



## “New” Cliff Reviews, by Richard

Sometimes it is not just about *the climb*, but the location and the mood. While there is no doubt Arapiles has *the climbs*, there are some great locations in The Grampians which have both *the climb* and *the mood*. Here are some of the cliffs I have found, which will allow you to avoid some of the duds I have visited!

*Vanya Area* at *The Mountain Lion* is a small concentration of excellent beginner climbs on an otherwise average cliff. Good gear placements, no loose rock, a short walk in and off the cliff. With the angle of the climbs being laid back off the vertical, there is no pressure if you are struggling with your first nut placements. Guidebook: *Grampians Selected Climbs*.

*Cherub Wall* is as good as Summerday Valley for those searching for climbs graded between 10 and 20.

There are no crowds (until some idiot writes an article about it!). This cliff is more extensive than you first believe, with enough gaps for those searching for new routes. Climbs are easy to locate, with shady trees for belayers and lunch. Although the cliff may be a bit hot in summer, facing north, there are still some shady corners which avoid the afternoon sun.

*Wallaby Rocks* also has good climbs, but is not as extensive as *Cherub Wall*. However, this is the cliff for climbers who hate walking. The 50 metre walk-in deposits you at the base of the descent gully. Turn left (south) for the straightforward routes. Turn right (north) for some acrobatic routes.

Guidebook to use for these two areas: *The Asses Ears Area*.