

Goldrocking in arboretum

CALM's Goldfields regional manager Ian Kealley claims he has received some strange requests in his time with the Department.

One recent example began with a call from a newly formed rock climbing club in Kalgoorlie-Boulder, seeking permission from Ian for a 46-tonne rock to be located in the

Kalgoorlie Arboretum.

The rock, to be used for basic rock climbing, would be managed by the club, Ian was told.

Originally blasted from a local gold mining lease, the rock was considered waste material.

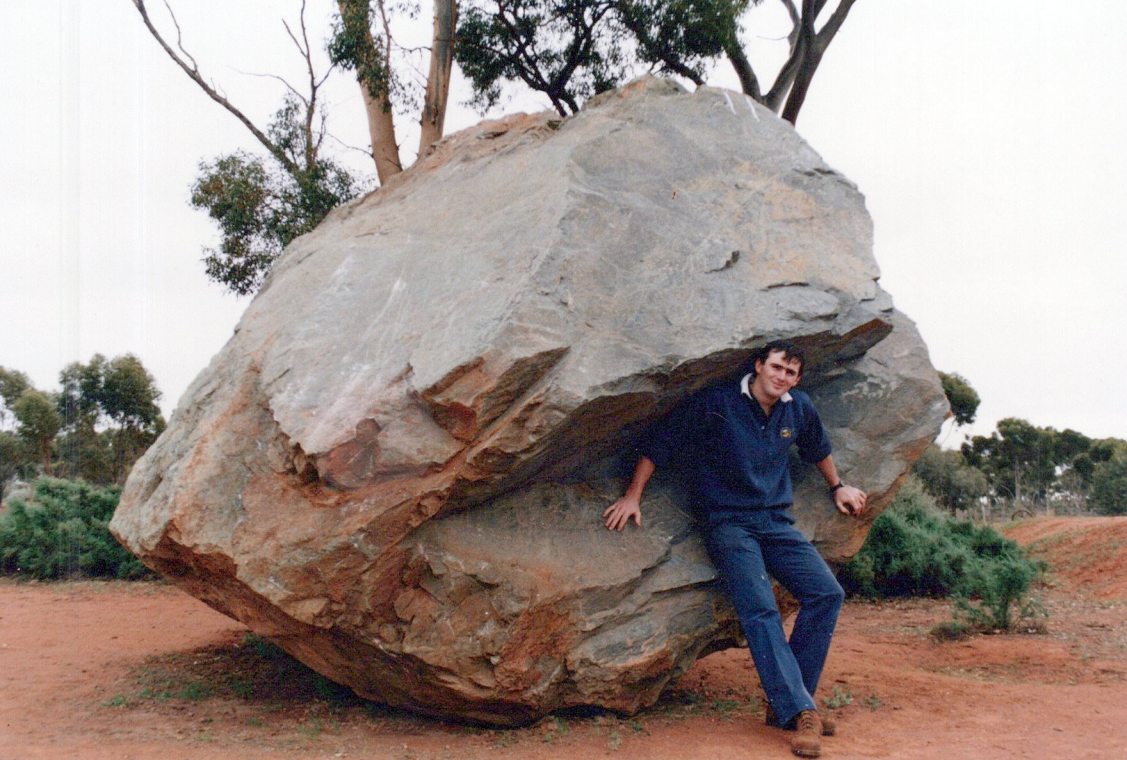
When being moved, however, a quartz vein was discovered running through it.

After testing the vein for gold, the results did not warrant the rock being repossessed by the mining company.

A 90-tonne crane was used to lift the rock on to a 100-tonne low loader, fences were taken down to allow access, and the Arboretum was provided with a 46-tonne show-piece and practice site for budding rock climbers.



Forest worker Mark Virgo in vain attempt to move the rock in the general direction of Perth Mint. Photo by Grant Pronk



Forest Work Person - Mark Virgo
photo by Grant Proulx.

94% Page 6