice bit of sunshine. Meanwhile the rest of the crew were projecting the usual suspects: Kate was on *Thrutching the Bison*, Andy got on *Heavy Petting*, and Jimmy crushed many of the routes in the Prom.

By Monday the psych was still high for Pete and Kate, they had their sights set on *Blue Flamin' Monkey Raped My Tomcat*. After an interesting traverse to the base of the climb Pete and Kate had an easy time climbing up the picturesque line. The fun wasn't over as Kate got chased by a snake while they were making there way back to the car.

The rest of the crew had a good last day playing on the boulders that line the river. I have no clue about names or grades, but wow, don't these photos look pretty good (thanks to Jimmy).

Thanks to everyone who came, it was a great weekend.



Chris on Glass Slipper (29), Kalbarri.

## Kalbarri Trip Report by Elinor Fleming



## Kalbarri Trip Report by Elinor Fleming



Elinor on Homophobia (28), Kalbarri.

## Kalbarri Trip Report by Elinor Fleming



Sonia on FTL (25), Kalbarri.

## Kalbarri Trip Report by Elinor Fleming

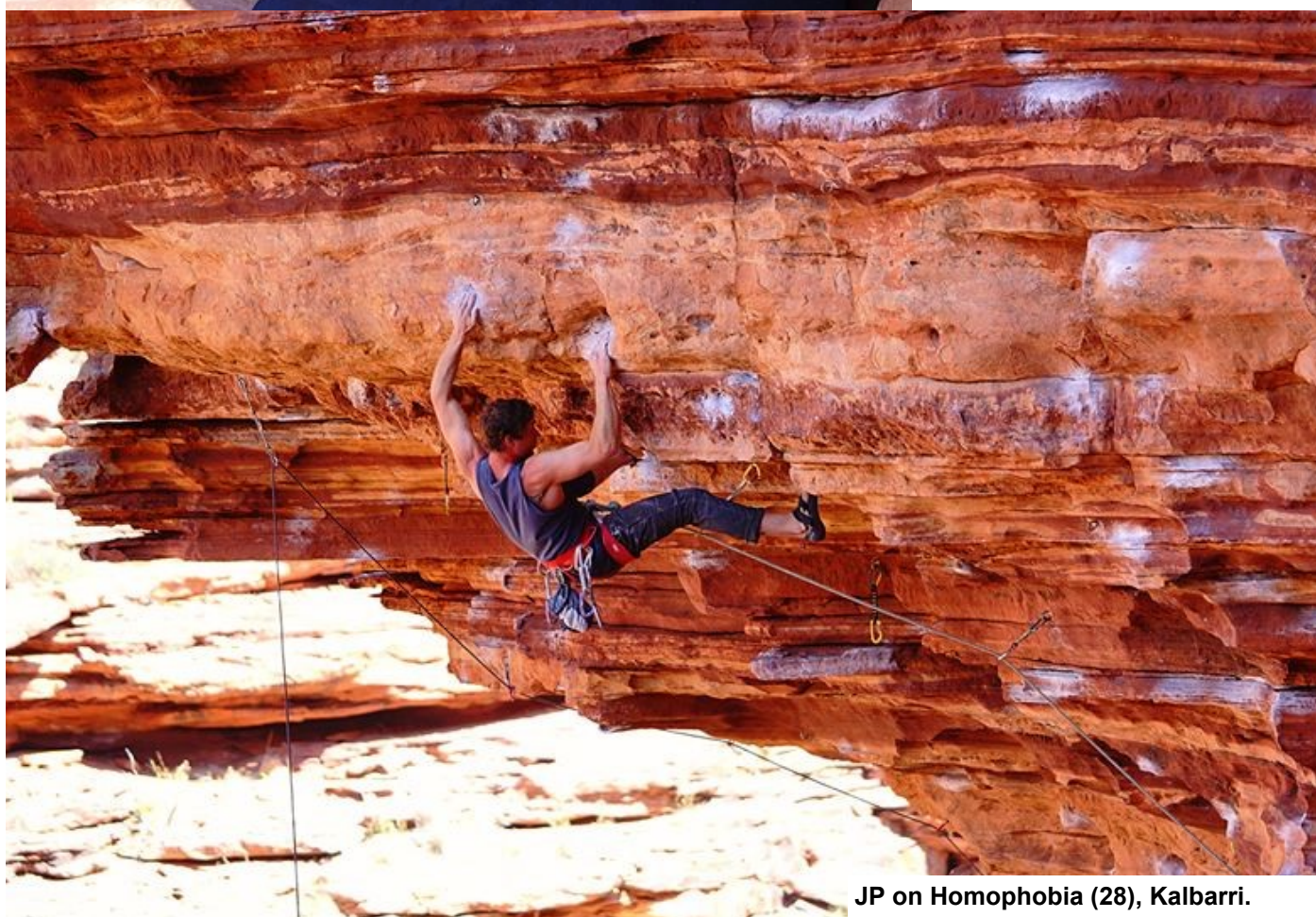


Elinor on PGP (16), Kalbarri.

## Kalbarri Trip Report by Elinor Fleming

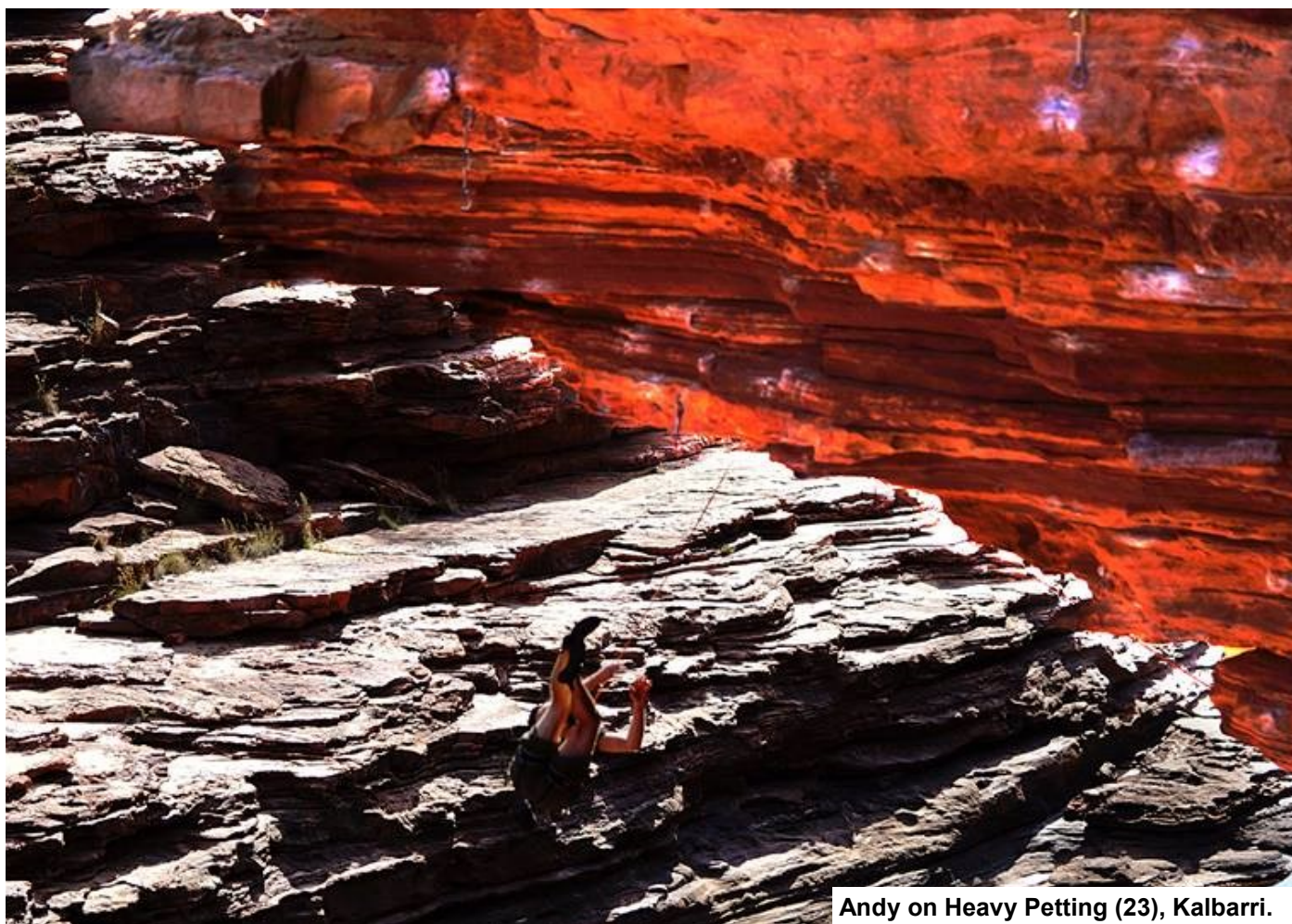


Sonia bouldering, Kalbarri.

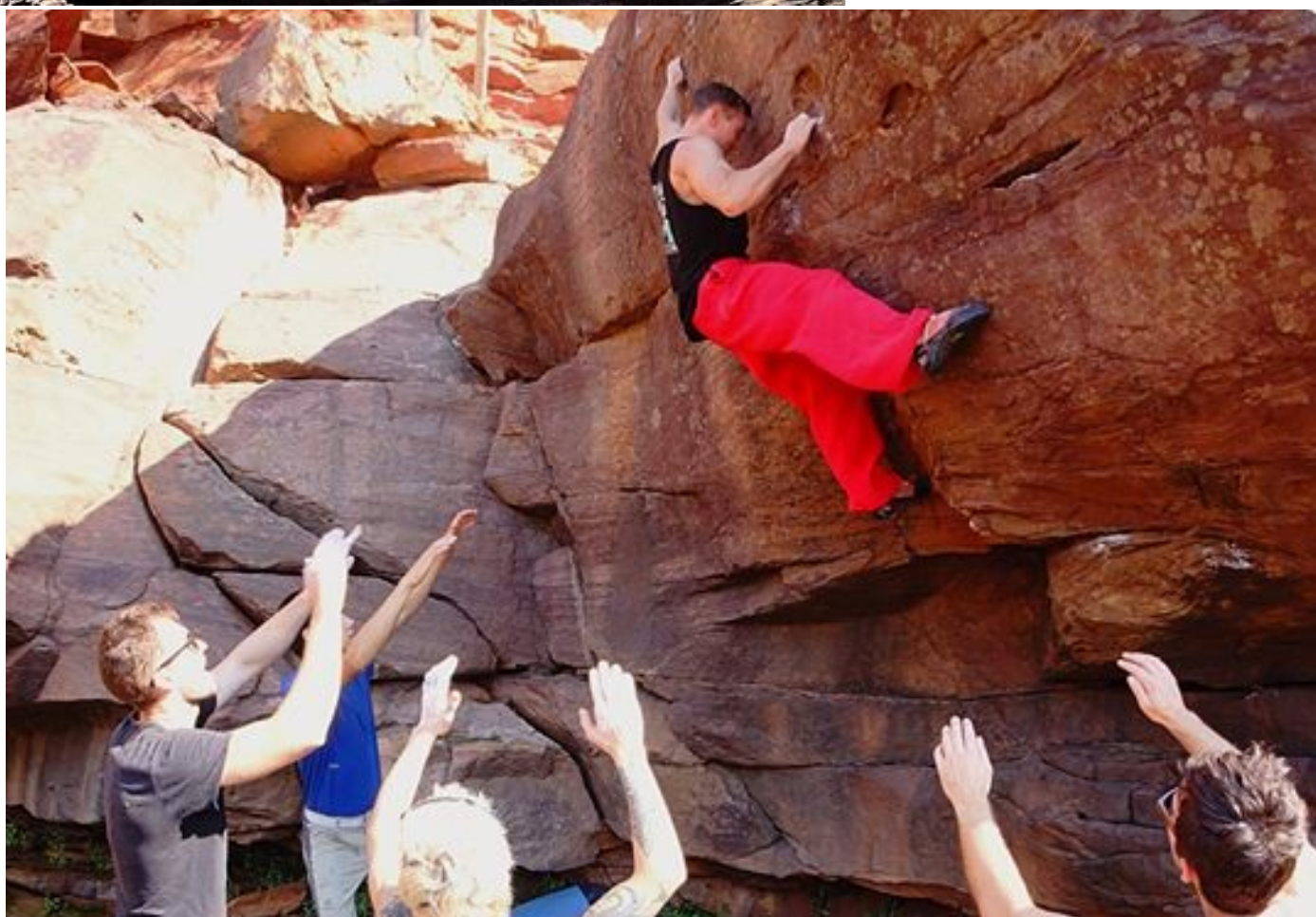


JP on Homophobia (28), Kalbarri.

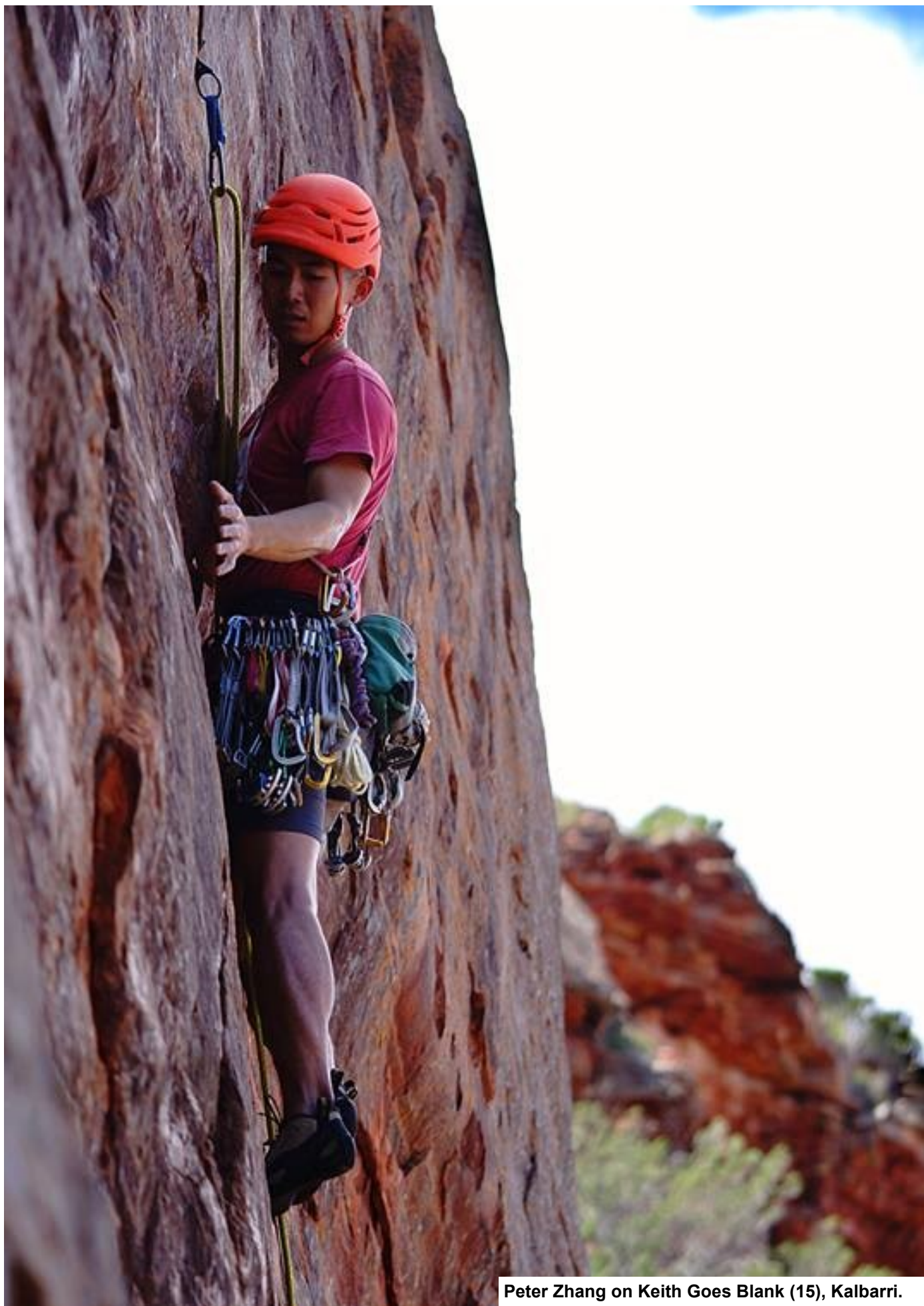
# Kalbarri Trip Report by Elinor Fleming



Andy on Heavy Petting (23), Kalbarri.



## Kalbarri Trip Report by Elinor Fleming

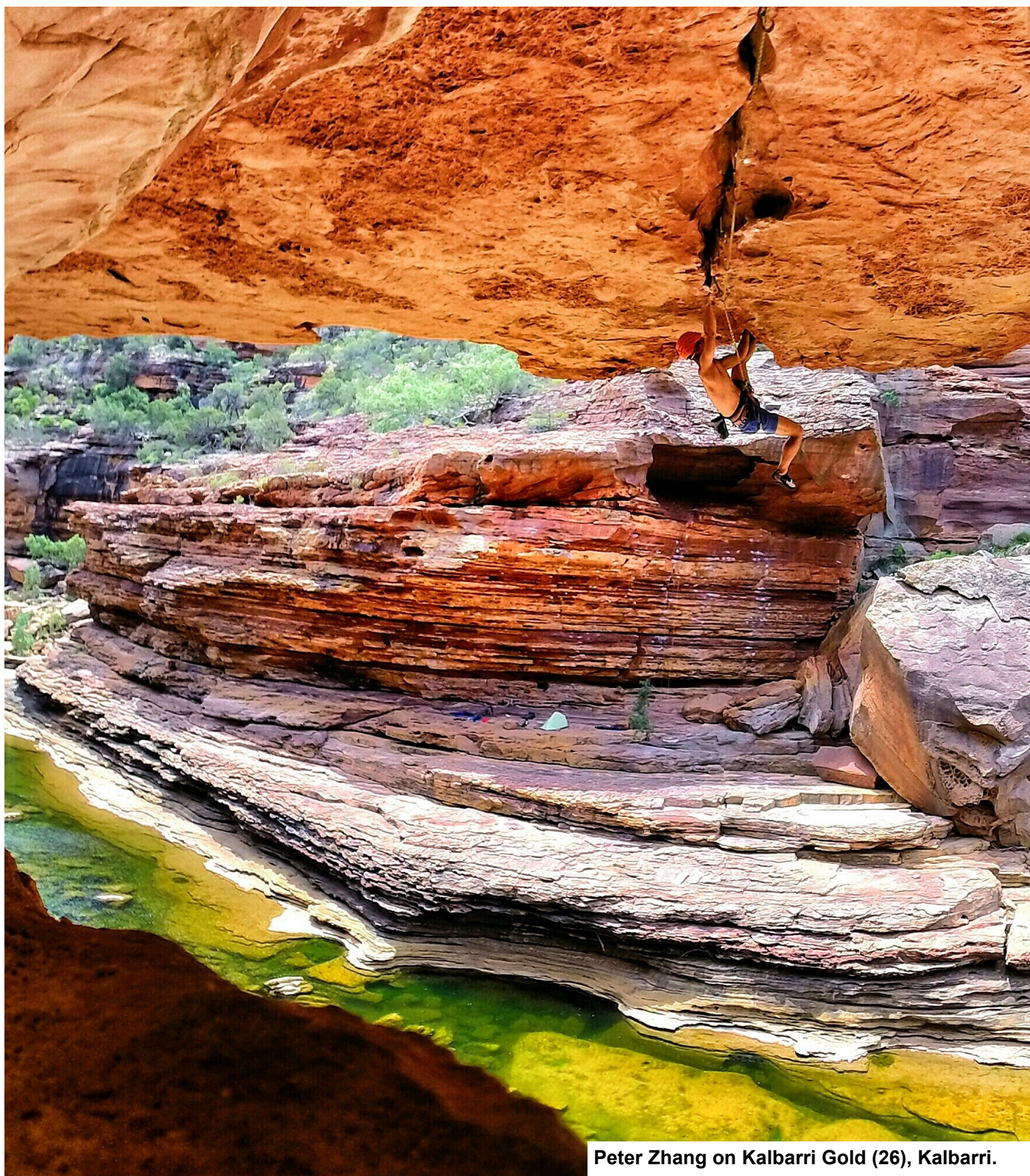


Peter Zhang on Keith Goes Blank (15), Kalbarri.

What's up?

REMEMBER TO SEND US YOUR NEWS

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Peter Zhang on Kalbarri Gold (26), Kalbarri.

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WA Weekender \$2 EP

**the boulder hub**

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What is indoor bouldering?

Indoor bouldering is a super exciting, dynamic, social and condensed style of rock climbing which is performed on short walls over soft thick safety matting. Without the need for ropes or a harness, a boulderer is free to climb on their own and explore the fantastic realm and freedom of pure climbing movement. This not only makes bouldering one of the most effective tools for climbing improvement, but also means bouldering is the most accessible form of climbing for both experienced and inexperienced climbers.

Whether you are a guy or a girl, adult or child, are able to carry your weight on your arms or not, bouldering is a fantastic recreational or sporting/ cross training activity which will have you feeling stronger, capable and energised.

Don't have a climbing partner?  
Have a fear of heights?  
Don't have hours and hours to train up for that next hard outdoor climb or competition?  
Want to do exercise that doesn't feel like exercise?  
Need to cross train and improve hand strength, upper body strength, core strength?

Bouldering may be for you!

If you're not sure whether it is for you, drop in or give one of our staff a call.

**ADRENALINE VAULT**

WELCOME TO THE WORLD OF ADRENALINE VAULT

**MIRC**

HOME | PRICING | OUTDOOR | GROUP BOOKING

VALENTINE'S SUNSET ABSEIL

- Sunset Abseil Sunday, Feb. 18
- Pinjarra - Boomer Crag Outdoor Climbs Saturday, Feb. 3 & 10

CLIMB IN THE DARK EVENT

- Friday Feb., 16 6.00pm - 8.00pm
- \$20 entry and harness hire

Contact the gym for details of each event. YOU DO NOT WANT TO MISS THESE

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