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Gable New Routes and Comments

Kern Knotts

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Leap Year: reported to be a sandbag at MVS, p1 has a serious section mid-way with poor gear, and a very strenuous upper section with some suspect rock

Kern Knotts West Buttress:

Central Climb South Face: suggestion that this is also undergraded (MVS) and is closer to VS 4c.
MVS

Upper Kern Knotts (Raven Crag)

NY 215 097

595m

SW

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Situated directly above *Kern Knotts*, this micro crag has good rock and a lovely outlook above a pleasant flat grassy gearing up/picnic area. It is easily reached by following the main Gable path from Styhead until the first small rocky knoll on the left is passed whereupon a vague rising diagonal path on large scree (marked with occasional cairns) leads across the hillside, up a short grassy gully, and round a rocky rib to the right end of the crag. The crag was used by the Victorian pioneers but little has been recorded until now.

Far Far Left-Hand Buttress

A long way to the left of the main area! Many other short possibilities exist hereabouts

If Mod was Diff 20m VD

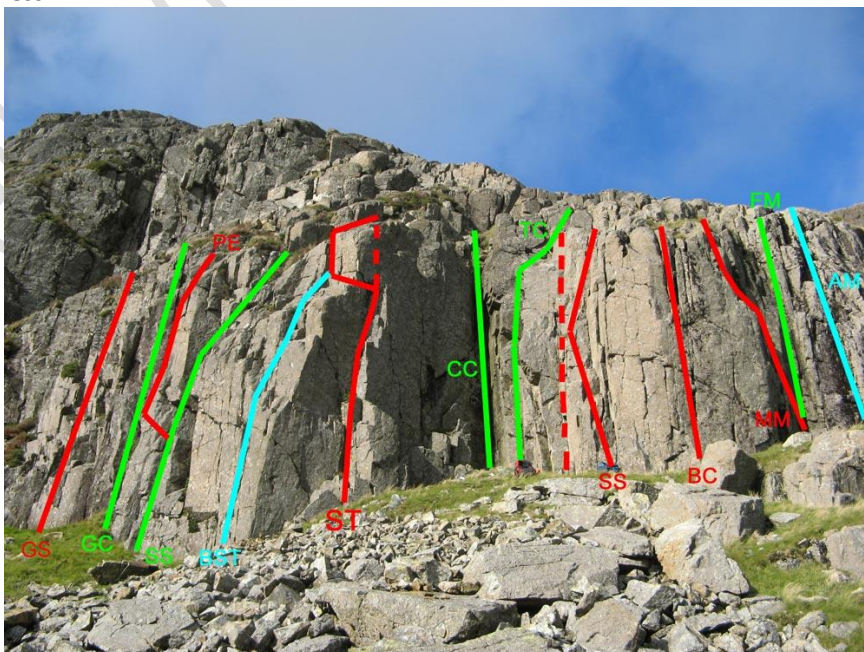
Lovely rock and steep in parts. Easy slabs lead to an upright flake just right of a prow. Stand on the flake to gain a platform and go up the thin crack in the wall to a hand-traverse right under a shield. Follow the rib above to the top.

First ascent: (19/10/2007) Ian Grimshaw, SJH Reid

Main Area

This buttress lies directly above Kern Knotts. The left-hand side of the Left-Hand Buttress is marked by a chimney with an offwidth chimney/crack to its right. In the centre of the buttress is a deeply set back chimney/gully. Descent is to the right.

Left-Hand Buttress



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Giant's Steps 10m M *

Steep juggy climbing on superb rock, up the wall just left of the left-most chimney.

First ascent: (11/05/2008) SJH Reid (solo)

Gaspard's Chimney 10m D

The left-most chimney.

First ascent: (30/12/1910) G Sansom, AR Thomson, A Gaspard

Pillarette 10m MVS 4b

Start up the offwidth crack of *Samson's Squeeze* but soon swing left and climb the pillar between *Gaspard's Chimney* and the crack.

First ascent: (22/08/2007) SJH Reid, Sally A Baxendale

Sansom's Squeeze 10m VD

The second chimney from the left is more of an offwidth crack than a chimney.

First ascent: (30/12/1910) G Sansom, AR Thomson, A Gaspard

Blue Sky Thinking 10m HVS 5b *

To the right of the offwidth crack of *Samson's Squeeze* and just left of the arête is a thin crack. Make hard moves up the wall to gain a slim stepped groove and follow this more easily to the top.

First ascent: (23/08/2007) SJH Reid, Sarah Bailey, C King

Stephally 10m MVS 4b

Just right of the arête to the left of the chimney/gully of *Central Chimney* is a flake-crack/groove line. Climb the shallow groove until it ends just before the top when a pull left is made to a ledge on the arête. The crack on the left leads to the top.

First ascent: (08/08/2007) SJH Reid, Sally A Baxendale

The *Direct Finish* straight up the wall is VS (4c).

First ascent: (11/05/2008) SJH Reid (unseconded)

Central Chimney VD *

The tunnel-like chimney/gully in the centre of the buttress.

OG Jones, JW Robinson, WH Fowler, 26th Dec 1893

Thompson's Groove 10m D

To the left of the *Central Chimney* is a V-groove and then an open groove. The deep V-groove.

First ascent: (30/12/1910) G Sansom, AR Thomson, A Gaspard

Secret Seven 10m MS *

Climb the open groove starting on the right and exiting rightwards.

Left-Hand Way MS. It has also been climbed starting on the left and finishing leftwards.

Same team, same date.

First ascent: (22/08/2007) Sally A Baxendale, SJH Reid

Barn Conversion 10m E1 5b*

Just right again an impending crack splits the face. Climb the sustained crack.

First ascent: (23/08/2007) C King, SJH Reid, Sarah Bailey

Repeat ascensionist said "A wonderful combination of jugs, jams and layback compressed into such a short distance. Well worth a visit" Worth **.

May the Moss be with You 10m S

To the right again is a steep mossy wall broken on its left side by three shallow grooves. The left-hand groove, finishing leftwards up cleaner rock on the arête.

First ascent: (11/05/2008) SJH Reid (unseconded)

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Moss Bros 10m HS

The central groove proves both a struggle for independence and a struggle.

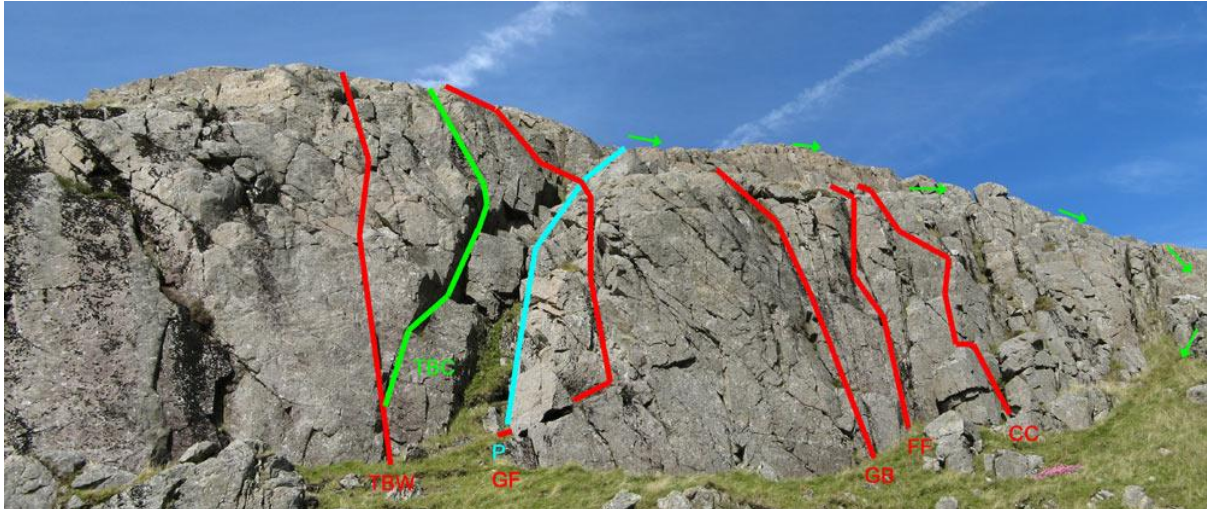
First ascent: (11/05/2008) SJH Reid (unseconded)

Another Fine Moss VS 5a

The right-hand groove involves a technical start laybacking up moss before yarding up mossy jugs to the top.

First ascent: (11/05/2008) SJH Reid (unseconded)

Right-Hand Buttress



This buttress lies to the right of the mossy central section and is split by a grassy gully. The slab on the left of this gully provides the longest climbs.

Tom Blue Wall 20m HVS 5a



Follow the thin crack/groove up the slab to an easing and climb more or less directly to the top.

First ascent: (27/08/2008)

Tom Blue Cracks 20m S

The groove/cracks up the right side of the wall just left of the grassy gully. Step up leftwards, then straight up the buttress. Several variations have been done.

First ascent: (22/08/2007) SJH Reid, Sally A Baxendale

Peasy 20m M

The rib bounding the grassy gully on its right and starting at a large block spike.

First ascent: (22/08/2007) SJH Reid (solo)

Green Friend 20m VD

The groove just right of the grassy gully. When it eases move up a few metres then step across the gully and climb a rounded rib on the left. It can be started **Direct** at Severe.

First ascent: (22/08/2007) Sally A Baxendale, SJH Reid

To the right is a smooth wall

Gordon Bennett 10m VD

The obvious juggy groove just right of the smooth wall has a definite crux at mid-height.

First ascent: (08/08/2007) Sally A Baxendale, SJH Reid

Famous Five 10m VS 4b

The slim mossy groove just right is better than it looks. Gain the groove via a crack just left of a pinnacle and climb it, first on the left, then on the right.

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First ascent: (22/08/2007) SJH Reid, Sally A Baxendale

The Climby Climb 10m VD

Gain the top of a pinnacle via a short chimney/crack to its right. Make an awkward pull up from this to a ledge above and zig right, then left, to finish via a short corner.

First ascent: (22/08/2007) Sally A Baxendale, SJH Reid

The Napes

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Napes Central Area

Crinkler's Crack 65m HVS

A meandering climb, rather superseded by *Amos Moses*. Start as for *Amos Moses* at a right-slanting crack in the large subsidiary buttress, below the right-hand end of the *Dress Circle*.

1 15m. Climb the crack to a large grass ledge and pinnacle.

2 20m. Move right to the foot of a crack near the edge of the buttress. Ascend the crack, and grass ledges, and belay on the right.

3 27m. Descend a couple of metres to the right on grass, and climb to a small ledge up and right, clearly visible on the skyline below the overhangs. Step left and pull into a shallow groove between the overhangs. Climb the crack on the right to a bulge, move left and surmount the bulge, then climb diagonally to the right, to a belay in the crack.

4 21m. Climb up easily to an open V-groove which leads to *Eagle's Nest Ridge*.

First ascent: (19/05/1973) R Valentine, J Wilkinson

Longbow 40m E1 5b **

The bow shaped wall between Ling Chimney and Eagle's Nest Ridge Direct gives some sustained climbing on clean, solid, rough rock. Start from a belay by the large pillar block at the bottom of Ling Chimney. Step right onto the rib leading up rightwards to a triangular overhang. Cross this and continue to a good foot ledge where runners can be placed on the right arête before stepping left and climbing up the wall to join a right slanting crack which then leads up to the eagle's nest. From the top of this crack move left again to some thin blind cracks and climb straight up the wall to where the angle eases and leads to the belay in the corner at the top of Eagle's Nest Ridge direct.

First ascent: (16/06/2014) Dave Rogers, Alan Leece



Longbow - line of route

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Napes Needle

Sick'ard Shiver 21m E6 6a **

Climb the wall right of *Thirty Nine Steps* (small wires and a cam can be arranged in a flake on the right). Thin moves lead to better holds and the shoulder. Serious.

First ascent: (28/04/2011) Adam Hocking, Mike Norbury



Tophet Wall

Xander 20m E7 6b

An excellent, steep, bold pitch in an "out there" position. Takes the steep groove directly above *Tophet Wall's* last belay. Step up and clip 2 pegs (poor). Climb the overhanging groove directly for 25ft until a good hold and flake is reached (gear) make moves up and left (in an increasingly serious, but fabulous position) until a hard move left allows entry to a continuation groove which is followed to the top.

First ascent: (11/05/2008) Duncan Booth, Mike Norbury

Gable Crag

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Jabberwock: probably deserves to be E1 as the crack is sustained and has a hard crux.

Green Gable Crags

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Theta: deserves VD. Also its top pitch is more like 40m

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Our Father 58m VD *

A thoroughly enjoyable and very obvious line up the left arête of *Theta's* slab. Start just left of *Theta* at a thin rib at the left edge of the crag, where it meets the scree and just before it turns steeply uphill.

1 18m. Climb the rib to grass and trend up leftwards to a belay level with the base of the arête.

2 40m. Step right to the arête and follow it on superb holds to definite crux near the top. Exit up to a ledge and climb the short upper wall on its left-hand side.

First ascent: (22/08/2008) Sally A Baxendale, SJH Reid (alt)



Girdle Traverse of Green Gable VS

Start as for *Alpha*.

1. Climb first pitch of *Alpha*, but traverse left above the overhang and belay on a ledge above the overhang.

2. Pitch 3 of *Beta*.

3. *Gamma*.

4. Descend *Delta*.

5. Descend pitch 2 of *Epsilon*.

6. Pitch 1 and 2 of *Epsilon Chimney*.

7. Descend Pitch 3 of *Aaron*.

8. Traverse on to Pitch 2 of *Eta*, ascend to the top of a small chimney.

9. Abseil to the foot of *Fie*. Ascend *Fie* (or *Theta* - reduces standard to S).

10. Descend *North Face*.

First ascent: (17/05/1959) Des Oliver, Ken Ogilvie

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Boat How Crags

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Breakwater Slabs

Thar She Blows 10m MVS 4b

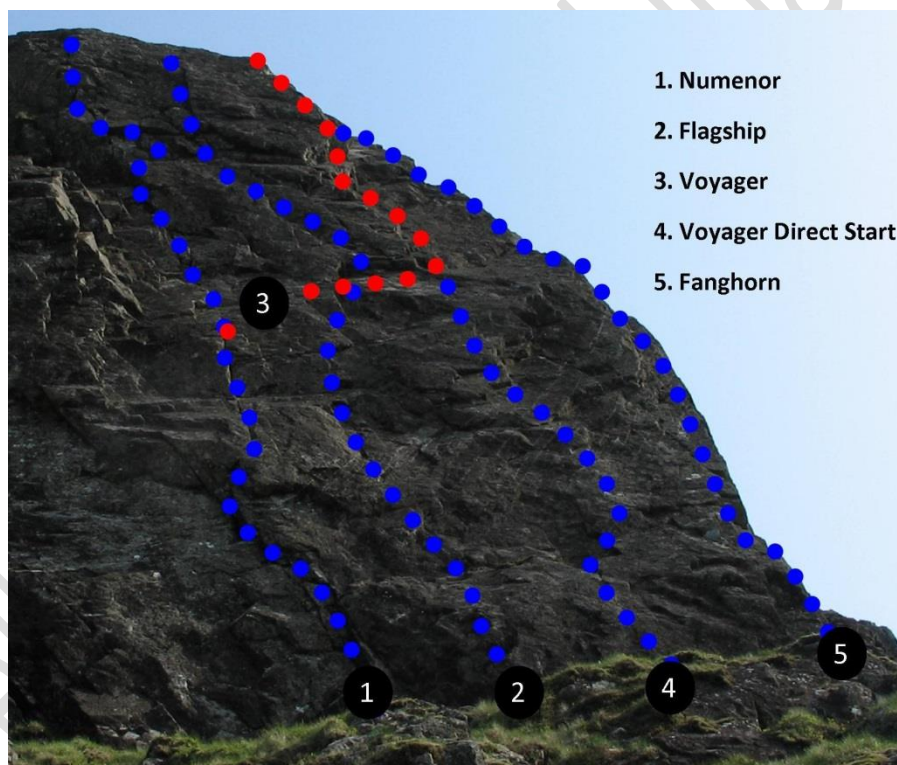
Start one metre right of *Sea Shanty* and climb the slab, finishing up the right-hand side of the headwall (this is the line of the abseil shown in the guide).

First ascent: (26/05/2008) SJH Reid, Crag Jones,

Voyager Direct Start 50m E6 6a ***

The coveted direct start to *Voyager* mentioned on p38 of the current guide. Cast off and gain the obvious ledge by a thin seam in the centre of the face. Step to starboard (right) and climb direct to reach an obvious undercling. Reaching a good foothold above and left brings calm and small gear. Layback the square flake to reach a high sidepull to the left. Further sidepulls and crimps gain the slab above and the sanctuary of the end of the *Voyager* traverse. Low in the grade a but a memorable journey, confirmed by repeats.

First ascent: (05/07/2013) Simon Litchfield, Graeme Read



Numenor with Direct Finish and Fanghorn E3

Numenor has received extensive cleaning over a couple of visits. **In its current clean state it is one of the greatest E3 pitches in the Lakes. More traffic will greatly help to further improve the route.** Fanghorn (and to a lesser extent Flagship) were also cleaned on abseil (with Fanghorn receiving ascents). (Correct as for summer 2013) The walk in from Honister is closer to 1h40 (especially if a short cut is taken so as not to gain height after Great Gable stream). Furthermore, the quality of the rock and routes at Boat How cannot be stressed highly enough.

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Pillar New Routes & Comments

Bowness Knott

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Snowstorm 77m S

Start as for *Black Crack Route*.

1 25m. As for *Black Crack Route* to below the *Black Crack*. Then move right and up to belay on an oak tree in the corner.

2 16m. Go up left, climb onto the *Bos'n's Chair* and up a steep slab to a belay in the *Crow's Nest*.

3 18m. Climb the narrow groove, inclining to the right, which is awkward but has good holds to a block belay.

4 18m. Easier slabs to the top.

Original Start

The original start was 10 metres right and climbed the most appalling vegetated slabs to arrive at the same oak tree.

First ascent: 1957 F Crosby, A Watson

Tyrozet 74m S

A poor vegetated route which ricochets between *Black Crack Route*, *Snowstorm* and *Hailstorm*. Start 4 metres right of *Black Crack Route*.

1 30m. Climb a short wall and vegetated rock to an oak tree. Continue up the broken crack to belay by a gnarled holly.

2 12m. Descend left and make for a prominent block on *Snowstorm*. Climb over the block and go rightwards to *Hyacinth Chimney* on *Black Crack Route*.

3 12m. Climb the wall immediately behind the tree and move right to belay above the chimney.

4 20m. Step down to the left, then back right to a sloping ledge. Climb the overhanging wall and follow the slabs above to the top.

First ascent: (29/05/1968) DN Greenop, A McGregor, D Bonney

Left Wall E3 5b?

This hard and potentially dangerous route ascends a series of overhanging grooves on the wall between *Skyhook* and *Green Gash* at an overhanging corner. Climb the corner to an easier-angled section and gain the first of the grooves on the wall on the left. The overhanging grooves are ascended with increasing difficulty, and very strenuous moves have to be made on very suspect holds, until it is possible to pull out left near the top of *Skyhook*, and up to the tree belay at the top of *Green Gash*.

F/A Unknown

Bowness Girdle S

Description not known.

F/A Unknown

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Raven Crag (Ennerdale)

NY 178 124

400m

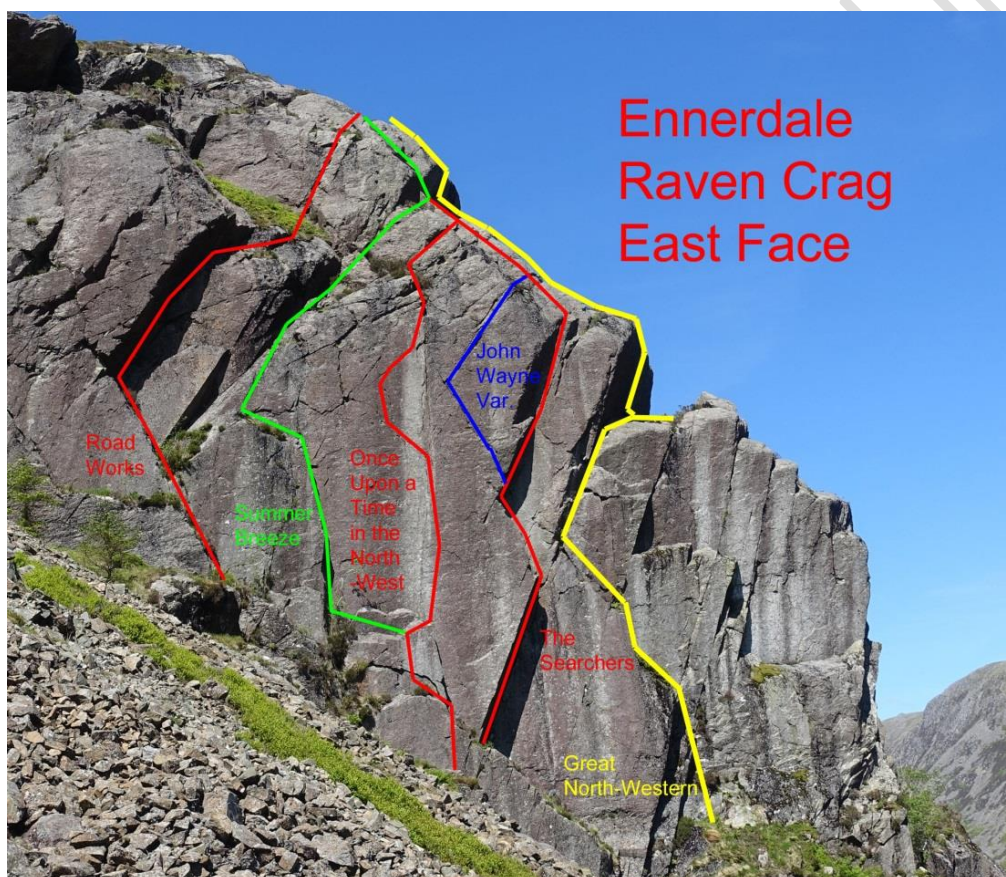
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Raven Crag lies east of the memorial footbridge and almost directly above a huge boulder by the forest track. It is the lowest crag above the forestry fence on the south side of the River Liza.

Although the crag is a long way from anywhere with vehicle access, it is easily approached from Blacksail Youth Hostel or by bicycle from Bowness Knott. From a layby (NY 182 126) at a high point east of the large boulder on the forestry track, avoid the obvious break in the trees dead ahead as it leads to an unpleasant heap of brash, instead trend leftwards to gain a break through the trees on the left. Ascend the hillside, cross a fence and turn right above woods to arrive at the East Face (30mins from the track. 1hr 30mins from Bowness Knott).

The East Face is short but fairly clean and very steep. Its main features are a very steep and smooth wall with a white streak down its centre and, left of this, twin right-slanting grooves. The North Face is slabby but rather vegetated and only two routes have been recorded, one of which could not be located.



Road Works 35m E2 5c *

Takes the left-hand of the twin grooves. Start down and slightly right of the groove. Climb the leftward-slanting groove/ramp to gain the main groove. Sustained difficult moves up this (micro-cams) gain easier ground. Follow the crack above to the top

First ascent: (03/07/2015) JF Hughes, R Jervis

Summer Breeze 40m E1 5b*

Takes the right-hand of the two grooves and is low in the grade. Start under the white streak in the centre of the wall. Step off an embedded flake at foot level and climb up a huge flake on the wall moving left to a slim corner. Climb the corner (large cams) to a ledge. Traverse left and make thin moves up the right-slanting ramp/groove above until it eases. Continue round to the right in the line of the groove until moves up left lead to a belay.

First ascent: (03/07/2015) R Jervis, SJH Reid, JF Hughes

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Once Upon a Time in the North-West 24m E7 6b/c ***

A superb, fingery and sustained route on excellent rock. It takes the line of the crag direct up the centre of the vertical wall following the obvious white streak. Although the route is low in the grade, the numerous RP placements take considerable effort to place. On the first ascent a DMM Walnut 0 was pre-placed at the crux. Start directly beneath the white streak and below a large flake against the wall. Climb easily up to the top of the flake then make a hard move to become established on the wall. This is followed by strenuous fingery climbing up a thin crackline to reach a tiny break. A further series of difficult moves lead to a good hold in a small break up and left. Pull back rightwards to reach a good flake, then finish direct.

First ascent: (24/07/2011) Graeme Read, Simon Litchfield

The Searchers 26m E5 6b ***

A fantastic route that tackles the obvious line of the corner and groove system to the right of the main face. Start on a platform beneath an obvious innocuous looking corner/crack. From the very first move this corner is brutal, but eases higher up where the sanctuary of a left-trending glaciis is reached - gear can be arranged at the top of the ramp before the crux. A hard and insecure-feeling move up a thin crack in the bulging wall to the left of the blank groove allows for a fabulously precarious position with your hands on a sloping shelf to be reached. A move back right to the base of a crack gains a bridging position and brings welcome respite and gear. Things ease with the final crack-line, but the climbing remains steep and brilliantly positioned.

First ascent: (31/07/2011) Simon Litchfield, Graeme Read

The John Wayne Variation 26m E4 6a**

An alternative finish to *The Searchers* that provides good and well positioned independent climbing but avoids the shoot-out with the upper groove. Start as for *The Searchers*. From the top of the half-way ramp a tough move out leftwards gains a rising crack-line. Follow this steeply, initially towards *Once upon a Time in the North West* and then back right to the top with maintained interest.

First ascent: (24/07/2011) Simon Litchfield, Graeme Read

Great North-Western 50m HVS 5a **

An interesting climb on excellent rock. Start just right of the lowest point of the wall.

1 20m (5a). Scramble up grass and climb a steep open groove to gain a large ledge on the left. Traverse left, overcome a short corner and sidle leftwards again to a wide slanting crack which is followed to a huge ledge.

2 30m (4c). Just right of a large boulder is an undercut V-groove splitting the short overhanging wall. Climb this and directly up slabs to an overlap. Go straight over this and finish up a right trending groove/scoop in the steep wall (belay in a recessed groove to the right).

First ascent: (30/09/2015) JF Hughes, SJH Reid (alt)

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Pillar Rock

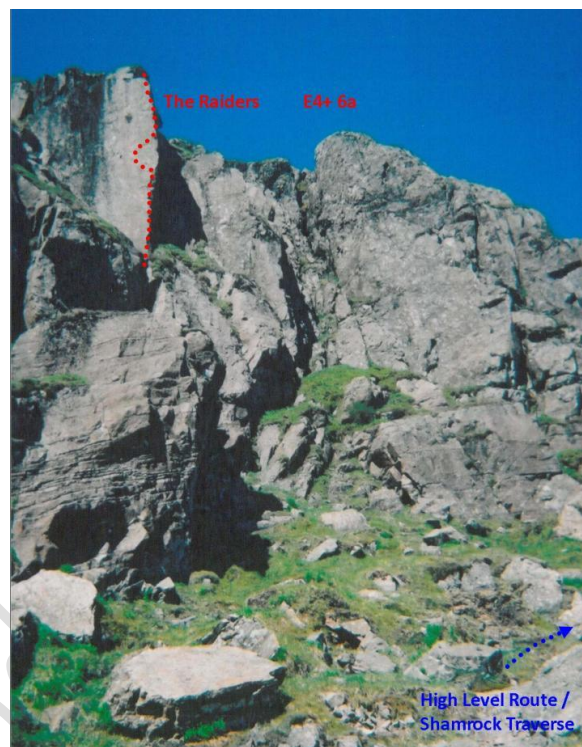
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South and East Faces of High Man

Upper Shamrock; a series of short walls and pinnacles lying above the Shamrock Traverse.

The Raiders 45m E4 6a **

The left side of the strikingly obvious arête soaring above the where the *Shamrock Traverse* meets the High Level Route. A great line neglected for many years, possibly owing to its serious and exposed start. Follow the scrappy groove for 20 metres to gain the base of the arête (possible belay). From the left, gain the arête semi-dynamically. Climb up with a worrying lack of gear until naturally forced left to the centre of the face. Arrange protection and traverse back to the arête which is followed directly to the top. High in the grade and sustained - small gear essential.



Shamrock

Sirloin Climb 400 feet S

Includes 100 feet of walking near the top. Leader needs 80 feet of rope.

The climb runs up a fairly prominent series of ribs bounding the left edge of the sweep of slabs which form the left wall of *Shamrock Gully*. Starts at the exact corner of the *Gully* which is also the lowest point of the rock. A pleasant route.

- (1) 70 feet. Climb the arête on sloping holds for about 30 feet to a slanting slab. Here a move is made round the corner on the right into a groove, after which easier climbing leads to grass ledges. Belay.
- (2) 30 feet. Cross a grass shelf to the left and climb the slab above to a long grass shelf below a steep wall. Small flake-belay in a furrow about the middle of the wall.
- (3) 60 feet. Starting from the left-hand end of the grass shelf, climb the rib on sloping holds. Soon easier ground is reached and a series of shelves. The only belay appears to be a large block on a subsidiary slab about 15 feet to the left.
- (4) 60 feet. Climb a short vertical and obvious crack over on the right to a small ledge below a slab which leads to a large ledge with a good pointed belay.
- (5) 100 feet. Scramble over broken ribs and grass ledges to a thread-belay below a prominent sharp rib.

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(6) 40 feet. The rib itself is climbed to an excellent hold below a mass of shattered rock where a short traverse is taken into the grassy gully on the left. Thread-belay.

(7) 25 feet. Ascend the gully to grass ledges and a huge block-belay.

(8) 30 feet. An easy scramble to the top of the buttress. Cairn.

First ascent: (28/05/1939) AT Hargreaves, SH Cross, RE Hargreaves, AM Nelson, CJA Cooper

Shamrock Tower: probably worth VS rather than MVS. Pitch 4 should read: Move up right onto the block, step right and climb a cracked slab to a grass terrace. Climb a rock barrier diagonally right and up to reach The Great Heather Shelf. Cross this diagonally up and rightwards. The belay at the top of pitch 5 is the smallest on the climb, barely big enough for two climbers. Not a large ledge as described. Worth **.

Green Pastures 525 feet S

Leader needs 80 feet of rope. Good ledges and belays.

Lies on the tower immediately left of *Walker's Gully* and starts about 50 feet to the left of that climb below a V-shaped slope of grass. Cairn. The climb is somewhat grassy. 50 feet. Walk easily upwards towards the left to an overhanging corner bounded by a rib on its right.

(1) 55 feet. To attain a small heather ledge round to the right of the rib, a delicate traverse is made. Awkward grass ledges follow and lead to a V-shaped chimney. A small pillar is seen on its right and a fine flake-belay is just above forming the left wall of the chimney.

(2) 15 feet. Climb the V-chimney. The exit is on its right. Belay will be found on a good grass ledge.

(3) 50 feet. Ascend the pleasant chimney just to the right to a grass ledge with a good spike-belay in a crack on the wall above. This chimney is used on the alternative start to Walker's Gully.

(4) 25 feet. The vertical wall, passing the belay, is climbed on good small holds. Awkward grass ledges finish the pitch at a nook with an excellent belay.

(5) 80 feet. The fluted rib behind the belay is climbed for about 15 feet and leads to extensive grass shelves. Above rises a steep wall with some broken rocks towards its right. These are taken to another grass ledge and thread block-belay near the *Great Heather Shelf*, about 60 feet above the first grass ledges.

(6) 50 feet. A scramble over grass straight ahead to a large detached flake. Belay.

(7) 30 feet. Working slightly left, awkward grass ledges are followed to a belay below a very steep chimney.

(8) 40 feet. From the grass ledge below the chimney descend a few feet by a small crack under the left wall (right looking out). Follow some small ledges to a curious flake at the foot of a groove. Delicate climbing of increasing difficulty brings one to a sloping ledge at the top of the groove leading to a grass corner on the left and a good thread-belay.

(9) 70 feet. Walk up the glacié to the right then follow some grass and a slightly awkward corner. Easy grass ledges follow and an open easy chimney on the left brings another large ledge within reach. (A steep and deeply-cut chimney which continues straight on from the foot of the last easy chimney may be taken, it leads direct to the top of the pitch 10—it is difficult.)

(10) 40 feet. Traverse right over an awkward corner and walk up grass to a good belay in some broken rocks on the right.

(11) 35 feet. Cross the grassy corner on the left and climb the steep slab which forms its left wall. At the level of a grass ledge a crack is entered and climbed to a shelf and belay.

(12) 35 feet. A steep slab with good holds is climbed to a cairn. Scrambling leads to the top of Shamrock.

Known to have been repeated by Ken Constable not long after the first ascent, but the lower pitches could not be located in 2007.

First ascent: (07/04/1939) SH Cross, AT Hargreaves, RE Hargreaves, AM Nelson, CJA Cooper

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Walker's Gully: probably worth VS ***

The description is now:

One of the few good gully climbs of the district and a very imposing and atmospheric route; it follows the deep cleft separating The Shamrock from the North Face of Low Man. Helmets are strongly advised as there is much loose scree above the gully.

1 32m (4a). Climb an easy chimney followed by scrambling to the foot of a high green chimney. Climb the right wall of the chimney and step out right onto a sloping grass terrace. Descend slightly and belay from a crack in the smooth right wall.

2 45m (4a). Return to the edge of the chimney and climb an exposed groove with poor holds until it is possible to step round left on to the first chockstone in the chimney. Chimney up to another chockstone and surmount this with difficulty. Scramble up the bed of the gully, overcoming a large chockstone en route, and belay at the foot of a steep chimney. Necromancer and the Right Wall of Walker's Gully routes start here.

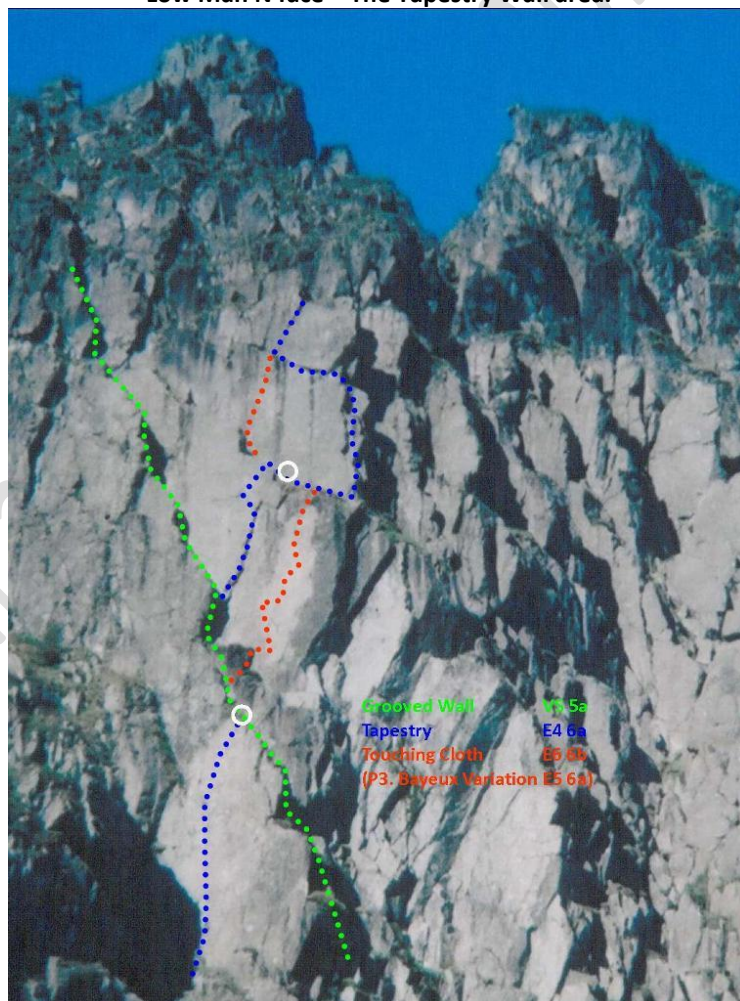
3 30m (4b). Climb rocks on the left of the chimney to a cave in the gully which is usually wet. Climb up behind, then over, a chockstone; then bridge the gully until a sloping chockstone is reached. Another chockstone just above gives access to a short easy scree section.

4 25m (4b). Above, a cave in the gully is formed by a large chockstone. The through route is strenuous but short. (It can be avoided by climbing the left wall outside the cave but that would miss out the fun.).

5 15m (4a). A further through route followed by an awkward chockstone.

6 15m (4c). Overcome another chockstone to gain the final cave. Climb up the right wall until forced out right to avoid the final capstone. Strenuous moves gain the top, though it is rumoured that the tall can back and foot this last bit. Scramble up scree a further 20m or so to find a belay

Low Man N face – The Tapestry Wall area.



These route descriptions have not been checked so please treat grades and other comments with a healthy dose of scepticism. As always climbs change over time, in particular any in-situ gear should be treated with caution; you are responsible for judging the situation.

North Face of Low Man

Touching Cloth 70m E6 6b ***

A fine piece of modern art worthy of its position hanging next to *Tapestry*. A phenomenal middle pitch on solid rock with fabulous moves.

1 25m (5b). As for *Tapestry*.

2 22m (6b). Follow *Grooved Wall* for 3 metres to a grassy ledge. Step right and gain a left-trending groove system which is followed on good holds. At the final jug arrange gear and then a traverse right on underclings gains a crimp. Head straight up (gear) and commit to the long crux (useful pocket on right) passing a good slot / undercling. A jug brings welcome respite. Step up to a couple of slots and either finish direct or traverse right to avoid the grass cornice.

3 23m (6a). The *Bayeux Tapestry Pitch*: from above the in-situ belay at the foot of the blank wall left of the final pitch of *Tapestry*, a rising line of good holds lead up the left-hand side of a black streak to a tough crux move off a poor crimp. Re-joining at the finishing crack of the original route brings relief and gear. A single very poor RP can be placed before the crux, but it is unlikely to prevent a failed ascensionist from crashing to a defeat similar to the one that befell King Harold at Hastings.

Pitch 3 had been climbed previously by the same pair (30/07/2011).

First ascent: (26/05/2012) Simon Litchfield, Graeme Read

Tapestry - Bayeux Variation 12m E5 6a*

A bold, direct and serious alternative finishing pitch to *Tapestry*, making its way straight as an arrow from above the in-situ belay to join the final crackline of the original route.

3 (6a). From above the in-situ belay a rising line of good holds lead up the left-hand side of a black streak to a tough crux move off a poor crimp. Re-joining at the finishing crack of the original route brings relief and gear. A single very poor RP can be placed before the crux, but it is unlikely to prevent a failed ascensionist from crashing to a defeat similar to the one that befell King Harold at Hastings.



Savage Grooves 75m HVS

The obvious line of grooves and chimneys on the wall between the upper pitches of *Sheol* (route 9) and *Savage Gully* (route 11) and well seen on the photo diagram of *North Face of Low Man* on page 244 of the new guide. The climb is rather mossy and even grassy in places but surprisingly enjoyable in a drought. Start half way up Pitch 2 of *North Climb*.

1 15m (4b). Move left up broken slabs and follow an awkward V-groove/chimney to a stance.

2 15m (4c). Climb a short crack on the left to a bulge then make a teetery traverse right to the base of a slim V-groove which is followed more easily to a large grassy ledge.

3 25m (5a). The imposing V-corner above is climbed directly with interest to the slabby amphitheatre on *Savage Gully*. Move up water worn slabs to belay below a pinnacle.

4 20m (5a). Above is a wide square-cut shallow bottomless chimney - this is the top pitch of *Savage Gully*. To its left is a slim chimney with a bulge at its top. Gain and climb the slim chimney to an awkward exit.

(led on sight without any pre-cleaning etc) See photo-diagram on next page.

First ascent: (21/05/2008) C Dale, SJH Reid (alt),

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The line of **Savage Grooves** (in green). Also shown (in white) is the approximate line of **Savage Gully Variation Start** and the missing belay on **Savage Gully**.



Savage Gully: The Alternative Start to Savage Gully is wrongly described in the new guide. It should say; Start almost at the top of Pitch 2 of North Climb.. It takes the crack up the pillar to the right of Savage Grooves. Please note that the belay at the top of the first pitch proper of Savage Gully is missing off the diagram.

North-West Climb Variation Finish (p 5)

"This is from an account by Willie Ling of an ascent of North-West Climb (in the wet) by him and Harold Raeburn on 11th July 1908 that has been supplied by Robin Campbell (SMC). "The final overhanging chimney was now above us, but we preferred to traverse round the corner, a very delicate piece of balancing, and then up a narrow crack, an ingenious variation." (Ling's Diary, Book 7, pp. 37-39, which is in the Alpine Club Library). From the rest of the account, it seems likely that Raeburn was in the lead. This predates the recorded first ascent by 5 years. Incidentally this pitch is also the top pitch of Goth

Pedestal Wall 108m S

A rather grassy climb, which nevertheless offers good slab climbing in dry conditions. Seen from below *Green Ledge*, the climb follows a direct line ending at the foot of the *Nor-Nor-West Climb*, making possible 300 metres of continuous climbing to the top of *High Man*. Start 50 metres right of the lowest point of the crag at a pink slab.

- 1 30m. Climb the shallow right facing groove straight up to below a grass ledge. Step right and continue delicately up the crest of a slabby rib to a big grass slope.
- 2 18m. Almost straight ahead is a corner. Start up the easy slabby rocks on the right, and go straight up for about 10 metres to a block on the left edge of the slab. Above this a grass ledge is attained.
- 3 30 m. Continue up a ribbon of slabby rocks to a grass ledge, and climb a short wall on the left of a groove to a grass stance (possible belay). Either move to the right and climb a pleasant steep slab, or go straight up the chimney to a grass ledge.
- 4 30 m. Work up to the right, then break out left on to a fine slab, which leads to the left end of a long narrow ledge. Continue straight up, keeping well to the right for the last few metres.

Variation Start VS 1938

Climb a thin crack and its right wall 2 metres right of the original route, and continue up the stepped groove above. All as thin as the crack.

F Graham, MW Guinness 10th October 1938.

Originally stepped left onto the original route. Continued directly by **R Kenyon, C King, SJH Reid, 24th July 2005**. However they could not locate pitches 2 - 4.

First ascent: (01/08/1937) RST Chorley, F Graham,

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Black Crag

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Left-Hand Route D

Start at a cairn.

- 1 25'. Moderate climbing to a belay.
- 2 30'. Up to a grassy corner.
- 3 20'. Diag trav left.
- 4 30'. Work right 10' then straight up ridge.
- 5 35'. Up rib to belay.
- 6 25'. Rib climbed on rt to?? ledge.
- 7 25'. Easy rock.

First ascent: (26/06/1929) A Wood-Johnson, E Wood-Johnson, CJ Astley Cooper, WG Hennessy

Right-Hand Route D

Start at a cairn.

- 1 30'. To stance.
- 2 50'. Slab by crack on left, then straight ahead.
- 3 15'. Trav to right on a rib and in another 30' a belay is found.
- 4 20'. A rib on left.

First ascent: (26/06/1929) A Wood-Johnson, E Wood-Johnson, CJ Astley Cooper, WG Hennessy

Tower Buttress Direct Start 45m VS 4b **

- 1 18m. The pleasant slab to a large grass terrace but belay up on the left.
- 2 27m (4b). Climb directly up to the right arête of the corner under the huge roof and follow it to join the wide crack and small overlap on *Tower Buttress*.

First ascent: (03/09/2014) T Daley, R Jervis

Cove Crag 162 118

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Ewes Ahead 40m HVS 4c **

A direct line up the left hand side of the buttress. Start 8m left of Prophylactics at a clean rib/slab

1. 15m 4c. Climb the rib to a ledge and belay on a slightly higher ledge at a short wall under an open slabby corner.
2. 25m 4c. Either step right and climb the bulge, moving back left on an easy slab to gain the top of the open corner or mantelshelf into the corner above the belay and climb it to the same point (we did both). Step left onto the rib containing twin grooves and climb it to easier slabs. Then climb directly up the rib above (just right of a large mossy groove) to a brilliant finish (top section of Prophylactics)

First ascent: (05/06/2010) Nick Kekus (Solo with a back rope)

Bitter Pill 60m E2**

Excellent face climbing with poor protection, taking a direct line up the centre of the crag. Very bold. Start as for *Prophylactics*.

- 1 20m (5a). Follow the short ramp to the impending crack. Move 2 metres right and climb the wall on small holds. Climb directly up the scoop and steep wall above, pulling over a bulge to belay as for *Prophylactics* and *Deja Ewe*.

- 2 20m (4b). Traverse right as for *Deja Ewe* and after 2 metres move up to the right of the right-hand of two moss streaks. Climb the scoop and arête on the left to a ledge and belay.

- 3 20m. Follow pitch 3 of *Prophylactics*.

First ascent: (05/06/2010) Nick Kekus (solo with back rope on pitch two after top rope inspection)

Baxi's Bomber Beetles Variation Start E2 5b

A variation on pitch 1 to avoid the moss crack at 5 metres. Climb the wall left of the moss crack on excellent small holds to gain the hand-traverse.

First ascent: (05/06/2010) Nick Kekus (Solo)

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No September Blewes 40m E1 5b **

Just left of the main part of the crag are two sharply defined ribs: this route climbs the right-hand one. A good pitch.. Climb the rib with interest to a brief interlude below the final crack which requires a determined approach.

First ascent: (03/09/2014) R Jervis, SJH Reid, T Daley

Pushmepullewe 40m HVS 5a **

An excellent and quick drying eliminate up the centre of the left side of the buttress. Start at a block just left of the left-hand left-leaning ramp.

1 25m (5a). Step off the block and pull rightwards to the top of the ramp. Move back left and climb a short corner with difficulty (as for Deja Ewe) then traverse the rising line leftwards to its high point. Go straight up the short wall (as for Ewes Ahead) to a large ledge (good cam in top left corner). From the very right edge of the ledge, climb straight up a short wall to an even bigger ledge.

2 15m (5a). Climb diagonally up leftwards to a rib on the left and move up until just under a horizontal crack. Step right onto a small foothold on a rib on the right and climb straight up the right side of a large flake to belay a little higher. Scramble off left or climb pitch 3 of Prophylactics.

First ascent: (03/09/2014) SJH Reid, T Daley, R Jervis