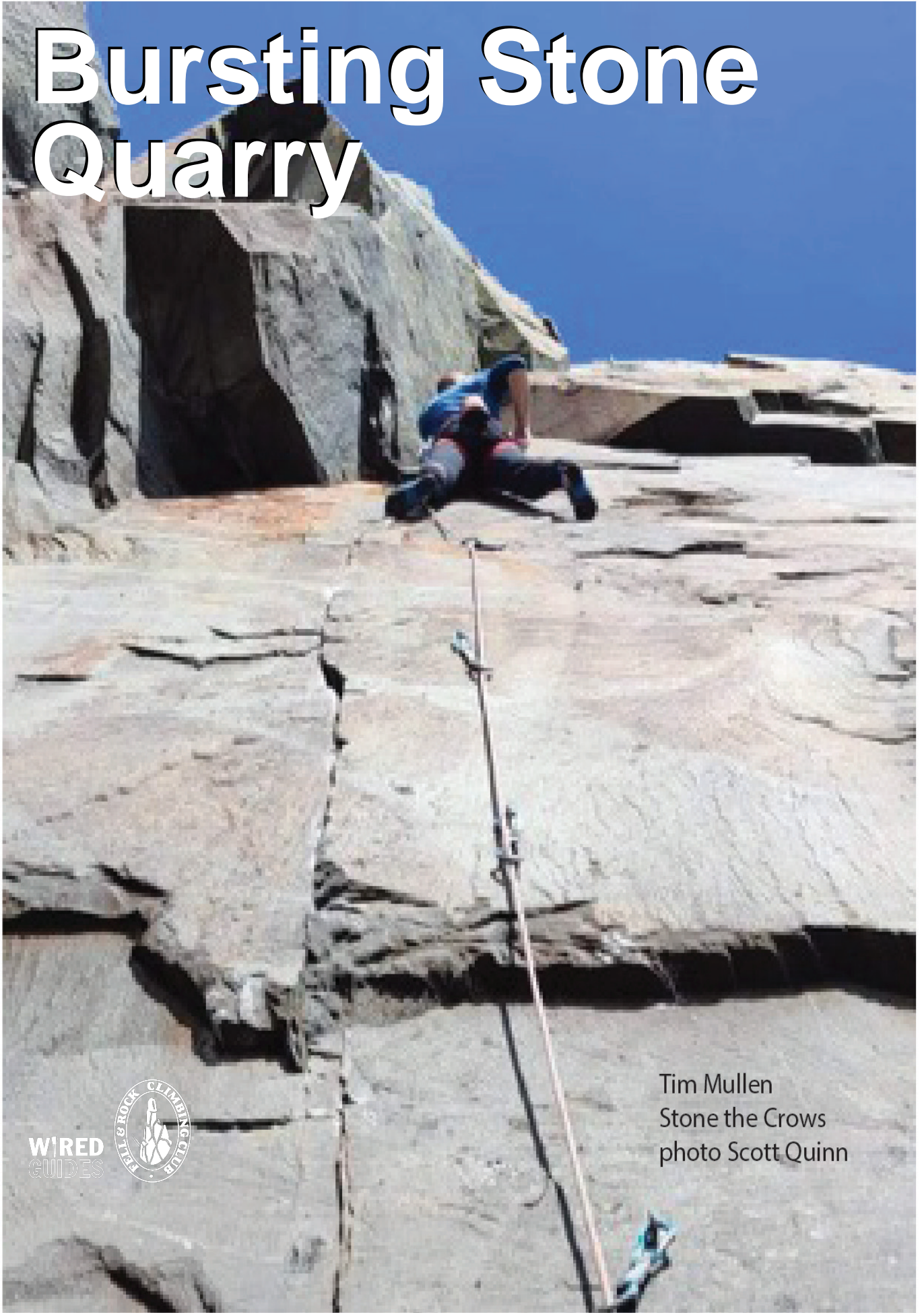


Bursting Stone Quarry



WIRED
GUIDES



Tim Mullen
Stone the Crows
photo Scott Quinn

The Club

The FRCC is a large Lake District focused mountaineering club with over 1000 members based in th UK and abroad. The club was founded in 1906. The club publishes a series of climbing guidebooks to the Lakes.

Membership of the club is open to all experienced climbers and fell walkers. To join visit our website at <https://www.frcc.co.uk/joining-the-frcc/>.



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Guidebooks

The club publishes the following printed guidebooks:

- Eskdale
- Lakes Sport & Slate
- Lake District Rock
- Langdale
- Borrowdale
- Eastern Crags
- Eden Valley & South Lakes Limestone
- Dow & Coppermines
- Duddon & Wrynose
- Buttermere & St Bees
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- Lake District Winter Climbs
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Bursting Stone Quarry

OS Ref: NY 278974

Alt: 560m

Aspect: S/SW

Bursting Stone lies on the SE flank of Coniston Old Man high above the Walna Scar Road. The main face generally gets the sun from around 11am till dusk. Can be exposed to south-westerly winds. The quarries have been very little worked for a number of years now and since 2021 have officially ceased all operations. There are some high quality routes here. Much loose rock existed on ledges and along the top. Every effort has been made to clear this but please take care.

Approach

From the Walna Scar car park take the main track, as for Dow Crag, for 10 mins then turn right up the steep quarry road. Follow this to the spoil heaps, forking right at the first junction and left at the second to enter the quarries at the Main Wall (35 mins).


Grades

5

1

3

The Main Wall

Uphill 35 mins S / SW facing 

Introduction

All routes are fully bolted with lower-offs.



Bursting Stone Quarry LHS

① Stone Cold Genius F7a New 20m



This is the slab and groove line set in the overhangs left of the corner of [Stone the Crows](#). Start at the far left side of the wall at a slabby grey groove. Climb the groove to a ledge on the right below large overhangs. Follow the rust coloured wall trending rightwards around the overhang to below a tapered groove. Climb the right wall to a downwards pointing flake then step left into the groove and up to a huge ledge and lower offs.

8.04.2023 K Phizacklea,

② Stone the Crows F7a New 23m



Takes the prominent corner line in the upper section of the wall. Start below an obvious thin crack that leads up to the corner. Tricky moves up an initial grey wall then strenuously up the crack proper to reach good ledges. Move up into the main corner and follow this passing an awkward overlap en route to the lower offs. A classic route of sustained interest.

21.04.2023 P Whillance

③ Hands of Stone F7a+ New 23m



Start below a prominent line of right-trending stepped overhangs. Easily up a short broken buttress to a ledge. Pull up into a small groove below the first overhang and go rightwards around this to reach a ledge. Up to a second roof and over this to good holds. Climb up leftwards to a slot below another overlap. Crux moves up left and over this to reach a thin ramp/flake then better holds lead to the lower offs.

15.04.2023 K Phizacklea, P Whillance

④ Stone Cold Sober F6c+ New 22m



Climb a slim right-facing corner/flake in the middle of the grey wall for 7m to a good ledge. Step left and up into a corner in the overlaps. Pull out left to a ledge (junction with previous route) then follow cracks rightwards with increasing difficulty to another overlap. Pull up over this then leftwards on better finishing holds.

7.04.2023 P Whillance, K Phizacklea

5 Stepping Stones F5+ **New** 15m



The next 2 routes start up a short V-groove on the right side of a clean grey slabby wall. Climb the groove then follow stepped corners leading leftwards into the centre of the face. Go up ledges slightly rightwards then direct to the lower offs. A good route.

15.04.2023 P Whillance, K Phizacklea

6 Tombstone F6a **New** 15m



Climb the groove then take the cracks up the right side of the wall and make an awkward move up left to reach finishing ledges.

15.04.2023 P Whillance, K Phizacklea



Bursting Stone Quarry RHS

7 Bloodstone F6a+ **New** 12m



Starts 20m right beyond an unstable-looking red section of rock. Climb a steep groove, pulling out right to gain good ledges. Cross the wall leftwards to another ledge then up steeply to an awkward finish.

3.04.2023 P Whillance, A Towse

8 Dragon Stone F6c **New** 16m



Start 15m right at a clean grey wall. Climb the obvious slim right-facing corner to a big ledge. Move left and climb a difficult thin crack in the wall to reach the main corner. Steeply up this to the lower offs.

3.04.2023 P Whillance, A Towse

9 Romancing the Stone F7a **New** 16m



Thin technical climbing up the centre of the smooth wall. A bit reach dependent but excellent.

3.04.2023 P Whillance, A Towse