



## Rock And Crag Knowledge

### Editorial

Well time has certainly moved, as well as the first edition of Rack, with 75 copies distributed through Lone Dingo and the YMCA. I would firstly like to thank all those people who contributed to the first edition as well as the current one, and those people who took the time to read it. Feedback has been positive, even from those who choose not to climb.

The get together at Charles Creek on the last Sunday in May also showed the strength and interest in climbing, with 20 plus people turning up. Thanks to those who bought along family and friends as well as those who set up the top-ropes. I hope that this leads to climbing partnerships being formed, and strengthened the climbing community around Alice.

Congratulations and thank you to Krish for making climbing in Central Australia a safer and more enjoyable pursuit with the printed edition of his climbing guide. This is a major undertaking for one individual as I know that Krish has spent many hours checking on the accuracy of descriptions of old routes, putting up new ones and verifying access issues. Even though he enjoyed these outings it takes nothing away from the sheer enormity of this undertaking. A guide increases the safety of climbing in a number of ways as well as the enjoyment. It lets you choose your climbs according to your ability and style of climbing. It warns you of any dangers that may be present, and means of avoiding them, what protection to take and gear placements to seek out and when you have finished the climb, what is the easiest and safest way off. The descriptions and photos in the guide also help to save time and frustration in trying to locate climbs. If you are anything like me you can't remember one climb from another five minutes after you have finished it, let alone months down the track, saying to your climbing partner "are you sure I've climbed this before" and then being told you actually put it up or you don't remember sweating on or taking a fall on a particular climb.

I guess this is the positive side of climbing into old age, as Alzheimer's sets in you view all climbs as new ones, even if you've scaled their heights a myriad of times in the past, or like me just too lazy to take the time to remember them. Other climbers I know have not climbed some of the classic lower

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Warning: Climbing and the activities in this newsletter can carry a significant risk of personal injury and/or death. These activities are inherently dangerous. The producers and contributors of this newsletter do not recommend that anyone participate in these activities without the full knowledge of the risks involved, have sought expert qualified instruction and are willing to personally assume all responsibility associated with those risks.

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### Krish's Corner

Hyerba Burger (18) is without doubt the climb that has been ascended more times than any other in Central Australia. I have been up it well over 75 times, not only because it is the traditional way to warm up on the Quarry Wall, but due to it being a brilliant climb. It is highly likely that Roark Muhlen-Schulte will have led this obvious natural

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### Editorial cont'd...

grade routes in some of the premier climbing areas of Australia just so they have something to still give them the thrill of doing a classic climb for the first time when the mind is still willing but the body is not quite there.

So for this I would like to extend my gratitude to Krish from the climbing community, and to those of you who don't have a copy yet, what are you doing?  
Keep cranking, Warwick

### Krish's Corner cont'd...

line during his unrecorded climbing spree in the early 1990's. However, the first recorded ascent of this climb was by Kieran Culhane, Jo Isgro and Nick Isgro on the 13<sup>th</sup> August 1995.

The climb is short but steep. While it is a great crack climb you can ascend it not only by jamming but also with the use of smears, lay aways, crimps and dynos if the fancy takes you. Having had so many ascents the rock is solid and to boot the gear is superb. But while I talk this little gem up do not take it on lightly, it is a solid grade 18 lead and you will require a level head and good stamina to do it justice.



The climb is located on the Quarry Wall and is an ideally early morning venue not just for summer shade or winter, but also for the spectacular sunrise views down the valley. So even if you do not manage to conquer Hyerba Burger in the style you wanted the reward of simply being at the Quarry Wall and watching the world wake up is worth it. (Krish)

### 10 Good Climbs and Why

There are lots of very good climbs in Central Australia, it is hard to pick the best from all of them but here is a list of those that many people who have climbed here have spoken highly of:

Route 9 (8)

An excellent beginners route with good gear, holds and moves. It has been the first lead of many a budding new climber.

It Wasn't Me (10)

A fun and very well protected line. Another good choice for when you are early on in your leading career, with a steep but safe finish.

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### Lone Dingo Gear

Black Diamond's next generation  
Camalots - C4's

The old Black Diamond Camalots were hard to match when it came to performance and now with the introduction of the next generation camalots BD has gone a step further, the new cams have a weight reduction of up to 20% and a larger expansion range per size. The larger units have been resized enabling BD to dispense with one unit in the set but still increased the size of the No. 6! The new cams also have a looped wire stem increasing strength and allowing you to clip straight into the unit or to the sling attached, it also sports a new ergonomic thumb pad which makes pulling the trigger and placing the cam easier and smoother.

Anyway come in and check out the new Camalots yourselves they are a beautiful piece of equipment and a crack climbers dream. (Shane)



### 10 Good Climbs and Why cont'd...

Handle With Care (14)	One of the primo multi pitches in the centre, it gives a big wall feeling with great positions and a wonderful outlook.
Morning Haze (14)	A climb with exposure that should excite a climber of any ability, this is a very fine line with a committing traverse high up.
Toyboy Shaves His Legs (16)	The top section looks blank and improbable. But offers bomber gear and great holds that you can't see until you get to them, which could be quite unnerving.
Hyerba Burger (18)	See Krish's Corner.
Where's the Gardener (18)	A very good climb from the ground up but the absorbing hanging corner to finish up is what makes it so good.
Stitching Time (19)	Big holds keep appearing, and they are very much needed on this steep wall. The climb is not all that high but it takes a long time to get to the top.
Superfreak (20)	Excellent climbing that gets harder the further up you get, being so high up on the ranges makes this feel like a big climb.
Fight to be Free (23)	A bold fingery start and a heart stopping finish make this hard traditional line one of the best. (Krish)

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### YMCA Rockwall

#### **YMCA of Central Australia**

P.O. Box 2458 Alice Springs NT 0871

Sadden Rd.

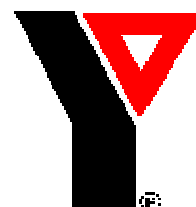
(08) 89525666

Fax (08) 89527082

Open wall nights:

Mondays 6-8pm\*

Wednesdays 6-8pm\*



\*Instructors present during these times. Belay certification available.

**Flyers with more information available at the YMCA. Rockwall membership passes coming soon!**

#### **Rock Ratz Kid's Climbing Club**

For kids ages 4-12, with parent involvement!

New body harnesses now available.

Program is 10 weeks of instructed sessions on knot tying, belaying, climbing techniques and safety procedures. Kids climb as parents belay and coach their child to the top!

Program will start in Sept/Oct. Brochures with information and registration can be picked up any time at the YMCA.

Call or email for more details. [yprogram@bigpond.net.au](mailto:yprogram@bigpond.net.au)

### New Climbs & Grade Reviews - Deep Gully at Boggy Hole

Boggy Hole is a waterhole on the Finke River about 40km downstream from Palm Valley. You get there most easily from Alice Springs by driving along Larapinta highway to Hermannsburg and turning left opposite the Hermannsburg turnoff, onto a track which leads in to Ellery creek and downstream to Finke river. On the north side of Boggy Hole is a deep gully called Deep Gully, and 10 minutes up this gully is an attractive cliff which is shady for most of the afternoon. Most of the climbs described here are on this northwest wall of the gully.

#### *Oxymoron 40m 5*

Start: Walking upstream into this area the creek turns first right then left. If you look up to the left after that left hand turn there is a strong wide crack splitting the cliff to the left of a striking overhang with a crack through it. This route is the crack, with the crux down low and spectacular through the overhang.

FA Garn Cooper & Rodney Angelo September 2004

#### *Pelican 55m 12*

Start: Difficult to describe, this climb is about 20-30m downstream from Perspective below a huge 'diving platform' at the top of the cliff, and follows a strong line through a little overhang at about 15-20m.

Climb up the main line until after the overhang, then move right on to the nose and continue up to the huge ledge. Wander across to the left and finish up the attractive laid back corner to belay on the left side of the 'diving platform'. Or finish on one of the other attractive lines.

FA Garn Cooper, Kasia Gabrys & Rodney Angelo October 2004

#### *Flywheel 17 60m*

Start: At the same height as the big roof left of Perspective, and left of it, is another smaller triangular roof. This climb takes the corner to its left.

Gain the true line from the right (the direct start is unappealingly sandy). Step through a little roof and climb up to the base of the corner, then up this to where the angle eases. Continue up easier ground with the customary detached boulders liberally sprinkled about. After pulling through an overhang continue directly up through weaknesses in the two final rock bands.

FA Garn and Anders 8/5/5

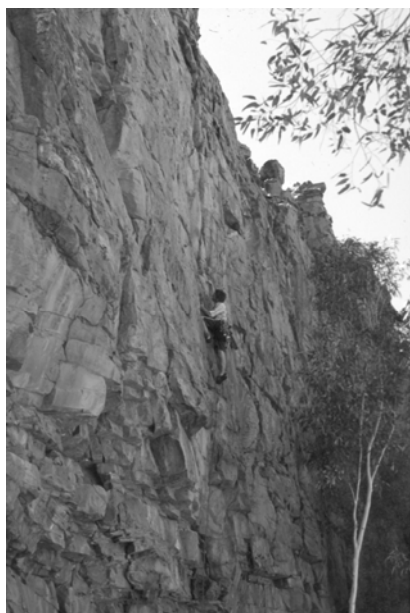
#### *Circumlocution 17 45m*

Start: This climb passes the left end of the big roof left of Perspective. Start below a nice looking crack for protection, below the left end of this roof.

Climb up to and then up this crack, which leads up a left facing corner just right of a spearwood vine. At the height of the vine traverse right to under the roof, then climb up to its left margin. Traverse right along the lip of the roof to reach the crack in the face. Follow this taking the unvegetated right hand variant to the top of the face. Climb up the easier angled territory to belay at the white gum. We abseiled - feel free to continue through the final rock bands - we shoulda.

FA Garn and Anders 8/5/5

more new climbs next edition.....



### Letters/Notes

- Apologies for no rock tapas they were cooked early (before Steve T left for NZ) but unfortunately were eaten before they could be served up for public consumption.
- Interested parties? Anyone who could possibly be available as a contact resource for visiting climbers looking for climbing information and/or partners during their stay. Please leave your details with Simon at Lone Dingo - a reward awaits.
- Lost gear - a wire was found on Handle with Care recently - if it is yours it can be retrieved from Lone Dingo.
- The next social get together/climb will be at 4:00pm on Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> September at Emily Slab, the crag above the Emily Gap car park. There should still be shade then but the amount of climbing could be heat dependent.

Karl Godden leading The Vibraphone (17)  
Ormiston Bluff