

NEW CLIMBS SECTION

OUTER ISLES

LEWIS SEA-CLIFFS, Bernera, Creag Liam:

Exact Epicentre 20m F7a+ S2A **. Julian Lines. 20 Jun 2012.

A direct line on *Epicentre* (2007). Where *Epicentre* goes left at the impasse, go up and undercut the overlap making hard moves to gain the flat hold in the blank wall. Make a further hard move using a slot on the right to gain a flake hold above. Follow flakes more easily up and right to a ledge and the easy groove to the top.

Hypercentre 20m F7b S3 **. Julian Lines. 20 Jun 2012.

Climbs the wall right of *Epicentre*. Traverse in from the right to gain the centre of the wall. Climb easily to a big pink pocket where a thin seam leads to the overlap where it turns into a tiny corner. Climb just left of the seam to layback off the corner to reach small holds on the wall above. Flake holds soon appear and are followed to the final easy groove as per *Exact Epicentre*.

Mega Tsunami – Prow Finish F7b S2 ****. Julian Lines. 20 Jun 2012.

Brilliant, world class DWSing. As for *Mega Tsunami* to the jug/ sidepull where the original goes up the pocketed crack on the right. Reach left around the prow and climb the underside of the prow via a wild series of compression moves to the break. Move to the right side and then back left to finish on the very prow.

Aftershock 20m F7a+ S2 **. Julian Lines. 20 Jun 2012.

Climbs the wall left of *Mega Tsunami*. Climb the wall just left of the arete to a notch at the overlap. Layback the crack-line to a vague quartz seam. Find a hidden finger slot on the right and cross through for a good flat hold. Slap up the hanging rib to gain a pink boss hold and continue up the line on hidden slots and which bends slightly into a blocky finishing groove.

Tremors 20m F6c S2 *. Julian Lines. 20 Jun 2012.

Climbs the buttress between *Mini Tsunami* and *Shock Waves*. Climb a vertical wall, moving left at the top to beneath a slight tapering ramp. Climb this to a ledge. Using small sidepulls, move out left over the void to use the hanging prow to gain the ledge above. Scramble out easily on the left.

Painted Geo:

Tigger 25m E6 6b ***. Ally Coull, Gordon Lennox (both led). Jul 2011.

Start as for *Gneiss is Nice*. Climb the steep short wall onto the slab and move up to the overlap. Pull over this and head directly up to below the bulge. Climb straight up through the steep bulge on positive holds then trend right to the obvious large flake. Launch directly up the striped wall to eventually gain good holds and the top.

Trojan Wall, Far Right Buttress:

Tidal West facing

The cliff immediately right (south) of Trojan Wall is loose and unstable. Thirty metres south of the wall is another buttress with two prominent right-facing corners in the lower section. The left shallow corner angles up leftwards; the right is vertical to a shallow roof and bounded by a rib on the left. The two routes provide good climbing but also some loose rock. Access from old in-situ stakes.

Wit Amidst Folly 35m HVS 5a. Ross Jones, Clare Jones. 16 Apr 2012.

Start below and just right of the left corner. Climb the wall right of the corner trending slightly rightwards to pull out on to a halfway ledge just left of a broken hanging rib. Step left and directly up with care to finish right of the detached corner/crack.

Another Case for Dr Lightfoot 35m E1 5a. Ross Jones, Clare Jones. 16 Apr 2012.

Start below the second corner. Climb the corner and then the right side of the rib to a halfway ledge. Climb a shallow chimney and pull out left on to a shallow roof. Climb up for 3m and then traverse rightwards to finish up a right facing corner.

Beannan Mòr, Tolsta Chaolais:

(NB 381 198) Alt 25m North-West facing

The broken crag on the west side of Beannan Mòr overlooks Loch a' Bhaile and the village of Tolsta Chaolais. It provides a single sheltered line on its north end that remains relatively dry when everywhere else is wet. Approach 10mins.

Beannan Crack 10m E1 5b **. Ross Jones, Clare Jones. 18 Apr 2012.

Climb the hanging crack pulling out left through the roof.

HARRIS, Sròn Ulladale:

Note: A possible FFA of *Premonition* at E6 6a,6b,6b,6a *** by Ally Coull & Gordon Lennox in Jul 2011. On the second 6b pitch, a slightly different line was taken. Follow the initial groove as described but instead of climbing out onto the right arete into another groove, follow it up and left before pulling over the roof in an amazing position to rejoin the described pitch at the thin crack which is followed to the hand traverse right to the belay. It was thought a more obvious way to go and puzzling that the FA didn't.

MINGULAY, Geirum Walls:

Hot Enough for Ya? 30m E2 5c **. Gary Latter, Matt Harding. 16 Aug 2011. Scramble down left from the main platform to a lower ledge system directly beneath the 45 degree roofs. Hand-traverse left to gain a large ledge (may be better to gain this directly by abseil). Climb direct by grooves and through a roof on good holds to gain the left end of the long tapering ledge below the main roofs. Continue to a large flake at the left side (up and right of similar smaller feature on *Horizontal Hamish*). Pull through the roof leftwards in a fine position, then climb direct up a wall, pulling out right at a horizontal crack to finish up a crack on the right.

Sunshine's Better 15m E4 6a **. Gary Latter, Matt Harding. 16 Aug 2011.

From the left side of the ledge system, climb the easy wall to the roof (as for *Hot*



*Tamsin Gay enjoys the immaculate rock on Okeanos (E2 5c), Guarsay Mòr, Mingulay.
Photo: Tim Blakemore <www.northernmountainsports.co.uk>.*

Enough for Ya?), then directly through this on good holds (good cams) to finish up the crack above.

Little Miss Sunshine 15m E3 6a **. Matt Harding, Gary Latter. 16 Aug 2011. Climb straight up from near the left end of the ledge to gain a juggy break beneath the main roof. Using a good hold, launch up to a flat jug on the lip (Camalot 2 above) and pull over into the hanging crack which leads to the top.

Pragmatist's Folly 15m E5 6a **. Gary Latter, Matt Harding. 15 Aug 2011. The impressive-looking offwidth crack, climbed on surprisingly good holds, mainly on its right side. Large cams useful, including Camalot 4.

It Ain't Half Hot Mum 10m VS 4b *. Lee Fleming, Alan Anderson. 15 Aug 2011.

The crack and easier continuation above the second bad step, gained from the right.

Gunner Graham 10m VS 4b *. Gary Latter. 15 Aug 2011.

A line of good holds up the wall 2m right of the above route, keeping right at the top.

Guarsay Mòr, The Aga:

The Aga Sanction 125m E4 ***. Henry Tyce, John Crook, Gary Latter. 17 Aug 2011.

Superb climbing up the centre of the wall. Start just right of the long narrow pool, about 10m right of *Taking the Hump*.

1. 35m 6a Climb the vertical pegmatite band, with difficult reachy moves to gain good holds beneath a prominent right-slanting flake/groove system. Continue up this, then go direct to a sloping ledge below a small roof.

2. 25m 5b Traverse right 4m, then go straight up the corner/groove above to a comfy ledge.

3. 30m 5c From the right end of the ledge, climb the steep wall on rounded holds, then straight up to beneath the roof.

4. 35m 5c Traverse left, then climb straight up to gain and climb the hanging roof-capped corner. Climb this, then step right onto a small slab, pull out rightwards on superb holds in a stunning position and finish directly on good holds.

Hot White Spider 120m E4 ***. Henry Tyce, Gary Latter, John Crook. 18 Aug 2011.

Another superb varied route up the wall. Start beneath the short hanging right arete, just left of a large low roof and the leftmost of two deep caves.

1. 40m 6a Climb the twin hanging cracks in the arete with difficulty to good jams leading more easily to the large open groove. Continue fairly directly steeply on big holds to guano-covered ledges. Traverse right and up to a perfect clean triangular ledge.

2. 40m 5b Move out right, then directly up wall on incut holds, trending rightwards on easier ground, heading for a prominent leaning pegmatite band breaking through the right side of the second last roof system. Belay on large guano ledges, just left of a large (possibly suspect) spike.

3. 40m 5c Climb initially gritty rock up to the roof; move left then up through the overlap on good holds. Continue up the fine sustained overhanging groove with good gear to a small roof. Cross this slightly leftwards on surprisingly good holds, then directly, then move out right to follow a crack up the wall in a superb position to the top.

Note: *Taking the Hump* starts about 30m right of *Rayburnt*, up a prominent right-facing grey groove, the most obvious feature on the wall. There is a long narrow pool tucked in against the base, perhaps 10m long. *Taking the Hump* starts at the left end of this. *The Aga Sanction* is at the right end, with *Hot White Spider* about 20m right again.

RUM, Creag Loch an Dornabac:

These routes, in a picturesque spot at NM 358 981 (near Loch an Dornabac), have easy access and are on good rock with good protection. Approx. 500m from the road (High's Brae) and clearly visible, is a steep brown peridotite crag facing SW. The left side of the crag descends into a small unnamed loch, 80m right of which is a sloping, almost triangular slab, about 14m wide at the base. To the immediate left of the slab, at 15m height, is a 5m long horizontal overhang. Descend by an easy grassy slope to the right.

Tabby's Smile 19m Severe 4a. Sean Byron, Rob Murray. Jun 2011.

Straight up the face to the immediate left of the overhang. The crux is well protected at 15m where the climb is at its steepest.

Immy's Song 20m Severe 4b. Sean Byron, Rob Murray. Jun 2011.

Straight up the face following a crack through the centre of the overhang (well protected crux).

Orly's Composition 20m H.Severe 4c. Sean Byron, Rob Murray. Jun 2011.

Follow the crack leading to the right end of the overhang, then pull over (crux) and climb directly to the top.

Emily's Kiss 21m Diff. Sean Byron, Rob Murray. Jun 2011.

Easy climbing straight up the middle of the triangular slab.

TIREE, Pigeon Cave:

(NL 966 387) Tidal South-East facing

The Pigeon Cave area offers very smooth, water worn undercut starts with good quality rock on steep walls to finish. Quick drying.

Approach: Park at West Hynish just before the last house. Go past Dun Shiabar, through a small rocky valley, then ascend rightwards and access the top of the routes.

The routes are on the right-hand side looking out of the Pigeon Cave. They start at the mouth of the cave above a smooth overhanging base formed by waves. Abseil from a good boulder to reach the starts.

The No Hope 20m V.Diff. Adrian Henderson, Andy Spink. 17 Sep 2011.

From a hanging stance, follow the obvious right-trending crack and corner. Pleasant climbing.

Catch the Pigeon 20m Severe. Adrian Henderson, Andy Spink. 17 Sep 2011.
Start 3m left of *The No Hope* from a hanging stance. Climb the steep initial wall on good holds to a small bulge; continue above on a slabby wall with good protection.

ERRAID, Main Crag, Lower Tier:

Above 6m HVS 5a *. Gary & Karen Latter. 4 Jun 2011.

The hanging crack springing from the apex of the hole.

Beyond 8m HS 4b **. Gary Latter. 4 Jun 2011.

A left-slanting fault-line up wall left of *Weeping Corner* on surprisingly accommodating holds. May be easy for the grade?

Main Crag, Upper Tier:

Dubh Artach 7m E5 6b **. Gary Latter. 5 Jun 2011.

The brutal twin cracks 2m right of *Stonecrop Groove*.

SKYE

GLEN SLIGACHAN, Sligachan Buttress:

The following routes are on the slabs (named Salvation Slab) immediately to the right of the main buttress. All the 25m routes can be continued for a further 25m of pleasant scrambling to finish at the same point as *The Good Book*.

Resurrection 25m H.Severe 4b. Paul Cunningham, Brendan Croft. 4 Jun 2011.

A bold route that heads direct into the open groove on the left side of the buttress. From the top of the buttress head left to find easier ground.

Jacob's Ladder 25m H.Severe 4b **. Paul Cunningham, Brendan Croft. 4 Jun 2011.

A nice line with all the difficulties in the first 10m. Follow the crack all the way to its top.

Cross 25m E1 5b ***. Brendan Croft, Paul Cunningham. 4 Jun 2011.

In the centre of the buttress two cracks cross in an obvious feature. Start from the right and climb the crack right to left. Finish easily on the slabs above.

The Good Book 50m V.Diff. Brendan Croft, Paul Cunningham. 4 Jun 2011.

At the far right of the buttress is a fine corner and wide crack. Climb this to a slab above, and follow this to a block exactly 50m.

SGÜRR NAN GILLEAN, Lament Wall:

Nae Bother Pal 25m VS 5a **. Paul Cunningham, Brendan Croft. 4 Jun 2011.

A route just left of the big overhang reached on first arrival at the buttress. Follow a direct and straightforward line up to the left-facing corner to the left of the overhang. A tough move with good protection gains the corner followed by some fine delicate climbing above. Finish direct.

SGÜRR NAN GILLEAN, Bhasteir Face (5th Pinnacle):

Bull's Eye 90m HVS. Mike Lates, Lucy Spark. 27 Jul 2011.

Gains then climbs the crack-line on the wall left of *Forked Chimney*.

1. 20m 5a Start by climbing the open-book groove rising left from the toe of *Forked Chimney* until forced right by a bulge to a small horizontal break (wires). Climb up and left to gain the obvious ledge and the start of the crack. Climb the corner at the left end of the ledge to a cramped hanging stance.

2. 30m 4c Step back right to regain the crack-line which gives excellent climbing to a good ledge (15m). Continue direct before reaching an overhung bulge and vegetated loose bay. Turn this either left (loose) or right (bold) to reach a slabby hanging belay below an overhung corner.

3. 20m 5a Climb the corner steeply to a recess. Avoid the next (very loose) overhang by traversing out to the right edge of a steepening wall. Climb the crack (crux) to a large ledge and awkward belay (possible descent).

4. 20m 4b A worryingly loose pitch. Turn the loose roof above the belay on the right-hand side before climbing delicately to an open bowl.

Continue with care to gain either the West or North Ridges of Gillean.

Note: A suggestion for future ascents would be to split the climb into two 35m pitches and avoid the final pitch by traversing left down a narrow rake to gain *Fourth-Fifth Gully* and the foot of the climb.

Notes: *Second/Third Gully* will always be at least Grade II and could be as much as IV when lean.

Mike Lates and Susan Jensen thought *Flutings Climb* to be 125m V,4 (6 Feb 2012). Good ice was necessary in the initial shallow chimney.

SGÜRR NAN GILLEAN, Lota Face:

White Lies 270m IV,5 **. Mike Lates, Mark Francis, Ben Weir. 15 Dec 2011.

Takes a continuous line of ice 50m right of the central icefalls of *White Dreams*.

1. 20m Climb straight up to a perched flake.

2. 40m Step left, then go fairly direct to the foot of a prominent slab that slants left. Gain this and belay below an open book corner.

3. 30m Climb the steep corner (crux), then bear left more easily to the foot of the broad fat ice smear.

4. 50m Climb the ice (20m), then easy snow to a spike.

5 and 6. 90m Climb easy angled ice to a spike at the top of an open bay.

7. 40m Head up and right below the final steepening. Mixed ground for 10m leads to the SE Ridge 30m from the summit.

SGÜRR A' MHADAIDH, Upper Rake:

Wildcat Flap 60m V,6. Paul Cunningham, Brendan Croft. 3 Feb 2012.

Start as for the summer chimney, *Fox Trap*.

1. 20m Follow the snowy gully up to the base of the chimney.

2. 40m Climb the chimney for a few metres until a right-trending line becomes possible. Continue to climb up and right until a snowy ledge is reached at 30m (possible belay). Step left into an awkward corner using good hooks, and make some delicate moves (crux) to reach easier ground.

SGÜRR NAN GOBHAR, Creag an Gobhar (NG 432 226):

A clean slab lies high on the flanks of Sgürr nan Gobhar above Coir' an Eich at

about 550m altitude. A very loose gully runs up left from the toe of the buttress. Descent is by an easy traverse right and a short abseil down the right-bounding gully.

Techno-Snob 40m E2 5c **. Malcom Airey, Mike Lates. 3 Jul 2012.

Starts by the most obvious fault splitting the crag 10m left of centre. A boulder problem (5b) through the undercut face gives access to the main fault. Follow this for 10m. Hand-traverse a prominent ledge for 3m to good flakes. The weakness continues and finishes with 10m of committed thin climbing using positive holds on the right wall. Finish more easily to belay on the grassy terrace.

SGÜRR DEARG, Coire Lagan, South Crag:

Southern Comfort 240m IV,5 *. Mike Lates, Matthew Holmes. 18 Dec 2011. Gains, then climbs ice in the gully bounding the right side of South Buttress. Start 50m west of the more obvious *In Pinn Fall*.

1. 50m Mixed turf, ice and rock leads to a horizontal rock rib. Surmount this easily.
2. 40m Descend slightly left, then climb the obvious main corner line. Belay in rocks below the steep ice step.
3. 50m Climb the ice step direct (crux), an iced corner above, then bear right to the foot of a large icefall.
4. 50m Climb good ice for 30m. Easy snow and ice continues above.
5. 50m Easy ground leads to a shoulder on the long narrow ridge that leads off the top of South Crag. Follow the exposed rib for a further 100m (III) until easier ground leads to the crest of Sgürr Dearg 100m west of the In Pinn.

SGÜRR THEARLAICH, Stone Shoot Face:

E is for Eejit (Gully E variation) 50m III. Susan Jensen, Mike Lates. 5 Feb 2012.

Follow *Gully E* directly as opposed to the indirect version climbed in 2011.

Curse of the Hobgoblin 70m V,7. Mike Lates, Andy Huntington. 4 Mar 2012. Follows the obvious line immediately right of *Gully E*.

1. 30m Climb into the recess, then exit by the right wall to gain the steep crack. A belay was taken on the left wall at 30m.
2. 40m Continue up the steep crack with thin moves initially (20m). Traverse easier ground left to reach *Gully E*.

Note: Climbing the main feature in one continuous 50m pitch to a good thread belay would be better.

High Visibility 80m VI,6. Susan Jensen, Mike Lates. 3 Feb 2012.

Fifty metres right of *Gully E* the buttress steepens noticeably. Ten metres up is an impending square shaped bulge 10m in width. The route climbs the line that forms the left side of this feature.

1. 35m A snow ramp leads to the first steepening. Turn this to reach the left side of the square shaped overhang. Tackle the steep corner above on positive hooks. Delicate climbing follows the continuation of the fault to beneath a small roof.
2. 40m Turn the roof easily. Head to the left side of a prominent fin of rock above. Steep moves using the fin lead to a good spike immediately above (20m).

Step left to gain the groove that leads to a small cave 10m above. Easy terrain for 15m leads to a block belay on the Ridge.

Notes: The squeezes on *Gully C* are extremely tight.

Paul Cunningham and Charlie Hill completed a direct finish to *BC Buttress* on 6 Feb 2012 (V,6). Where the description says to traverse right, instead follow a delicate corner above to finish on easier ground.

COIRE A' GHRUNNDA, Sròn na Ciche, North Crag:

The crag is characterised by a prominent central corner with a roof at about two-thirds height. The routes finish on the left-rising terrace/rake below the Stack and which provides a convenient descent to the right (east).

Pole Dancer 75m HVS 5a **. Steve Kennedy, Andy MacDonald. 2 Jun 2012. The central corner. Scramble to the foot of two short right-facing corners. Climb the right-hand corner to a grassy ledge at the foot of the main corner (25m). Climb the corner, stepping right at 5m, until just below the roof. Traverse left onto a slabby wall via a thin horizontal break, then make exposed moves up the rib to reach the upper wall. The wall is climbed fairly directly by a crack system on impeccable rock to reach easier ground and the terrace (50m).

Lapdancer 75m Severe 4a *. Steve Kennedy, Chris Docherty. 27 May 2012. This route follows the crack system up the wall right of *Pole Dancer*. Climb the right-hand of the two lower corners as per *Pole Dancer* to belay on the grassy ledge at the foot of the main corner (25m). Move right and follow the crack system up rightwards to reach a short right-facing corner. Climb the corner, then move up and left into a large niche. From the niche, traverse out left to easier ground leading to the terrace (50m).

Come Dancing 75m VS 4c *. Steve Kennedy, Cynthia Grindley. 9 Jun 2012. The wall right of the main corner, starting midway between *Pole Dancer* and *Stack Buttress Direct*. Climb easily into a recessed area, surmount a bulge on the right and follow a deep crack rightwards to a belay below a small roof (25m). Move right a short distance until below a prominent flake-crack in a scooped area. Follow the flake-crack, then move up leftwards until below a large roof. Climb steep cracks right of the roof, then move left across a wall to reach a grassy ramp leading leftwards to a belay just right of a large niche (junction with *Lapdancer*) – 35m. Finish up steep cracks just right of the niche (15m).

90 Years On 75m HVS 5a **. Steve Kennedy, Cynthia Grindley. 4 Jun 2012. The attractive cracked rib between the main corner of *Pole Dancer* and the upper chimney of *Red Wall Variant*. Scramble up to the two short right-facing corners as per *Pole Dancer*. Climb the left-hand corner. Continue up leftwards, passing a large flake, to belay at an unusual 'leg' of gabbro at the foot of the rib just left of the main corner (30m). Climb deep cracks leading up the rib until *Pole Dancer* is joined just below the upper wall. Finish up the fine upper wall as for *Pole Dancer* (45m).

Hidden Causeway 70m VS 4b *. Steve Kennedy, Cynthia Grindley. 4 Jun 2012.

The red basalt wall on the lower left section of the crag (*Red Wall Variant*) is bounded on the left by a groove which develops into a chimney. Climb the groove and chimney. From the top of the chimney, move up left to belay below a prominent right-trending basalt intrusion (25m). Follow the stepped intrusion to a large flake-crack. Step left at the flake, then climb directly to the top, finishing up a short steep wall (45m).



*Paul Brian examines the perched boulder in Coire nan Laogh on the SMC Skye Meet, May 2012.
Photo: Robin Campbell,*

Zeus 38m E3 5c ***. Steve Kennedy, Cynthia Grindley. 9 Jun 2012.

The striking slab, containing thin snaking cracks in the upper part, located on the right side of *North Crag Gully* near the top of Slab Buttress. Situated almost opposite the foot of the slabby terrace/rake leading to the Stack. An excellent, sustained main pitch with spaced but adequate protection. Low in the grade. Start at the lowest point of the buttress below the slab at a basalt intrusion.

1. 26m 5c Climb the intrusion over a small bulge to a ledge at 6m. Step left onto the slab and climb up to the base of a crack-line. Thin cracks lead to a small spike below the upper wall. Finish up the deep left-hand crack to reach a good ledge. The much easier upper pitch can be avoided by scrambling off right from the belay along a fault.

2. 15m The wall above the ledge (left of a prominent corner) provides a straightforward finish.

Note: *Red Wall Variant* may not be accurately shown on the photo diagram on p195 of *Skye, The Cuillin*. The line shown on the diagram goes up a steep smooth wall which looks sustained and bold (5b?). It appears that the true line may be a few metres to the right up the right edge of the red wall. At that point a short red wall leads to a basalt flake close to the right edge then a rib of gabbro, and corresponds roughly with the description. It looks much easier than the smooth red wall to the left.

COIRE NAN LAOGH:

The two prominent gullies in the corrie have been wrongly identified in SMC guidebooks for many years. The left-hand one is *Central Gully* and the right-hand one is *East Gully*. See the topo opposite. *West Gully* – a much less obvious feature further to the left – is only a walk and is not worthy of inclusion in a climbing guide. To the right of *East Gully* there is a less prominent chimney (here labelled *Far Eastern Gully*) which does not appear to have been climbed.

Kappa 155m Diff*. Simon Fraser, Noel Williams. 25 Jun 2012.

Start at the mouth of *East Gully*. Scramble up the delightful slab on the left side of the gully and, just before a steepening, descend rightwards into the bed of the gully.

1. 25m Climb up a groove formed by a giant block and the left wall of the gully. Traverse left out of the gully and continue traversing left to a good stance in a corner.

2. 30m Climb a short but tricky wall to gain a broad recess. Ascend the left side of a giant flake and step right to gain a large mossy alcove.

3. 50m Step left and make a couple of moves up a dyke before slanting leftwards up delightful slabs. Eventually slant back rightwards between twin cracks to gain a stance with poor belays immediately below a prominent cone sheet.

4. 50m Pleasant but easier slabs lead to the top.

COIREACHAN RUADHA, SGÙRR NA BANACHDAICH, Summit Buttresses North:

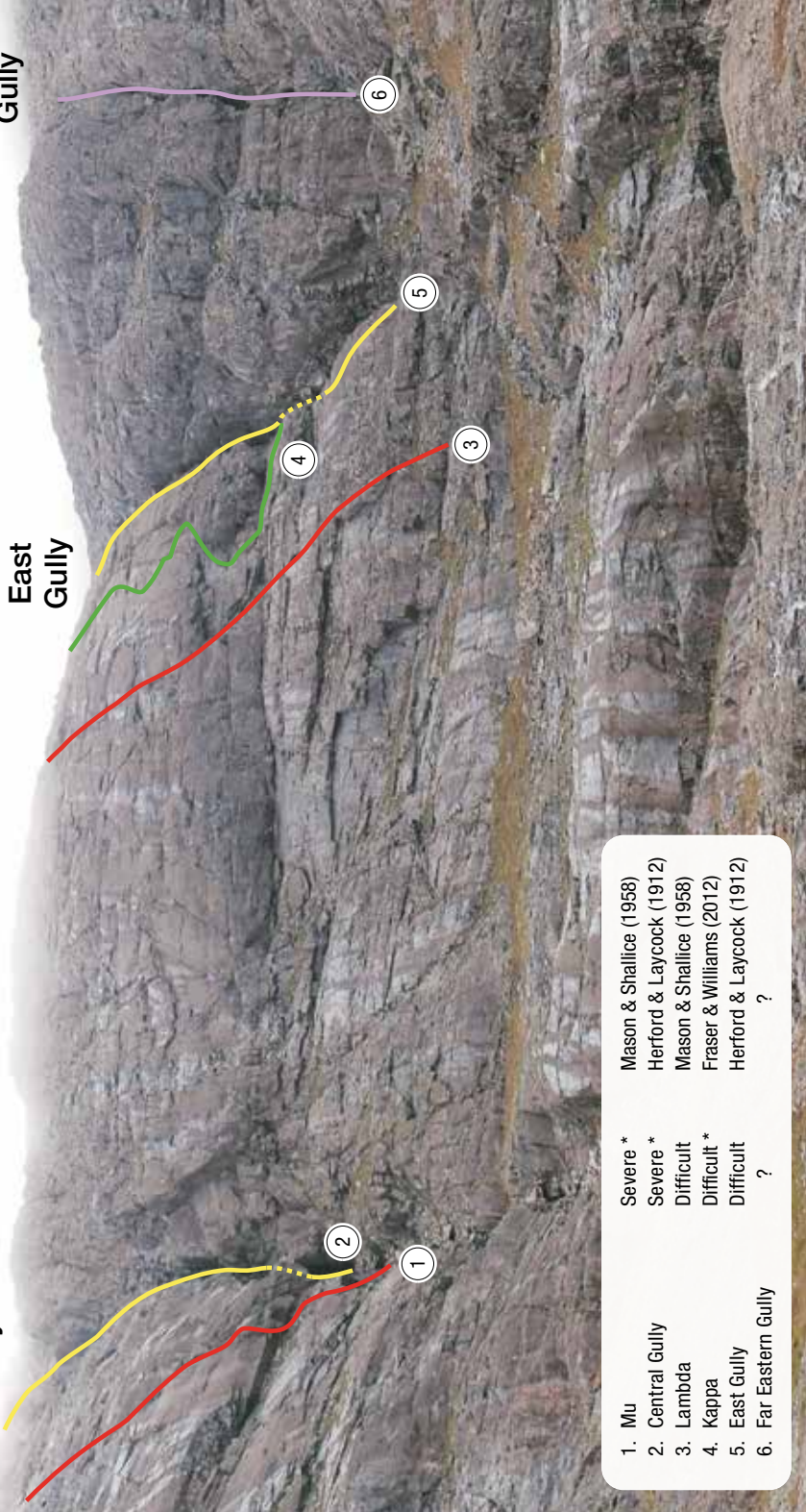
Midget Ridge 120m IV,4. David Ritchie, Neil McGougan. 10 Jan 2011.

The top of the initial slab was gained from the left, then the crest of the ridge was followed turning a steep wall on the right at half-height. Recommended.

Central
Gully

COIRE NAN LAOGH

Far Eastern
Gully



1. Mu	Severe *	Mason & Shallice (1958)
2. Central Gully	Severe *	Herford & Laycock (1912)
3. Lambda	Difficult	Mason & Shallice (1958)
4. Kappa	Difficult *	Fraser & Williams (2012)
5. East Gully	Difficult	Herford & Laycock (1912)
6. Far Eastern Gully	?	?

COIR'-UISG, COIRE AN UAIGNEIS:

This little-visited corrie can be reached either by descending from Bealach na Glaic Moire and traversing in, or by scrambling down the 'Easy Rake' from the dip between the 3rd and 4th tops of Sgùrr a' Mhadaidh.

Scrambled Eag Buttress 150m Difficult. Noel Williams, Simon Fraser. 27 May 2012.

This is the obvious buttress between *Eag Dubh Gully* and *An Doras Gully*. Start close to *Eag Dubh Gully* and scramble up easy rocks at first. Continue up a right-slanting groove to an overlap formed by a basalt cone sheet, then step left to a stance. Continue traversing some distance left before breaking through to easier rocks. Climb up just left of a large cracked block. Traverse left again and break through another steepening to a stance below a large rock scar. Cross broken ground slightly rightwards and climb slabs to the top of the buttress. Scramble up easier ground and scree to the main ridge at the top of *Eag Dubh Gully*.

Right Wall, An Doras Gully 70m V.Diff. Noel Williams, Simon Fraser. 25 May 2012.

Start a short distance down from a rock rib in the bed of the gully. Climb easily up the right wall parallel to the gully. Ascend a more difficult section of slab by a small right-facing corner, then continue up easier slabs to a wall. Traverse delicately leftwards and pull up into a position overlooking the gully – poor belay on a boss of rock. Continue up steeper rock to reach a good horizontal ledge which leads back easily into the bed of the gully above all the chockstones. Easy scree leads to the top.

CARN LIATH:

Notes by Ian Taylor: *Bengal Lancer* was thought to be solid E3 5c and very serious at the start of the second pitch. It would be safer to do as one pitch to reduce the fall factor. *Prospect of Rona Direct* was E2 5b,5c.

RUBHA HUNISH:

Notes by Ian Taylor: *Whispering Crack* grade and stars confirmed. *Northern Exposure* was E2 5c *. Very dirty, grassy and disappointing given **** in the new guide.

NEIST, Conductor Cove:

The Breach 10m H.Severe 4b. Ben Barnard. May 2012.

A corner-crack line left of *Ruby Groove* and right of the descent chimney. A blocky start takes you easily up to gain a committing sequence of moves up the crack.

Sonamara Area:

Reconnection 25m VS 4b *. Ben Barnard. May 2012.

Start 1m left of *Baywatch* at a rib directly beneath the left corner of a triangular overhang. Climb the rib, then continue past the overhang to gain an obvious flake-line directly above. Follow this to the top.

Note: The party thought that *Prog* was Severe and *Portrait Gully* worth a star.



Tim Blakemore on Whispering Crack (E3 5c), Rubha Hunish, Skye. Photo: Tamsin Gay.

Foghorn Cove:

The following are deep water solos given French grades.

Saline Solution 12m F7a * S0. Julian Lines. 26 May 2012.

Start as for *Hypertension* and move right on undercuts before pulling through the bulge on sidepulls to reach a jug rail. Rockover onto the rail and step up left and crimp to a horizontal break. Move up and right more easily.

Chemistry 12m F7a ** S0. Julian Lines. 26 May 2012.

A far better and more direct line than *Toxic Chemistry* that climbs on the left side of the arete all the way to the top.

Bay Four:

Notes by Ian Taylor: *Inanimate Objects Fight Back* is very good, worth ***. *Unfortunate Prey to Genetic Infantry Men* looks to be the same route as *Starfish Enterprise*.

Cumhann Geo, Seaward Wall:

The following DWS routes start from the ledge at the bottom of *End of an Era*.

Sundial 14m F7a+ ** S1. Julian Lines. 25 May 2012.

Traverse left from the ledge to the pillar/arete where the wall changes direction. Climb the pillar to a knee-bar rest on the arete under an overlap. Make hard moves up the arete to an easy finish up the sea grass wall.

Sea Biscuit 14m F6a ** S0. Julian Lines. 25 May 2012.

The small left facing corner to the right of *Sundial*. Finish up and left on the sea grass wall.

Timeline 14m F4 * S1. Julian Lines. 25 May 2012.

The right-hand crack-line to the right of *End of an Era*. Finish up the same upper groove.

Cumhann Geo, Main Face:

In the centre of the geo (between *Quantum Tunnelling* and *Bagpipe Deadline*) is a fine looking right-angled corner (*The Parcel*) that plunges straight into the sea. The first four routes (DWS) are accessed from here.

The Hot Tub 15m F6a+ * S0. Julian Lines. 21 May 2012.

The left-hand arete of the corner is gained by a traverse and a set of flat, ramp-like holds. The top half is much easier.

Pawprints 15m F6b * S1. Julian Lines. 21 May 2012.

The hand crack between the arete and the corner fizzles out at half-height. Continue up the wall using the only hold and some frantic moves up and left to reach the arete.

The Parcel 15m F4+ * S2. Julian Lines. 21 May 2012.

The right-angled corner, passing a parcel-like chockstone at 3m.

Ang Mo 15m F6b * S3. Julian Lines. 21 May 2012.

The right arete of the parcel. Make very technical moves (crux S0) to gain the obvious jug. The arete is easier and the final groove above a small ledge is S3.

Theory of Attachment 14m F6a+ S1. Julian Lines. 23 Jun 2012.

Start as for *Silent Witness*. Go up the crack for a few metres to pull up and right onto the wall. Make thin moves to get onto the arete. Follow it to the top.

Coriolis Effect 12m F7b+ S0 *. Julian Lines. 23 Jun 2012.

Five metres right of *Theory of Attachment* is a hanging arete with two yellow lichen strips. Start on the left and make a thin traverse right to better holds. Move up to an overlap and span left to the arete. Climb the arete via an excruciatingly technical sequence.

Geopod 12m F5 S0 *. Julian Lines. 23 Jun 2012.

The podded groove to the right of *Coriolis Effect*. If the initial traverse is done then it is F6c

SUIDHE BIORACH:

Overhang Cure 20m E2 5a. Mike Lates, Ian Hey. 25 May 2012.

A prominent large triangular cave lies at the right-hand end of the section that contains *Mother's Pride*, *Hovis & Cameron's Climb*. Scramble up into the cave to start. Climb up and right to the roof of the cave before pulling out on large steep holds to gain a ledge 3m above. Finish up the top 5m with care. A stake belay is required, but is not in situ.

SUISHNISH AREA, Carn Dearg Buttress:

Walking on Eggshells 30m Severe. Bob Hamilton, Steve Kennedy. 19 May 2012.

The ridge left of the open gully opposite *So Where Are The Dolphins?* Start above and right of the foot of the ridge. Scramble to a steep wall which is climbed by a steep crack. Slabs lead to the upper arete and the top. Fairly loose in places.

RAASAY, An Caol:

The Great Silkie of Sule Skerry 10m VS 4c. Tom Last, Chester Robinson. 8 Aug 2011.

Follow *Cave Crack* for a short distance, then step right across *Cave Crack* and delicately onto the face to join a steep crack which is followed on good holds to the top.

The 39 Steps 10m H.Severe 4b. Chester Robinson, Tom Last. 8 Aug 2011.

At the right end of the crag are three obvious cracks. Enter the rightmost of these steeply and follow it to the top.

Path Boulders:

The Loneliness of The Long-Distance Runnel 6m E3 5b *. Andrew Barker (on-sight solo). 23 Jun 2012.

Climbs the runnel on the east side of the large boulder on the shoreline (Runnel Project, p268 Syke Sea-Cliffs and Outcrops guide). Pull on at a flake and follow sharp snappy pockets to the runnel which is laybacked with trepidation to an exit

right onto the forest-covered top. The descent is to the left and is reached by thrashing up and over the top of the boulder. No pads used and graded as such.

NORTHERN HIGHLANDS NORTH

BEINN DEARG, Silver Slabs:

Meridian 145m HVS ***. John Mackenzie, Eve Austin. 2 Aug 2011; John Mackenzie, Colin Tarbat. 27 May 2012 (top 3 pitches).

A direct line up the middle of the slabs, bold in places but with good climbing, taking the top overlaps at their most interesting. Small to large Friends needed. Start below the bottom overlap, midway between the jutting block of *Boom Time* on the left and a wet corner to the right.

1. 25m 5a Climb up to a thin left-slanting crack and surmount the well protected overlap to an initially steep slab. Climb this direct to an overlap just right of a clean-cut corner.
2. 55m 4b Climb the overlap to a steep slab. Go up this in the centre via hidden holds and continue with minimal protection up the easier clean slabs and small overlaps to the terrace that cuts across the slabs below the overlapping headwall slabs. Belay on the right at a big cracked block.
3. 20m 4a Climb up a left-slanting corner with possibly suspect blocks, keeping to their left and move left to a ledge.
4. 25m 4c/5a Climb over an undercut overlap, step left then straight over the next overlap to a break in the top overhang just left of a large block. Climb over via the slanting crack and continue up and left to reach grass and a cracked block. An excellent pitch, well protected and surprising.
5. 20m Move up left more easily to finish.

CAIRN CONMHEALL, South-East Face:

This steep groove-lined face is reached by continuing up past the more open West Face to near the top of the gully where a very narrow heather ledge above broken rocks bottoms the face.

Centrepiece 30m HVS 5b ***. John Mackenzie, Eve Austin. 14 Jun 2012.

To the left of three deep set corners lies a continuous S-shaped groove above a lower corner-ramp. Large Friend belay below the ramp. Climb the ramp leftwards past a thread and up a steep flake-crack and difficult landing on a ledge, possible belay. Continue to and up the narrow crack above to the top in a fine position. Very good varied climbing and well protected by a good range of cams.

BEINN MORE COIGACH, Cadh' a' Mhoraire:

Hyperborea 300m IV,5. John Higham, Iain Young. 3 Feb 2012.

Takes a direct line up the buttress that leads to the highest point at the back of the hanging corrie, Cadh' a' Mhoraire, south of the east end of Lochan Tuath. From the base, follow a turfy ramp rightwards, then cut back left to the bottom of a prominent groove. Follow the groove (crux), move slightly right and follow a chimney come gully that leads back left to gain the buttress crest. Follow this to the summit ridge.



*Stac Pollaidh: Carlos Las Heras climbs Vlad the Impaler (HVS,5a) on the SMC aspirant meet 2012.
Photo: Andy Nisbet.*

STAC POLLAIDH, Pinnacle Basin:

Cinch Crack 30m VS 5a *. John Mackenzie, Eve Austin. 9 Jun 2012.

Immediately above the path leading into Pinnacle Basin from the west is a short steep wall with a prominent layback crack at its left-hand end. Perhaps done before.

1. 15m 5a Climb the layback crack and the capping bulge, then up the groove to a ledge. A good pitch, well protected.
2. 15m 4a Climb the crack then up the clean slab directly above.



Andy Tibbs on Dangerous Dancer (E3 6a), Ardair. Photo: Martin Hind.

REIFF, Stone Pig Cliff:

Jolly Roger 7m HVS 4c. John Dyble, Graham Stein. 5 May 2012.

Climbs the middle of the slab between *Chalk Block* and *Walk the Plank*. Using poor holds to start (possibly 5a), gain the horizontal break and place the only gear on the route. Continue with long reaches up the centre of the unprotected slab.

Pinnacle Area, First Geo:

The Cleft 20m H. Severe 4c. Michael Barnard. 11 Nov 2011.

The antithesis of sunny Reiff climbing! Walk into the cave left of *Octopus' Garden* to belay below a corner on the left wall with a small pool at its foot. After a gymnastic start (crux), move rightwards along a ledge to gain the obvious fault-line leading to the top.

Bouldering Cliff:

Dab Chick 25m E3 6a/b. Tess Fryer, Ian Taylor. 3 Jun 2012.

Right of *One Scoop or Two?* is a hanging corner that leads to the right arete of the slab. Climb the steep little corner, then the right edge of the slab.

Platform Walls:

Pali Gap 20m Diff. Michael Barnard. 12 Nov 2011.

The slabby corner left of the descent (below *Mad Dogs and Englishmen*) has an obvious hole. Climb through it.

Note: The route *Thumper* (p176, NH North) was first climbed by Paul Allen & Wilson Moir in May 1995 and named *Spring Sonatina*.

Spaced Out Rockers Cliff:

Shortcut to Oblivion 35m E4 6a ***. Tess Fryer, Ian Taylor. 19 Aug 2011.

Start 5m right of *Culach* and just left of the sea cave. Climb up and make committing moves to gain a shallow guano splattered groove and follow this to a junction with *Spaced out Rockers*. Continue up *Spaced out Rockers* to its belay ledge, then carry on more or less directly to a large roof, which is passed on its left via keyed-in blocks to gain a ledge. Steep bulges above lead to another roof. Move left and make a final long reach for the top.

Aqua Rambling 20m E5 6a ***. Ian Taylor, Tess Fryer. 19 Aug 2011.

Start as for *Spaced out Rockers*. Swing left onto the front face and follow the edge and crack above to gain a good break. Move left, make some thin moves and continue to another break. Go up to a roof and pull over using flat holds, step right and climb up to finish on a ledge just below the cliff-top. Low in the grade with good protection where it matters.

Slime Time 30m E3 6a **. Tess Fryer, Ian Taylor. 23 Jun 2012.

The always wet corner-line at the left end of the cliff. Needs a drought or a positive attitude to damp.

Leaning Block:

Pirates Direct 15m HVS 5b *. Tess Fryer, Ian Taylor. 23 Jun 2012.

Start 4m right of *Harold* and climb the wall direct, cutting through the ramp of *Pirates of Coigach*.

Edges and Spaces 18m E3 6a ***. Gary Latter. 11 Jun 2011.

Very well protected climbing up the wall midway between *Caoraich Mhor* and *Sixteen Men*... Climb direct on good edges to the first break, then continue with difficult reachy moves between good breaks at mid-height. Finish more easily.

Rubha Ploytach:

Past *The Joker* is a tidal square-cut bay with a black and tan north facing wall. The following two routes are accessible in calm seas for two hours each side of low tide.

King Prawn 10m H.Severe 4a. Steve Lenartowicz, Clare Humphry. 25 May 2012.

The shallow corner on the left, often wet but on good holds.

Black Queen 10m VS 4c ** Steve Lenartowicz, Clare Humphry. 25 May 2012. The steep line of flakes gives a fine sustained route, without using the rib on the right.

ACHMELVICH, Creag Rodha Mòr aka Super Crag (NC 056 236):

The crag is situated on the south shore of Loch Roe, near Achmelvich. The crag consists of a very steep west facing 40m wall and a couple of south facing stepped walls (aka The Burnished Walls). Despite some big guano ledges no sea birds appear to nest on the Main Wall (probably too scared), but on The Burnished Walls there are a few shags right of *Rolling Foam* and the odd fulmar on a grassy ledge. A pdf file is available with topos, a map and the descriptions.

Approach: 40mins, but may take a bit longer the first time!

Although it doesn't look far on the map the approach feels fairly complex and the ground is quite rough. Take the single track Achmelvich road from the B869 Lochinver to Stoer road and after about 1km turn left down a narrow road (signposted footpath to Baddidaroch). Park at the top of the hill where the tarmac ends. This is the same parking as for Loch Dubh Crag.

Continue along the new track, go through a gate and after 250m look out for a small stream coming in from the right. A very vague path follows the stream past some ruined crofts and then onto the open ground above. Cross a fence and continue following the stream to a narrow lochan. From here head west over ridges and drainage channels until the ground starts dropping down to the sea. If you're lucky then off to the left you'll spot a large, heather covered mound at the end of a ridge running out to sea. This is the top of the crag. Dropping down to the left (facing out) allows a good view of The Burnished Walls with the Main Crag beyond. There's also a handy small stream near the viewing point.

The Burnished Walls:

The south facing Burnished Walls are about 40m at the right end and 20m on the left. Above the shorter section is a luxurious grassy ledge known as Ant Ledge. This is easily accessed from the landward end via a sloping ramp and short down climb. A 35m abseil from a big block on Ant Ledge gains non-tidal ledges below the walls. The walls are a real suntrap.

Upper Wall:

Falconer Cracks 15m VS 4b *. Tess Fryer, Ian Taylor. 1 May 2011.
Climb the obvious crack above the big block on Ant Ledge.

Bogie Wonderland 6m E2 6a *. Ian Taylor, Tess Fryer. 1 Jun 2011.
Above the step in the descent ramp to Ant Ledge is a perched block. Climb the most continuous crack right of the block.

Lower Wall:

The most prominent features of the Lower Wall are the short arete on the left (*Rusty Buckets*), the central crack below the step and the steep hanging corner to its right.

Crystal Shell 20m E3 5c **. Ian Taylor, Tess Fryer. 24 Apr 2011.
Just left of the arete is a flake-crack and *Crystal Shell* climbs the vertical crack to its left. Start by stepping left to the whacky crystalline hollow, then follow the surprisingly steep crack to a ledge. Finish up a red corner and short walls above.

Champagne Rhubarb 20m E2 6a **. Ian Taylor, Tess Fryer. 22 Apr 2011.
Climb the flake-crack just left of the arete until below the roof. Swing rightwards onto the arete and go up a crack at the right end of the roof to a ledge. Belay here or on Ant Ledge just above. Finishing leftwards as for *Crystal Shell* is E1 5b.

Rusty Buckets 20m E3 5c ***. Tess Fryer, Ian Taylor. 22 Apr 2011.
The thin crack-line, just right of the arete, gives a pumpy little gem. Finish up a brown slab above the break.

The Shiner 20m E4 6a **. Tess Fryer, Ian Taylor. 30 Apr 2011.
Start up the left side of the hanging block. Go up, take a diagonal crack leftwards for a couple of metres, then make hard moves up the wall above. Another pumper.

Read my Lips 20m E3 6a **. Tess Fryer, Ian Taylor. 24 Apr 2011.
Start up the right side of the hanging block to follow a right-trending crack to below a nose. Make a mean move to go round the left side of the nose and finish more easily.

Small Time Girl 20m E2 5b/c *. Tess Fryer, Ian Taylor. 29 Apr 2011.
This takes the vague crack-line right of *Read my Lips* until below the very steep headwall. Follow a break rightwards until able to gain the ledge above and finish up the short wall.

Vive la Republique 20m E1 5a *. Ian Taylor, Tess Fryer. 29 Apr 2011.
Start at an easy ramp and go up a crack to a break. Move right along the break to a flake and go up this to Ant Ledge.

Burnt Umber 20m E1 5a *. Ian Taylor, Tess Fryer. 7 May 2011.
From the easy ramp go up rightwards to the top of a nose, just left of the central crack. Continue using the crack and the wall to its left.



Blair Fyffe belays Richie Betts on Rusty Buckets (E3 5c), Creag Rodha Mòr. Photo: Ian Taylor.

Watch out for a bit of loose rock at the top of the following three routes.

Mega Flake 40m E2 5b *. Tess Fryer, Ian Taylor. 22 Apr 2011.

Start at the central crack and climb this for 10m, then follow a diagonal line rightwards heading for a big bleached flake in the middle of the right side of the wall. Monkey up the flake and at its top go right and follow a line to the top.

Shades of Glory 30m E2/3 5c *. Tess Fryer, Ian Taylor. 24 Apr 2011.

Start as for *Mega Flake* but move right and go up a shallow groove and golden crack above to reach easier ground (junction with *Mega Flake*). Go slightly left and climb a steep flake 2m left of the big bleached flake. Belay on the ramp above.

Rolling Foam 45m E3 5c ***. Ian Taylor, Tess Fryer. 24 Apr 2011.

A well positioned route up the hanging corner round to the left. Traverse right into the corner and follow it steeply until able to pull onto a welcome ledge on the left. Go straight up the wall above then trend right to gain some grey flakes and follow these over a final bulge to the ramp.

Main Wall:

The impressive west facing Main Wall rears up from a sloping non-tidal ledge system, which can be gained by a short 10m abseil from Ant Ledge. Although it's hard to get a good view, the right side can be seen from Ant Ledge. The major features are a brown corner at the right end, two large guano covered ledges right of centre (one at 20m and one at 30m) and a big groove line left of centre, with a smooth wall to its left.

The rock varies from solid juggy grey gneiss to a disconcertingly smooth brown variety. As with any big sea-cliff there are occasional loose sections and in general it feels a bit snappier than Sheigra. It comes into the sun about 3 p.m. Apart from at high tide it is possible to scramble down to sea-level and escape off leftwards. There is a 6m E2 5c up an open corner in the centre of the small steep wall below *Guanissimo*. From right to left.

Ruddy Glow Corner 30m E4 6b **. Ian Taylor, Tess Fryer. 22 Apr 2011.

This is the big obvious brown corner at the right end of Main Wall. Start below and right of the corner and go up easily until a diagonal line, over large grey blocks, gains the corner proper. Make some committing moves up the corner, then get burly.

The All Abilities Path 40m E4/5 **. Tess Fryer, Ian Taylor. 19 Jun 2011.

Climbs the steep wall right of *Guanissimo*, followed by an 'escape' up the top section of *Personal Mingulay*. Start just right of the yellow ramp.

1. 20m 6a Go boldly up the wall to good holds and gear. Make hard moves to gain a flake-line and follow this into the left-hand groove above. Exit from the groove to a sloping ledge below a dauntingly steep brown wall.

2. 20m 6a Hand-traverse left below the steep wall until below an open brown groove just right of the higher guano ledge. Go up the groove, pulling left onto a sloping ledge at a black band. Continue via a hanging flake, pulling onto a slab to finish.



Richie Betts leads pitch 2 of (My Own) Personal Mingulay (E4/5 6a), Creag Rodha Mòr, Achmelvich. The abseil rope shows the angle. Photo: Ian Taylor.

Guanissimo 60m E3 ***. Tess Fryer, Ian Taylor. 1 May 2011.

A fine natural line that wanders around to give the easiest route on Main Wall. A hanging ramp leads up and left to the lower guano ledge and a right-facing flake system leads to the right end of the hanging ramp. Start from an easy yellow ramp.

1. 20m 5c Gain and climb the flake passing the right-hand of two black 'eyes'. At its top follow the ramp easily leftwards to the lower guano ledge.
2. 20m 5b Go up the steep flake-crack to reach a juggy handrail and follow this leftwards to the higher guano ledge. A cracking pitch, Friends 1 & 2 are handy for the belay.
3. 20m 5b Traverse left 4m, then make an awkward move onto a sloping ledge. Continue easily to a herbaceous finish.

(My Own) Personal Mingulay 45m E4/5 ***. Ian Taylor, Tess Fryer. 7 May 2011.

An excellent direct route with two great pitches. Start just left of *Guanissimo*.

1. 20m 5c Go up a line of steep flakes, passing the left-hand of the black 'eyes', to gain the middle of the sloping ramp. A rattling block in the flake-line seems to be well keyed-in. Move left and belay as for *Guanissimo*.
2. 25m 6a Go up the flake-crack above to gain the juggy handrail as for *Guanissimo*. Move left, then go up an open brown groove, pulling left onto a sloping ledge at a black band. Continue via a hanging flake, pulling onto a slab to finish.

The Pabbay Express 20m E3 5c ***. Tess Fryer, Ian Taylor. 20 May 2012.

An alternative first pitch to *Personal Mingulay*. Slightly harder and slightly better. Start just left of *Personal Mingulay* and go straight up past two horizontal breaks to gain a shallow groove line that leads to a belay at the left end of the lower guano ledge. Continue up *Guanissimo* (E3) or *Personal Mingulay* (E4/5).

Unnamed 40m E7 6b ***. Iain Small, Niall McNair (both led). 23 Jun 2012.

Excellent pumpy climbing followed by an exhilarating crux. Possibly low in the grade. Start 2m left of *Undertoed* and climb via big flakes, breaks and blocks for 10m. Go up the wall right of a corner on pockets and flakes to a good break and good cams. Hand-traverse this for 3m, then go up on obvious left-facing flakes to a second break system. Go along the break (small cam), then up on flakes again to jugs. Move up to flat holds, then boldly trend left past a rock scar to a hidden sidepull (crux) and make a long reach for a hand rail on the edge of the guano ledge. Tackle the overhanging wall at the right end of the ledge to gain a good foot ledge, then trend up and right to the top.

The Under Toad 40m E5 6b *** Ian Taylor, Tess Fryer. 17 Jun 2011.

Start left of *Personal Mingulay* at a step in the sloping ledge. Climb up via flakes to gain a ledge below a thin, slightly right-trending crack. Follow the crack all the way to the left side of the lower guano ledge. Move left along a flake to a small rock scar and make hard moves up a thin crack to the upper guano ledge. Move right off the ledge to the open brown groove of *Personal Mingulay* and finish up this.



Ian Taylor leads The Ambassadors (E6 6b), Creag Rodha Mòr. Photo: Richie Betts.

The Ambassadors 40m E6 6b ***. Ian Taylor, Tess Fryer. 20 May 2011.

The central line on Main Wall starting up an obvious groove with two downward pointing grey flakes at 15m. Intricate and committing on the crux section. Gain the groove by following a thin flake rightwards to a ledge, then moving left to another ledge. Go up the groove past the downward pointing flakes and make a long move from undercuts to gain a horizontal break in the brown rock. Hard moves up and left lead to a precarious ramp, at the top of which small wires can be fiddled in. Move right, then make more hard moves up to a line of improving holds and follow these rightwards until able to pull awkwardly onto the high guano ledge. Move left 4m, pull onto a sloping ledge and finish easily. Belay well back.

Rodha Mor 40m E5 6a ***. Tess Fryer, Ian Taylor. 7 May 2011.

A big route with exciting climbing up the big left-hand groove line. Start below and to the right of the groove at a 3m flake. From the flake steep moves up and left lead to a small guano ledge at the base of the groove. Follow the groove for 20m, then continue up a thin crack heading for a downward pointing flake. From the flake move up and left to another flake, then go straight up to a horizontal seam. Go left then finish up a slightly creaky flake.

Ramp it Up 45m E3 5c **. Ian Taylor, Tess Fryer. 1 May 2011.

This route goes up the groove of *Rodha Mor*, before escaping off to the left. Climb the groove for 20m to a large lump of black amphibolite, then hand-traverse left to gain a yellow ramp and follow this leftwards to gain ledges. Continue left, then pull onto a lichenous slab to finish. Scramble off leftwards.

The Cullinan 35m E6 6b ***. Ian Taylor, Tess Fryer. 1 Jun 2011.

Another great route up the centre of the smooth wall left of *Rodha Mor*. Start at a bowl shaped depression. Climb more or less straight up on positive holds, till a move left at 10m gains a large flake. From a big jug at the top of the flake, make a move up, then round to the left to gain a positive hold (good gear down and to the left), then make further hard moves to an easing on a yellow slab. Go up a final crimping wall to a ledge (possible belay) then finish up and left as for *Ramp it Up*.

Brow Beaten 55m E4 *. Ian Taylor, Tess Fryer. 30 Apr 2011.

Takes a line just right of the left edge of the wall. Below and left of the main cliff is an undercut cave, gained by scrambling down leftwards from the sloping ledge (not at high tide). Start on the right side of the cave at a protruding nose.

1. 20m 5b Move up from the nose to an undercut ledge and shuffle left along this. Surmount the bulge above to gain an open groove, then move left into a hanging corner. Go up this to a small ledge below the main cliff.

2. 35m 6a Climb up to gain a ledge, hand-traverse 2m rightwards, then make a committing move up to a diagonal break. Continue up to a flake of lighter coloured rock, then hand-traverse right and pull over onto an overhung ledge. Go steeply up and left for a few moves, then follow a line diagonally rightwards on lichenous slabby rock to easier ground.

CULKEIN STOER:

A number of unrecorded routes have been done on these easily accessible cliffs.

The two tier black wall gives a good E3 6a **, starting up a thin crack to a ledge, then following the obvious continuation. There is a two bolt belay just left of the top, but there are also plenty of natural placements. Just to the west are two strange bolt routes on a black north facing wall. Abseil in to hanging belays. They are about 15m long. The left-hand line is F6c and the right-hand line is F6b. Both routes were apparently drilled by Creagh Dhu climbers a few years back. Further west is 30m cliff above a non-tidal platform. Facing north it seeps quite badly. The following route may be new. Approach by abseil.

Omission Impossible 15m E2 5c ***. Ian Taylor, Tess Fryer. 22 Aug 2011.

At the shorter left-hand end is a good looking hanging flake-crack. Gain this by following some grooves, then moving right. A wee gem.

TARBET SEA-CLIFFS, Balmy Slabs, Eastern Sector:

The Serpent 12m E3 5c *. Michael Barnard, John Nelson. 6 May 2012.

The thin crack in the slab right of *Scuttlefish*. Start on a small triangular block at the base of that route and step right to climb the crack.

White Slab:

Slabitus 25m Severe. Michael Barnard. 25 Mar 2012.

Climbs the slabby west side of the obvious narrow pillar left of *White Slab* (approached by abseiling the line of the route).

FAR NORTH-WEST CRAGS, Creag an Dubh Loch:

Note: *Updraught* (Northern Highland North page 240). The pitches are more

like 30m and 20m. The descent gully is pretty wet, loose and unpleasant even in a week of dry weather.

Ridgeway View Crag:

Michael 15m Severe. Colin Lesenger. 5 Aug 2011.

Start just right of the grassy line between *Classic Crack* and *Row the Boat*. Climb clean cracks, step right to an inverted V-niche and pull over direct.

Groovy 10m Severe. Colin Lesenger. 5 Aug 2011.

The left-facing corner as for *Rodney's Gneiss Route* but climbed direct.

Red Slab:

Lady Jane Direct 10m HVS 5b *. James Duthie, Michael Barnard. 16 Jun 2012.

Climb straight up into the crack of *Lady Jane*.

Heart of Stone Direct 15m E1 5b *. Michael Barnard, James Duthie. 16 Jun 2012.

Climb the obvious flake and crack right of *As Good as it Gets* to join *Heart of Stone* at the end of its traverse.

Big Yellow Caterpillar 10m HVS 5a *. Michael Barnard, James Duthie. 16 Jun 2012.

Right of *Heart of Stone Direct* is a steep wall. Climb the vertical crack at the far right end of the wall, moving right then left at the top.

Moves Like Jagger 10m VS 4c. James Duthie, Michael Barnard. 16 Jun 2012. Climbs the shallow right-facing ramp/corner at the right end of the crag.

Notes: *Heart of Stone* is 20m (not 25m) and has become too lichenous for **. *Little Red Rooster* was thought to be VS 5a (not HVS 5b) and is 15m (not 20m). *As Good as it Gets* is the best route on the crag but still worth **.

ARBEG, West Geo:

The Greater Black Crack Gull 15m VS 4c **. Steve Perry, Katie Long. 29 May 2012.

The corner to the left of *Cabin Fever*. The clean-cut corner is not as hard as first appears and gives good protection. Layback away to a crux move at half-height leading to easier ground.

CAITHNESS SEA-CLIFFS, Sarclet, Big Buttress North Face:

The black wall on this face is north facing and can take time to dry. It is best accessed by abseil but there is a scramble out on the north side of the bay, but beware of the fulmars.

The God of Suspended Sediments 35m HVS 5a ***. Rob Christie, Harald Ramsøy, Charlie Macleod. 14 Jul 2011.

Start below a massive hanging block immediately left of *Silver Darlings*. Move up and right past a jammed boulder, then to the right of the block. Step out left onto the block and into the groove behind. Climb easily up the groove to finish.

Rune Magick 35m HVS 5a ***. Charlie Macleod, Rob Christie. 29 Jul 2011.
Right of *Silver Darlings*, climb a pillar to a ledge with a square block below a crack leading into a groove to the top.

Americana 25m VS 4c. Rob Christie, Charlie Macleod. 29 Jul 2011.
From the birdlime covered ledge at 10m, step onto the right wall. Climb cracks to the top. Avoid during the nesting season.

Sarclat, Wee Buttress (ND 343 421):

The Wee Buttress is directly north of the Big Buttress. Access is by abseil. Four lines were climbed in 2010 on the left section of the buttress (SMCJ 2011). The following were climbed on the central and right sections.

Central Section:

Italian Rover 25m Severe 4a. Giacomo Marchi, Kirstin Carmouche. 2 Jul 2011.

Climb a shallow square corner on the left arete to half-height. Traverse left into the gully and finish up a straightforward crack.

Scottish Ferrari 25m VS 4b. Charlie Macleod, Rob Christie. 6 Jul 2011.

Climb to a small roof 2m right of *Italian Rover*, step right, go up to a ledge and finish through the broad notch.

Shaken All Over 25m HVS 4c *. Charlie Macleod, Rob Christie. 13 Aug 2011.
Two meters right of *Scottish Ferrari* is a blank wall with thin cracks. Move up and right into a groove, then on to the arete and back left at the top.

Unnecessary Egyptian 25m E1 5b **. Charlie Macleod, Kirstin Carmouche, Giacomo Marchi, Rob Christie. 2 Jul 2011.

Start at extreme right of the central section. Step up and right to cross the gully onto the right section. Follow a ledge to the crack below the right end of the roof. Move out onto the wall and go directly up to finish.

Right Section:

Eat your Greens 25m VS 4b **. Rob Christie, Charlie Macleod. 29 Jul 2011.

At low tide, follow the crack 2m from the right edge for 5m, then go right onto the arete. Turn back onto the front face near the top.

Sarclat, Gloop Ledge:

(ND 341 417) Non-tidal

South of the Tilted Ledge there is a 20m clean wall, above a good ledge, accessed by abseil. The central feature is a slim rib to the right of a water filled surging gloop. Left of the wall above the gloop is a right-facing corner below a small roof.

Molly Cough Cocktail 20m E1 5b *. Raymond Wallace, Charlie Macleod, Rob Christie. 29 Apr 2011.

Climb the corner and turn the roof to the right. Climb to the top on easier ground.

Bublicious 20m HVS 5a *. Raymond Wallace, Rob Christie. 27 Jul 2007.
Climb the wall above the gloop on the left. Traverse across the ramp at half-height. Climb to a big roof which is turned to the right.

Domino Rib 20m HVS 5a **. Charlie Macleod, Giacomo Marchi, Allan Sinclair, Rob Christie. 4 May 2011.

The route up the left of the rib. Make steep moves onto the arete, then over easier ground to a roof. Move left to finish.

Big Fat Calzone 20m Severe 4b. Charlie Macleod, Kirstin Carmouche, Giacomo Marchi. 3 Jul 2011.

Right of the route is an easy gully with much birdlife at the top. This is the first clean line to the right taking a straightforward route to the ledge above, just below the cliff-top.

Scary Jacuzzi 20m VS 4c **. Rob Christie, Charlie Macleod, Kirstin Carmouche, Giacomo Marchi. 3 Jul 2011.

The blunt arete to the right of *Big Fat Calzone*. Climb a broad juggy pillar on to the arete, pass small roof on the right before finishing on the slab above to the left.

Experimental Pizza 20m HVS 5a **. Rob Christie, Charlie Macleod. 3 Jun 2011.

Start at the right-facing corner. Climb onto the wall above to the roof. Move right and climb the cleft through the roof.

Extra Chilli Pepper 20m E1 5a *. Charlie Macleod, Rob Christie. 3 Jun 2011.
Start to the right of *Experimental Pizza*. Climb to a roof, traverse round a bulge and go up to the right (poorly protected). Climb to the roof, move right and pull through the cleft on big jugs.

ORKNEY, Yesnaby:

A large number of routes have been climbed by Neil Morrison, Tim Rankin, Julian Lines, Danny Laing and others. They will be reported next year.

SHETLAND, Bressay, Bard Head:

(HU 516 357) Mainly non-tidal South-South-East facing

The sandstone headland below the Bard Gun has a large hanging slab capped by a broken overhang at the top with a right-facing curving corner on the left. Climbs start from ledges below overhanging walls beneath the slab. Ledges should be clear except in a large swell.

Approach: Abseil from the large Bard Gun to tidal ledges at the south-east end of the wall below the large slab. 100m rope required.

Poetic License 90m E1 5b *. Ross Jones, Andrew Hunter. 27 Mar 2012.

Start below a hanging groove/corner system at the left end of ledges. A fine and atmospheric route with an excellent first pitch, marred by some loose rock and poor protection on the second pitch.

1. 30m 5b Climb the hanging corner and belay directly above it.

2. 30m 4a Go left and up onto the slab above. Climb this directly to the arete to the left of the main slab.
3. 30m 5a Climb the wall just left of the arete with a tricky pull up and small overhang to surmount at 20m.

Bard From Bressay 95m E2 5c **. Ross Jones, Paul Whitworth. 23 Mar 2012.

1. 35m 5c Pull up into the hanging corner as for *Poetic License*. Pull out right and traverse 3m to a small left corner. Climb this and the corner above for 8m. Pull out right 4m below the capping roof on to the arete and make an airy traverse rightwards to a hanging corner. Pull up into this.
2. 30m 5a Climb the corner to ledges beneath the slab. Make an easy rising leftwards traverse up the poorly protected slab to the corner above the first bulge.
3. 30m 5a Climb the corner for 10m, then pull out leftwards and up into a hanging groove. Climb this, pulling out leftwards to finish.

Eshaness, Stuvva Head:

The Unforgiving Sea 15m H.Severe 4a. Ross Jones, Al Whitworth. 24 Mar 2012.

The wall and shallow groove left of *A Single Cask*.

NORTHERN HIGHLANDS CENTRAL

STONE VALLEY CRAGS, The Valley Walls:

FarNorth Slab 15m VS 5a. Jeannie Northover, Stuart Macfarlane. 2 Jul 2011. Just to the left of *Round the Block* there is a slab with a corner on its left. Climb the slab, which widens with height. Climb using the slab only and do not use the holds of the corner on the left or the higher holds of *Round the Block* on the right. The corner is used for gear lower down.

Game of 2 Halves 15m H.Severe 4c. Jeannie Northover, Stuart Macfarlane. 2 Jul 2011.

To the left of the route above and to the left of the corner, climb a steep rib to a platform. The start of the route involves a tricky bouldering move. Avoid finishing left from the platform and climb the face to the right and up using bridging moves.

Rum Doodle Crag:

Note: The variation finish to *Rum Doodle Arete* (SMCJ 2011) was in fact done on the first ascent, so is not new.

Stone Valley Crag:

Cheeseslice 10m V.Diff. Stuart Macfarlane, Jeannie Northover. 3 Jul 2011. To the left of *Cheesegrater Slab* is a prominent crack. Climb the crack.

Albatross 25m VS 4c. Jeannie Northover, Stuart Macfarlane. 3 Jul 2011.

A wandering and anti-social route. Climb the crack on the right edge of the slab of *Touch and Go* and veer left up steps at the top of the crack to finish at a niche

with the main slab. Traverse across the main slab of *Open Secret* to the finishing corner of *Inside Information*. Climb this awkward corner (crux).

Note: This may have been the line of the original exploration on the crag, but it was graded V.Diff, although nothing of that grade seems possible.

AZTEC TOWER:

Texcoco 15m H.Severe 4b. Stuart Macfarlane, Jeannie Northover. 2 Oct 2011. Climb up *Warrior God* to the middle ledge, then follow an obvious left-diagonal crack which joins the upper part of *Conquistador*.

Sacrificial Stone 10m Severe 4a. Jeannie Northover, Stuart Macfarlane. 2 Oct 2011.

Between *Sun God* and *Infanta* is a vague crack-line leading to the top. The crack is attained by a tricky move to gain a ledge with a large clump of heather. Easier climbing up crack-line leads to the top.

Note: *The Inca Trail* has been renamed *Coatlucue* and graded H.Severe 4b.

RUBHA MOR, Camas Point:

The following routes are on a fine west facing slab at Camas Point to the landward of the area described in the guidebook.

Niece Wall 10m Severe 4b. Stuart Murdoch, Jane Murdoch, Geena Murdoch. 30 Apr 2012.

The obvious central crack-line, continuing directly above to gain a steep undercut wall (crux).

Escalator 10m Diff. Stuart Murdoch, Jane Murdoch, Geena Murdoch. 30 Apr 2012.

The obvious line of weakness about 5m right. An ideal beginners' route.

Notes: *Mr Freeze* was thought Severe 4c.

Traction Control – correct grade at H.Severe 4b and maybe worth a star.

To Infinity and Beyond was thought Severe for the step round the nose at half-height.

GRUINARD CRAGS, Inverianvie Crag, Bayview Wall:

Alluring Complexity 15m HVS 5a. Jeannie Northover, Stuart Macfarlane. 28 Apr 2012.

Climb the arete immediately to the right of *Double Matured* and before *Cask Conditioned*. A tricky start that involves climbing/squeezing under tree branches. Good climbing continues on the arete above where protection is adequate with small wires and cams.

Dome Crag:

Welcome to the Terror Dome 50m E8 6c ***. Ally Coull. 2 Oct 2011.

Takes a line between *Dead Calm* and *Majordomo*. Start mid-way between the above routes directly below a small diagonal roof right of the three obvious white streaks. Climb up to the roof and turn it on the right, then climb up and right over another overlap to a rest below the obvious small roof (bold). Pull over

this roof and climb diagonally up left passing good gear to a diagonal crack and small overlap. Make hard moves directly up to reach a good flat hold; gear can be arranged to the right (crucial). Use an undercut and poor holds to gain the next break (hard) and continue boldly into a niche. Climb left out of the niche to an easing in angle. Climb the obvious groove more easily to the top. Head pointed, all gear placed on lead.

Jetty Buttress, Back West Wall:

Big Flapper 20m E5 6a ***. Ian Taylor, Tess Fryer. 24 Oct 2011.

An excellent clean route up the left edge of the wall that contains *Gogmagog*. Sustained with good protection where it matters.

AN TEALLACH AREA, Junction Buttress:

Via Duct 130m VS. Andy Nisbet, Jonathan Preston. 23 May 2012.

This climbs the highest line of continuous rock, which is a ridge left of *Injunction* (SMCJ 2011). It could again be described as lying at the change of aspect of the cliff. Left of *Injunction* is a steep wall at the cliff base. This leads up to clean walls forming the ridge and bounded on the left by a groove system with a wet overhanging base (this lack of access means it can't be one of the original routes). Start left of this overhanging base.

1. 50m 4b Start up the left side, but soon move into the centre of a clean slabby wall to reach a ledge below trees.
2. 50m 4b Traverse right across the wet fault to gain the ridge above its steepest section. Climb the first step of the ridge on its left side, then continue up the longer second step.
3. 30m 5a Climb a steeper final step to easier slabs.

Spaghetti Junction 130m HVS. Andy Nisbet, Jonathan Preston. 23 May 2012. Climbed on its 40th anniversary. Start just right of *Rightward Slant*, at the left end of the slabby ground which forms much of the west side of the crag. Right of this are polished waves of steep smooth ground.

1. 30m 4c Follow a right-slanting crack to a bay.
2. 45m 5a Move on to the right arete of the bay and gain its top. Follow a ramp rightwards to its end, then climb up through a tricky bulge to easier slabby ground which leads to a ledge.
3. 25m 4c Climb a pocketed slabby wall, then walk behind a block to *Rightward Slant*.
4. 35m 5a Cross this and climb a right-slanting crack in a fine clean slab.

AN TEALLACH, Ghlas Tholl:

Haymaker 90m VI,7. James Edwards, Roger Webb. 28 Jan 2012.

There is a prominent buttress between the forks of *Hayfork Gully*. Start at the equally prominent groove just left of the toe of the buttress.

1. 30m Enter the groove via a well protected boulder problem start, then climb it with less protection to an excellent pinnacle on the left.
2. 30m Gain the ramp above with difficulty and climb diagonally up and right crossing an interesting slab to belay on the crest of the buttress.
3. 30m Climb grooves in the crest to finish.

Toll an Lochain, Gobhlach Buttress:

Haggis Raclette 310m IV,3. Sandy Allan, John Lyall, Andy Nisbet. 6 Feb 2012.

An ice and turf line on the left side of the buttress. Start up the first step of *Gobhlach Ramp* (SMCJ 2011), then move right to a parallel icy fault-line. Go up this to a deep narrow chimney, then move out left to a ledge (40m). Go back right to the top of the chimney, then follow the fault up left (40m). Continue left to a large icy ramp leading up right and make a start up it (50m). Climb ice on the ramp to where it begins to peter out, then traverse right and go up on turf to easier turf (40m). Go left up a shallow turfy chimney (50m). Climb straight up via a short icy step (40m). Take a slabby ramp leading right to the crest above the long final groove of *Gobhlach Buttress*. Go up the crest to easy ground near the top of the buttress (50m).

Narrow Buttress 200m II. Andy Nisbet, Jonathan Preston. 19 Feb 2012.

The buttress between *Central Gully* and *Chockstone Gully*. Start up *Central Gully* and move right after about 100m to reach the start. An initial tier was climbed via a right-slanting ramp, followed by easy ground. The steepest tier was climbed by a shallow chimney on the crest, then finish more easily on the crest, including two small pinnacles.

THE FANNAICHS, Sgùrr Breac, North-East Nose:

Hugh's Groove 100m III. Ewan Lyons, Barry Middleton. 15 Dec 2011.

This climb follows a line on the other side of the rib to the right of *Heather Horror*. Start just right of *Heather Horror* at a short icefall. Climb this with a step to the right (crux) and continue to the back of a bay (50m). Follow an icy groove up left or an easier finish trending right under a wall (50m).

THE FANNAICHS, Creag Dubh a' Gorm Lochain (NH 237 693):

Roseroot 300m V,5. James Edwards, Martin Hind. 5 Feb 2012.

A big rambling route with the occasional ice pitch. Start up an ice pitch in a chimney just up from the base of a big easy gully which has been named *Gormless Gully* (30m). Follow up easier mixed ground (80m) before another band of rock with an ice pitch (50m) leads up to the final obvious ice pitch on the headwall of this section (45m). Above easier ground leads to the top (100m).

GLEN AFFRIC, Tom a Choinich:

John Mackenzie notes that the East Ridge of Tom a' Choinich is a very attractive way up the hill, holds snow well and is approached from Gleann nam Fiadh and the track up into the corrie via the Allt Toll Easa. The east ridge is set further into the corrie than the curved SE ridge and tops out at around 950m with a base around 750m. It is well defined with Grade I climbing near the top following the crest directly. Map ref NH 174 267.

GLEN AFFRIC, Sgùrr na Lapaich:

Central Gully 150 II. Matt & Vicky Smith. 29 Apr 2012.

The obvious easy gully splitting the face gets steeper with height and was climbed direct. A left-hand exit (*Swansong* II, SMCJ 2010) may be useful if the cornice is too large.

SGÙRR NAN CLACHAN GEALA:

The Last Lap 120m IV,4. Simon Richardson, Magnus Stromhall. 27 Jan 2012.
Facing north, the short steep buttress on the north end of the south-east ridge is a useful back up if the climbs on Lapland Buttress are not fully frozen.

1. 40m Start 30m right of *Practice Lap* and climb a ramp up and left to gain a ledge with several prominent yellow blocks. Move up and right to another ledge, then trend left and belay just right of the crest.
2. 10m Climb a steep corner to reach easier ground.
3. 70m Continue up easy mixed ground on the broad front face of the buttress to the top.

Creag Loch Tuill Bhearnach:

The following route is on the lower crag immediately above the loch. This is the right-hand of two obvious lines on the buttress and starting from its toe.

Peat Bog Faeries 90m V,5. Martin Hind, James Edwards. 10 Nov 2010.

Climbs the gully/chimney line on the buttress. Easy climbing leads to a thrutchy corner, or easier up and left and back round above.

STRATHCONON, Creag Ruadh, North-East Face (SMCJ 2011):

Feint Rib 115m II. John Mackenzie, Eve Austin. 2 Feb 2012.

A faint rib runs from the highest point well right of *Creag Ruadh Corner* with a lower tier split by a groove but with avoidable broken ground above ending at a small isolated outcrop. This seems the longest of several ribs.

1. 25m A short ice step then leads left into the groove and a stance in a grotto.
2. 50m Move right then up left over a thin slab and follow the faint turf line after a level section to turf belays.
3. 40m Follow the more obvious rib, some ice, to the isolated outcrop, turned by either side.

BEN WYVIS, Creag Coire na Feola:

Forties, Cromarty 225m IV,4. John Lyall. 8 Feb 2010.

The parallel and narrower ice line to the left of *Gael Force Grooves*. Start on the left side of the snow bay and climb an icy right-facing corner. Continue straight up on snow and iced slabs to the easier upper slopes.

Quiet and Peacefall 210m VI, 5/6. John Lowther, John Lyall. 2 Feb 2012.

The elegant but rarely formed icefall down the steepest part of the lower wall, between *Proletariat* and *Laird of the Rings*.

1. 15m Climb short icy steps leftwards to a thread.
2. 55m Move steeply right and follow the thin right-slanting line of ice to a steep exit. Continue up a thinly iced groove and shallow gully to a small spike and blade crack to the left.
3. 30m Go straight up to the steep diagonal wall.
4. 50m A blue pillar of ice leads onto a hanging ramp of ice (left of the groove on *Laird*) which is followed to the last rock.
5. 60m Easy snow and a final short tier.

STRATHVAICH, Black Bridge Crag:

Route 4.5 10m VS 4b. Iain Thow. 5 May 2007.

A thin crack between *Routes Four* and *Five*.

Note: Continuing diagonally on *Route Three* makes a pleasant Severe 4b. Iain Thow. 5 May 2007.

NORTHERN HIGHLANDS SOUTH**DRUIM SHIONNACH, West Face:**

Castle in the Sky 60m Harder than X **. Dave MacLeod. 1 Feb 2012.

Near the right side of the crag is a large recess with a smooth 5m horizontal roof at its top. The route climbs directly across the widest point, just left of a diagonal crack which also crosses the roof. Start below a system of steep flakes leading to the centre of the roof. Climb these to a good rest underneath the roof. Launch directly across this with footless moves and multiple figure fours, passing a poor blade near the lip. Further thin and hard climbing leads over the lip and to easy ground after a few metres. The last half of the roof and headwall is poorly protected and serious. A belay is possible on the turf ramp above if you have a strong second. Otherwise pull the rope through and continue boldly up the ramp until it is possible to climb direct past a flake to the top.

CREAG COIRE AN T-SLUGAIN:

Gorillas in the Missed 300m III. Jon Ison, Mark Ward. 21 Feb 2011.

Start at the right end of the lower crag (a long way right of *Double Gully*) and climb an easy gully to an ice cave/narrowing. Two short pitches gained the top of the lower gully. The first was difficult under powder and verglas. From the top of the upper gully, a traverse leftwards and up for approx. 100m leads to the base of some overlapping left-leaning small rock slabs. The start of the second section is a little ill defined. From a rock belay a pitch leads directly upwards over a couple of bulges to a boulder. Above is an obvious narrowing and the crux ice bulge leading to a slab and a boulder approx 15m below the cornice. Topo provided.

THE SADDLE, Sgorr na Forcan:

South Face Direct 120m I/II. Duncan Robb, Michael Ramage. 7 Feb 2012.

NG 942 129. An obvious gully line to the right of the southern spur leading to the summit ridge of Sgùrr na Forcan. A straightforward route with an airy top out on the ridge to the east of the summit.

SGÙRR NAN CONBHAIREAN:

Note: Starting well below and left of the gullies, the East Ridge proper, more of a broken buttress, is open to considerable variation. Grade II, George Allan, John Thomas, 28 Jan 2012.

COIRE LAIR, Whispering Wall:

Will of the Wisp 30m E2 5c. Pete Macpherson, Martin Moran. 15 Sep 2001.

Start on the terrace at the left end of the crag below an obvious clean triangular niche. Climb with difficulty into the niche using the handrail on the left. Move

right again and place the first runners before continuing up and right (bold) to three incut foot holds. Continue straight up, placing poor gear until easier climbing gains the top. Beautiful clean rock!

Kirsty Two Squeaks 30m HVS 5a. Pete Macpherson, Martin Moran. 15 Sep 2001.

Start 2m to the left of *Society of Whispers*. Pull left onto the ledge and continue up a groove until a hard move gains a break below a bulge. Pull over the bulge on big holds and continue more easily, trending slightly left to the top.

Harry's Lair 30m E2 5c. Pete Macpherson, Martin Moran. 15 Sep 2001.

About 3m right of *Society of Whispers* is a steep cracked groove, with another 2m right again. Start below this second groove. Bouldery moves lead to a steep crack on good holds. Go up the crack and mantel left onto a ledge (bold). Step left and continue up to gain a crack between the grooves. Continue fairly direct on easier ground to the top.

Note: *Society of Whispers* was thought E1 5b as against E2 5b/5c; Ross Jones (FAist) is happy with this.

SGORR RUADH, Raeburn's Buttress:

Note: Ken Applegate climbed a line up the face right of *Easy Gully* (Grade II, 19 Feb 2012) but since it crosses the descent from the top of the lower section of Raeburn's Buttress, a full description is not given.

KISHORN Note: The prominent waterfall on the north side of the road from Lochcarron to Kishorn (SMCJ 2011 p462) had previously been climbed by Morris MacLeod and partner in 1978.

MEALL GORM:

The Blue Lamppost 120m VIII,8. Pete Macpherson, Martin Moran. 7 Dec 2011.

Start from the bottom of *Lobster Gully*, zigzagging up slightly right through broken turf ground to the bottom of a slightly left-leaning turf groove.

1. 30m Climb the groove to reach a snow terrace and belay directly behind at the next rock band.

2. 30m Move right and head up turf grooves leftwards to reach a steep corner which is at the left end of a long roof 15m further up. Climb the groove with sustained technical interest to reach the roof and belay at its left end.

3. 18m Directly above is a fine clean fist jam crack which splits the roof and goes up the wall above; this is the summer line. Avoid this and instead move right 4m and climb up to the roof, then pull through to gain a crack (bold). Climb diagonally up and left for about 8m to gain a ledge and big flat block.

4. 40m Directly above is a right-facing groove which continues up to a hanging chimney with an offwidth to the right. Gain the groove with difficulty and commitment (crux) and continue up steeply with sustained climbing to reach the bottom of the chimney (beware of a protruding loose block). Pull left into the chimney and climb in a fantastic position to reach easier ground which is followed to the top. A brilliant pitch!

SHIELDSAIG CRAGS, Creag Ob Mheallaidh (SMCJ 2011):

Choppy Waters 15m Difficult **. Michael Barnard. 20 May 2012.

The fine blunt arete down and right from the main crag (passed on the approach).

BEINN DAMH:

The Bulldog Spirit 70m V.5. Simon Richardson, Roger Webb. 18 Dec 2011.

The prominent line of weakness, just left of centre, cutting the vertical quartzite cliff directly below the summit of Beinn Damh.

1. 35m Climb up into the gully-fault, and follow it trending right under a roof to reach a good ledge.

2. 35m Move right and climb a rib (which borders the left side of a deep gully) and finish up a steep corner-crack.

BEN DAMPH, Little Corrie:

Slender Buttress 120m II. Peter Biggar, Roger Robb. 15 Dec. 2011.

This is the narrow buttress between *The Thin White Line* and *The Slanter*. Two pitches of mixed ground lead to a steepening with a prominent chimney. Climb the first part of this to a ledge; go left to a system of cracks and grooves in the edge. Quite sustained for the grade.

SEANA MHEALLAN WEST, Pink Walls:

Something Fine 15m E1 5b **. Gary & Karen Latter. 18 Apr 2011.

Fine well-protected climbing up the right-slanting groove just right of *Fish and Chips*. Climb the groove mainly by its right arete, then step left and pull over a roof easily.

Bedrock Buttress:

Sky Blue and Black 10m E3 6a **. Gary Latter. 18 Apr 2011.

Well-protected climbing up the fine arete up the left side of the corner of *Dolphin Friendly*. Start as for that route, pulling left and climb up the arete with difficult moves to good breaks at the top roof. Pull over this on good holds to finish.

BEINN EIGHE, Far East Wall:

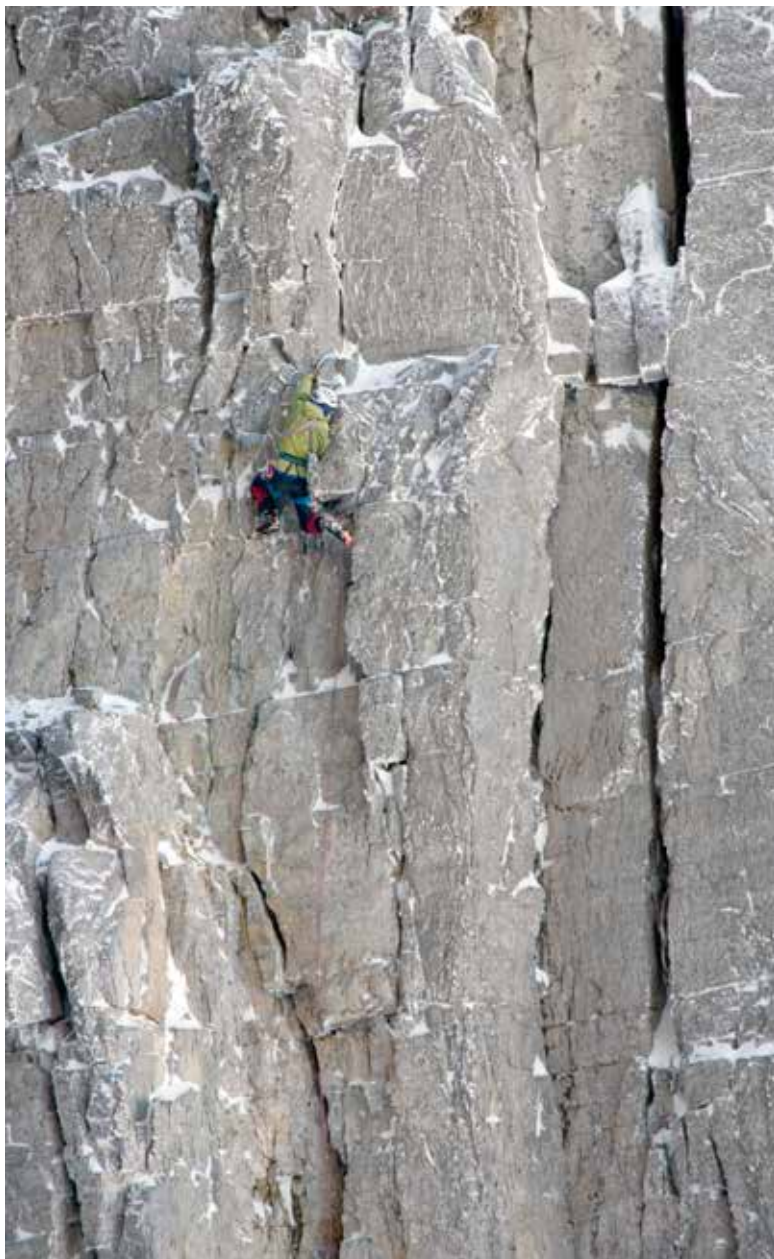
Rudolf 100m VIII, 8/9 ***. Murdo Jamieson, Martin Moran. 23 Jan 2012.

A superb winter route, very sustained and at the upper end of the grade. Pitch one climbed the iced crack left of the cave to a belay in a niche at the first roof (25m serious). The second pitch has a hard start (maybe 9), then climbs past wedged pillars to a layback crack which would be very hard if iced, before traversing 3m left to a hanging belay (20m). The top section was broken into two pitches. The first goes up to a roof, makes a delicate traverse into the upper corner, then climbs strenuously up cracks in the leaning right wall before regaining the corner and climbing to a constricted belay under a capping roof (30m). The top pitch moves left past the roof with difficulty then follows the monolithic final corner to the top (25m).

King of the Swingers VIII,10. (one fall, one rest) Martin Moran, Pete Macpherson. 11 Jan 2011.

1. 25m As for the summer line following turf grooves up to the base of the corner.

2. 25m Climb up the corner until about 2m below a small overlap which is about



Andy Nisbet on the first ascent of Wild West (V,6) Beinn Eighe, 16 March 2011. Photo: Garry Smith.

4m below the big roof. Traverse horizontally left on extremely thin moves for both tools and feet to reach the fist width crack on the left (very difficult!) Climb up the crack with sustained difficulty until desperate moves over a bulge gains a sloping ledge.

3. 20m Climb the excellent corner on great hooks and gear before pulling out left below the roof onto a ledge.

4. 20m Step left and climb up the slabby wall before pulling round the right side of a roof. Continue up via a turf corner to below a final steep corner.

5. 10m Climb the steep corner to easier ground.

Eastern Ramparts:

Note: *The Unknown Soldier* was climbed free at E2 5c by Andy Nisbet & Jonathan Preston on 20 Jun 2012; worth a star or two. Very well protected on the crux, so perhaps E1.

Far West Buttress:

Occidental VI,7. Andy Nisbet, Duncan Tunstall. 4 Apr 2012.

The big corner of the summer route and an unclimbed short chimney above gave good enough climbing to be content to finish up other routes.

1. 20m Climb the big corner as for summer (axe with a big adze recommended), and belay on top of the three wedged blocks.

2. 20m Step right and climb a short chimney past its capping block. Climb the wall above (as for *Athame*), then move right and gain the terrace as for *Chalice*.

3. 30m There are many possible finishes but this ascent moved 10m right along the terrace, then finished as for *Chock-a-Block*, starting with the through route.

Pineapple Cliff:

Jammy Dodger 120m III,5. Andy Nisbet. 5 Mar 2012.

Left of *Sidestep* is this gully, much deeper than it appears from below. The grade could well be much lower with a good build-up. The gully is straightforward to a final cave. Step right on to a ledge and make a hard but well protected move up to turf. Continue into the upper gully and finish easily.

CAIRNGORMS

COIRE AN T-SNEACHDA, Fluted Buttress:

Brute Force and Ignorance 105m VI,7 *. Michael Barnard, Pat Ingram. 29 Jan 2011.

The main feature of this route is the obvious cracked corner line on the steep left wall of *Broken Gully*. Rather unbalanced, with the first pitch the crux by far, but interesting and with a fun finish.

1. 30m Climb up to the cracked corner line and follow this directly to a ledge below the top section. Traverse right 3m and move back up via flake-cracks to belay on *Broken Gully*.

2. 60m Move up left and climb a groove through the rocks above, continuing up the snow slope to the base of the upper tower.

3. 15m Climb the obvious corner-crack on the right-hand side of the tower.

COIRE AN LOCHAIN, No. 1 Buttress:

The Hyperventilator IX,10. Greg Boswell, Will Sim. 22 Jan 2012.

The route takes the steep faint overhanging crack-line on the left wall of the Vent (to the right of the 'Big Daddy corner'). The route is still waiting a clean ascent as on the last ground up attempt, GB came off one move from easy ground. But pulled back on and finished the route. The second pitch takes the obvious large corner above and right of the terrace.

No. 2 Buttress:

Minute Man Direct Start 30m VII,7. Andy Ingles, Guy Robertson. 16 May 2012.

Start about 5m right of *Chute Route*, below a groove with a rockfall scar on its left wall. Climb the groove until just below where it peters out, then pull right onto the rib and climb steep cracks up to join *Milky Way* just below the upper tower of *Minute Man*. No change in overall grade.

No. 3 Buttress:

Siberian Tiger 70m IX,10. Greg Boswell, Pete Macpherson, Guy Robertson. 12 Dec 2011.

Exceptionally strenuous and technical climbing with large fall potential on pitch 2 which is the crux. Start as for *The Vicar*.

1. 25m Climb the groove for about 7m and break out onto the right wall as soon as possible. Climb the wall via useful cracks to gain a belay ledge (common with *The Vicar*). A lovely well protected pitch which would make a more logical start to *The Vicar*.

2. 45m Gain the arete via a crack to a small ledge and pull tenuously around onto the slab. Climb the slab via tenuous thin flared cracks heading leftwards until under the left side of the roof on the arete. Rest as best you can before climbing the overhanging flake above which proves very strenuous. Once over the roof, trend boldly rightwards to the right edge of the slab and pull round the corner. Climb more easily to the top.

Pfugga-Lule 60m VIII,9 ***. Charly Fritzer, Matthias Wurzer. 22 Jan 2012.

Start at the bottom of a small left-facing corner 3m right of *Happy Tyroleans* start.

1. 30m Climb the corner to gain a ledge and small terrace on the right. Step back left and climb a steep crack to swing left at its top to gain a large undercut flake. Climb the flake up and right to gain a right-facing corner and follow this to belay on the large terrace as for *Overseer Direct*.

2. 25m Move up the stepped ground to climb the obvious overhanging chimney exiting left at its top to reach easier ground.

Never Mind, Mindless Finish IX,10. Nick Bullock, Bayard Russell. 23 Jan 2012.

A full winter ascent of the *Mindless Finish*. The route described in the Cairngorms guide finishes further right. The name *Pic n' Mix* for this seems to have stuck and has settled at VIII,9.

CREAGAN COIRE A' CHA-NO:

International Rib 65m II. Ibrahim Aboudiwan, John Lyall, Mike Rigby, Huw Williams. 26 Jan 2012.

Start at the toe of the rib to the left of *Plasma Gully* (the following route). Follow a slanting fault just right of the crest, then by a groove between two pillars to finish right of the final tower.

Plasma Gully 50m I.

The gully to the right of *International Rib*, exiting on the right of the big cornice.

Next is the broader Blood Buttress.

True Blood 50m III. John Lyall, Eric Pirie. 13 Jan 2012.

Start about 15m left of the left edge of the buttress, and go up a gully and over a big wedged block. Continue to a recess, pull out left and follow corners until a wide crack on the right leads to the finishing slope.

Blood Thirsty 50m III,4. Scott Frazer, John Lyall, Mick Twomey. 28 Jan 2012.

Start just right of the left edge of the buttress and climb an easy fault, then a short steep corner with a wedged block.

The Blood is Strong 50m III,4. John Lyall, Eric Pirie. 13 Jan 2012.

Start at the lowest rocks on the right side of the buttress, just left of a short vertical wall. Take the left-slanting slabby corner to start, and the continuation corners to the top.

There are a couple of very short but steep walls on the left of *Wide Gully* (the following route).

Wide Gully 40m I.

The gully left of *Short Ridge*, passing the cornice on the right.

Short Ridge 50m IV,4. John Lyall, Andy Nisbet, Jonathan Preston. 12 Dec 2011.

The next ridge south of *Cutty Sark*. Take a short chimney on the left side to a ledge, then follow the ridge to the top.

Mainmast 35m IV,5. John Lyall, Andy Nisbet, Jonathan Preston. 12 Dec 2011.

The steep chimney-crack left of *Cutty Sark*. Climb this and pull out left at the top of the crack, then follow the gully behind the pinnacle, finishing right of the cornice.

Auld Reekie 30m IV,4. John Lyall, Eric Pirie. 13 Jan 2012.

On the steep right flank of the *Cutty Sark* buttress. Climb an icy groove, then move left and pull up into a short deep chimney, exiting left of the capping roof.

Direct Start V,6. Neil Adams, Gwilym Lynn. 22 Jan 2012.

Take a more direct entry up a wide crack to gain the short deep chimney.

Note: *Chimney Rib* is now thought to be III,4 rather than its original IV,4. An alternative start (IV,6) to *Chimney Rib* was made by Martin Holland & Steve

Langton on 24 Jan 2012. Climb the short (7m) wall down and left of the chimney to gain the platform left of the chimney and step right to gain the chimney itself.

Frozen Planet 40m IV,6. John Lyall, Andy Nisbet, Jonathan Preston. 12 Dec 2011.

An escapable line on the left flank of the Anvil Buttress. Start beneath *Flaked Out* and climb two short corners leading left, then up a wide open chimney to a ledge (30m). Climb the bulging flakey edge above, and move left behind a block to the top (10m).

Wile-E-Coyote 60m IV,4. Steve Crawford, Alex Parmentier. 19 Jan 2012.
A deep groove round the arete right of *Anvil Corner*.

Kerplunk 60m III. Stuart Lade, Liam Fleming, Jill Plummer. 13 Jan 2012.
The broad ledgey buttress between *Anvil Corner* and *Duke's Rib*. A rambling line finishing by a 20m corner.

Arch Rival 60m V,5. Sylvain Baboud, Simon Richardson. 26 Jan 2012.
A counter diagonal to *Arch Wall*, taking the prominent groove-line just left of the rockfall scar in the upper part of the face. Start 10m left of *Arch Wall*.

1. 30m Climb a right-trending series of turfy shelves leading to a short steep corner. Climb this to reach the alcove stance of *Arch Wall*.
2. 30m Move up and right to gain the foot of the prominent left-facing corner (*Arch Wall* goes left then up from here through the roof of the arch), and climb it in good but well spaced turf to a snow bay. Move left and climb a short corner to the top.

Ptarmigan Rib 60m IV,5. Simon Richardson, Roger Everett. 12 Feb 2012.
The right-bounding rib of the gully-line of *Fingers and Thumbs*. A prominent line, but most of the climbing coincides with existing routes.

1. 30m Climb directly up the rib until the way is barred by a blank bulge. Move right to join the upper continuation of *Mac's Crack* to belay in the notch of *Fingers and Thumbs*.
2. 30m Continue up the steep section of *Fingers and Thumbs*, but instead of exiting left up the gully continue right to a ledge. Move up and left up a final wall to finish.

Note: An alternative finish to *Tower Chimney* was climbed by Ross Mathers & Edvin Møllergaard on 27 Jan 2012. An obvious line that continues straight up instead of veering right up the squeeze chimney of the original line.

Flying Rib 100m IV,5. Simon Richardson, Sylvain Baboud. 26 Jan 2012.
The cracked slabby rib that runs down and left from the upper part of *Boundary Ridge*.

1. 30m Start at the lower right end of the rib and climb a crack to the crest. Move left along the crest, step left onto a cracked slab and climb to a stance below the upper slab.
2. 20m Move up to an overlap and pull over onto the slab above. Climb turfy cracks to its top.
3. 50m Continue up snow slopes to the top.

Boundary Ridge 180m III,4. Sylvain Baboud, Simon Richardson. 26 Jan 2012.
The right bounding ridge of the corrie. Start 10m up and left from its foot below a broken crack-line leading up the left wall. Climb this with interest for 60m, then continue more easily for two pitches to the top.

COIRE AN SPREIDHE:

Goulotte Cachee 300m IV,4. Roger Everett, Simon Richardson. 12 Feb 2012.
A good mountaineering line up the right side of the face. Not sustained, but the crux pitch is steeper than it looks. Start approximately 50m right of *Central Couloir* and climb low-angle ice in a shallow runnel for 60m into a large snow bay. Exit the snow bay from its top left corner via a steep ice step (crux) to reach a gully (hidden from below) and climb this for 30m to reach easier ground. Continue straight up for 150m through a section of mixed ground in the upper part of the face, to the top.

STACAN DUBHA:

Atlantis 160m III. Andy Nisbet, Jonathan Preston. 30 Dec 2011.

A line of grooves between *The Shuttle* and the following route. Start just left of the lowest rocks below the grooves. Climb the right-hand of two turfgy grooves rightwards to a ledge. Ignore the groove above and move right to another groove (not another one further right). Climb this groove before moving left to a bay. Go to its top left corner and climb a line of weakness trending slightly right to reach easy ground.

Upper Crust 150m VI,6. Ross Cowie, Andy Nisbet, Helen Rennard. 20 Dec 2011.

The buttress immediately right of the chokestone gully. Start up a snowy ramp leading left towards the crest overlooking the gully and reach an overlap.

1. 45m Step right and climb an inset slab to the crest. Make steep moves up to gain a turfgy groove and climb it to its top. Step left on to slabby ground and climb a left-facing corner to its top where moves right reach a flake.
2. 35m Climb turfgy ground up a slight crest before moving left to a steep barrier wall. Traverse left to a big corner system.
3. 40m Climb the corner to a snow bay, above which is a steep groove. Climb the groove to a ledge on the right.
4. 30m Climb a short wall above to easy ground.

Mr. Blobby 160m V,5. Andy Nisbet, Jonathan Preston. 15 Dec 2011.

The buttress between the chokestone gully and *Transavon Gully*. Start just inside *Transavon Gully* and climb a groove to a bulge. Move right to the crest and step left over a huge flake (30m). Climb a groove directly above the lower one, step over its right arete and traverse the steep face on the right over flakes until possible to go up to a point above the belay (30m). Climb the easier crest of the buttress to where the buttress peters out at the junction of *Transavon Gully* and the chokestone gully (50m). Finish easily up the chokestone gully (50m).

Red Dwarf 160m VII,7. Simon Richardson, Markus Griesshammer. 24 Jan 2012.

The prominent corner-line defining the right side of the buttress between *Zigzag* and *Tangent*.

1. 60m Start at the foot of the buttress and climb a prominent V-corner that curls up and right to reach easier ground below the upper buttress. The corner is deceptively steep and smooth, and the steep bulge at 20m was climbed by moving across the left wall of the corner, and returning right along a dwindling ramp.
2. 20m Move easily up to the foot of the right-facing corner.
3. 40m Step left and sit astride a flake below shallow cracks in the rounded gully guarding entry to the corner. Climb the cracks with difficulty and then continue up the right-facing corner system above to a good belay on the left.
4. 40m Continue up the corner that opens out into a gully and the top of the buttress.

Goldilocks 160m VI,6. Roger Everett, Simon Richardson. 11 Dec 2011.

Good mixed climbing up the pronounced pillar left of the previous route. Start below and left of the pillar.

1. 70m Climb easy snow up and right to below the foot of the upper pillar. Belay below the right-hand of two fault systems.
2. 15m Climb the right-hand fault to a ledge.
3. 15m Transfer to the left-hand fault and climb it via an overhanging chimney to a ledge.
4. 40m Continue in the same line up the left-hand fault to a large terrace.
5. 20m Finish easily up and right to the top.

Zig-Zag 150m IV,4. Andy Nisbet, Jonathan Preston. 30 Dec 2011.

The relation to the summer route is unsure. Climbed in fairly lean but icy conditions; the lower half could bank out under heavy snow. Start at the left edge of the crag, just above and left of a prominent overlap. Move right on to the face and climb a thin but prominent line of turf snaking up the slabs above. Move left to the top left corner of a snow bay. Gain and climb a corner right of the buttress crest before moving left on to the crest. Go up the crest, then rightwards to another corner. At the top of this move right above steep ground and gain slabs above. Climb these trending right to the top.

CÀRN ETCHACHAN, Upper Tier:

Jumping Jupiter VIII,8. Greg Boswell, Ian Parnell, James Dunn. 21 Dec 2011.

Thin and slightly bold climbing with a hard crux through the first overlap. Belay under the roof above the slab. Turn the roof via the arete on the left and make a right-trending traverse to regain the summer line.

GARBH UISGE CRAG:

Garbh Gully, Right Exit 35m II. John Lyall. 15 Jan 2012.

Take the fault going out right from below the crux of the normal route. An escape if the final pitch is not formed, and makes the route grade II overall.

Garbh Gully, Left Exit 90m IV,6. Scott Frazer, John Lyall, Mick Twomey. 27 Jan 2012.

The thinly iced chimney forming the left fork of the gully. Passing the final chokestone was the crux, but it may become easier with a bigger build-up of snow. There were signs of retreat from below the crux.

STAG ROCKS:

These routes are on the small buttress on the top right-hand side of the Y-shaped gully, just below the fork. It has a steep rib on the left and an alcove on the right with a slab and big roofs.

Summer Rib 30m Severe 4a. John Lyall, Andy Nisbet, Jonathan Preston. 28 Mar 2012.

Start on top of a small shattered buttress below the steep rib. Follow cracks on the right side of the rib, and move left at a steepening to finish up a groove on its left side.

Midnight Tiles 45m VS 4c. John Lyall, Andy Nisbet, Jonathan Preston. 28 Mar 2012.

Start at the top of the alcove and climb the initial short wall by a sharp edged flake and step right to a ledge. Head up left through a small curving overlap, then follow a corner to break through the left end of the long roof and continue straight up to finish by a right-facing corner.

Black and Blue 45m E1 5b. John Lyall, Andy Nisbet, Jonathan Preston. 28 Mar 2012.

Start 3m to the right and go straight up the clean slab to break through the long roof at a flake-crack (crux). Continue boldly up the left-facing corner and fault above.

Note: Gordon Smith notes that when he did *The Tenements* in winter 1978/79, he started up a prominent corner system just right of *Stagnant Gully* and joined the summer route above its clean first two pitches. John Lyall has winter climbed the summer start at a higher grade but the normal winter route starts to its right.

STAC AN FHARAIDH:

To the left of the Western Sector are three distinct buttresses cut by well-defined gullies. The following two routes lie on the prominent central buttress that is defined by a prominent undercut niche at its base.

Ice Axe Elbow 85m V.7. Simon Richardson, James Edwards. 30 Dec 2011.

Good mixed climbing up the left side of the lower section of the central buttress.

1. 25m Start in the undercut niche and move up and left through steep blocky terrain to near the left the arete. Continue up just right of the arete, passing a difficult rounded section to a short prominent hanging crack. Climb this into a triangular niche.

2. 40m Climb the right-angled corner at the back of the niche to reach a ledge. Continue up the line of turf leading up and right to a terrace below the right side of the final tier.

3. 20m Finish up the left-hand of two right-facing corners inset into the top right side of the buttress.

Wrist Flexor 85m VI.7. Iain Small, Simon Richardson. 8 Jan 2011.

The steep central section of the central buttress. Start in an undercut niche.

1. 30m Climb straight up via a crack through a roof. Ignore the crack above and then trend right to join a crack system 5m to the right. Climb this steeply, through

a bulge to reach a good ledge. A sustained and strenuous pitch.

2. 30m Move 5m right and climb the slabby corner system moving right to the right crest. Continue up this on rounded holds to the terrace below the right side of the final tier.

3. 20m Climb the right-hand of two right-facing corners inset into the top right side of the buttress.

Wobble Block Chimney 80m V,5. Simon Richardson, Roger Webb. 2 Jan 2012. The left side of the rightmost buttress is cut by a long straight gully with an impending chimney at its top.

1. 45m Deceptively steep moves up a vegetated offwidth crack lead into the gully. Climb this over a steep step to reach the easier angled gully above, and follow this to a pronounced steepening.

2. 15m Continue up the steep section to a good ledge below the impending chimney.

3. 20m Climb the chimney (easier than it looks) to a good platform. The eponymous wobbling block was trundled, and is no more.

The Glassy Cherry V,5. Jason Currie, Guy Robertson. 17 Jan 2010.

A pure ice line approximating to the route *Cherry*. Unbalanced, with a hard section on thin ice through the central steep wall, but very good. Finish direct up a steep ice pillar.

SRÒN NA LAIRIGE:

Park Life 220m IV,4. Hamish Irvine, John Lyall. 16 Dec 2011.

A line between *Lairig Ridge* and *Kasbah*, starting just right of the foot of the buttress in a snow bay.

1. 20m Slant left up the obvious fault to the base of a big right-slanting slab on the right flank of the ridge.

2. 45m Climb turf up the slab.

3. 40m Go up leftwards to a slight gully overlooking *Kasbah*, and up to a bay and large spike.

4. 15m Ignore the easy gully on the left, and climb steeply on the right of the flake to gain a hanging gully and belay below the crest.

5. 30m Go right on turf, taking a slanting line rightwards and gain the crest at a pinnacle.

6. 70m Follow the ridge to the top.

Goths' Corner 120m IV,4. Sandy Allan, Andy Nisbet. 8 Jan 2012.

An iced corner formed between the buttress with *Polar Bear* and a slabby buttress to the right. Grade III in better conditions. Start below a steep iced entry to snow leading to the corner. The ice was too thin, so the route was started up the next groove to the right, then moving left into the snow which was followed to below the corner. Climb the corner on turf and ice to easy ground.

Blood Brothers 120m III. Sandy Allan, Dave McGimpsey, Andy Nisbet. 30 Jan 2012.

The slabby buttress to the right of the previous route holds a right-facing corner in the centre and a roofed groove to its right. This route climbs the right-facing corner after an easy start up a snow groove.

Kowloon 120m IV,4. Sandy Allan, Dave McGimpsey, Andy Nisbet. 30 Jan 2012.

Start as for *Blood Brothers* but soon stay right of it and climb up into the groove. The more ice, the easier the groove (thin but adequate this time). At the roof, step left on to the left arete and soon reach flakes. Step off these and go up to a sharp rib. It is easy to escape right here but the route climbs the rib.

The following routes are on the next buttress right and which is the rightmost major buttress. It has right-slanting lines across the slabby left flank and a prominent block on its crest.

Swerving Gully 170m II. Scott Frazer, John Lyall, Mick Twomey. 31 Jan 2012. The gully that curves up the left side of the buttress.

Beaufort Groove 110m IV,5. Scott Frazer, John Lyall, Mick Twomey. 31 Jan 2012.

The left-hand of two parallel grooves on the left side of the buttress. Start 60m up *Swerving Gully* and climb the groove – a good pitch (45m). Then easy mixed ground to the top.

The Three Buffeteers 140m IV,4. Scott Frazer, John Lyall, Mick Twomey. 30 Jan 2012.

The right-hand groove system, starting 15m up *Swerving Gully*, level with a diagonal overlap going out right.

1. 35m Go right under the overlap until overlooking the curving slab of *Passmaster*, then go straight up the fault to blocks.
2. 30m Cross the next diagonal break and climb the roof directly into the groove. Follow this past another roof to a bay.
3. 40m The continuation groove to the crest left of a pinnacle.
4. 35m Easy to the top.

Passmaster 160m III,4. Scott Frazer, John Lyall, Mick Twomey. 30 Jan 2012. Start at the foot of *Swerving Gully*.

1. 40m Climb the big right-curving slab to its end below an overlap.
2. 30m Climb the groove on the left and take the first fault on the right, leading to the buttress crest.
3. 45m Follow the shallow chimney above, then easier ground to the right of the prominent block.
4. 45m An easy crest leads to the top.

Storm Force 160m II. George Clowes, John Lyall, Andy Rook, Roger Winterburn. 20 Feb 2012.

Climbs the right flank of the *Passmaster* ridge. Start 15m up the gully on the right of the ridge.

1. 40m Follow turf into an icy groove on the left, and up to a block on a big ramp.
2. 45m Continue up the ramp to its end, then step down right into a shallow gully and follow this to a belay.
3. 45m Follow the gully to the second pinnacle.
4. 30m Continue to the top.

SGOR GAOITH, A' Phocaid:

Headfirst 150m III. Sandy Allan, John Lyall. 14 Jan 2012.

Climbs the rib on the right of *Pick Pocket*. Start in the fault of *Pursed Lips* and climb ice up left to gain the vegetated rib. Follow this and easier mixed ground to the top.

Carn Ban Gully 180m I.

The gully to the left of the waterfall.

COIRE GARBHLACH, Lower Corrie:

Solitude Standing 100m IV,4. Sandy Allan, John Lyall. 18 Dec 2010.

The big easy angled gully right of *Hermit's Ridge* is followed towards the cave, then the left branch is taken to a point where an easy ramp runs left to the top of the ridge. Avoid this ramp, and follow a left-slanting icy ramp across the steep right wall past a big fang of ice to a mixed exit. Easy slopes lead to the top.

COIRE GARBHLACH, Upper Corrie:

Fraudster 100m II. Andy Nisbet. 18 Dec 2011.

Curving Gully is on a buttress further right from the pinnacled one. This route climbs the rib to its right. Start just inside *Curving Gully* and take a line of weakness leading out right to the crest. Follow a ramp leading back left and regain the crest again. Follow this easily to the top.

Corkscrew 120m IV,3. Andy Nisbet, Jonathan Preston. 6 Jan 2012.

The right side of the pinnacled buttress has easy slopes leading to a central crest. Left of the crest is a steep wall leading down to a gully. This route climbs the gully, which is lower angled to start and leads leftwards to a steep narrow section. In good conditions it could be climbed direct, but this ascent went out right after 10m, then back left across the gully and up to a recess, before climbing back right across an arete to the easy upper section of the gully.

Corkscrew Direct IV,3. Dave McGimpsey, Andy Nisbet. 20 Jan 2012.

When fully frozen, the gully is climbed direct.

Cribbage 120m III. Dave McGimpsey, Andy Nisbet. 20 Jan 2012.

The rib left of *Corkscrew*. Start at a wide groove midway between the two gullies. Climb the groove moving left across a bowl, then back right up turf until close to *Corkscrew*. Follow the easy rib to a steep wall. Traverse left along a turf ledge overlooking the following route, step across a groove and climb steep turf ground first up and then left to a snowy finish.

Moss Ghyll 120m III. Andy Nisbet. 18 Dec 2011.

A gully at the left end of the pinnacled buttress. Easy to start, it steepens and finishes on a slope leading up to the cornice.

Sharp Edge 120m III,4. Andy Nisbet. 5 Dec 2011.

Climbs the leftmost ridge on the pinnacled buttress, immediately left of *Moss Ghyll*. Start easily to reach a steep sharp crest. Gain this from the right and climb it to an apparent pinnacle which is climbed to a level crest. A snow slope leads to the cornice at the same place as *Moss Ghyll*.

CAIRN TOUL, Coire an t-Saighdeir:

Much of this corrie banks out in the depth of winter, but the south end has number of short buttresses.

Resolution Buttress 100m III. Simon Richardson. 25 Feb 2012.

The convex buttress defining the left edge of the corrie at NN 967 963. Start at the foot of the buttress below a prominent left-facing corner-ramp (the most natural line of weakness) and climb this, and two successive corner-ramps, to easier ground. Finish up this to a scrambling exit.

Dogged Groove 60m II. Simon Richardson. 25 Feb 2012.

The icy corner cutting the centre of the rock bluff lower down the corrie at NN 964 964.

Decisive Rib 70m III. Simon Richardson. 25 Feb 2012.

The low-angled buttress starting at NN 965 963. Climb a turfy runnel to gain a ramp running up the centre of the buttress that leads to three well defined grooves. Climb the deep right-hand groove and exit right at its top.

Resolute Gully 60m II. Simon Richardson. 25 Feb 2012.

The shallow gully right of *Decisive Rib* with a steep step at half-height.

Coire Lochain Uaine:

Double Helix 80m III. Simon Richardson. 5 May 2012.

To the right of *Solitude Rib*, the broken headwall of Coire Lochain Uaine is cut by two well-defined gully lines. This route takes the deeper left-hand line. Approach by climbing snow slopes and short mixed walls to reach the foot of the gully which is guarded by a short steep ice step. Above easier ground leads to a chokestone that is avoided on the left.

Double Trouble 70m II. Simon Richardson. 5 May 2012.

Follow the right-hand gully directly, with a short icy groove at two-thirds height.

CAIRN TOUL, Coire of the Chokestone Gully:

The Angel's Share 200m III. Simon Richardson. 5 May 2012.

The triangular rib defining the left side of *South-East Couloir*. Start 15m left of *South-East Couloir* at a short gully, climb this through a short steepening, then trend left up snow and short mixed walls to the left side of the steep section of the rib. Here, a hidden shallow gully leads up to the crest which is climbed on large blocks. Finish up the final easy crest above (which is joined from the right by *South-East Couloir*) to bypass the cornice.

Einich Cairn, Coire nan Clach:

Sourdough Grooves 60m IV,4. Roger Everett, Simon Richardson. 7 Nov 2010.

The buttress to the right of *Yukon Gold* is cut by a shallow groove system. Climb this in two pitches to an easing finish.

Cheechako Corner 40m II. Simon Richardson, Roger Everett. 7 Nov 2010.

Right of *Sourdough Grooves* is a shallow left-facing corner that defines the right edge of the buttress.

The Forgotten Pinnacle 70m VI,7. Simon Richardson, Roger Everett. 7 Nov 2010.

The prominent buttress defining the right side of *Schoolmaster's Gully* consists of a pinnacle (not seen from directly below) and connecting ridge. This route climbs the steep groove on the right side of the pinnacle before finishing up the ridge.

1. 40m Climb deceptively awkward slabs (banks out later in the season) to the foot of the steep groove. Enter this from the right and climb it with difficulty to the top of the pinnacle.

2. 20m Descend to the col behind and finish up the easy connecting ridge to the plateau.

BRAERIACH, Garbh Choire Mor:

Left Wing Extremist 180m III. Andy Nisbet, Duncan Tunstall. 14 Jan 2012.

Start at the very left corner of West Buttress. Climb the easy gully which forms the left edge of the buttress for a few metres until a line leads on to the buttress. Climb snowy grooves always keeping left of the crest to reach the final steep tier. Move left to climb an icy groove (crux by far) which led to the upper slopes and no cornice on the day.

West Buttress Right Edge 200m II. Andy Nisbet. 9 Jan 2012.

Start at the bottom right corner of the buttress and climb an icy flake-chimney. This could be hard if not fully iced. It is now possible to move left into the central groove line of the buttress but this is the original winter route. Instead climb the rounded rib above and move right below the steeper upper section of the rib. Return left up an icy groove and climb direct to the cornice. There was a break in the cornice on this occasion but it is probably unusual to have this when there is a good build-up of snow on the buttress.

Cthulhu 150m II. Andy Nisbet, Jonathan Preston. 17 Feb 2012.

The buttress to the right of the twin shallow gullies, at the right end of the Upper Corrie. Graded for good snow conditions. Start just inside the right of the twin gullies. Take a ramp-line up right to the crest and follow this to the cornice. The crest rather peters out into snow slopes above half-height.

Coire Ruadh:

Persistence Wall 80m II. Simon Richardson, Roger Everett. 27 Nov 2011.

The buttress defining the corrie headwall provides a useful early season route. Start below the centre of the crag and climb mixed ground to the prominent left-slanting ramp. Follow this to where it fades then climb a short slab to the left edge (60m). Continue up and right to the top.

Coire an Lochain:

Dereliction of Duty 200m II. Simon Richardson. 11 Mar 2012.

The rocky edge left of *Derelict Gully* (the proposed name for the prominent gully defining the left side of *Derelict Ridge*).

Eagle Grooves 80m IV,5. Roger Everett, Simon Richardson. 4 Mar 2012.

A prominent groove-line cuts into the left side of *Derelict Ridge*.

1. 30m From half-height in *Derelict Gully*, climb the groove over a steep section to a ledge on the right.

2. 30m Continue up the groove to below the final tower on *Derelict Ridge*. Climb this directly via steep cracks to its top.
3. 20m Finish along the crest to the cornice.

Cameo Rib 140m III,5. Simon Richardson, Roger Everett. 4 Mar 2012.

Right of *Derelict Ridge* is another rib that trends up and left to meet *Derelict Ridge* below the final tower. Start at the lowest point of the buttress.

1. 60m Climb easy mixed ground to where the rib steepens.
2. 30m Move up through a short wall to a left-trending ramp. Climb this to its top and climb a triangular wall (crux) exiting left at the top. Continue up blocks to the start of another left-trending ramp.
3. 30m Follow the ramp to below a steep wall on the right side of the final tower. Pull steeply up directly to its top.
4. 20m Finish along the crest to the cornice.

Dishonorable Discharge 70m II. Simon Richardson. 11 Mar 2012.

The well-defined gully left of *Derelict Buttress*.

Derelict Buttress 70m III,4. Simon Richardson, Roger Everett. 4 Mar 2012.

The short squat buttress up and right of *Derelict Ridge*.

1. 30m Start below the centre of the buttress and climb the left-facing line of corners and grooves to a ledge that crosses the buttress at half-height.
2. 40m Trend left then climb the central corner line, again trending left, through the centre of the buttress. Finish along a short crest to the cornice.

Nuclear Football 120m II. Simon Richardson. 11 Mar 2012.

The rightmost feature in the corrie. Follow grooves up the centre of the triangular-shaped buttress approximately 100m right of *Derelict Ridge*.

Coire Domhdail:

Tempest Rib 70m II. Simon Richardson. 5 May 2012.

The furthest right buttress on the north wall of the corrie. Climb turfey grooves on the right side of the buttress to a break. Continue up the groove above to the top.

Thunder Groove 70m II. Simon Richardson. 5 May 2012.

The prominent buttress left of *Tempest Rib* is cut by a prominent groove. Climb this to where it narrows, step right to the continuation groove, and follow this to the top.

BEN MACDUI, Coire Lochain Uaine:

There are two prominent ribs on the right side of the broken North-East Face of Sròn Riach. The gully between the two ribs is Grade I.

Unnamed 100m II. Simon Richardson. 12 May 2012.

The left-hand rib starts easily, and narrows to a steeper section before curling up and left along a narrow crest to the plateau.

Unnamed 80m II. Simon Richardson. 12 May 2012.

The right-hand rib is better defined and has more sustained climbing directly up the crest.

Coire Mòr:

The cup-shaped corrie directly east of the summit of Ben Macdui contains several low-angle ribs. A cluster of three ribs on the north wall, approximately 100m south of the memorial cairn provides the best-defined routes.

Cenotaph 100m II. Simon Richardson. 12 May 2012.

The most prominent and rightmost rib which defines the right side of a well-defined wide gully (useful descent). Climb a shallow groove on the right side of the initial barrier wall and continue around a series of towers to a broad final crest leading to the plateau.

Commemoration Rib 100m II. Simon Richardson. 20 May 2012.

The rib left of well-defined wide gully. Interesting climbing, but unfortunately escapable to the left.

Keyhole Rib 100m II. Simon Richardson. 20 May 2012.

The leftmost rib. Pass the steep initial wall by climbing a groove on the left and move up and right to the crest by a prominent perched block. Continue up short walls to the to the broad snow crest leading to the plateau (possible cornice).

There are three prominent ribs on the west-facing back wall of the corrie.

Memorial Rib 100m II. Simon Richardson. 20 May 2012.

Straightforward climbing up the prominent rib leading to the plateau about 50m right of the memorial cairn.

Avalanche Rib 80m II. Simon Richardson. 20 May 2012.

The left-hand of twin ribs at the centre of the west wall is split by a gully depression. Follow this easily to steep section that leads to a broad snow crest and the top.

Right Central 100m II. Simon Richardson. 20 May 2012.

The right-hand of twin ribs at the centre of the west wall is similarly split by a gully depression. Follow this to a steep section that leads to a steepening crest and the plateau.

BEINN A' BHUIRD, Coire an Dubh Lochain:

Sniffer Buttress 80m VIII,8. Guy Robertson, Simon Richardson, Piotr Wisthal. 15 Apr 2012.

A winter version of the summer route. Start 10m right of the crest (the summer start).

1. 25m Climb a steep cracked wall over a steep bulge to a turfy shelf below twin rounded cracks. Start up the left-hand crack, mantelshelf on to a ledge (hard) then continue up the right-hand crack (harder) to good turf and a welcome ledge.
2. 10m Move up to the base of the offwidth crack directly above, then make a long stretch to the chimney on the left and exit to a good stance.
3. 45m Move up and right up a turfy slab to the exit gully which leads between two rounded pillars to the plateau.



*Andrew Melvin leads pitch 3 of Vertigo Wall (VII, 7), Creag an Dubh Loch.
Robbie Miller on the stance. Photo: Henning Wackerhage.*

Garbh Choire:

The Primate VIII,8. Pete Davies, Donnie O'Sullivan. 5 Feb 2012.

By the summer line. Summer pitch 1 was largely banked out, so the first pitch went straight to the belay of pitch 2 up the 4c crack (30m). The second pitch was the summer pitch 3, traversing left, through the roof and straight up the headwall. Positive climbing, good hooks, excellent protection and some nice turfy bits higher up. Belay on the biggest and highest ledge (45m). Finish up the left-trending ramp to top out on the left arete (20m). Low in the grade.

The Simulator 90m VII,8. Guy Robertson, Simon Richardson. 22 Apr 2012.

The right edge of *Slochd Wall* is cut by steep inset right-facing corner that is not visible from below. Start by climbing *North-West Gully* for 30m and belay just below the jammed blocks directly underneath a vertical crack that leads up and right into the corner. One fall was taken on the first pitch and a rest point on the second.

1. 30m Climb the crack for 10m and pull out at its top (crux). Make a difficult step right and climb a right-facing corner-ramp to below a steep undercut niche.
2. 10m Climb the right side of the niche, then pull out left up a steep groove to reach a good ledge.
3. 20m Step left onto snowy shelves above *Slochd Wall* and follow these to below the final headwall.
4. 30m Follow the right to left ramp-line that cuts across the headwall to finish up the final few moves of *The Primate*.

LOCHNAGAR, Southern Sector:

Rendes Vous Manque 100m II. Bill Church, Duncan Tunstall. Feb 2011.

An ice sheet for 60m on the left of The Sentinel. As the angle eases, an easier gully can be followed to the top.

The Cathedral:

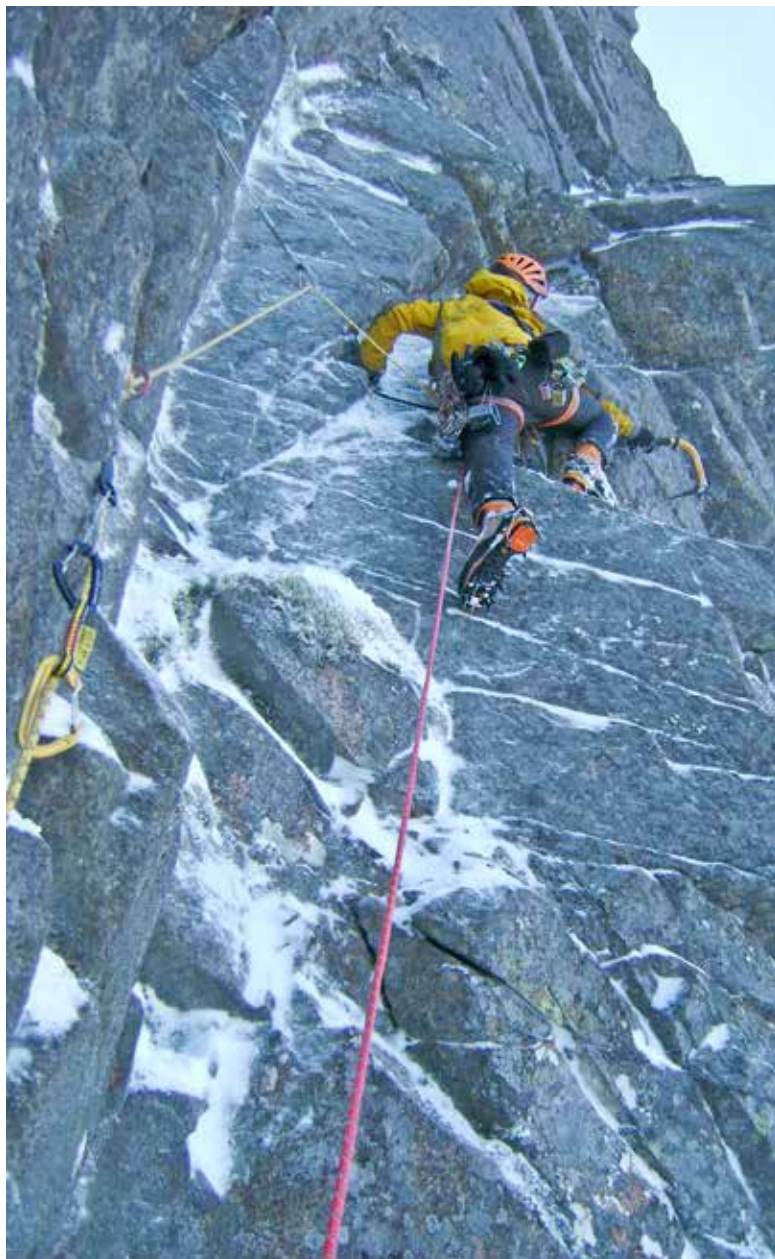
The Cracker 100m VII,8 **. Guy Robertson, Jason Curry. Jan 2012.

A quality route providing good value which takes the short corner and bulging crack-line on the lower left wall of *Cathedral Chimney*.

1. 15m Climb a short introductory pitch past a short chimney step to a commodious platform and huge block below the groove.
2. 25m Climb the groove to a ledge, then continue up the sustained crack (ignoring a right fork) to a final strenuous pull directly over the capping overhang.
3. 20m Climb easier ground slightly right to belay below a short steep crack with an obvious chimney slot above, just right of a steep tapering groove.
4. 40m Climb the crack into the chimney and continue direct, before stepping left into a narrow gully to finish.

Mullahmaloumouktou 90m VIII,8 ***. Guy Robertson, Pete Macpherson. Jan 2012.

Superb climbing, following the summer line, except on the final pitch take the constricted right-trending groove just right of the final chimney of *Transept Route*. The second pitch is the crux (bold).



Pete Macpherson moving up towards the overlap and crux ramp of The Mummy (VIII,8), a winter version of Mullahmaloumouktou on Lochnagar. Photo: Guy Robertson.

Black Spout Wall:

Black Spout Wall 90m IX,9 ****. Guy Robertson, Nick Bullock. Feb 2012.
An outstanding, sustained and varied route with generally excellent protection. The winter ascent started up the wall right of the summer line. Gain and link the groove right of the first pitch of *Steep Frowning Glories* into that route's second pitch to gain the first belay of summer *Black Spout Wall*. The section up into and across the traverse was the technical crux. The summer route was then followed (very sustained but technically reasonable) to the headwall, where the *Inhospitable Crack* led with difficulty (in darkness) into the crux of *Link Direct* and so to the top.

West Buttress:

Blue Velvet IV,5 **. Dave Almond, Greg Parsons, Duncan Tunstall. Dec 2010.
A very distinct ice line early in the season halfway between *Black Velvet* and *Black Spout Buttress*, and which makes an excellent first pitch if the two towers are climbed direct above. Almost certainly been climbed before. Climb the ice for two pitches with a short tricky section starting the second pitch.

Osiris 270m VII,8. Iain Small, Simon Richardson. 19 Feb 2012.

A sustained expedition up the full height of West Buttress starting first right of *Isis*, and finishing to its left. The first pitch is bold and serious and would be more secure with ice in the grooves.

1. 60m Start at the bottom right side of the lower buttress (at the foot of the gully of *Western Slant*) and climb a turfy ramp for up onto the buttress for 10m. Make an awkward step into a right-facing groove and climb this to below a steep, smooth right-facing corner. Climb the corner (crux) and exit into a smooth groove. Climb this for 5m to its top to reach a ledge. Traverse the ledge to the right, dropping down a couple of short walls to gain the prominent corner-line running up the right edge of the buttress. Climb this over a series of short steps and belay on the left.
2. 40m Continue more easily in the same line too where the right side of the lower buttress merges with the snowfield on the right.
3. 60m Move up easily right into the wide gully above and belay at the foot of the 'square-cut gully' of *Isis*.
4. 50m Climb the square-cut gully and its continuation line up and left (*Isis* moves right after the first step) to its top. Junction with *Western Slant*.
5. 60m Continue up the left-facing corner in the buttress above and finish directly up easier ground to the top.

Horus 270m VII,7. Simon Richardson, Magnus Stromhall. 28 Jan 2012.

A sustained expedition up the full height of West Buttress starting first left of *Isis*, and finishing to the right. Start 20m right of *Black Spout Buttress*.

1. 50m Climb the right-facing chimney-corner system running up the apex of the lower tier.
2. 60m Continue up the same line to near the top of the buttress.
3. 60m Move easily right and up a wide gully to belay at the foot of the square-cut gully of *Isis*.
4. 40m Climb the prominent corner cutting the right wall of the square-cut gully to a good ledge. An excellent pitch.
5. 40m Follow *Isis* for 10m to below the cul de sac. Instead of moving left on to

the front face of the buttress (as for *Isis*), pull through the overhanging cul de sac and move up to easier ground.

6. 20m Finish directly by taking the right-trending ramp through the final wall to the plateau.

Coire Loch nan Eun:

Come Back Buttress 100m II. Simon Richardson. 24 Oct 2010.

There are twin buttresses at the head of Coire Loch nan Eun. Unfortunately much of this cliff banks out during a heavy winter, so this route and the following one, are best climbed early in the season. Start at the base of the most prominent buttress at NO 237 852 and climb a right-facing corner trending right to a midway terrace. Continue directly up the cracked crest above, in a fine position to reach the top. Moderate in summer.

Return Rib 100m II. Simon Richardson. 24 Oct 2010.

Start 50m left of *Come Back Buttress* below a steep wall and climb this via a line slanting right on turf before continuing up the broad buttress crest to the top.

Gondola Edge 40m II. Simon Richardson. 24 Oct 2010.

The well defined turfey groove close to the left edge of *Balloon Buttress*.

CANNES GLEN:

La Palme d'Or 200m IV,4. John Higham, John Hutchinson, Iain Young. 18 Dec 2011.

Takes the narrow rib on the immediate left (looking up) of the gully taken by the *Red Carpet*. It is not obvious as a line until virtually beneath it. Start at the lowermost rocks and climb the crest directly in four pitches comprising steeper sections linked by fine snow aretes, to the plateau. The obvious triangular tower high on the route is taken direct. At times too heathery to provide continuously fine climbing; the situations and sunny, south-easterly aspect makes for a very alpine experience.

GLEN CLOVA, Coire Farchal:

Elder Crack Buttress 160m III. Roger Everett, Simon Richardson. 5 Feb 2012. The wide broken buttress to the left of *Farchal Gully*. Start 10m left of *Farchal Gully*.

1. 40m Climb a short ice smear through the lower band of slabs. Continue up then trend right to near *Farchal Gully*.
2. 40m Trend up and left to enter a hidden right-slanting gully cutting through the steep tier above. Belay halfway up on the right by a niche.
3. 30m Exit the gully via a steep icicle and move up and right to a terrace.
4. 40m A steep snow slope leads to the top.

Winter Corrie:

Waterfall Buttress Direct 60m VI,7. Roger Everett, Simon Richardson. 5 Feb 2012.

The centre of Waterfall Buttress is cut by a prominent corner and crack-line.

1. 30m Climb directly up the steep left-facing corner to ledges, then move right to the prominent halfway ledge.
2. 30m Struggle up the short offwidth crack behind a short pinnacle and stand on

its top. Make a difficult step into an overhung niche and pull out steeply to easier ground. Move up, then right, to the top.

Coire Fee:

Alphabet Soup 200m I/II. George Allan, 18 Dec 2011.

Just beyond the first steep wall on the right flank of *A Gully* is a wide groove. Climb this and its continuation fault past some trees to a point overlooking *A-B Integrate*. Traverse left and climb the snowfields. A pleasant romp.

Craig Maud Area:

Note: The squat buttress separating the two broad gullies towards the right end of the Craig Maud escarpment is Grade III (George Allan, David Windle, 3 Feb 2012).

MAYAR, North Craig:

(NO 239 733) Alt 700m South facing

Approach: Ascent the Kilbo path, walk for about 500 m towards the summit of Mayar and then contour to find the crag. It is not named but marked as one black line on the OS 1:50000 map about 500m SW from the summit of Mayar. Topo provided.

White Plains Drifter 45m IV,5 *. Arno Alpi, Henning Wackerhage. 17 Dec 2011.

Climb the obvious iciest corner. If the ice is thin or hollow the last 10m can be precarious.

Whitewash 50m IV,5. Arno Alpi, Henning Wackerhage. 17 Dec 2011.

To the right of *White Plains Drifter* climb the obvious gully line with an ice step one-third up. The route will probably be a grade easier if there is good neve.

White Sun of the Desert 45m III,4. Arno Alpi, Henning Wackerhage. 17 Dec 2011.

On the first ascent the ice in the gully was fragile so the buttress to the left was climbed to gain the upper part of the gully via a few airy steps.

GLEN ESK, Carlochy Buttress:

Access is best from the Shank of Inchgrundle. Follow the track up the Shank to where it becomes horizontal. The top of the cliff is about 20m down to the left. The base of the cliff can be reached by losing height down to the left. The Carlochy is to the right and 100m or so lower. There are three main buttresses.

Stalkers' Buttress 100m II. Bill Church, Duncan Tunstall. 13 Dec 2011

Start up the gully between the left and central buttresses. Below a steepening in the gully, take either of two possible ramp-lines out on to the easy upper crest of the central buttress.

Fallow Buttress 160m III. Andy Nisbet, Duncan Tunstall. 17 Dec 2011.

Climbs the central buttress from its base. Start below a steep groove which leads leftwards. Gain the groove from the right, then follow it left and right to the easy upper crest, gained higher up by the previous route.

Rutting Buttress 70m IV,4. Andy Nisbet, Duncan Tunstall. 17 Dec 2011.

The fine looking right buttress, which unfortunately eases off to a steep slope after 70m. Start below its steep left wall. Climb an icy ramp to the crest. A steepening leads to a tree and the easing of the angle. Either follow a snow slope to the summit or descend to the right.

Craig Maskeldie, North Face:

Snowlake Reunion 200m IV,5 **. Duncan Tunstall, Stephen Venables. 7 Feb 2012.

Dochty Gully is actually the rightmost of a trilogy of gullies. The centre one is very direct with a severe steepening at 100m where an icefall forms. This can be climbed direct for 30m with good rock protection. The angle reverts back above to the same as the gully below.

Earn Craig:

Gobma 130m VS 4c. Duncan Tunstall, Greg Parsons. 11 Mar 2012.

The wall just to the left of *Eagle's Fall* has an obvious line. Start at the lowest point of the cliff.

1. 20m Climb the groove up diagonally rightwards to a ledge. This can also be reached by descending easy ground that starts up and to the right.
2. 35m The short step is passed on its left and then climbed up and diagonally left to a large ledge.
3. 40m 4c Above the ledge is clean rock. Climb this diagonally rightwards for 30m to the bottom of a short steep wide crack. This is climbed (escape is now possible up and to the left).
4. 35m 4b Above is a clean line which is followed to easier angled grass and a good belay can be found 10m higher.

Either scramble easily off left or continue along the obvious ramp-line past a short rock step to reach the top of the cliff (60m).

What Dentists Earn 90m E1 5b. Mark Atkins, Duncan Tunstall. 31 Aug 2010.

A pleasantly sustained line that leads directly up the cliff apart from the traverse connecting pitch 2 to pitch 3. Start on the right end of the raised low angled grass in the centre of the crag about 10m up.

1. 25m 5b Climb a steep crack. Where it ends, traverse left below the steepening to a belay.
2. 30m 5b Continue straight to a grass ledge. Traverse easily right for 20m.
3. 25m 5b Climb the corner on the right of the ledge, then the hanging ramp that leads diagonally left.
4. 40m 5b Climb to a roof, then traverse down to its left end. From here the wall can be followed up and right. A tricky move gains the left edge which leads to a tree. Bash through the undergrowth for another 10m.
5. 40m 5b Climb straight up for 30m to a tree. Use this to climb steep grass before drifting right to a good crack.
6. 20m 5a Surmount the initial overlap, then traverse left to overcome the overhang beside the corner. Traverse immediately back right to above the belay, then follow easy ground to the top.

High Grade Low Grade 160m VII,8. Dave Almond, Duncan Tunstall. 9 Dec 2011.

A direct line starting up *Right-Hand Route*, then climbing direct to join *What Dentists Earn* with a short direct finish.

1. 30m Climb pitch 1 of *Right-Hand Route* but belay at the bottom of the cracks.
2. 20m Traverse left across to the bottom of the ramp-line with the overhanging wall above.
3. 35m Climb up the ramp and steep steps and into a corner at half-height, moving on to the left wall to exit (crux).
4. 55m Climb the rock pillar, then trend left and up past the tree to belay by an icefall.
5. 20m Either climb the ice direct or take the right wall moving left around a roof.

Bruntwood Craig:

The Artist 90m HVS. Duncan Tunstall, Stephen Venables. 30 Mar 2012.

Start at the foot of the steep section of *Gro 'lryc Gully*, at the trees halfway up the cliff.

1. 40m 5a Climb easily to where the rock steepens and becomes very clean. Climb this moving right to avoid the short steep sections.
2. 50m 5a Continue up the left edge of the good rock. A short step is passed further left. Follow the grass to the next steepening which quickly leads to the top and a good belay.

NORTH-EAST OUTCROPS

STUDY HEAD:

Matterhorn Stack 40m VS. Simon Richardson, Ben Richardson. 5 Aug 2011.

This impressive stack lies in the bay 300m east of Silver Wall and is mentioned on p208 of the North-East Outcrops guide. Approach by swimming 50m to a platform on the east side of the stack.

1. 20m 4a Climb a deep chimney-groove to a poor stance on the slab above.
2. 20m 4c Move left around a protruding block, and climb diagonally up and left across a wall (surmounting a gap) to a ledge. Finish up the short wall above to gain the summit ridge.

LONGHAVEN CRAIG (NK 122 402), Buff Pinnacle:

Frank Buff 60m VS 5a **. Christian Ellis, Duncan Tunstall. 26 Apr 2011

1. 40m 5a Start easily up the right side of the lower wall. Climb the steeper wall above to a roof-like edge. From here climb diagonally right up to a tricky move to reach the Buff Ledge.
2. 20m Descend from the tower by the short west ridge to the col and then up steeper rock to the summit.

Buffday Boy 60m HVS 5a ***. Christian Ellis, Duncan Tunstall. 26 Apr 2011.
A fine pitch.

1. 40m 5a Climb the left side of the steep wall up a fine crack over a steep exit to gain the wall above. Climb this straight up, then diagonally right to gain a crack which leads leftwards on fine rock to the Buff Traverse.
2. 20m Descend from the tower by the short west ridge to the col and then up steeper rock to the summit.

Rebuffed 40m E2 5c ***. Christian Ellis, Duncan Tunstall. 26 Apr 2011.

1. 20m 5c Climb the crack in the centre of the lower wall to the roof. Traverse left to the below the left edge of the roof. A tricky move gains a ledge below the roof, good gear. The roof is passed up and left leading to a diagonal break (1 rest). Hanging belay.
2. 20m 5b Cross a smaller roof, then climb the sustained wall direct to *The Old Buff* belay.

LONGHAVEN, South Face of Scimitar Ridge:

Pussy Galore 20m E7 6c ***. Ally Coull, Russ Birkett. Aug 2006.

The right arete of the steep end wall containing *Comfortably Numb* and *The Trial*. Abseil down the line of *Sea-Scoop* to belay on a ledge. From the ledge step left and climb up just to the left of the arete to a short, shallow green corner-crack. Step up and onto the right side of the arete. Arrange protection, then climb the left side of the arete to a small flat hold (crux). Climb the edge of the arete to the top. The perfect potential DWS.

LONGHAVEN QUARRIES, Seaward Face of Scimitar Ridge:

Two for a Squid 20m E4 6a **. Russell Birkett, Tim Whitaker. 25 Mar 2012.

This links features on the slab to give a good sustained climb. From the ledge below Peapod climb boldly up trending left following edges to join *Squid Vicious* at the top of its crack below the ledge. Hand-traverse this left to make technical moves along a thin break to gain the finishing crack of *Octopussy*. Superb rock.

CUMMINGSTON:

Buda's Arete 15m HVS 5b. Steve Bate, John Hall. 23 May 2012.

Start as for *Centre* until under the arete, gear on the left. Pull onto the hanging arete and follow direct to the top resisting the temptation to bridge into *Left*.

Crown of Thorns 20m VS 5a. Martin Collins, Graeme Jones. 1 Sep 2011.

Start 1m from left end of Prophet Walls below a crown of thorns. Climb a scoop and bulge (crux) to a flake. Go up left on easy ground, then traverse right under overhangs. Break through at a spike.

COVESEA, Covesea Crag (SMCJ 2010):

Ledge Route 8m HVS 5a. Jonathan Preston, Pete Amphlett. 24 Jun 2010.

Between *Prestonpans* and *Preston Regardless* is a sloping ledge with a steep wall above. Gain the ledge from the right and climb straight up the wall, moving to the left of a nose at the top.

Tidal Surge 8m VS 4c. Jonathan Preston, Pete Amphlett. 24 Jun 2010.

On the right of the cliff, where it turns the corner there is a blunt arete with a roof

above. This climb starts just left of the arete and climbs straight up to pass the roof on the left.

Face Off 8m VS 4c. Jonathan Preston, Pete Amphlett. 24 Jun 2010.

There is a deep chimney on the seaward face of the crag. Climb the chimney, which is harder than it looks!

Sandbag 8m VS 4c. Jonathan Preston, Pete Amphlett. 24 Jun 2010.

Right again is a hanging corner. Gain the corner and climb to the top. The clue is in the name!

FINDOCHTY:

Pointy Stack 20m HVS 4c. Tom Prentice, Simon Richardson. 16 Oct 2011.

The spectacular leaning stack (as viewed from the west) is the showpiece of the bay west of Tronach Head. The route can be accessed two hours either side of low tide. Traverse right to left along the diagonal break (large Friends useful) to reach a good ledge. Move right across the headwall and scramble up and left to the top. Abseil descent.

Boulder Stack 20m Severe. Simon Richardson, Tom Prentice. 16 Oct 2011.

The sister stack to *Pointy Stack* has a curious conglomerate boulder perched near the summit. Approach by swimming to the north arete and climb an easy groove to the final headwall. Climb this by a steep crack on the left on huge holds to reach the top. Abseil descent.

Double-Headed Rock 30m Moderate. Simon Richardson, Tom Prentice. 16 Oct 2011.

The island-stack 50m to the west of *Pointy Stack* provides a fun scramble up the south-east ridge with a continuation to the sharper subsidiary summit.

PORTNOCKIE

Bow Fiddle Rock, Catgut Pillar and Traverse 85m VS. Simon Richardson, Tom Prentice. 15 Oct 2011.

An excellent adventure and a potential North-East sea-stack classic. The route climbs the prominent pillar on the steeper left skyline of Bow Fiddle Rock, traverses the summit and then descends The Fiddler's Bow. In true mountaineering fashion, all access equipment (wetsuits etc) will need to be carried over the summit. Start by swimming 200m to the foot of the pillar.

1. 30m 4c Pull through a bulge to reach a prominent groove-line on the left side of the pillar. Climb this on good holds to a prominent hanging block on the right. Move right over the block and finish up the steep wall above.

2. 55m Continue easily along the ridge to the steep step leading to the summit. Climb this on good holds in a spectacular position to the top. Abseil down the hanging slab of The Fiddler's Bow and return back to the beach with another 200m swim.

Note: The obvious line up the hanging slab forming the fiddler's bow on Bow Fiddle Rock was climbed by Simon Richardson, Ben Richardson and Chris Woodward, 11 Sep 2011 (40m Moderate). This is a spectacular feature has almost certainly been climbed before, but no evidence of a prior ascent was found, although the route may have been ascended by coasteering parties now

operating in the area. (An ascent of Bow Fiddle Rock was a rite of passage for young men of Portknockie, but it is not clear which line was taken. The easiest route, which minimises swimming, would have been to approach at low tide and avoid the bow slab by climbing slabs on the east side to gain the summit ridge. This would also have maximised the egg collecting potential). Approach by swimming 200m to ledges on the far side of the bow. Climb the bow slab, approaching from the right. Low in the grade, but some loose rock. Abseil descent.

White Craig Rock 25m Moderate. Simon Richardson, Ben Richardson, Chris Woodward. 11 Sep 2011.

The triangular guano-covered rock (also known locally as Shitten Craig) lies about 100m west of Bow Fiddle Rock. Climb the east side of the rock up easy cracked slabs. Approach by a 200m swim.

ROSEHEARTY, Murcurry Walls, South Wall:

Romancing the Stone 18m E8 6c **. Guy Robertson. Aug 2011.

The obvious direct line into the upper flake and crux of *Big Stone Country* provides superb if painful fingery climbing. Start directly below the flake, just left of a hairline crack. Climb up slightly left to a tiny flake sidepull, then step back right and forge straight up to the flake which leads with a little respite into the crux section of *Big Stone Country*. Finish up this.

ROSEHEARTY:

Stack One 30m Severe. Simon Richardson, Tom Prentice. 14 Oct 2011.

The southerly stack is the most impressive-looking of the Quarryhead sea-stacks. Gain the west face of the stack either by boulder hopping at low tide, or by swimming. Climb the deep chimney splitting the face to a ledge on the left, then move up and right in an impressive position to gain the top by the right arête (20m). From here an easy but airy traverse along the crest of the stack leads to the top. Abseil descent.

Stack Two 25m VS 4b. Tom Prentice, Simon Richardson. 14 Oct 2011.

This route climbs the broad pillar on the west face of the northerly stack. It lies to the right of the narrow arch that almost splits the stack into two. Approach by boulder hopping at low tide (awkward) or by swimming. Climb the pillar on good rock with a steep exit. Abseil descent.

Stack Two Point Five 12m Moderate. Simon Richardson, Ben Richardson. 20 Aug 2011.

Stack Two has a subsidiary triangular-shaped stack on its north side separated by a narrow cleft. Approach by swimming. Climb easily up a slanting crack on the west face.

Stack Three 25m Severe. Simon Richardson, Ben Richardson. 20 Aug 2011.

Approach by swimming 100m from the eastern approach ridge to Murcurry Walls. Climb the west ridge of the stack, easy at first, to a prominent gap. Move right and climb a crack just right of the arete on the landward side to the top. Abseil descent.

DEESIDE, VAT BURN:

A complete set of descriptions is available on the SMC web-site. Many more routes have been climbed in the last year.

HIGHLAND OUTCROPS**BEINN BHEAG, Lochailort:**

The Rebellion 12m E6 6b. Kev Shields. 23 May 2012.

Start as for *Frustration* but go direct up the blank slab. There is gear in a crack on the right at around half-height. No further use of the crack or anything to its right. Committing and bold.

POLLDUBH, What Wee Wall:

What Wee Ramp 12m HVS 5a. Julian Lines. Apr 2012.

The dwindling ramp-line on the left side of the wall.

Honeycomb 12m E4 6a. Julian Lines. Apr 2012.

Climbs the left side of the highly textured wall. Start at a head-height finger hold and go directly up the wall to reach the ramp at half-height. Finish up the ramp.

Honey Thief 12m E5 6a. Julian Lines. Apr 2012.

An eliminate line with great climbing. Start just right of centre of the wall (just left of the tiny groove ramp of *Carpe Diem*). Climb directly up the wall into the vaguest of grooves at 6m, then climb up and left on more positive holds to finish at the top of the ramp. Hardest at the start and very sustained if the holds aren't chalked.

ASHIE FORT:

Roost Wall 10m HVS 5a. Davy Moy, Peter Langlands. 24 Mar 2012.

Start at the foot of *Raeburn's Original Route* and surmount the overhang to access the steep right wall. Go straight up via a bird roost spot to the top.

CREAG DUBH, Little Rock:

Bulgarian Biceps 15m HVS 5a. Andy Nisbet, Jonathan Preston. 2 Jul 2011.

Based on the left arete of the wall left of the second pitch of *Hungarian Hamstring*. Pleasant climbing but escapable. Start below the arete and climb a wide crack to the right end of a ledge (unfortunately you can walk off here). Move right and climb trending slightly right to an easy slabby finish.

CRAIG A' BARNES, Polney Crag:

Blast Off 30m HVS 5b. Michael Barnard, Ron Dempster. 27 Mar 2011.

Climbs a line of weakness through the short steep headwall overlooking *Holly Tree Groove* (right of *Scram '79*). Start below a crack leading up to the short corner/niche of that route. Climb the crack and move through the bulge above to reach the headwall. Launch up this (crux), before moving right to finish up the chimney of *Holly Tree Groove*.

GLEN LEDNOCK, Balnacoul Castle:

Alasdair Fulton notes that *Central Groove* is much harder than E2 5c and poorly protected with rusty pegs.

CREAG NAN SPEIREAG:

Big Slab 55m VS 4b. Keith Alexander, Graeme Diack, Karin Helwig. 8 Apr 2011.

A route on a big slabby rock between Creagruie and Bleater's Wall and visible from the road.

1. 10m Climb the corner-crack on the left flank of the giant slabby boulder, moving up right to a big sloping ledge with an in-situ peg at the right-hand end.
2. 45m 4b Round the corner, on the slabby face, traverse right along a narrow ledge with a large horizontal crack for hands, then step up to gain a thin vertical crack which leads up the right side of the slab. When the crack ends, continue more easily up the right edge of the slab to a tree belay.

Note: The rock has been climbed before, as there was abseil tat at the top, but the line unknown.

Monachyle Glen Crag:

(NN 481 282) South-East facing

This small crag is located some 200m further up the glen from Bleaters Wall (Highland Outcrops, pp350–2) and overlooks Monachylebeag Farm. The crag is best described as slabby, with an angle of around 75 degrees. A compact mica schist crag with few weaknesses and protection sparse. Well drained. Poor belays at top, but can be found some 10m back from the edge. The two hardest routes were top-roped. Parking is difficult but can be found. Do not block passing places.

Monachyle Edge 15m V.Diff. Alan Wilson. 27 May 2012.

Gain the left arete from a grassy ledge a few feet right from the end of the crag. Follow on good jugs to the top.

Marching On 15m VS 4c. Alan Wilson. 27 May 2012.

Start below a series of small flaky holds, some obvious flakes lie near the top.

Spring Break 15m 5b. Alan Wilson. 27 May 2012.

Start directly beneath a small overlap at mid-height. Gain a stance below this on poor holds, pass the overlap on its left end with some thin moves to gain the better flaky holds to finish.

An Dealg 15m 5a. Alan Wilson. 27 May 2012.

Follow a very thin quartz line which runs vertically up the wall. Where it runs out, make a slight rightwards move past two quartz bands to gain the obvious narrow slightly right-trending crack and follow this to the top.

March Mongrel 15m VS 4c. Alan Wilson. 27 May 2012.

Follow the line of obvious right-facing flakes to the top.



Nick Bullock making the possible second ascent of Le Panthere Rose (VI,6) on Raeburn's Wall, Ben Nevis in January 2012. Photo: Keith Ball.



Tess Fryer leads the corner pitch on The Bat (E2, 5b), Ben Nevis. Photo: Ian Taylor.

BEN NEVIS, AONACHS, CREAG MEAGAI DH

Tower Ridge East Flank:

Ride of the Wild Bullhorn 55m VIII,10. Nick Bullock, Douglas Tavener. 16 Dec 2011.

The climb is the obvious overhanging groove/corner crack on the left side of the steep buttress to the right of *Great Chimney*.

1. 30m Follow ice smears to reach a large ledge beneath the main face of the buttress.
2. On the left side of the ledge beneath the overhanging groove/corner is a broken right to left crack system. Follow this with one quite hard pull until on a ledge just to the left of the groove. The belay is an in-situ red hex and a large block on the far left of the ledge.
3. Climb direct into the steep groove, then using a variety of techniques, continue to climb the overhanging corner past a small pod with a quasi-rest, past another overhang (crux) and into a tight V-groove to exit steeply onto *Tower Ridge*.

Douglas Boulder:

Flash of the Blade 95m VS *. Michael Barnard, Aoibhinn Bradley. 26 May 2012.

Good climbing up the fine hanging corner immediately right of *Cutlass*.

1. 30m Climb easy slabs to below the wall leading into the corner.
2. 30m 5a Climb the wall (bold for a few metres until the crack is gained) and the corner above to a tricky finish (crux).
3. 35m 4b Move up the crack then directly up the arete above to a ledge. Climb the steep wall above on good holds to gain easier ground leading to *South-West Ridge*.

Garadh na Ciste Note:

Two teams climbed separate lines close to *Cryotherapy* on 20 Jan 2012. Jeremy Windsor, Piers Harley & Rob Marson climbed the obvious line of icy ramps up the centre of the face (*Thea*, III). Dafydd Morris & Matt Buchanan climbed the line of mixed grooves to the left to give *Crying Out Loud* (IV,5).

South Trident Buttress:

Cyclops 100m V,5. Simon Richardson, Helen Rennard. 3 Dec 2011.

The groove-line right of *Polyphemus Pillar*. Start 30m right of *Polyphemus Pillar* below a left-trending ramp.

1. 30m Follow the ramp to its end and continue up a vertical groove-line in the steep wall above to belay on a small snow patch.
2. 40m Continue up an icy groove into the prominent gully above. Climb this over two bulges to exit onto a large snowfield. Surmount a short slabby wall to belay in a smaller snow patch above.
3. 30m Climb a short hidden chimney on the right and continue up the upper crest of *Pinnacle Arete* to the plateau.

Moonlight Gully Buttress:

The Big Cheese 110m VIII,8 **. Greg Boswell, Harry Holmes, Jim Higgins. 4 Dec 2011.

Start at the bottom of the main central slab capped by a roof.

1. 50m Climb the slab to gain the small pod below the ice capped roof (ice needed over the roof). Swing wildly around the roof to gain and climb the bold icy groove above. Continue following the groove to reach easier ground and follow this for 20m to reach a belay.
2. 60m Climb easier ground to gain a steep ice groove with a distinctive cracked left wall. Climb the groove and ice bulge above to reach easier ground which leads to the top of the buttress.

Limelight 95m Severe. Graeme Tough, Brian Shackleton, Graeme Morrison. 21 Aug 2010.

Start immediately left of the start of *Right-Hand Chimney*.

1. 45m Climb a steep rib. Continue with interest to a further steepening left of the chimney (crux) and reach a ledge.
2. 25m Continue immediately above to a steep nose with *Right-Hand Chimney* just to the right. Climb the nose and exit left onto slabs which are followed to a small ledge.
3. 25m Follow more broken rocks to the top of the buttress.

Take Off 70m IV,5. Richard Ashton, Peter McCallum. 29 Dec 2011.

Start behind a rocky outcrop on the left-hand side of *Number Five Gully*, almost opposite the start of *Ledge Route*.

1. 30m Climb a short right-slanting slab to gain the actual right wall of Moonlight Gully Buttress. Climb straight up through iced cracks and grooves to reach a chimney. Climb this to a spike belay on the left-hand wall.
2. 40m Climb the thinly iced, broken slabby wall directly above without much protection to gain the snow shelf above Moonlight Gully Buttress.

Note: Ken Crocket thinks this route starts right of *Phosphorescent Grooves* and climbs fairly directly upwards crossing that route. At the belay *Phosphorescent Grooves* goes rightwards, making an awkward step down and across a gap, whereas this route goes up.

MAMORES, Stob Ban, South Buttress, East Wing:

Shining Edge 80m III,4. Helen Rennard, Simon Richardson. 4 Dec 2011.

The prominent crest right of *Eag Blanc*.

1. 40m Trend right from the foot of *Eag Blanc* to gain the crest and follow ramps and grooves to belay just below a prominent notch on the right skyline.
2. 40m Move up and left to a turf corner on the left side of a prominent tower. Climb the corner (technical but well protected) and continue up the crest above to where the angle eases.

AM BODACH:

An area of ice in the centre of the steepest section of crag left of *Central Buttress* (SMCJ 2011) – topo provided.

The Hemulen 80m V,5. Andy Turner, Ruth Taylor (alt). 24 Jan 2010.

1. 35m From the toe of the buttress, follow up the left side of the ice streak heading for an icicle. Pull onto the icicle and follow to the top and an ease in angle into a bay.
2. 45m From the left side of the bay, follow steeper ice which soon eases. Continue up until reaching the top of the ice and more mixed terrain which

continues as a pleasant ramble. One could continue to the top of Am Bodach but the party abseiled off.

Little My 80m IV,4. Andy Turner, Ruth Taylor. 24 Jan 2010.

1. 35m From the toe of the buttress, go straight up and climb the ice to the right of the icicle until reaching the bay.

2. As for *The Hemulen*.

Snuffkin 80m IV, 5. Andy Turner, Ruth Taylor. 24 Jan 2010.

1. 35m Starting approx 5m right of *Little My*, follow the obvious rightwards trending ice until it steepens on the left. Climb the short steep section and continue up to arrive at the right side of the bay.

2. 45m As for *The Hemulen*.

AONACH MOR, Coire an Locain:

The Prow 55m VIII,8 **. Adam Hughes, Guy Steven, Luke Brooks. 26 Jan 2012.

The prow left of *Stirling Bridge* gives very committing climbing.

1. 30m Start underneath the prow and climb the slab to reach a ramp below the obvious groove. Climb the turfgy groove with good gear to make a tricky step right on to a good foothold. Here the groove narrows and becomes blank. Make some thin moves to gain the steep wall out right, and make even thinner moves on poor flat hooks to reach the thin hanging crack/corner. More thin moves up the crack gains some good, but hollow hooks halfway up the corner (poor bulldog protects). From here a committing move left leads to a rest on a good turf ledge. Move up and then move right across the face to regain the crack, then the arete. Easy climbing leads to a good belay.

2. 25m Climb easy snow to the top.

AONACH BEAG, An Aghaidh Garbh:

Goblet of Fire, Right-Hand Finish 50m VI,6. Nick Turner, David Ritchie. 2 Jan 2011.

Takes the obvious icefall situated to the right of the original route. Follow the first pitch of *Goblet of Fire* to belay. Climb the obvious thinly iced slab leading out right to gain a niche below the icefall. Awkward moves gained very steep ice which was followed to reach a poor belay on the right.

An Aghaidh Garbh, Summit Buttress:

Passage a Droite III,4 70m *. Bob Hamilton, Steve Kennedy. 15 Apr 2012.

The short right-hand gully in the narrow buttress just below the summit (*Le Passage*) follows the left-hand gully – see SM CJ 2009, p459. Climbed late in the season after the usual massive cornice had collapsed. Steep snow slopes lead to a belay below the narrow gully. A nice ice pitch leads up gully to open slopes and a belay below the final snow arete. The short arete leads to the cornice finish.

Note: *Le Passage* (SM CJ 2009) should be renamed *Passage a Gauche*.

STRATHOSSIAN, Creagan nan Nead, Lower Slab (SM CJ 2010):

Niamh 50m E4 5c ***. Brian Davison, Andy Nisbet. 5 Jun 2012.

Start at a white streak midway between the corner marking the left side of the

slab and the prominent left-hand of two black streaks. The start is close to *Fionn*. Climb 3m to a ledge, then from its left end make a move up and leftwards to the top of a flake-crack and protection. Move back right and up using a protruding knobble on the left (which is directly above the flake and can be reached more easily from the flake). The knobble can be tied off as a runner. Climb up the slab on the right past three pockets to a thin horizontal crack-line and make hard moves left along this to a Friend placement in a letterbox. Move up and right to three holes in the slab and up to a pegmatite band. Move up to a further band and a horizontal slot for a Friend 1 on the right. Move up to another horizontal pegmatite band and a spherical intrusion above it. An awkward move past this leads to more slab and gear in an overlap. Pass the overlap and climb the slab above to easier ground and a abseil tree.

Basilisk 50m E3 6a **. Brian Davison, Andy Nisbet. 5 Jun 2012.

Climbs the left-hand black streak; a selection of Friends zero to 2.5 are useful for protection in pockets. Slow to dry and a bit mossy. Start in the centre of the streak. Climb up to a ledge and protection in a pocket. Make a thin move to another pocket and protection then a pocket just right of the black streak. Step right at this point with feet just above the second pocket and make a thin traverse left for a move to gain the easier angled slab to the left of the black streak. Move up to a pegmatite band in a depression in the slab and arrange protection in pockets, a Friend 2.5 on the right (as for *Oisin*) and a Friend 1 on the left (as for *Niamh*). It is possible to climb straight up from the third pocket to the pocket for the Friend 2.5. Continue up the depression past further pegmatite bands to where the angle in the slab eases in the slab. Move left to a right-facing corner. Climb the corner and the slab above to the abseil tree.

BEN ALDER, South Buttress of Garbh Choire:

Raeburn's Gully Left Branch 70m II. Ross Heyburn, Karen Heyburn. 28 Jan 2012.

Shortly after passing the upper snow terrace, a narrow gully on the left leads with one short pitch onto open snow slopes below the top of the crag.

The Diamond:

Right of *Raeburn's Gully* is this large triangular buttress. The following route climbs its left rib, adjacent to *Raeburn's Gully*.

Raeburn's Edge 200m III. Dave McGimpsey, Andy Nisbet, Duncan Tunstall. 16 Jan 2012.

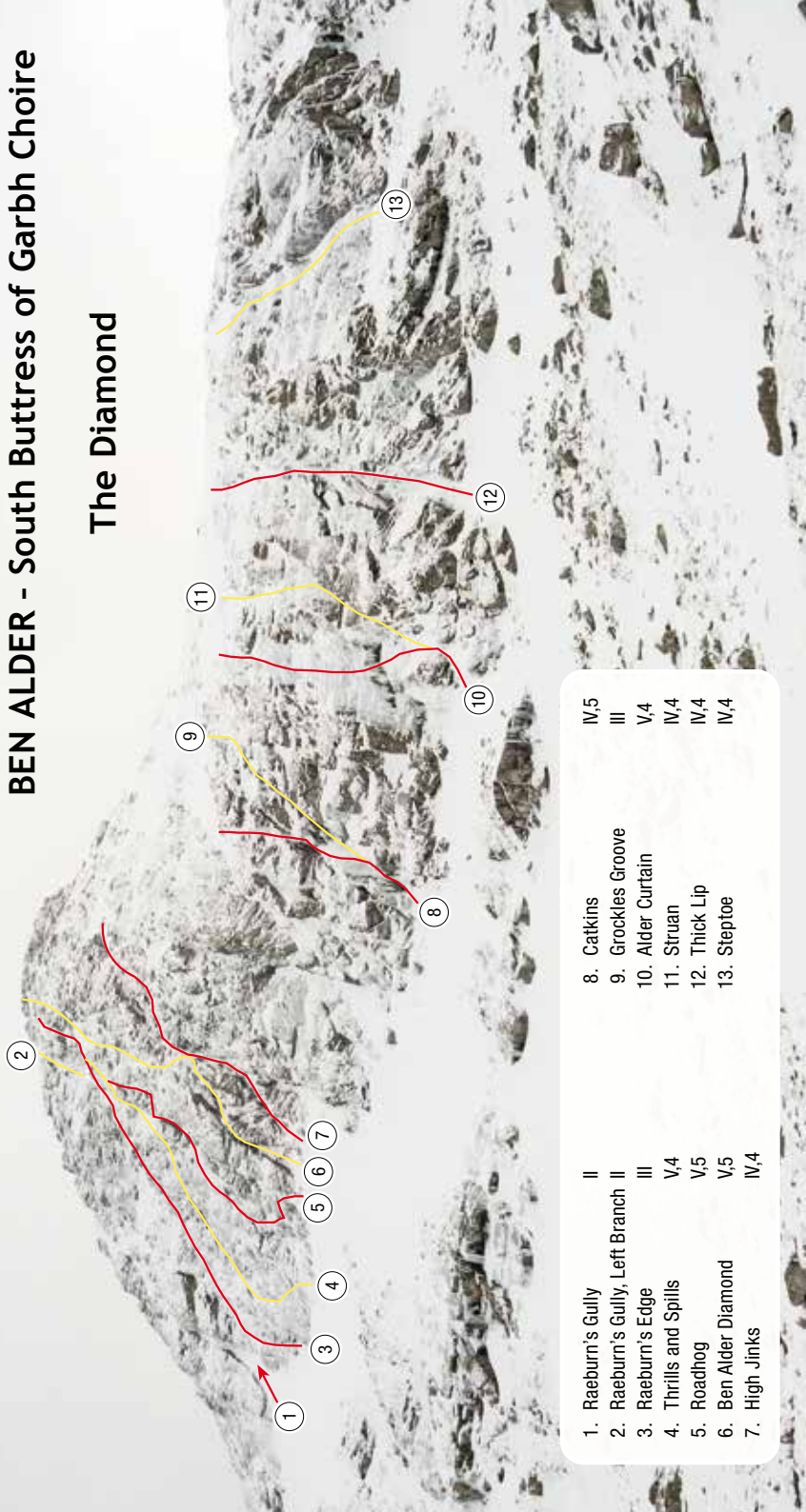
Start at a groove on the front face below and left of the crest. Climb this towards the crest and follow further turfey grooves just left of the crest until the crest is gained high up. A final steep groove on the right is optional.

Thrills and Spills 200m V4. Dave McGimpsey, Andy Nisbet. 28 Jan 2012.

A line up the left side of the front face of the buttress. Start at the lowest point of the buttress, below a big snow patch some 10 to 20m up and above which is a left-leaning corner. Climb icy slabs to the left edge of the snow patch (thin ice may be necessary here). Move left and climb a shallow corner to better turf. Go diagonally left to reach a turf ramp leading diagonally right (this is the higher and better defined of two ramps). Climb the ramp to a steepening (60m).

BEN ALDER - South Buttress of Garbh Choire

The Diamond



- | | | | |
|---------------------------------|------|--------------------|------|
| 1. Raeburn's Gully | II | 8. Catkins | IV,5 |
| 2. Raeburn's Gully, Left Branch | II | 9. Grockles Groove | III |
| 3. Raeburn's Edge | III | 10. Alder Curtain | V,4 |
| 4. Thrills and Spills | V,4 | 11. Struan | IV,4 |
| 5. Roadhog | V,5 | 12. Thick Lip | IV,4 |
| 6. Ben Alder Diamond | V,5 | 13. Steptoe | IV,4 |
| 7. High Jinks | IV,4 | | |

Continue up the diagonal line past a steeper thin section to reach a big snow bay high on the face (55m). Climb a gully which leads out of the top of the snow bay towards the crest, but then move right and go up turfy ground to more snow (50m). Climb the groove in the tier above (the optional groove of *Raeburn's Edge*) to reach easy ground (35m).

Roadhog 200m V,5. Sandy Allan, Andy Nisbet. 31 Jan 2012.

A line based on chimneys right of centre on the face. Start below the chimney-fault line right of *Thrills and Spills*. Move left on turf to a line of turf leading back right to the base of a big shallow chimney (which is very steep). Make a descending traverse left before tricky moves up gain another right-slanting line of turf which leads close to the top of the shallow chimney (50m). Continue up to a snow bay, then climb a deep chimney above its right side (hidden on the approach) – 50m. Move up to a bigger snow bay. The logical line would be up the gully above it, but this is taken by *Thrills and Spills*, so a groove on the right was climbed until *Thrills and Spills* was joined (50m). Finish as for this route (50m).

Ben Alder Diamond 260m V,5. Simon Richardson, Roger Webb. 15 Jan 2012. A varied mixed line running the full height of The Diamond.

1. 30m Start 15m left of *High Jinks* below a short deep gully that leads up into an impenetrable-looking niche. Climb up the gully into a niche that curls up and right behind a hidden pinnacle. Step off the summit of the pinnacle up a short steep wall to gain the start of a right-tending ramp.
2. 60m Move right along the ramp to where the gully of *High Jinks* comes in from the right. Instead of taking the continuation gully groove straight ahead, climb the diagonal fault leading left into the centre of the buttress. Belay in a bay above a series of steep steps.
3. 50m Quit the diagonal line and climb straight up via grooves and snowfields to a terrace.
4. 50m Continue in the same line up easing ground to a large snowfield at the top of the lower buttress.
5. 50m Ascend the snowfield and belay below the obvious square-cut gully cutting through the headwall.
6. 20m Climb the gully with interest, to the top.

High Jinks 130m IV,4. Dave McGimpsey, Andy Nisbet. 16 Jan 2012.

A gully which forms the right edge of the buttress. Easy snow and a little ice leads rightwards to a large recess. Climb an icy groove at the back of the recess before a move left and back right above leads to a V-groove on the right. Climb this to a thread on the right (45m). Continue up the groove to easy ground at the right edge of the crag (50m) and traverse right to descend.

The following ice routes are on a the smaller section of cliff right of the previous routes and thought to include the route *Thick Lip*. The smaller section is separated from the main cliff by a diagonal fault and just right of this is a deep right-slanting groove.

Catkins 70m IV,5. Andy Nisbet. 9 Feb 2012.

An icefall which flows into the base of the groove. Start up the groove before

moving left up an icy slab. Follow the ice right over an overlap, then left up a short vertical section to an easing. Climb another steep section to an easier ice finish.

Grockles Groove 80m III. Andy Nisbet. 9 Feb 2012.

Follow the deep right-slanting groove throughout; could be harder without a good build-up.

Alder Curtain 80m V,4. Dave McGimpsey, Andy Nisbet. 28 Jan 2012.

A wide ice smear near the centre of the smaller section of cliff. Its base ended in icicles so a start on the right was made (10m). The main smear was gained by a left slanting groove and climbed on good ice but too thin for ice screws (60m). Finish by an easy groove (10m).

Struan 80m IV,4. Andy Nisbet. 9 Feb 2012.

Start as for *Alder Curtain* to gain and follow an iced right-slanting groove. The best ice left the groove and climbed the slab on the left. This led to an easier corner to finish.

Right of here is a gully formed by a stream in summer and thought by Andy Nisbet to be *Thick Lip*; the grade was agreed at IV,4.

Steptoe 50m IV,4. Sandy Allan, Andy Nisbet. 31 Jan 2012.

An ice sheet in a left-facing corner at the right end of the smaller section of cliff. Could be easier with snow on the easier sections.

CREAG MEAGAI DH, Bellvue Buttress:

Note: Ken Applegate & Viv Wallace repeated *Crow Road* on ice on 3 Feb 2012 but with a different start. Start 100m right of *The Scene* (and about 10m right of *Crow Road*). Climb directly up steep ice to belay right of a steep icefall, beneath a roof (30m). Make steep moves out left (crux), as for *Crow Road*.

Haste Not 120m VI,5. Bjorn-Ovin Bjornstad, Ben Tibbetts. 13 Feb 2012.

A line about 40m to the right of *Post Haste*. Pitch 1 was 40m of steep ice. Pitch 2 was sustained ice, turned the steepest section on the right (30m). Pitch 3 eased a little, with an exit right under an overhanging rock prow to avoid a vertical snow exit.

Inner Corrie:

Gully of the Sods 150m VI,6 **. Donnie O'Sullivan, Pete Davies. 29 Jan 2012. A steep gully cutting through the imposing right wall of *Crescent Gully*. The route is graded for icy conditions.

1. 40m Climb the gully on ice to belay at a snow terrace.
2. 40m Above the belay is a large overhanging recess barring entry to the upper gully. Continue up to the left of the recess until above the level of the roofs. Make an exposed rightward traverse across a wall to regain ice leading into the upper gully. Follow the upper gully to block belays on the left.
3. 70m Easier ground leads to the plateau.

Fly Me to the Moon 130m VII,8. Simon Richardson, Iain Small. 22 Jan 2012. A spectacular climb taking the fault-line cutting through the overhanging wall right of *Crescent Gully*. Start by climbing the first easy 30m of *Crescent Gully* to below the foot of the wall.

1. 50m Straight ahead is the steep gully line of *Gully of the Sods* and to the right is a turfey corner-line leading up and right. Climb the corner to the midway girdling ledge of *Quasimodo* and belay on blocks just to the right of the diagonal fault.

2. 40m Climb the fault, which is a ramp-line to start, and step left at its top. Continue up the vertical crack above and pull through the tiered roofs (crux) to a boulder belay at the top of the wall.

3. 40m Continue up the crest of the buttress, following an easy wide gully to the final snow slope and the top.

GLEN COE

STOB COIRE SGREAMHACH EAST:

The neglected eastern corrie of Stob Coire Sgreamhach offers a range of mixed routes with a surprisingly remote feel, easily accessed from the lower slopes of the Sron na Lairig ridge. The unnamed Grade I gully mentioned in the existing guide, located just right of the ridge, provides an interesting and worthwhile route to the summit. The name *Eilde Gully* is suggested. Left of the gully are a series of buttresses forming the right (north) side of the Sron na Lairig ridge, referred to below as the Ridge Buttresses. Immediately right of *Eilde Gully* is Summit Buttress (SMCJ 2011, p500) which is bounded on the right by another easy gully which provides a convenient descent route. Right of the easy gully is the sprawling westmost buttress referred to as Monolith Buttress.

Ridge Buttresses:

Return 60m V,6. Simon Yearsley, Chris Pasteur. 3 Feb 2012.

Just inside the left (true right) side of *Eilde Gully* is a small subsidiary gully/chimney. Start 3m right of this. Climb the steep awkward wall, then move up and into the right of two left-leaning grooves. Climb the groove to easier ground to finish in an excellent position, right on the narrowest part of the Sron na Lairig ridge.

Diminishing Return 55m III *. Steve Kennedy, Bob Hamilton. 19 Feb 2012.

An easier indirect version of *Return*. Start about 10m above the foot of *Eilde Gully* and follow the most prominent ramp leading out left onto the buttress to join *Return* above the crux section of that route. Continue by following *Return* up interesting mixed ground to the summit ridge.

Summit Buttress:

Gun Slinger 70m IV,4 **. Steve Kennedy, Andy MacDonald. 18 Dec 2011.

The obvious gully/groove line immediately right of *The Slot*. Start up a deceptively steep groove (almost a right-facing corner) leading into the right side of a snow bay below the gully proper. Trend left into the confines of the gully and continue to a point where the gully becomes blocked by a rock wall.

Circumvent the wall by moving out right, then up and left via a groove to rejoin the open gully above. Continue up mixed ground trending rightwards to a small snow col (55m). Finish up easier ground (15m).

Lamed Scout 60m II/III. Andy Macdonald, Steve Kennedy. 10 Dec 2011.

The broad buttress forming the right side of Summit Buttress. Start just left of the Grade I gully and climb the straightforward lower section to reach ledges leading up leftwards below the steep upper wall. Follow the ledge system into a short chimney which leads to the top.

Monolith Buttress:

The westmost buttress contains a prominent monolithic block in the lower section, just left of the steeper right-hand section. The following routes are described by reference to the monolith.

Caballero 60m II/III *. Steve Kennedy. 28 Jan 2012.

Start at a snow bay approximately 25m left of the monolithic block. Start up a short right-slanting groove at the top of the bay, about 10m right of the small steep buttress forming the left boundary of the buttress. Continue up an open groove to finish just right of a rocky pinnacle.

Wagon Train 60m III,4 *. Steve Kennedy, Katie Long, Andy MacDonald. 5 Feb 2012.

Follows a line up the buttress, starting about 5m left of *Caballero*, just before the buttress steepens considerably. Climb an awkward slabby wall, continue up mixed ground for a short distance, then move left into a deep groove. Follow the groove and finish by steep moves on the left side of the final rocky pinnacle.

Left Draw 70m III,4 *. Steve Kennedy, Andy MacDonald, Katie Long. 5 Feb 2012.

Scramble up to a belay at the foot of the monolith. Move onto the slabby wall just left of the monolith and climb steep mixed ground to belay at the top of a large snowfield (45m). Finish easily up rightward slanting snow slopes (25m).

Right Draw 70m IV,5 *. Bob Hamilton, Steve Kennedy. 19 Feb 2012.

The steep groove running up the right side of the monolith leading to a snow terrace below the upper buttress (35m). From the terrace, continue directly up the buttress to finish close to *Left Draw* (35m).

Lone Rifle 80m II/III *. Andy MacDonald. 14 Dec 2011.

This route generally follows a system of ledges leading diagonally right across the buttress starting about 5m right of *Right Draw*. Climb up and rightwards to reach a snow terrace. Continue rightwards following the prominent ledge system to reach a bay below the steep upper buttress. Finish up a deep groove on the left.

High Noon 70m IV,4 **. Steve Kennedy, Andy MacDonald. 22 Jan 2012.

The most obvious feature on the steeper right section is an open gully which fans out at the bottom. Climb the right side of the initial fan until the gully narrows. A steeper section leads to a wide snow terrace (junction with *Lone Rifle*) - 35m. Climb the upper buttress by a line leading up leftwards to reach easier ground and finish directly (35m).



Tim Blakemore on Crocodile (E3,6a), Aonach Dubh, Glen Coe. Photo: Tamsin Gay.

Sharp Shooter 70m V,6 **. Steve Kennedy, Andy Macdonald. 29 Jan 2012.
A fine route, nicely exposed in the upper reaches. To the right of *High Noon* is an open groove with a slabby left wall. The lower groove forms the crux where it forms a steep thinly iced slab and was climbed by strenuous moves up the vertical right wall. The groove opens out above and leads to a wide terrace at mid-height (35m). From near the left end of the terrace follow a right-trending ramp (awkward initial moves) above a steep wall to a thin slab. Traverse left along a narrow ledge in an exposed position. Continue rightwards to finish up the right edge of the buttress (35m).

Twin Ridges Area:

Well right of Monolith Buttress, in the upper reaches of the north-west corner of the corrie, lie two prominent parallel ridges leading to the summit ridge. The ridges are situated above a lower broken buttress and offer pleasant routes in a fine setting with a remote feel.

Comanche Ridge 60m III *. Bob Hamilton, Steve Kennedy. 19 Feb 2012.
The left-hand ridge. Climb the lower broad buttress by an obvious right-slanting groove leading onto the ridge. Follow the ridge to the top, skirting a small rocky buttress on the left.

Cherokee Ridge 60m III, 4 *. Bob Hamilton, Steve Kennedy. 19 Feb 2012.
The right-hand ridge. The lower buttress is climbed by a steep open groove near the centre just right of a block belay. Interesting mixed ground leads to the broad upper ridge.

BEINN FHADA, West Face, Summit Buttress:

The Rampart 200m II. James Roddie. 3 Feb 2012.
Climb the turfy crest to the right of *The Ramp*.

The Rhyme 80m II/III. James Roddie. 3 Feb 2012.
On the right-hand side of the Summit Buttress are two narrow buttresses divided by a narrow snow gully. *The Rhyme* takes the right-hand buttress. Climb a steep wall to turfy ledges above. Then climb a higher steep wall by either a narrow chimney on the right or rocky shelves on the left. Easier ground leads to the ridge crest above.

Last Orders 80m II/III. James Roddie. 3 Feb 2012.
The left of the two narrow buttresses on the right side of Summit Buttress. Climb an initial short rock wall via a corner on the right. Easier angled turfy ground leads to another rock wall. Climb this via a left-slanting crack, and move more easily to the ridge crest above.

STOB COIRE NAN LOCHAIN:

Langsam Direct 100m IV,4 **. Michael Barnard, Ron Dempster. 10 Dec 2011.
Climbs the central fault-line in the short steep wall avoided by *Langsam*.

1. 50m Follow *Langsam* up to below and slightly right of the fault-line. Continue up, then move left to a large spike. Step left and climb the steep groove (serious but on plentiful turf) to the halfway ledge. Continue with further interest up the icy corner above to a large block.

2. 50m Continue direct up easier ground to the top.

The Inbetweeners 60m VI,8, **. Mark Garthwaite, Andy Sharpe. 27 Nov 2010. Climbs a groove, then a very steep crack right of *The Struggler*. Start on the front of the buttress right of *The Struggler*.

1. 15m Climb an open groove to belay below the steep wall.
2. 10m Climb the very thin overhanging crack on thin hooks and torques to a ledge at its top next to the pinnacle.
3. 35m Finish as for *The Struggler*, up the slabby V-groove and chimney on the buttress behind the pinnacle.

Twisted Chimney 30m V,6 **. Michael Barnard, John MacLeod. 17 Dec 2011. The obvious steep chimney-groove cutting into the right wall of *Twisting Gully* (up and left of *Moonshadow*).

AONACH DUBH, West Face:

No.3 Gully Rib 50m II/III. James Roddie. 5 Dec 2011.

Approach the Middle Ledge via the lower easy slopes of B Buttress. Once at the Middle Ledge break right onto a small rib running up the left side of *No.3 Gully*. After the first initial steepening, take easier ground to a final wall. Climb this either by a short narrow chimney or take the wall direct on either side. Top out onto the upper rake.

SGOR NA H-UDLAIDH, West Buttress:

Nicholson's Sneer 200m II. Colin Lesenger. 5 Mar 1996.

Start in a bay in the centre of the large sprawling buttress and just left of a prominent left-trending ramp. Climb a short awkward gully to a snowfield. Halfway up, take a shallow gully line on the right and follow this trending left at the top to gain the broad buttress crest. Take the easiest line up mixed ground to the top.

BEINN FHIONNLACH, Coire a' Chait, Alasdair's Buttress:

Ian Stennet notes that he would reduce the stars on the routes described in SMCJ 2010. *Maximus* **; *Commodus* *; *Proximo* III; *Caesar* II/III (downgraded).

ARDNAMURCHAN, Beinn na Seilg, Hebrides Wall:

Oldenbold 30m H. Severe 4a. Ian & Mhairi McCabe. 6 May 2012.

Start 5m right of *Unknown Warrior*, as the crag forms a grassy corner. Climb the steep groove in the wall to gain a little left-facing flake crag. Use this to surmount the steep initial wall, then trend up diagonally right over slabs to access two short easy corners which lead to the crest of the SW ridge. Good climbing, sparsely protected.

Coire Creagach (NM 501 681):

The crag is adjacent to Lochain Mhic Dhonuill Dhuibh, to the east of Meall Meadhoin.

Where Eagles Glare 12m Diff **. Neil Henson, Mark Collins. 19 May 2012.

The leftwards curving crack-line at the centre of the crag via some loose blocks.

Where do the Memories Go? 10m H. Severe 4a. Neil Henson, Mark Collins. 19 May 2012.

The blunt arete and shallow crack at the right end of the crag. Unprotected climbing on suspect holds.

Wish you were Here 12m Severe 4a. Neil Henson, Mark Collins. 19 May 2012. Climb direct up the slab just left of a loose horn of rock. Care required with hold selection. Scruffy rock that offers nice moves – better than it looks.

SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS

BEINN AN DOTHaidh, North-East Corrie:

On the left of *Easy Gully* lie two crags, split by an easy gully trending left. This climbs the obvious corner in the centre of the right and upper crag, mostly on thin ice and frozen turf.

Consolation Corner 65m IV,5. Erick Baillot, Stuart McFarlane. 15 Jan 2012.

1. 40m Climb the corner, with a steepening at half-height (crux), to a snow bay beneath overlaps.
2. 25m The natural fault continues up through these overlaps. Instead, step left onto a ramp which leads to a slot through the headwall.

BEINN A' CHAISTEAL:

Corax 170m III. Fiona & Robert Kincaid. 3 Feb 2012.

Start up a left-sloping watercourse from the base of the ramp that splits the face directly above the cattle grid. Belay on the right just before the first steepening. Follow the stepped watercourse over several steeper sections to gain the terrace. Descent is right along the terrace to the ramp.

Note: To its right is a parallel unclimbed line, which seems to have a very thin start.

THE COBBLER, North Peak, North Face:

Zig-Zag Gully 150m II. Andy Bain, Jake Thackrey. 11 Dec 2011.

Climbs direct to North Peak. NN 263 061.

1. 25m Climb a snow gully to a headwall with a large crack.
2. 25m Climb an ice pitch then a gully.
3. and 4. 100m Climb the broken shoulder to the top with variation possible.

Groovie Crack 85m IV,3. Andy Bain, Jake Thackrey, Dougie Beck. 31 Jan 2012.

Start at the rightmost section of crag at an open gully.

1. 25m Climb up a prominent gully between a large ridge on the left and a small ridge on the right to a large ledge with a huge flake boulder resting into a groove.
2. 35m Either climb the flake left or right to the groove and go up turf ledges to its top. Trend rightwards onto a block buttress and go under a chockstone into a large gash. Climb up on good hooks onto a large terrace.
3. 25m Climb leftwards around the terrace headwall to easy ground.

THE COBBLER, Fin Crag (NN 262 062):

This crag is on the north facing shoulder of the North Peak looking over to Beinn Narnain.

32 Inches and Under 55m II. Andy Bain, Jake Thackrey. 17 Jan 2012.

Start at the rock face under the fin.

1. 30m Climb ledges on to a snowfield to belay on the middle gash.
2. 25m Climb up ledges and go through a small gap to enter a hidden cave and up into a small rocky amphitheatre.

Finders Keepers 75m II. Andy Bain, Jake Thackrey, Dougie Beck. 31 Jan 2012.

Start 10m right of *32 Inches and Under* at an iced wall with a ramp.

1. 40m Climb up a small iced wall onto a right-slanting ledge under an overlap. Follow this to a corner and go delicately around a corner crossing the chimney pitch of *Ordinary Route* to reach a large open corner.
2. 35m Follow rightwards along a ledge to a good headwall at the top.

Wee Ordinary Route 50m III *. Andy Bain, Jake Thackrey. 11 Dec 2011.

A line of weakness starting about 30m left of the lowest point of the buttress. Climb an 8m cascade, then head for and climb an obvious chimney before crossing a snowfield. Finish up a small V-chimney on the left.

Lost and Found IV,3 *. Andy Bain, Jake Thackrey. 17 Jan 2012.

Start at the lowest point of the buttress 40m right of *Ordinary Route*.

1. 35m Climb a shallow groove on a slab to a slanting ledge with a niche. Head up to an overhang with a good ledge at a corner.
2. 30m Climb a slab under the roof, then down climb 1m and go up a ramp to a good stance. Climb the left wall on good turf, then move left to the top.

BEINN NARNAIN, Yawning Crag (NN 266 065):

Don't Stop till you see Smoke 60m IV,4 **. Andy Bain, Jake Thackrey, Douglas Beck. 18 Dec 2011.

Start left of a steep triangular buttress.

1. 25m Climb up and under a chockstone to a deep chimney. Climb this to a large ledge on the left.
2. 15m Move back into the chimney and go up to a niche. Climb a right-slanting crack to an overhanging bulge and go up to a large terrace.
3. 20m Climb blocky grooves to a ledge. Move left to a flake and up rightwards over slabs to a corner with a wide crack. Climb up and over a bulge to a terrace.

Note: As an alternative to pitch 2, move left for 5m and climb an easy blocky groove rightwards to the terrace.

G13 65m III. Jake Thackrey, Andy Bain, Douglas Beck. 18 Dec 2011.

Climbs the right side of the triangular buttress.

1. 25m Climb a ramp to the bottom of a chimney.
2. 35m Climb the deep chimney, then move left on to the buttress. Climb this, then traverse left to easy ground and a large terrace.

Various finishes are possible.

THE BRACK:

Great Central Groove, Variation Finish 40m VII.9. Pete Macpherson, Pete Benson. 22 Dec 2010.

1. and 2. Climb the first two pitches of *Great Central Groove*, belaying below the barrier headwall. On the left is a steep wall with an obvious crack system to the left of the chimney.
3. 20m Climb up the steep crack and pull onto a small ledge. Climb up the blank looking slab above and continue up turf ground to belay beside a huge block on the right.
4. 20m Directly behind the block is a recess with a right-trending ramp. Gain the icy ramp and climb as it tapers with increasing difficulty until it becomes a groove and a steep exit is made onto icy turf.

BEN DONICH:

A large jumble of boulders is located at NN 225 054 and is passed on the ascent up the NE ridge (before one gets to the main crags).

The Squirmer 20m H.Severe. Michael Barnard, Eve Bradley. 8 Aug 2011.

Takes the obvious vertical crack-line splitting the west face of the largest block and lying just right of a large roof. The lower half is overhung and is overcome by means of an entertaining through route. Start at the back of the cave.

1. 10m Move up into the gap in the roof. Follow a ledge outwards past a tight squeeze to belay on the edge.
2. 10m 4b Climb the steep crack above to the top.

STOB DIAMH, Sron an Isean, North-North-East Buttress:

Approach: Go directly SSW from the end of the track that goes NW along Allt Mhoille from the farms on the NE corner of Loch Awe. This is the approach track for Beinn a' Chochuill and Beinn Eunaich to the north, as well as Stob Diamh if approaching from the north.

V-Gully 150m I/II (left) II/III (right). Ole Kemi. 22 Jan 2012.

The main buttress is split by a gully which splits at one-third height into two narrow gullies. The right has a harder crux section with a passage on rock. Climbed in poor conditions, but after a good freeze, the climbing should be toward the easier grade. Both lines become easier toward the top.

ARRAN

No routes to report.

LOWLAND OUTCROPS**AYRSHIRE, Clifton:**

The Arete Direct 15m E3 5c. Brian Davison, Paul Wood. 24 May 2012.

Climb the original route direct without entering the corner and continue to the spike knobble above. Instead of moving right into the crack continue straight up the arete.

Note: The guide gives the start of this E4 6a but it seems to have been a guess and not actually climbed.

Squidge 10m HVS 5a. Stephen Reid, James Kinnaird. 19 May 2012.

An enjoyable eliminate up the rib right of *Overground*. Good strenuous climbing but the grade assumes that the crack of *Overground* is only used for protection. Start just left of the niche of *Outcast* at a diagonal crack. Make a hard move to gain the rib and follow it, avoiding holds in *Overground* with difficulty.

DUNGEON OF BUCHAN, Cooran Buttress:

Cooran Gully 125m III/IV *. Stephen Reid, John Biggar. 2 Feb 2012.

The open gully to the right of Cooran Buttress gives a good climb but is seldom in condition. It requires both a long freeze and a big dump of snow. From down and right of *The Colonel's Corner*, traverse right about 25m passing under two deep corners to an amphitheatre. Starting here, climb up easily towards the left side of this then wend your way rightwards and then back leftwards through a steeper band to gain a more defined gully and a belay (30m). Continue up the gully, bypassing a narrowing chimney just to its right and take a stance a little higher (30m). Continue up the gully until it turns into an overhanging offwidth and take an obvious traverse out to the right arete via a big block (25m). Step across rightwards into a groove and climb this and a short rock rib then more easily to the top (40m). The second of the two corners has also been climbed as an alternative first pitch at much the same grade though more sustained.

Note: The same team also did the alternative start on the same day.

Brown Study 125m II/III. Ian Brown, Jonathan Grubb. 2 Feb 2012.

Gain the huge easy angled right-slanting ramp just right of *Cooran Gully* via rocky scrambling. At the top of the ramp climb the short gully on the right.

Note: *Saddle Tramp*. An alternative way on pitch 2 is to avoid the niche by traversing above it to the same point. R. Whitworth, D. Boothman, 20 Aug 2011.

WOLF SLOCK:

(NX 457 894) Alt 350m North-East facing

This large rambling cliff lies on the north-east end of Hoodens Hill, a northerly outlier of Mullwharchar.

Connoisseurs' Choice 135m E2 **. Andrew Fraser, Iain Magill, Stephen Reid. 27 May 2012.

A tremendous adventure up the most continuous and clean pillar of rock on the left side of the crag, situated to the right of twin heathery gullies and left of waterworn slabs. A good drought and a double rack of cams up to Camalot 3 size are recommended. Start at a slim rib below the right side of the pillar.

1. 15m 4b Twin cracks in the rib lead to a grass ledge.
2. 15m 4b A crack in the wall culminates in an awkward exit onto a grass ledge.
3. 25m 5b The steep cracked wall is climbed centrally. Start 1m right of a smooth corner and follow flakes and cracks to a small niche. Move up then rightwards into cracks that lead to the top and belay immediately. A very sustained pitch but with excellent protection; 2 rest points taken.
4. 45m 4c Move left up grass and overcome a short wall via a little groove to

gain a grass ledge. Follow a left-trending line of flakes to an awkward mantelshelf onto a narrow grass ledge. Follow a crack and rib above then turn the headwall by a short chimney on its left.

5. 35m 4c Follow a left-curving crack in the centre of the face for a move, then step onto the slab on the right and overcome a slight overlap. Traverse left and climb a short cleft, taking care with a poised pinnacle. Traverse right under a block and climb the open corner in the wall above.

DUNGEON OF BUCHAN, Corwar:

The Return of the King 23m HVS 5a **. Stephen Reid, Chris King, James Kinnaird. 15 Sep 2011.

Direct variations on *Corwar Wall* and just as good. Start 1.5m right of *Corwar Wall* and climb the wall directly to a small overhang, then climb up to the left-slanting break of *Ruta Aurelio*. Make one move leftwards along this and then launch directly up the wall above via a jug to gain the hand traverse of *Corwar Wall*. Stand on the traverse holds, step left into a shallow scoop and finish direct.

STIRLING AREA, North Third:

Sybiline Slab 18m E2 5c **. Keith Alexander, Graeme Diack. 8 Aug 2011.

Lies on the same buttress as *Faulty Towers*. Excellent well-protected climbing up thin cracks on the slab in the middle of the buttress. At the last small roof, follow a crack leading right and up to finish.

EDINBURGH AREA, Blackford Quarry:

Note: Nigel Suess notes that the route *Good Craic* (SMCJ 2011) has been climbed many times before and is V.Diff.