

NEW ROUTES

The deadline for sending route descriptions to the New Routes Editor is 30 June each year. Descriptions of some crags and routes have not been included here, but can be found on the New Routes section of the SMC website. In general this applies mainly to short routes and remote crags.

OUTER HEBRIDES

LEWIS SEA-CLIFFS

Uig, Mangarstadh, The Hooded Wall:

Learning to Crawl 35m E4 5c *. Mark Garthwaite, Rab Anderson. 4 Jun 2017. This climbs the extremely steep finishing groove which forms the hood over this section. Start at the foot of the abseil line (*Bare Black*) and climb the obvious stepped line rightwards up the back wall to a ledge. Draw breath and climb the groove up right to exit; the wedged boulder at the top of the cliff is just above.

Àird Uig, Geòdha Caol-rinneach:

It's Frothy, Man 35m E3/4. Mark Garthwaite, Rab Anderson. 2 Jun 2017. The central corner; start as for *Backslip Way* (SMCJ 2001), or abseil to the start.
1. 15m Follow *Backslip Way*, then go up left to ledges below the corner.
2. 20m 5c Place a high wire on the left, then move up and right to holds (gear) to gain the ledge at the foot of the upper corner, which is climbed to the top.

Àird Uig, Chapel Geòdha:

Rock Over to Prolapse 30m E2 5c *. Mark Garthwaite, Rab Anderson. 2 Jun 2017.

Climb to ledges partway up *Cor Blimey Corner*, then climb the crack in the right wall until forced out right, where the edge leads to the top.

Àird Uig, Geòdha Ruadh:

(NB 044 385)

This large inlet is situated on the west side of Gallan Head. Go through Àird Uig to the last house (a cafe called 'The Edge') and park just before a gate (NB 0483 3832). Walk up the road for 200m before heading off left for a further 200m.

Most of the routes lie on the obvious slabby face on the north-west side of the geo. The climbing is better than it looks and the rock is excellent.

South-East Face:

(NB 0448 3853) Non-tidal North-West facing

This fun excursion follows the obvious pegmatite intrusion which rises from left to right across the face. Mainly easy climbing on good rock in a fine position. Approach by abseiling down a grassy gully direct to ledges at the start of the route.

You're So Vein 55m Severe *. Andrew Wielochowski, Noel Williams. 11 May 2017.

1. 40m 4a Follow the pegmatite band rightwards via a steep step which requires care with protection. Belay on a comfortable horizontal ledge.
2. 15m Continue traversing over a few easy steps to the top.

North-West Face:

(NB 0445 3855) Non-tidal South-East facing

Approach: Either by scrambling down in a southerly direction and traversing in (one awkward step), or by abseiling from the cliff-top. For all but the first route it is best to belay in a deep crack which slants across the easy-angled lower section of the slab.

Quite Gnice 25m Diff. Andrew Wielochowski. 7 May 2017.

From a flat area at the left end of the easy slab, climb up leftwards at first before slanting rightwards to join an obvious crack system which is followed to the top.

Gnice 30m V.Diff *. Andrew Wielochowski, Noel Williams. 8 May 2017.

Slant leftwards from the bottom crack towards the left-hand end of a thin tapering overhang. Climb a thin crack system direct to the top.

No More Mr Gnice Guy 30m VS 4c *. Andrew Wielochowski, Noel Williams. 11 May 2017.

Go up to a short left-facing corner below the right end of the thin tapering overhang. Climb up directly at first, then traverse right on small flakes with difficulty before continuing up to a prominent overhang. Either surmount this direct using excellent flake-pockets or step left and cross it without difficulty above a pale flake. Continue easily to the top.

Really Gnice 30m H.Severe 4b **. Andrew Wielochowski, Noel Williams. 8 May 2017.

Slant slightly right from the bottom crack to the left-hand side of a small black slab. Climb a thin crack system direct to the upper overhang. Arrange a belay on the right before finishing direct on amazing holds.

Gnice Enough 30m H.Severe 4b *. Andrew Wielochowski, Noel Williams. 8 May 2017.

Slant rightwards from the bottom crack to the right side of a small black slab. Climb a thin crack system direct to a small grass ledge. Finish more easily just to the right of a right-facing corner.

Àird Uig, Geòdha Gorm:

(NB 0646 3808) West facing

This large bay lies 1.5km east of Àird Uig. There is a conspicuous slabby intrusion of pink rock some 80m high on its eastern side. This first route is an adventurous outing with some scary rock and limited belays. It starts well above the sea from a fairly comfortable grassy bay a little above the base of the slab at the bottom right of the face (looking up). From there it gains and follows the left-hand arete. Approach: From a parking area beside an old building (NB 0532 3700) on the east side of the road about 1km south of Àird Uig. Head north-east across rough moorland for some 1.3km to the summit of Rubha Mòr (c160m). It is probably worth descending the cliff-top on the western side of the bay to get a good view of the face. Then descend the cliff-top on the eastern side of the bay to a slight flattening (where two iron stakes have been left in place). Abseil 75m directly to the grassy bay. Either belay on the abseil rope or on blocks set in the grassy terrain further right.

Sunset Boulevard 90m E1 4c. Andrew Wielochowski, Noel Williams. 9 May 2017.

1. 30m 4c Make a rising leftwards traverse on suspect rock heading for the left-hand arete. Some 5m before the arete place a tape over a small stumpy spike. Move left again then step back right to stand on the spike. Step up and make a delicate move to gain a line of weakness leading left to the arete (excellent belay).
2. 30m 4a Climb a prominent groove and step out right near the top on good holds. Continue more easily up the arete. Eventually traverse left on grassy ground to reach a wide crack with a chockstone.
3. 30m 4b Step back right onto the face and climb slightly rightwards on good holds. Then traverse left to a ledge where the character of the rock changes. Climb blocky holds with care (no protection) and finish up a short corner.

Bernera, Crùlabhig:

All Hail King Silly 20m E6 6c ***. Mark Garthwaite, Rab Anderson. 1 Jun 2017.

Start at the same point as *Lard of the Pies*, then go up and right to climb the obvious line to finish up *Mixed Blessing*.

Gneiss To See You, To See You Gneiss 20m E6 6b ***. Mark Garthwaite, Rab Anderson. 3 Jun 2017.

Climb the centre of the wall right of *Crimpology*, up and right by a crack. Stand in the break and power through the bulge to finish up the groove of *Southern Breeze*.

The next two climbs are about 100m further right, just left of a grassy chimney-gully.

The Major's Reserve 20m E1 5b *. Rab Anderson, Mark Garthwaite. 3 Jun 2017.

Start as for *Wild Orchid* and continue straight up by ledges to a higher ramp. Move up and right then swing out right and cross the headwall to finish up the recess of *Wild Orchid*.

Wild Orchid 20m E1 5b **. Rab Anderson, Mark Garthwaite. 1 Jun 2017.

Just left of the grassy chimney-gully, gain a short ramp and climb this. Move up to the roof (micro cams) and climb the fine crack up the headwall to finish up a recess.

Dail Beag:

The following route is on the headland between Preacher's Geo and Big West Wall (NB 2257 4648). The rock is rotten at about two-thirds height and not recommended. Abseil from blocks at the western end of the headland overlooking the end of Big West Wall. Anchors are set back a few metres to west of abseil line, additional anchors just above lip of the wall. 35m to ledge around high-tide level.

Lewis Bites Back 35m H.Severe 4a. Paul Drew, Pete Johnson. 12 Jun 2017.

Start at the foot of the abseil and climb an easy groove to good ledges at about 10m. Go directly up the steep wall on big jugs to a ledge below the overhanging headwall (abseil line). Step left and climb the crack and loose ground above. Belay from the abseil blocks.

Note: Further routes were done in the area of Black Geo, West Face/Cave Slab (Black Zawn p107 in 1996 SMC guide) but yet to be checked if they are new.

NORTH HARRIS, Creag Mo:

The Mighty Chondrion 60m E7 6c **. Dave MacLeod, Masa Sakano. 6 Apr 2017.

The central fault at the back of the main crag amphitheatre gives two contrasting pitches, with strenuous but well protected horizontal roof climbing on the first.

1. 20m 6c Climb a flake-crack to the border with the roof. Pass a couple of dubious holds in the soft rock patch here to gain the roof crack. Arrange gear with difficulty and make hard moves to a resting position with a knee-bar in the wide crack (Camalot 3.5). Hard moves lead to improving holds rounding the lip to gain a short chimney and a small ledge over the lip.

2. 40m 5c A very traditional pitch up the wide fault, often climbing on the right wall or arete of the fault, but not if this is affected by drips from an overhead seep. Continue to the large grassy terrace and belay. Either escape right along this, or climb another short easy pitch to the top.

NORTH HARRIS, Sròn a' Sgaoth (NB 1461 0396):

Sròn a' Sgaoth is the western top of Sgaoth Iosal. The crags lie on the west and south-west prow of the hill. Steep slabs with a prominent, brown waterworn streak lie on the right, facing south-west whilst a steeper nose lies above and left, facing west. The rock is good quality gneiss, mostly very clean but blocky higher up.

Park opposite the three turbines off the A859, 10mins drive north from Tarbert. The crags can be reached in 30mins of steep hillside. Descents for all the routes lie down a gully bounding the nose on the left (north-west) of the routes, where a grass terrace at the crag base is reached by taking the second grass niche leftwards from the scree-filled gully back left to the foot of the routes. It is possibly easiest in ascent or descent to or from the crag to keep right of the lower continuation of the gully and weave up or down grassy areas. A short, broken rock step is taken by a left-trending line to reach a grass terrace below the crags.

Hooded Corner (SMCJ 2016) starts at the nose on the left of the crag overlooking the descent gully.

The crag is split by two corners to the right of *Hooded Corner*, with a tier of rock below. The following climb and *Aon* (2009) take the corners.

Stonecrop Corner 40m MVS 4b *. John Mackenzie, Andrew James. 20 Jun 2017.

This climbs the less obvious left-hand corner, starting from the lower tier at a big flake. A pleasant climb, easier than it looks.

1. 20m Climb twin cracks up a short steep step to the shelf above. Move right to the bollard on *Aon*, then back up left to an exposed stance.

2. 20m Climb the left wall of the corner to the capping bulge, step right, then over it to continue to a good thread.

Turbinator 35m HVS 5a **. John Mackenzie, Andrew James. 20 Jun 2017.

To the right of the two corners the crag swings right and steepens. This climb takes the prominent crack-line left of the right-trending line of overhangs. Some very good, sustained crack climbing, adequately protected. A short step below the

crack leads to the undercut crack, some good moves up the crack lead to a wide crack; continue up this past stable blocks to the top.

The slabs to the right of the nose are the lowest situated crags on the face, with a steep lower wall on the left, a grass shelf above, the brown water streak to the right and less continuous slabs right again. Improved descriptions were sent for *Da* and *Tri*.

To the left (looking up) of the grassy gully which is left of the nose of the hill are three buttresses. The smaller one adjacent to the gully provided the next route.

Mistaken Identity 40m V.Diff. Andrew James, John Mackenzie. 20 Jun 2017. The left-hand side overlooking the gully that separates this crag from the next one on the left, has a fine lower slab of perfect rock.

1. 15m Climb the perfect slab.
2. 25m A blocky scramble taken on the left.

Minor Crag:

For a quick drying solution to the Harris rain, there are some small crags to the north of the A859 south of Tarbert and quite close to the Losgaintir turn off. NB 1334 9479, Alt 170m.

Stalwarts' Bluff is just visible from the road. Park at the large clearing by the concrete fanks. 10mins easy walking reaches a 10m high crag with a steep left-facing sidewall. Routes by Andrew James & John Mackenzie on 22 Jun 2017.

Bluffer 12m MVS 4b *.

The left-facing sidewall is bounded by a ramp. Climb the ramp to its top, move up to a girdling crack and step right onto the face to finish.

Puffer 12m MVS 4b.

The sidewall has a slanting crack-line. Climb this to pull onto the front face and finish up the easier rib on the left.

Suffer 10m V.Diff.

The front slabby face is climbed centrally finishing up a narrow crack.

AN CLISEAM, Coire Dubh Slabs:

An improved description was sent for *The Harris Jig* (SMCJ 2009).

MULLA, Loch Beag Crag:

(NB 220 028) Alt 170m South-West facing

This is a small roadside crag on the knoll of Mulla (220m) above Loch Beag, just south of Loch Mòr, on the minor road to Reinigeadal. These lochs lie beneath Tòdun (528m), the shapely hill seen from the high section of the A859 between Tarbert and Stornoway. The Scaladale Outdoor Centre use the crag. The Upper Tier is in the 2016 new routes section.

Lower Tier:

This contains five routes. Route 1 and Route 2 follow vague cracks and grooves at V.Diff and Severe; Route 3 goes straight up the right side of the capping boulder

at Severe; Route 4 is a diagonal line to the top bulge at H. Severe 4b and Route 5 is a direct to the top of the diagonal at VS 4c/5a.

NORTH UIST, Eaval:

Route of all Eaval 50m Diff. Iain Thow. 28 Aug 2016.

A clean slabby rib just below and SW of the summit, best approached from above, with the easiest descent being on the south side. Climb the rib (30m), then move left to the next rib, finishing up a slab and wall left of a leaning nose.

ST KILDA, Ruabhal:

Making a Splash 75m E7 6c ***. Dave MacLeod, Natalie Berry. Jun 2017.

Superb rock and climbing, snaking a line through the steep, black roofed walls on the right side of the main wall. Descend by abseil from the lowest ledge on the access ramp, as for *Boat Race*. Start from ledges above the sea.

1. 30m 5b Climb the lovely black wall on excellent rock, trending leftwards, before traversing 3m hard right to a belay in a short corner, underneath the huge roof.

2. 20m 6c Step up to the roof and follow the large break left, around the corner to where it dissipates. Arrange gear and continue traversing left with difficulty on edges and poor undercuts in the roof to gain a good undercut (crucial small cam on lip on the left). Reach side-pulls over the lip and make a hard rock-over (crux) to gain a distant finger lock in the slab above. Step right to a block and climb the short steep wall directly above this to a large ledge.

3. 25m 5c Climb the recess above the ledge and steep flakes above (taking care with a couple of holds) to gain the easier finishing slab.

Dave MacLeod on the FA of Making a Splash (E7 6c), Ruabhal, St Kilda.

Photo: Chris Prescott, Dark Sky Media.



Old Boy Racer 80m E8 7a **. Dave MacLeod, Natalie Berry. Jun 2017.

An excellent route on great rock, with a fingery crux roof. Descend by abseil from the lowest ledge on the access ramp, as for *Boat Race*.

1. 30m 5c Climb good cracks trending leftwards for 20m, before traversing leftwards and stepping slightly down to a hidden ledge below the right end of a long roof system in the wall.

2. 15m 7a Climb up to the roof and traverse left along the break for 5m. Pull through the roof on tiny crimps and make a desperate move left to a large flat side-pull. Gain better holds and gear and move steeply up and back right slightly to a break and a hanging belay (to avoid rope drag).

3. 35m 6b Step up and left into a triangular niche. Climb steeply rightwards to gain a standing position above the overhang. Move back left on slopers to gain good holds and a corner which leads to the easier corner leading up the left edge of the large slab to the top.

INNER HEBRIDES AND ARRAN

RUM, Hallival, Sunny Crag:

(NM 403 966) Alt 320m South facing

This small crag is just north of Pineapple Crag and is guarded by an overhang. Approach as for Pineapple Crag, 1hr 15mins from Kinloch.

Sunny Rib 14m Severe *. Colin Moody, Cynthia Grindley. 7 May 2017.

The rib at the right side of the crag. Start below and right of the rib. Climb up past a bulge to a corner-crack, step left and climb the rib.

Sunny Wander 16m Severe. Colin Moody, Cynthia Grindley. 7 May 2017.

Go up to the bulge on *Sunny Rib*, then step left into the corner. Go up the corner, then move left and finish easily.

Askival, Pineapple Crag:

(NM 407 963) Alt 280m

Pineapple Crag (Inner Hebrides & Arran p 51) is probably the easiest crag to approach on Rum. The 'big blank slab' mentioned in the guide lies in the centre of the crag.

Follow the Dibidil path and cross the burn east of Hallival (NM 409 968). From here the crag is obvious up the hill to the south-west, 1hr 10mins from Kinloch.

Big Blank Slab:

This excellent east facing slab is the most obvious rock feature that can be seen from the ferry when approaching Rum. There is a long overhang at the base of the slab; *Blank Cheque* goes through this.

Wet Blanket 16m VS 4c. Colin Moody, Cynthia Grindley. 7 May 2017.

Climb the crack left of *Firing Blanks*, finish up ledges. Probably slow to dry.

Firing Blanks 18m VS 4c *. Colin Moody, Cynthia Grindley. 7 May 2017.

Climb the crack left of the long overhang, move right at a slight overlap and continue up the next crack to heather.

Blank Cheque 32m HVS 5b **. Colin Moody, Billy Hood, Steve Kennedy. 13 May 2017.

Two cracks go through the long overhang guarding the slab. This route starts from the grass ledge below the overhang. Climb up the left-hand crack, which is awkward and strenuous but very well protected. Continue up past a short wider section, then step right and climb the prominent crack which bends slightly to the left. The final 2m were avoided by moving right.

Blank Canvas 32m E1 5b **. Steve Kennedy, Colin Moody, Billy Hood. 13 May 2017.

The rightmost disjointed crack-line. Start from the far right end of the grass ledge at the base of the arete. Step up just right of the arete, climb a short wall, then pull left onto the edge to reach the top of a pedestal. Traverse hard left along a sloping ledge for 2m to reach a deep crack. Climb the crack which leads to tramlines close to the arete. Traverse left along the tramlines for 3m to the base of a thin crack which is followed to some blocks where the crack continues leftwards. Make thin moves across the wall on the right under a small bulge, via a small flake, to reach another thin crack (crux). Climb the crack and finish on the left.

Wart Crag:

(NM 401 947) Alt 360m

This crag lies below the south end of Clough's Crag and faces south.

Approach: Follow the Dibidil path, then head up, 2hrs from the ferry.

The Search 18m Severe *. Steve Kennedy, Cynthia Grindley, Colin Moody. 6 May 2017.

Start up a wide crack just right of the left edge of the crag. This leads to a slab. Continue by cracks close to the edge and finish by a short corner on the left.

Long Walk 20m VS 4c *. Steve Kennedy, Cynthia Grindley, Colin Moody. 6 May 2017.

Climb the corner of *The Tracker* for 2m, then make awkward moves horizontally left along a narrow ledge to the base of a left-facing corner. Continue up the corner, step left and finish directly by the continuation crack.

The Tracker 18m VS 4c **. Colin Moody, Cynthia Grindley, Steve Kennedy. 6 May 2017.

A corner-crack right of *The Search*.

Wart Way 18m Severe. Colin Moody, Cynthia Grindley, Steve Kennedy. 6 May 2017.

On the right-hand wall is an overhang about 4m up; start below this. Move up, then right onto the rib. Climb the rib, continue up a crack and over a bulge.

MULL, Aird Dearg:

Nice to be Back 8m HVS 5b **. Pete Whillance, Colin Moody. 12 Apr 2017.

The twin inset cracks just right of *Dearg Ard* (Inner Hebrides p109). Harder than it looks.

Ready to Go 7m VS 4c. Pete Whillance, Colin Moody. 12 Apr 2017.
Takes the crack in the rib right of *Red Oak*. Move up into a corner below an overhang. Step up right and follow the crack in the exposed rib.

Red Tartan Army 7m HVS 5a *. Pete Whillance, Colin Moody. 12 Apr 2017.
The last line on the south face, before it turns into a west facing Gully Wall, is a prominent groove. Move up carefully over a shale band to the foot of the groove. Pull over a bulge to enter and follow the groove to the top.

April Isn't Summer 8m E1 5b *. Pete Whillance, Colin Moody. 12 Apr 2017.
Some 20m left of *Red Tartan Army* on the Gully Wall is a striking crack in a slight groove. Start just right of a small tree. Pull over a bulge to gain the jam crack and follow it steeply to the top.

Balmeanach:

The Wrist Business 16m F5+ *. Colin Moody, Dot MacLean. 24 Aug 2016.
The first line right of *Otter Fridge* (SMCJ 2016).

Glueless Groove 16m F6a+ *. Colin Moody, Cynthia Grindley. 27 Aug 2016.
Lies just right of *The Wrist Business*.

Creich (NM 322 235):

Two Severs were climbed by Colin Moody & Cynthia Grindley on 13 Aug 2016 on one of the lowest crags.

Fionnphort, Corner Crag:

This is round left of Afflictions Rock (Inner Hebrides p151). A main wall, vertical on the right to gently overhanging on the left, reaches a corner with a smaller steep wall at right angles to it, and facing Fionnphort. There's a large boulder underneath the crag with a smooth sloping top, surrounded by brambles.

Kill or Cure 8m VS 4c. Lia Guest, Adam Russell. 16 Apr 2017.
Step off the boulder at the base of the crag and climb the obvious crack-line to the tusk-like roof, undercut this left and pull over to the top.

Snake Oil 10m VS 5a. Adam Russell, Lia Guest. 16 Apr 2017.
Climbs the next crack down and left from *Kill or Cure* straight up then slightly left up to a spike hold above half-height, continuing more or less direct to the top.

Cod Liver Wall 10m HVS 5a. Adam Russell, Lia Guest. 16 Apr 2017.
Takes the wall left of *Snake Oil* straight up via slanting breaks to gain the same spike-like hold from the other side. From this, climb up leftwards to the top, or direct.

School Crag (Inner Hebrides p158):

Nippy Sweetie 8m E1/2 5b *. Ewan Lyons, Colin Moody. 19 Jul 2016.
Climb the faint crack left of the orange streak on the left wall of the crag.

Jigsaw 12m E2 5c **. Ewan Lyons, Colin Moody. 19 Jul 2016.
The blunt rib left of *School's Out*.

ERRAID, Upper Tier, Right Side:

Immersion 10m E4 6a/b *. Adam Russell. 17 Apr 2017.

The arete and crack to the right of the alcove, with good climbing and good but awkward-to-place gear. Pull on and make a move up to a good hold on the left of the arete. Gain a standing position on this hold using the crack and arete. Climb direct to the break, ledge and top. Tech grade depends on rockover flexibility/ability.

Midgey Crag:

(NM 298 191) West facing

This is a minor crag near the top of the high point of the south end of Erraid, across a small inlet from the main upper tier.

Coconut Cracks 8m H.Severe 4b. Corinne Bunton, Andrew Appleby. 27 Aug 2016.

Climb twin cracks up the wall to the highest point of the face.

Arete du Midgey 8m H.Severe 4b *. Andrew Appleby, Corinne Bunton. 27 Aug 2016.

Start up the cracked left face of the arete, traverse left along the breaks then pull onto the slab.

KERRERA:

Adrian Macleod & Tom Adams in Jun 2016 climbed a route on a small crag at the north tip of Kerrera (NM 843 312) – map provided and photos. The crag is a lovely little suntrap accessible by the Oban marina boat or canoe (our choice). Tom & Rob Adams in Oct 2016 climbed a further 3 short (7–12m) lines on it from HVS–E3/E4. Rock is a ridge of basalt. The SW face is clean and overhanging. The routes follow crack-lines and are pumpy and well protected.

COLONSAY, Strand Boulder (NR 363 904):

Park at the Strand car park on the south end of Colonsay and follow the coast round to the west, past the headland, 15mins. The obvious outcrop sits in a small bay opposite the islet of Rubha nan Ron. A descent gully is on the right. There are more lines to do. Routes by Eilidh Bauchop, Stewart Bauchop, 6 July 2016.

Twin Cracks 15m V.Diff.

Start left of the obvious corner and climb to a shelf, follow parallel twin cracks up the banded wall to finish. The direct start climbs the overhang on the left at VS. Good belay 5m back on wires.

The Corner 15m V.Diff.

Climb the obvious right-angle corner with interest to the top.

The overhung nose right of the corner would be about HVS.

Easy Wall 12m Diff.

Start at the bottom of the grassy descent gully (bounding the crag on its right) and climb slabs and ledges undercut on the left.

ARRAN, Cir Mhor Note:

Adam Russell climbed a more direct finish to *Hardlands* in May 2017, one which prolongs the superb climbing on pocks. Gain the huge pocket as per the normal route, then climb straight up following the line of pocks, slightly right then slightly left to gain the left arete at a point directly above the huge pocket. A bit more run out but the same grade (picture provided).

Goatfell, South Slabs:

Pochmahone Direct 415ft Scottish VS. John Mackenzie, K.Smith. 30 Sep 1972. Basically a more logical and direct route than *Pochmahone* following a natural line not avoiding the difficulties (seemed a bit bold at the time).

1. 45ft. As for *Pochmahone* or a little on the left, starting in the centre and exiting by a thin score on the slab.
2. 80ft. Climb directly up the slab above the flake belay to below an overlap.
3. 80ft. Straight up the overlap and friction to ledge and block.
4. 150ft. Straight up a steeper wall to a line of pocket holds right of a curved overlap. Friction up to the base of the long curved diedre. Follow this and over the crux scoop at the top.
5. 60ft. Climb directly up the easy slab to a steeper finish.

Cioch na h-Oighe, The Bastion:

Unnamed 90m E8 6c ***. Iain Small, Adam Russell. 10 May 2017.

Takes the impressive sweeping slab and wall between *Armadillo* and *Great Escape*.

1. 45m 6c A big pitch. Start up a short hanging groove a few metres right of *Armadillo* with a small rectangular roof at about 5m. From the top of this, head up and right (some crumbly rock), then up left until hard underneath the first long roof. Undercut through the right side of this, then move up to an overlap below the huge roof. A hard move gains the right side of this. Follow the groove up until a break leads left onto a magnificent sweeping slab. Climb straight up this slab up to a thread and a diagonal break. Move slightly leftwards up this to pull right onto the steeper wall above where a line of pockets lead over right to the bolt belay on *Abraxas*.

2. 45m 6a Step left and move up to gain and follow the curving overlap leftwards to its termination near the corner. Layback up this corner until it peters out where a reach round left gains good holds. Rockover, then follow the easiest line to the top, either left up the ramp or go halfway up the ramp and pull right onto the wall via a juggy pocket and up to gain the *Tidemark* ledge.

Note: A third rope was used on the initial wall to limit drag. A few days dry sunny weather are required to dry out the seeps down the main wall from the *Abraxas* break – tactical use of super absorbent Plumb Pads on the day due to it being overcast.

Glen Sannox Slabs:

Slapstick Wall Right-Hand Finish 75m Severe. Colin Moody, Cynthia Grindley. 22 Apr 2017.

1. 50m From the belay after pitch 2, move right and climb the slab, then move right to a huge block.
2. 25m Climb the easy rib above.

Note: Two parties repeated *Slapstick Wall* and thought VS 4b because of the bold third pitch.

SKYE

A winter crossing, probably the first, of Black and Red Cuillin was made by Nigel 'Yorky' Robinson & John McKeever from 2 Apr 1988 to 5 Apr 1988.

SGÜRR A' BHASTEIR:

Formali Known As 100m IV,4. Mike Lates, Pok Siwinski. 12 Jan 2017.

1. 50m Follow the broad rib left of *Mike The Bhasteird* and belay on the ledge below the left-rising chimney fault.
2. 30m Climb the fault, then break back rightwards above to a hanging belay below the steep groove.
3. 20m The groove was avoided on the right to finish on the broad rib above.

SGÜRR THUILM, North Face:

Giant's Gully 450m III,6. Mike Lates, Lucy Spark. 13 Jan 2017.

The longest gully splitting the north face is hidden from the road but is very obvious after passing the Fairy Pools. Climbed in very thin cover, it gave a lot of fine, mixed chimneying pitches with fun climbing in great rock architecture. May bank out completely to give a far easier line. Top out 30m from the summit.

SGÜRR MHICCOINNICH, South Face:

The Silver Fox 235m V,5 **. Mike Lates, Sophie Grace Chappell. 19 Nov 2017. Climbs the obvious, long curving fault-line on the left side of the face. Start 100m west of *Jeffrey's Dyke*. Easy broad terrain leads to a steepening and narrowing in the dyke (125m). Climb mixed terrain with continuous interest for two pitches (80m). The dyke ends in an amphitheatre with a choice of steep finishes. Climb a right-trending crack-line centrally up the back wall on good gabbro on a (30m). Easy terrain leads to the crest of Sgurr MhicCoinnich.

West Buttress 335m V,6. Will Rowland, Fran Thompson. Mar 2016.

Start as for the summer route, at the toe of the buttress.

1. 55m Climb an icy gully to the crest. Continue up the crest to a spike just to its right.
2. 70m Follow an easy stepped ramp just to the right of the crest to an obvious steepening.
3. 55m Climb the steepening and break out left rejoining the crest. Traverse left below a rock wall until an exposed ice ramp can be climbed. Follow the ramp to the right and then straight up over iced slabs and bulges.
4. 35m Continue up iced slabs to a snowfield which terminates at a rock wall.
5. 25m Climb the wall, then traverse up and left, then back right on steep exposed snow, leading to a pedestal on the crest below a short, steep rock wall.
6. 30m Pass the steep wall on the right to reach easy ground which then leads to Collie's Ledge.
7. 20m Climb the obvious corner, then break out onto the right wall. Alternatively, go straight up the corner.
8. 25m Climb the fine wall right of the chimney. Continue along the ridge to a steep wall with a slabby right side.
9. 20m Step right onto the slab and climb it to the summit.

SGÜRR THEARLAICH Note: *Curse of the Hobgoblin* confirmed as VI,6 and 3 stars.

SGÜRR ALASDAIR, Stone Shoot Face:

Chinatown Shuffle 25m V,6. Michael Barnard (unsec). 12 Feb 2017.

Climbs an obvious line of left-trending grooves/corners near the top of the Stone Shoot. Unfortunately a very nasty-looking block has to be passed low down which is almost impossible not to use, but it does feel mechanically sound!

SRÒN NA CÌCHE, Eastern Buttress:

Note: *Creag Dhu Grooves*. Peter Herd linked pitches 2, 3 and 4 in a single 40m pitch, which should at least be a recommended alternative.

COIRE A' GHRUNNDA, Sron na Ciche, South-East Face, South Crag, Lower Buttress:

Liberty 75m HVS 5a *. Steve Kennedy, Cynthia Grindley. 9 Oct 2016.

On the left side of lower slab, approximately 15m left of *Cuckoo Groove*, is a left-facing corner leading to a large overhang below a pale coloured wall and corner in the steep upper tier. Enter the corner by slabs from the left. Climb the corner, pulling out right at the top, then continue up slabs to belay below the undercut pale wall (35m). At the right end of the overhang (just right of the pale wall) is a steep corner with a slabby right wall leading rightwards. Pull steeply into the corner which is followed to slabs and a left-trending fault. Follow the fault to reach the left edge and finish up the edge (40m).

Right of *Rapid Progress* is a short deep chimney (mentioned in the guide) and an attractive slabby wall immediately right of the chimney. The wall is split by a number of crack-lines running diagonally right. The cracks diminish in length and width from the left, culminating in the thin crack of *Phantasma*.

Daydream 28m VS 4c *. Steve Kennedy, Cynthia Grindley. 9 Oct 2016.

The leftmost crack. Start almost at the lowest point of the wall and climb a short V-shaped groove to reach the crack. Climb the crack, gradually making use of the adjacent deep crack on the right as the two cracks converge.

Phantasma 28m VS 4c *. Steve Kennedy, Cynthia Grindley. 9 Oct 2016.

The two rightmost parallel cracks. Climb to a small alcove and follow a narrow ramp leading rightwards to the thin right-hand crack. Continue by using the left-hand crack mainly for hands.

South Crag:

Owl Buttress Left 120m IV,4. Pok Siwinski, Michael Barnard. 13 Jan 2017.

As for the summer route (to Pinnacle Rake). In good ice conditions a groove in the upper wall would give a fine finish.

Upper Coire a' Ghrunnda:

Two Bottles Later 160m III. Will Rowland, Fran Thompson. Mar 2016.

On a pyramid subsidiary peak between the TD Gap and Sgurr Dubh Mor. The route goes up the centre of the broken face directly up to an obvious cascade, starting at NG 453 204.

1. 55m Cross short icy steps and steep snow.
2. 50m Move up snow and ice trending left.
3. 55m Follow icy ramps and shallow groves to reach the left side of the cascade. Climb the cascade via to finish up short walls.

SGÙRR A' GHREADAIDH, Coir'-Uisg Buttress:

Skye Fall 45m E6. James McHaffie, Dan Varian. 13 Oct 2016.

The nice groove about 10m right of *Skye Wall* has a blank looking entry wall.

1. 30m 6b/c Climb the easy ramp on the right for 15m and place some big cams. A horizontal traverse line leftwards has some RPs near the start, a desperate move in the middle and a bold ending to gain the groove above which itself is about E1 with good gear leading to big ledges leading rightwards into the massive corner where it overhangs.
2. 15m 5c Climb the strangely awkward corner to the top.

Moonrise Kingdom 130m E9. Dan Varian, James McHaffie. 12 May 2017.

An amazing route picking the line of least resistance up the middle of the crag. The climbing on the second pitch is immaculate but it is certainly one of the most serious pitches in the UK, being comparable to *Indian Face*. Start at the toe of the buttress, 20m down left of *Skye Wall*.

1. 30m 6b Climb up for 8m to gain the big horizontal running left onto ledges and follow it for 5m before making a few moves up into the greeny white rock leading to some good holds and disappointing gear. Strange and committing moves up and left gain the groove which leads to the overhang.
2. 40m 6a/b The Indian Face pitch. Undercut the roof rightwards and make a tricky pull into the groove to the next roof. Moves up the face leads to a thin roof above and the last proper gear for a very long way. Step right around this roof to a disappointing 'ledge' and hand-traverse this leftwards a little way. Make a nest of skyhooks and extend them. A committing move leads leftwards and up off the left-hand end of the ledge where technical and serious face climbing for much longer than you'd like eventually gains a shallow wire in a flake (kneebar) and a Cam on the right. Steep moves lead to some better holds which lead up rightwards to a sloping ledge and thankful hands-off (crucial micro cam). The short and slim groove above has a tricky move/jump for shorties to gain sinkers at the break and a swing right to belay in the break on Cam 3.5 and 4. A dangerous and spectacular pitch.
3. 60m 6b Climb above the belay for 2m to sinkers (good Cam 4). Stand awkwardly on these and using sidepulls, make a couple of tricky moves up to gain good holds and ledges leading leftwards to a long groove on the left which leads more easily right to the top.

BLÀBHEINN, South Buttress:

Canopy 140m VI,6 **. Michael Barnard, John MacLeod. 24 Feb 2017.

The great chimney-fault. A difficult route with a committing final section.

1. 25m The right-slanting groove leading to the foot of the chimney-fault.
2. 50m Climb the chimney-fault past numerous chockstones and a short squeeze section. An excellent sustained pitch.
3. 15m Continue more easily to below the upper chimney of the summer route.
4. 15m Take the obvious slabby traverse left to ledges on the crest of the buttress.
5. 35m Continue left for 5m to below a slabby groove. Gain this (bold) and follow it up and left to the left end of the top bulge. Traverse right to the right end of the bulge. A tricky finish up the right arete leads to easier ground.

Note: *South Buttress Gully* on Blàbheinn South-east Face was climbed in extremely thin conditions at about VI,6. Consensus is now that this great line is grade III in 'normal' conditions, not II as in the guidebook.



*Steve Kennedy on the FA of 21st Century Schizoid Man (E4 6a), Bornesketaig, Skye.
Photo: Colin Moody.*

East Ridge:

A small buttress just below the base of the east ridge at NG 537 214. The buttress has two tiers and the climbs are on the upper tier.

Justine Time 20m Severe 4a. Oliver Barr-Skeoch. 28 May 2017.

Start in an obvious inverted V-groove and climb the crack-line above.

Note: A steep rought slab 3m left of the above was climbed at H. Severe 4b.

FLODIGARRY:

Diamonds 35m E2 5b **. Robert Durran, Lucy Spark. 14 Jul 2016.

From a belay at the foot of the span, move right as for *Sea Slaters Groove*, then step right again into the next groove. Climb straight up the wall passing a big spike and turning a bulge rightwards to reach the ledge. Finish up *Lucy in the Sky*. Good sustained technical climbing, though slightly eliminate.

BORNESKETAIG:

21st Century Schizoid Man 22m E4 6a ***. Stephen Kennedy, Cynthia Grindley, Colin Moody. 16 Jul 2017.

This unique and stunning route is on the front of the pillar left of *Power to Believe*. Protected with small to medium Cams, several in shallow horizontal breaks.

EARLISH (south of Uig) (NG 381 612):

Turn off the Portree–Uig road and park at a footpath gate at the far end of the Earlish straight (NG 3845 6117). Follow the path to the beach at Camus Beag where the unmissable pale dyke juts out on the east side of the bay 300m ahead.

Prowler 50m E1 5a **. Noel Williams, John Mackenzie, Simon Richardson. 13 Jun 2017.

A fine and unusual climb following the narrow arete of the prow-like dyke.

1. 30m 4c Climb the arete directly to below an overhung recess. Step right and climb the wall moving up left to reach a small ledge on the left side of the arete. Continue up the arete and mantelshelf onto a big flat platform. Belay at the back.
2. 20m 5a Climb the narrow arete initially, move onto the right wall and climb this close to the arete on scalloped holds. Reach a crack (first protection) and climb to the headwall, taken just right of a flared crack, crux, good small Cam above the flared section of the crack. The top is just above, a flat platform.

HUSABOST Note:

Andy Moles thought *The Hermit* was E3 5c **, not E2 5b ***. *Old Man's Cows* looked like a solo.

NEIST, Upper Cliffs, Seagulls Sector:

Flying Door and *The Physician* (SMCJ 2015) repeated by Ian Taylor. Both three stars but thought E3/4 5c rather than E2.

Financial Sector:

Bit-Coiner, *Bingo Wings* and *Daylight Robbery* (SMCJ 2015) all repeated and thought E3 5c **. *Seven Days* was E4 6a *** and a future classic.

Bingo Wings, *Alternative Finish* 10m E1 5b *. Ian Taylor, Tess Fryer. 8 May 2017.

From the large boulder at the top of the *Brass Monkey's* chimney, climb up the rib on the left, then leftwards round the top bulge.

Gritstone Reminiscence Bay:

Note: *Seven Days* and *Braveheart* (SMCJ 2014) are the same route.

Poverty Point:

The Poverty Trap 30m E3 5c *. Tess Fryer, Ian Taylor. 6 May 2014.

A crack-line up wall right of *Rhubarb Crumble*.

Mix and Match Area:

Dummheit 35m E5 6a **. Ian Taylor, Tess Fryer. 7 May 2017.

The 'even fiercer crack' on the north facing wall mentioned in the introduction to the section. Excellent and very well-protected, but loses a star due to some loose blocks at $\frac{3}{4}$ height.

South of the Steps, Sonamara Area, Pinnacle Flake Area:

Approximately 100m south of *Don't Leave your Dad in the Rain* along steepening grassy slopes, a huge 20m light-brown flake leans against the crag. There is a fine unclimbed crack up the centre of the seaward side and a deep chimney behind. The top of the flake narrows to a pinnacle. The first route climbs up the left side of the pinnacle. All the climbs have had some cleaning but remain a little fragile and somewhat verdant in places. Although there are faint sheep tracks, this is not a good area for rock boots and an abseil approach is much more friendly. There is a selection of rock belays, some excavated, and the odd stake at the top.

Danegeld 30m HVS 5a. Morten Hansen, Kathy Tighe. 22 Jun 2015.

Start in an alcove, capped by a big chockstone at approx 8m, on the left side of the pinnacle flake. Get into, and out of (crux) the alcove into a grassy bay. Climb inside, or outside, the flake chimney above to a left exit at the top.

Pancho 15m HVS 5b *. Mick & Kathy Tighe, Paul Rosher, Morten Hansen. 18 Aug 2015.

A steep grassy rake runs steeply up left from the bottom of the chimney flake with a fine wall above, decreasing in height as you progress up the rake. This route takes the first cracked groove line a metre or so up the rake. A small wire protects the initial moves in from the left and a big cam is handy for the next section which leads to a short, tricky corner-crack and easier ground.

Returning to the light-brown pinnacle flake, the most obvious feature is the fine-looking, unclimbed crack straight up the middle. The following route climbs up behind the pinnacle flake, starting in a grassy bay.

Golden Flake 30m HVS 5a/b **. Mick & Kathy Tighe, Morten Hansen. 14 Jun 2015.

Scramble up the grassy bay to the bottom of the chimney on the right side of the flake. Surmount the big jammed block at the bottom and power up the outer edge of the flake. Get on top of the pinnacle, step across onto the wall and tackle the wee overhang above.

Ivy Crack 30m HVS 5a *. Kathy & Mick Tighe. May 2013.

A further 15 or 20m right (east), two sections of ivy climb the wall left of a grassy bay (bluebells in spring!). Climb the crack to the right of the ivy and the fine left-hand groove above.

Bluebell Groove 30m HVS 5b **. Mick & Kathy Tighe. May 2013.

Scramble up onto the bluebell ledge into the excellent open groove a few metres right of *Ivy Crack*. A near perfect, unclimbed crack-line runs up the right edge of the groove.

Moonen Bay 30m E1 5b *. Mick & Kathy Tighe, Morten Hansen. 22 Jun 2015.

A few metres right again is a narrow bay with a fine crack-line on the left and a more broken groove line to the right. Take the left-hand crack via a short wall from Bluebell Ledge.

60 Minute Cleaners 30m VS 4b *. Mick Tighe, Simon Fraser. 14 Jul 2015.

Start to the right of Bluebell Ledge, but instead of heading up to *Bluebell Groove*, go up a cleaned recess to a diagonal groove line with a bulge at the top. Surmount the bulge (crux) to a grassy bay and climb the chimney above.

Juniper Groove 30m Severe. Paul Rosher, Simon Fraser. 16 Jul 2015.

Approx 10m right of *60 Minute Cleaners* is a small bay with a slightly left-trending fault-line running up the full height of the crag, finishing up a short chimney. Extensively cleaned.

Tower Area:

A further 20m right (east) from *Juniper Groove* is a fine tower of rock around 40m high, with an overhang at two-thirds height which has a perfect hanging crack to the right.

The Tower 30m HVS 5b. Mick & Kathy Tighe. May 2013.

Start in a little bay just up and left from the lowest point of the crag. Climb a short open groove to a platform on the right. Make a difficult move back left into a crack-line directly under the overhang, which is passed on the left by a short jam crack, and exit into the upper gallery.

Old Man & The Sea 18m E2 ***. Mick & Kathy Tighe, Morten Hansen. 19 Aug 2015.

The fabulous overhanging crack to the right of the nose, starting up the fine crack directly below. Perfect protection on near perfect rock.

Hebridean Sharker 25m HVS 5a/b **. Mick & Kathy Tighe. 15 Jun 2015.

A few metres right and slightly uphill there is a deep recessed groove. Go up over blocks and cracks to a big ledge. The excellent cracked groove above is hard to start.

Tex 20m HVS 5a/b **. Mick & Kathy Tighe. 15 Jun 2015.

The next cracked fault a few metres right.

Top Notch 10m VS 4c *. Kathy Tighe, Morten Hansen. 15 Jun 2015.

A jam crack at the top right end of the crag takes medium/large Cams.

ELGOL, Suidhe Biorach:

Mortal Panic 25m E5 6a. Edward Nind, Masa Sakano. 24 Oct 2016.

Between *Digitalis* and *Jamie Jampot*. Eliminate and contrived but with excellent climbing. Avoid straying onto *Digitalis* until the shared jug rest and avoid bridging or gear in *Jamie Jampot*. From the start of *Digitalis* climb directly up the wall (microcams essential) to a good undercut in a small obvious overlap. Move up and right (first crux), then back left to a big flake and rest. Continue straight up until level with the huge jug at the top of the flake on *Digitalis*, take this and rest. Traverse horizontally right (second crux) past a long flake (possible wires but would be hard to place), across *India* and to the arete. Climb the arete spectacularly but more easily and finish up the final crack of *Arc of the Covenant*. Harder for the short. Could be 6b. Without wires in the central flake, a fall for second or leader is serious.

Pretty In Pink 20m E6 6b *. Edward Nind. 23 May 2017.

Start as for *Mortal Panic* but after the first crux, move up and right, crossing *Digitalis*, to arrive at a mossy ledge. Make a hard move up to a flake rail, climb this then move directly up to a thin break and better holds. Move slightly left to two flat holds in the break and then finish directly.

Super Ego variation 30m E2 5c. Edward Nind, Masa Sakano. 24 Oct 2016.

A variant of *Altar Ego*. Climb *Altar Ego* pitch 1. Take the wall right of the corner of *Altar Ego* pitch 2, traverse right and across this to the arete, climb this on its left side (common with *Revenge of an Angry Cosmos*) and finish easily.

Note: *Altar Ego* was thought to be E2 5c by the same team.

Revenge of an Angry Cosmos 30m E3 6a. Edward Nind, Masa Sakano. 23 Oct 2016.

A classic line with excellent climbing and good protection. Start up the wall just left of *Arc of the Covenant*. Climb up and right to cross *Arc* at the large ledge and continue up and right into a huge niche under a wide roof. Traverse right through the roof and move up to a large sloping ledge. Climb the thin crack directly above (crux) then avoid the huge roofs and guano ledges above by moving diagonally up and right (passing a slightly dubious block under a roof) until it is possible to climb steeply up and left breaking through lesser overhangs. From the ledge under the final overhang move left to the arete, climb this on its left side and finish easily. Top of the grade. E5 6b for the short.

POINT (AIRD) OF SLEAT, Creag Mhor:

Mentioned only briefly in the current guide (p254), but a worthwhile south facing venue in a beautiful setting with a nice sandy beach nearby. The UKC website has descriptions of previously recorded routes.

On the Edge Severe 4a *. Steve Kennedy, Cynthia Grindley. 25 Mar 2017.

Instead of starting up the crack of *Leftward Leaning*, climb the left arete directly to a large roof (joining *LL* which comes in from the right). Step left above the roof and finish up the arete as for *LL*.

Well right of the main buttress and at a lower level, are two narrow clean buttresses separated by a shallow heather filled gully.

Blue Wind 25m VS 4b **. Steve Kennedy, Cynthia Grindley. 25 Mar 2017.
The left-hand buttress which has a clean broad base, contains a number of cracks which gradually narrows with height. Start up the most pronounced crack approximately in the middle to reach a horizontal break. Finish by cracks on the left side of the narrow upper rib.

RONA:

Many new routes have been climbed by Mark Hudson and friends. A complete write-up for Rona is in the New Routes section on the SMC website.

NORTHERN HIGHLANDS NORTH

ARDMAIR:

Many new routes have not been sent to the SMC but are recorded here:
<<http://www.northwestoutdoors.co.uk/northwestoutdoorsullapool/2014/11/ardmai-r-update.html>>

The Ignoble Aesthete 35m E4 6a *. Ian Taylor, Tess Fryer. 10 Oct 2016.
Start as for *Gravity's Rainbow* to the first good ledge. Climb the right-hand groove then go right onto a ledge and a junction with *Noble Savage*. Attack the thin crack directly above, pulling over onto a sloping ramp. Finish up the corner above.

Fantasy Wall:

About 1km north of the Ardmail Crag parking, turn left down a rough road and park on the bend after 50m (signposted Dun Canna parking). Continue along the road to the bungalow then go left across a stream, head over to a line of trees and follow them rightwards to find a small hidden wall (NH 122 991).

Beware of the Bull 8m E5/6 6b *. Ian Taylor. 28 Apr 2016.

A line up the left side of the wall. Headpointed above mats.

CUL BEAG, Lurgainn Slabs, West Face:

(NC 1371 0769) Alt 300m South-West facing

See SM CJ 2010. Above the gully exit is a tiered series of slabs that start lower than the Lower Slabs that lie further left. Boulders on the skyline lie near the finish of the following routes.

Pebbledash 95m Severe 4b *. Andrew James, John Mackenzie. 17 May 2017.

1. 30m 4b A short introductory slab with a turf groove leads easily to a ledge. Above lies a clean red slab, taken centrally, giving a fine delicate pitch. Belays near a turf filled crack on the left above the ledge.

2. 30m 4b Climb the rippled and pebble-dashed slab delicately to the right of the crack to an easing. Step left and finish more easily to a big ledge and chockstone.

3. 35m Move right up broken ground to a rib overlooking an edge and climb this pleasantly to the top.

Lower Slabs:

These lie up left from the foot of Pebbledash, reached by a turf scramble and a traverse along ledges. A prominent corner on the right, taken by *Forgotten Groove*



Nicola Bassnett on Cryoconnect (E2 5c), Rona. Photo: Roger Brown.



Mike Hutton on Orbit (E3 6a), Rona. Photo: Roger Brown.

(SMCJ 2010), a big square-cut recess taken by *Edge Clipper* left again and finally a big roof-topped alcove identifies the steeper base of these slabs.

Edge Clipper 40m HVS 4c **. Andrew James, John Mackenzie. 26 May 2017. Probably the best route here, bold in places but fine clean climbing. Start in the square-cut recess and climb the left edge of the lower slab to reach the corner on the right. Move up to a thin crack and step right on onto the edge above the crack. Climb delicately up left along a narrow ramp to finish up the central corner.

Jammy Dodger 35m HVS 5b *. John Mackenzie, Andrew James. 26 May 2017. The overhanging right wall of the roofed recess on the left of the slabs has a right-slanting crack. Climb this to reach the slab above. The slab is much easier and though several lines are possible, the route took a pleasant amble to the right of a heathery crack via a big flake and finished by a shallow corner.

Middle Tier:

This short tier lies directly above the Lower Tier and is of good pink rock save for a heathery central corner and a few turfey cracks. *Precambrian Doddle* (SMCJ 2010) lies to the left of the corner.

Archean Pleasures 20m Severe *. Andrew James, John Mackenzie. 26 May 2017.

To the right of the corner between two turfey cracks is a clean slab. Climb the slab just left of the straight right-hand crack, using the crack for spaced protection. Pleasant and quite delicate climbing.

WICKET GATE CRAG:

Buffalo Girls 20m E4 6a **. Tess Fryer, Ian Taylor. 9 Oct 2016.

Start a few metres left of the big imbedded flake at a narrow clean wall. Climb to some square roofs and make a long reach up and left to a good flat hold. Move left to a thin crack and follow this until a move rightwards gains a ledge. Finish more easily.

Stags With Horns 12m E3 5c *. Ian Taylor, Tess Fryer. 9 Oct 2016.

Start 10m right of the imbedded flake below a small roof at 5m. Bold moves gain the roof, then easier climbing leads to the top.

REIFF, Bouldering Cliff:

Lutra Lutra Go Go Go 20m E5 6a *. Ian Taylor, Tess Fryer. 3 Jun 2017.

A committing right-hand finish to *An Dobhran Mara*. Climb *An Dobhran Mara* for 10m, then traverse right on edges and make a hard move up to better holds. Keep going right to gain a hanging corner and finish up this.

Black Rocks:

The Return of the Herring 20m E5 6a ***. Ian Taylor, Tess Fryer. 9 Oct 2016.

The prominent arete left of *Hourglass Groove*. Start at a sea-level ledge directly below the arete. Climb a black wall to a shelf and continue up the arete to a foot ledge and poor RPs. The bold crux above leads to breaks and a jammed block. Finish up a fine finger-crack.

Microbuckets 25m E1 5b. Tess Fryer, Ian Taylor. 9 Oct 2016.

Start left of *Nameless Route* at a big triangular niche. Climb directly via a square niche and a thin crack to a junction with *Nameless Route* at its steepening. Move right and make a long move through a bulge. Continue direct to the top.

Pink Bay:

The following three routes are on the first obvious prow (*Gabhagan* lies on the second one). A deep cleft on the north-west side with a huge jammed boulder is a useful identifying feature.

Orange Cemetery 12m E1 5b. Michael Barnard, Alan Hill. 29 Apr 2017.

Starting just left of the cleft, climb a steep vertical crack.

Amused to Death 15m VS 4c. Michael Barnard, Alan Hill. 29 Apr 2017.

The slabby right-slanting corner-line just left of the above.

The End is Nigh 15m VS 4b *. Alan Hill, Michael Barnard. 29 Apr 2017.

The fine slabby wall further left. Start on the right and climb directly to a ledge. Step right and continue to the top.

The following four routes lie on the north-west wall of the *Gabhagan* prow. Note the description for that route should read 'Climb the line of corners on the LEFT side of the arete which lead LEFTWARDS to under a huge roof.'

Space Dementia 20m E2 5b **. Michael Barnard, Alan Hill. 29 Apr 2017.

Climbs the line of steep cracks just right of the arete. Start on the left side of the arete (as for *Gabhagan*) and move up to take the obvious break leading around the arete. Continue up the line then break out diagonally right below roofs to reach a ledge. Step left and finish up the short top wall.

Dark Shines 20m HVS 5b **. Michael Barnard, Alan Hill. 29 Apr 2017.

Start 2m right of the arete and move up rightwards to the large niche. Exit this on the right and continue up to a ledge. Step left and finish up the short top wall (as for *Space Dementia*).

Bliss 25m HVS 5a **. Michael Barnard, Alan Hill. 29 Apr 2017.

A few metres right of the above is a small left-facing corner. Start just right of this and climb via breaks up the initial wall, then the leaning wall above to reach the upper ledges. Finish up the slab above.

Micro Cuts 25m VS 5a *. Michael Barnard, Alan Hill. 29 Apr 2017.

A few metres right again, take the obvious line up left to ledges. Ascend the leaning wall just right of where *Bliss* goes (crux), then continue more easily to the top.

Megalomania 25m E3 5c **. Michael Barnard, Alan Hill. 30 Apr 2017.

A line up the right side of the big wall left of *Gabhagan*. Take a full set of cams from micros to Camalot 4 (plus another large Cam for the belay). Climb via breaks up the far right side of the wall to level with the niche of *Gabhagan*. Now make a long move to the next break and a further tricky move to gain the upper ledge system. Step right and continue more easily to the top.

ASSYNT, Creag Rodha Mor (Super Crag):

Captain Beanheart 25m E2 *. Michael Barnard, Alan Hill. 9 Oct 2016.

Lies where the Burnished Walls meets the Main Cliff, though is approached as for the former. Pitch two would make a good upper pitch to *Crystal Shell*. Scramble up left from the base of that route to a raised platform below the right end of the Main Cliff.

1. 15m 4c Move left and climb a corner-crack to gain the low angled slab above. Go up and right to belay below an overhanging wall.
2. 10m 5b Climb the line of weakness up the wall to reach the prominent undercling at the top bulge. Finish up and right.

OLD MAN OF STOER:

Direct Start 10m HVS 5a. Stewart Anderson, Maciej Brzeski. 22 Jul 2016.

A direct on pitch 1 (possibly E1 5b). Climb directly above the tyrolean anchor for about 4m, then go diagonally left and finally traverse left to join the original route.

BEINN AN FHURAIN:

Headstone Rib 200m III,4. John Higham, Iain Young. 11 Feb 2017.

Na Tuadhan throws down a long but relatively easy angled, rocky rib down towards Coire a' Mhadaidh, well seen in profile from the Conival – Beinn an Fhurain col. *Headstone Rib* follows this rib. Start at the lowest rocks and follow easy mixed ground, following the crest until the rib merges with the headwall. Move slightly left and follow a right-curving groove to the summit over ice, rock and rock.

CONIVAL:

As noted in SMCJ 2008, the first recorded ascent of the South-East Ridge of Conival was on 28 Dec 1968 by Alan & David Brook, David Leonard & David Weston. A detailed story of the day was provided.

SCOURIE CRAGS, Telegraph Crag:

Gunning for Nothing 15m E1 5a. Michael Barnard, Alan Hill. 23 Oct 2016.

Climbs steep cracks up the shorter wall immediately left of the main crag, passing a dodgy flake (not necessary to use).

Note: *Alice Cooper* is possibly E4 6a **.

FAR NORTH-WEST CRAGS, Upstream Crag:

(NC 259 462) West facing

This steep outcrop of reddish gneiss can be glimpsed on the drive east from Laxford Bridge and is just visible from near the parking spot (NC 250 466). Cross the nearby bridge and take the path near the river to the bend, then up to the crag, 20mins.

Caravanserai 15m VS 4c. Michael Barnard. 28 May 2016.

The obvious left-trending grooves/corners splitting the right-hand side of the crag. Start direct up diagonal cracks.

Down the Rapids 15m H. Severe 4c. Michael Barnard. 28 May 2016.

In the centre of the crag is an open corner. Start up the groove below this (a bit dirty, crux) then up the corner, passing a small holly. The prominent 'guillotine flake' feels keyed in but doesn't inspire confidence!

In the Land of Grey and Pink 15m HVS 5a. Michael Barnard. 28 May 2016.
Climbs the fine red wall. Start up a cracked groove immediately left of the initial groove of *Down the Rapids*. Now climb the wall (making use of a flake-crack on the left) to gain a line of excellent flakes leading to the top.

Future Primitive 15m E2 5c **. Michael Barnard, Alan Hill. 13 Oct 2016.
Start as for the above but step left from the flake-crack to gain slanting cracks leading up leftwards under a bulge. Climb these with difficulty (crux) before stepping back right and up to finish.

Gritty Wall:

(NC 254 533) West facing.

This wall lies on the side of a gully and is seen from the road while driving towards Rhiconich from Kinlochbervie. It offers some worthwhile short routes and the rock is actually quite reliable (provided one doesn't try pulling on small crystals). Park at the next bend in the road, 5mins.

Red Wing Special 25m VS 4c. Michael Barnard. 16 Oct 2016.
Start by a large spike at the left end of the wall. Step on this and climb the wall, staying just left of the flared crack. Finish up the crack just left of the top corner.

Drawing the Line 25m E2 5b *. Michael Barnard, Alan Hill. 22 Oct 2016.
Start 2m right of the above and move up to tackle the bold and slightly concave wall. Continue up the top arete (crux).

Kaleidoscope 25m VS 4b. Michael Barnard. 16 Oct 2016.
Start right of the above, below a slight rib. Move up this, then step right and go up to the main bulge. Climb through this (crux), then continue up and slightly leftwards to finish up a crack.

Occam's Razor 25m H.Severe 4b *. Michael Barnard. 16 Oct 2016.
The line of the crag. Climb the flake-crack past the bulge (crux) and to its very top, then up to finish.

Carousel 25m VS 4b. Michael Barnard. 16 Oct 2016.
Start just right of *Occam's Razor* and move up to climb thin cracks, then a bold slabby section to gain the top of the wafer-thin flake. Continue up to the top.

The following routes lie on a shorter wall up and right.

And Now for Something Completely Different 15m HVS 4c. Michael Barnard. 16 Oct 2016.
Climbs the slabby left side of the wall, continuing directly through the bulge above.

Subject to Change Without Notice 15m H.Severe 4a. Michael Barnard. 16 Oct 2016.
On the right side of the wall are two knobbly grooves. Climb the left one (crux at the top).

Time Flies 15m Severe. Michael Barnard. 16 Oct 2016.
The right-hand knobbly groove with a fine steep finish (crux).

Stag's Head Crag (NHN p259):

The approach track is signposted 'Badcall Peat Road'.

Triumph Cracks was thought HS 4b * (perhaps the best route here) and lies 5m right of *Hind Wall*, not 10m. Suggested description: 'Climb up leftwards, then back up a right-slanting crack, and up to finish.'

Peat Cutter's Wall 15m HVS 4c. Michael Barnard, Alan Hill. 23 Oct 2016.
This, the furthest right wall above the terrace, lies about 10m right of *Hind Wall* and was thought unlikely to be *Triumph Cracks*. Climb the wall using the left arete and continue to the top.

The Roaring Silence 20m VS 4c. Alan Hill, Michael Barnard. 10 Oct 2016.
Right of *Antlers Away*, a left-slanting crack leads to a heather clump. Continue up grooves above.

Note: Unsure how this route relates to *Aspen Crack*. Michael Barnard guesses the lower section may be the same but with a different finish (they wouldn't have given this E1). The above still seems worth recording as a VS line.

Creag Mhic Ghriogair:

(NC 239 560) South-West facing.

A fine steep crag with an easy approach from the road through Badcall Inchar (3mins). The crag's main features are a left-facing corner leading to a large horizontal roof, and a left-slanting crack up the wall to its left.

Fate's Warning 25m E2 5b *. Michael Barnard, Alan Hill. 11 Oct 2016.
Climbs twin vertical cracks left of the left-slanting crack.

Crack of Destiny 25m E1 5b ***. Michael Barnard, Alan Hill. 11 Oct 2016.
The superb left-slanting crack, gained via the corner below past a couple of saplings.

Brush and Mopsy 30m HVS 5a *. Michael Barnard, Alan Hill. 13 Oct 2016.
Climb the large left-facing corner to a big ledge (tree). Make a couple of moves higher, then take a line of holds up and right to the arete. Continue up a cracked groove just right of the arete to finish up a groove right of the top headwall. Take care with rope drag!

Mr McGregor's Gardeners 30m E1 5b **. Michael Barnard, Alan Hill. 22 Oct 2016.

Just right of the crag's main left-facing corner is a line of steep cracks leading to a smaller corner set below an arete. Climb the cracks past well keyed-in blocks, then up the corner to pass the roof with difficulty. Continue up a cracked groove just right of the arete to finish up the headwall above.

Lark's Foot and Cotton-tail 30m E2 5c *. Michael Barnard, Alan Hill. 22 Oct 2016.

The central line on Gardner's Wall. Start just right of the previous route and climb up into a niche (sapling). Move up through the bulging wall above (crux), then



Michael Barnard on the FA of Crack of Destiny (E1 5b), Creag Mhic Ghriogair, Badcall Inchar. Photo: Alan Hill.

continue more easily to the headwall. Step left to finish up this as for the previous route.

Rabbit Pie 25m E3 5c **. Michael Barnard, Alan Hill. 22 Oct 2016.

Slightly eliminate but excellent climbing up the thin right-hand crack in the wall. Move up past a large, well keyed-in spike and climb the line with hard-won protection to a semi-rest with a hand in *Lark's Foot and Cotton-tail* where that route moves right. Continue up the thin crack (crux) and gain the ledge via a small corner/crack on the left. Go up a short crack, then easily to the top.

The other routes lie further right on the hillside. The best feature (and visible from the road) is a slabby pillar with a thin crack up its middle and an undercut start; this is the line of *Call of the Mild*. The first route lies down and left of this, on a clean wall just left of a vegetated chimney.

Good Call or Bad Call? 25m HVS 5a *. Michael Barnard, Alan Hill. 22 Oct 2016.

Start 2m left of the chimney and climb to a disappointing ledge (crux). Continue directly to the top.

Bad to the Stone 25m HVS 5a. Michael Barnard, Alan Hill. 22 Oct 2016.

Start as for the above but take a low handrail out left. Continue up past a short crack, then move right to finish as for the above.

The next three routes lie up and right (or horizontally right from the top of *Good Call or Bad Call?*). 35m of rope is needed to reach the belays.

Call of the Mild 20m Severe **. Alan Hill, Michael Barnard. 22 Oct 2016.

The crack up the slabby pillar. A fine route and is much easier than it looks from the road.

Roger That 20m V.Diff. Alan Hill, Michael Barnard. 22 Oct 2016.

A line squeezed in just right of the above.

Over and Out 20m Severe 4c *. Alan Hill, Michael Barnard. 22 Oct 2016.

Start at the left end of the wall, just left of a large block. Climb intermittent cracks up a series of steps; a perfect overhead nut protects the crux move.

Wrinkled Wall:

(NC 214 563) West facing

This wall, which may be passed on the way to Rubha na Leacaig, offers some pleasant routes but some of the rock is suspect and it does not compare to the peninsula crags, 15mins from near the pier at Kinlochbervie.

Kea Crack 20m Severe 4c. Alan Hill, Michael Barnard. 12 Oct 2016.

The wide crack near the left end of the crag (crux at the start).

Krakapo 20m H.Severe 4b *. Alan Hill, Michael Barnard. 12 Oct 2016.

Climb the right side of the wall right of *Kea Crack*, then step right and follow the snaking crack up and leftwards to the top.

Hit the Deck! 15m VS 4c. Michael Barnard, Alan Hill. 12 Oct 2016.
Climbs the left edge of the wall right of the heather gully, with a bold start up the initial wall (crux).

Bombing Runnel 15m VS 5a. Michael Barnard, Alan Hill. 12 Oct 2016.
The pink right-trending runnel.

MODs and Rockers 15m VS 5a *. Michael Barnard, Alan Hill. 12 Oct 2016.
Start 3m right of *Bombing Runnel* and climb the wall to the break, then step right to take the obvious black crack.

Target Practice 15m VS 4c. Alan Hill, Michael Barnard. 12 Oct 2016.
The cracked fault right of *MODs and Rockers*, leading to a heather ledge. Step left and up to finish.

Tail Gunner 15m HVS 5a. Michael Barnard, Alan Hill. 12 Oct 2016.
Start 5m right of the above and climb a thin crack to a horizontal break left of heather. Swing left and up to the top.

Aces High 15m VS 4c *. Michael Barnard, Alan Hill. 12 Oct 2016.
Start at the right-hand edge of the face and follow cracks up and right, before traversing left above the overlap to gain the arete. Finish up this.

Rubha na Leacaig (NC 206 562):

Lying near the end of the small peninsula west of Kinlochbervie, these non-tidal crags give some good climbing in the low to mid grades. Park near the pier and head diagonally right up the hillside before moving left to cross the small hill then along to the crags, 25mins.

The Prow:

The first crag reached after the peninsula narrows, this short wall is easy of access and has a large platform at the base. The 'prow' itself is unmistakable.

New Moon 8m V.Diff. Michael Barnard. 15 Jun 2013.
The crack at the right end of the crag.

Lifeboat Serenade 12m VS 4b *. Michael Barnard. 15 Jun 2013.
Left of the above, climb leftwards up the shallow grooves.

Lost 6m HVS 4c *. Michael Barnard. 15 Jun 2013.
A few metres left again, start at a crack and climb steeply into the groove above.

Transients 6m Severe 4b. Michael Barnard. 15 Jun 2013.
Left again, an easy corner-groove goes up to below a roof. Climb the crack left of this, continuing direct up the top crack.

Left of this the crag becomes more broken before steepening again. The following two routes climb the wall right of the prow:

Gray Day 8m H.Severe 4b *. Michael Barnard. 15 Jun 2013.
Move up to gain and climb the vertical crack on the right.

Back from the Edge 10m H.Severe 4b *. Michael Barnard. 15 Jun 2013.
Starting left of the above, move up then step left and up leftwards to the top.

Gully Wall:

The next three routes lie on the steep dark wall facing the prow, and are not as difficult as their appearance would suggest!

The Trip 15m VS 4b **. Michael Barnard. 15 Jun 2013.
Start 5m right of the boulder/chockstone ledge. Step onto the wall and climb boldly up to gain a slabby groove. Move up this then climb the steep groove above.

Thoughts 15m Severe **. Michael Barnard. 15 Jun 2013.
The line of least resistance up the wall, aiming for the obvious shallow right-facing corners. From the boulder/chockstone ledge, go up to climb diagonally right to gain the slabby groove of *The Trip*. Move up this, then step left to follow the corners to the top.

Reflections 12m H.Severe 4b *. Michael Barnard. 15 Jun 2013.
Start as for the above, but climb straight up the initial wall. Step left and move up the groove left of the *Thoughts* corners to finish up the top one.

In the upper part of the wall left of the previous routes is a short black V-groove, taken by the next route. To access this, scramble down the next rib further left and traverse across and down and continue along to below the V-groove.

Streams of Consciousness 15m VS 5a *. Michael Barnard, Alan Hill. 11 Oct 2016.

Easier climbing up the lower crack and wall leads to the smooth V-groove. Move up this (crux, harder for the short) to gain better finishing holds. Well protected with small wires and RPs.

Looking leftwards along the crags from below The Prow, while the rock is extensive the lines are disappointing as the steeper sections are shorter than they appear from a distance. The next route takes a better defined buttress near the western end, gained by scrambling down from above and stepping in left (looking down). This buttress is characterised by a steeper side wall on its left. If however, the appearance is more that of a gaping cleft, then one is looking at The Roost!

Splash 15m H.Severe 4a *. Michael Barnard. 15 Jun 2013.
Start below a blunt arete. Move up this, then leftwards through an overlap to finish up the obvious central groove.

The Roost:

This cliff, the most impressive feature here, lies just before the end of the peninsula (the top of the crag is on one's left immediately before the signalling light is reached). Scramble down and traverse in right (looking down). On the right-hand part of the cliff is an obvious smooth right-facing corner; left of this is a shallow vertical groove.

Shagged Out 15m E1 5a *. Michael Barnard, Alan Hill. 24 May 2014.
The vertical groove is slightly bold but low in the grade.

Gulls Just Wanna Have Fun 20m E1 5b ***. Michael Barnard, Alan Hill. 11 Oct 2016.

Further left the wall overhangs considerably as it overlooks the cleft at the back. This excellent route takes the obvious left-slanting line of weakness above the overhangs and below the headwall, with the crux gaining the final groove. Must be climbed outside the nesting season.

Bird Brain 12m H.Severe 4b *. Michael Barnard. 15 Jun 2013.

Climbs the slabby wall left of the cleft. Step off the huge boulder, move up a slight arete, then step left to continue more easily up the shallow groove above.

Minister's Crag:

Looks out west from the end of the peninsula. Approach by scrambling down an easy V-groove near the left end of the crag (looking up).

Point of Order 8m Severe 4b *. Michael Barnard. 15 Jun 2013.

Climbs a steep crack right of the descent.

Cornelius Fudge 8m Severe *. Michael Barnard. 15 Jun 2013.

The next line right, a vertical groove.

Right of this is a steep wall with a fine right-left diagonal crack.

The Minister 15m H.Severe 4b **. Michael Barnard. 15 Jun 2013.

The diagonal crack is sustained but with good holds the whole way.

Something Sinister 10m H.Severe 4b *. Michael Barnard. 15 Jun 2013.

Start as for *The Minister* but then climb the groove above.

Down and right from here is an obvious easy angled V-groove.

Defence Against the Dark Arts 12m H.Severe 4a *. Michael Barnard. 15 Jun 2013.

Move up towards the V-groove, then hand-traverse right to finish near the lip of the steep wall.

Severus 8m H.Severe 4b *. Michael Barnard. 15 Jun 2013.

Climb the left-slanting crack at the right end of the crag.

Seal Island (NC 1758):

Eilean an Roin Mor (big island of the seals) lies between Oldshoremore bay and Sheigra. It is largely disappointing from a climbing point of view, but a short WNW facing wall (NC 180 588) gives some worthwhile routes on fine rock. It lies near the left end of the short line of crags seen from the Sheigra direction and is the first decent rock feature seen while kayaking west along the north shore of the island.

Big Seals, You are Beautiful 12m Severe. Alan Hill, Michael Barnard. 8 Oct 2016.

The stepped rib marking the right end of the wall.

Sealing Time 12m VS 4c *. Michael Barnard, Alan Hill. 8 Oct 2016.
Climbs cracks up the right side of the wall.

Genocide 12m E2 5b *. Michael Barnard, Alan Hill. 8 Oct 2016.

The central line on the wall. Climb the crack to the break, move up to hairline cracks above and continue to the top with a solitary RP for protection (if you find it!).

Having a Good Time 12m HVS 5a. Michael Barnard, Alan Hill. 8 Oct 2016.

The left-hand line. Move up to the break, then continue past a short vertical crack to reach the ramp-line above. Go up this, finishing up right on the ledge shared by the previous routes.

Let's Go Clubbing 12m HVS 5a. Michael Barnard, Alan Hill. 8 Oct 2016.

Start just left of the above. Move up a short ramp to both gain and get established on the ledge up and left (crux, bold). Continue more easily to the top.

Cosmic Crag:

(NC 183 594) Partially Tidal South to West facing

The majestic sandstone cliff looking out towards Seal Island. A great approach (5mins from Droman pier) but can be birdy in the summer. The base is best accessed by an abseil from the fence down the big central corner of the crag; from here a scramble round to the left (looking in) takes one to the dramatic main amphitheatre with its huge roofed section. The following route is affected at high tide.

Exploring the Cosmos 35m E2 5b ***. Michael Barnard, Alan Hill. 13 Oct 2016.

On the far left-hand side of the amphitheatre is an obvious steep right-facing corner-crack. Gain and climb this to its top, stepping left onto a ledge. Now move boldly up and right past wide breaks (huge Cam?) to gain the upper ledge system with interest. Go right to good gear then make a tricky move up to below a roof (small Cams). Pull out left to finish easily.

The big central corner is actually comprised of two smaller corners which meet near the top:

Night of a Thousand Stars 30m E1 5b **. Michael Barnard, Alan Hill. 11 Oct 2016.

The harder left-hand corner. A sustained pitch with the direct finish up the top crack providing a fitting finale.

Fool's Moon 30m E1 5b **. Michael Barnard, Alan Hill. 10 Oct 2016.

The right-hand corner has a nasty start up a short slanting crack. Starting from the ledge just above this gives a good HVS 5a.

The Cracked Block:

(NC 182 596) Non-tidal South-West to North-West facing.

The following routes lie on a huge block on the coast south of Sheigra (the line of *Rage Before Beauty* is actually visible from the campsite) and can be reached in a similar time from there or from Droman pier, 10mins.

Rage Before Beauty 15m HVS 5a **. Michael Barnard, Alan Hill. 10 Oct 2016.
The big crack. The grade assumes the use of large Cams.

Pretty Thing 10m VS 4c. Michael Barnard, Alan Hill. 10 Oct 2016.
A traditional test up the wide cleft right of the above.

Back 'n' Foot 10m V.Diff. Michael Barnard, Alan Hill. 10 Oct 2016.
Bold climbing up the outside of the wide chimney on the SW face.

Local Delicacy 10m HVS 5b **. Michael Barnard, Alan Hill. 10 Oct 2016.
A narrow alleyway has been formed between the block and the wall behind. This route climbs the widening corner-crack next to the north entrance to the alley.

Alley Cat 10m VS 4c. Michael Barnard, Alan Hill. 10 Oct 2016.
Climbs the crack up the block from the middle of the alley.

Creag an Dubh Loch:

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

Ridgeway View Crag:

Rowlocks 10m H.Severe 4b *. Ewan Lyons. 1 Aug 2016.

On a slab to the left of the *Oars Aft* slab, climb a small, curving right-facing corner and finish up a wall.

Nagged 15m Severe 4a. Mike Watson, Fiona Reid. 1 May 2012.

The crack system just right of the big heather choked groove to the left of *Classic Crack*. Ascend this to a ledge at two-thirds height and then easily to the top.

Note: *Michael* (SMCJ 2012) and *Nagging* (SMCJ 2013) are the same.

BEN HOPE:

Notos 400m III,4. Andy Nisbet, Steve Perry. 29 Jan 2017.

The next ridge right of *Viking Ridge* (ignoring a minor one immediately right of *Viking Ridge*). It has a wide triangular base leading to a steep buttress above which the crest becomes defined. Easy ground leads up right of the steep buttress; the length starts from here. Traverse left immediately above the steep buttress and follow the crest as closely as is sensible at the grade. A zigzag line was taken up the highest steep section.

Scandi High 600m IV,4. Andy Nisbet, Steve Perry. 8 Feb 2017.

A thinner snaking ridge which is the ridge right of *Valhalla*. The first steepening was taken on the right leading to where the narrow crest starts. Follow this to a steep section at the second bend. This was climbed by a hidden ramp leading left. Follow the crest to a bigger steepening. This was passed by moving diagonally right across turfy ledges followed by a short steep wall (crux), followed by a groove leading back right. A bigger left-slanting fault was then followed until a capped fault led back right. Continue up to a right-slanting fault through the last steep tier.

Thor's Gully 300m II. Tom Bell, Tim Elson. 6 Mar 2016.

This is the right branch of *Valkyrie*, but the lower pitches were passed on the left to give this overall grade.

Ketosis 500m III. Sandy Allan, Andy Nisbet, Steve Perry, Sarah Sigley. 23 Mar 2017.

The next ridge right of *South Tower Ridge*. *Freja* is between them; the two recessed ridges mentioned in its original description are barely significant. The lowest tier was climbed at its left end and the next tier in the centre, after which the ground steepened. Trend left and up a short gully to pass on to the NW facing side of the ridge. Climb a long groove to the crest. Pass the first tower on the right, then follow the crest to the top.

Polar Express 500m IV,4. Andy Nisbet, Steve Perry. 14 Jan 2017.

The last big gully on the face, left of *Valentine's Ridge*, gave an outstanding climb in icy conditions without much snow. The watercourse starts in a recess and the ice pitch out of it was wet and soft. After easy snow was the crux pitch, 30m of steep ice of variable quality. The grade assumes this is solid and takes ice screws, otherwise V,4. After an easy section is the big upper gully left of the triangular buttress of *Valentine's Ridge*. It held several ice pitches and would be 250m Grade III on its own (could be reached from the left).

Ballot Buttress:

(NC 472 490) West facing

A buttress can be clearly seen from the car park at NC 461 476. A clean buttress of rock at the right end of the main face and with a large X that runs the height of the left side of the buttress. An old peg of unknown origin was found between the first two routes about 10m below the first belay ledge. A topo was provided for the routes.

Approach: Follow the walking path up on to the ridge and continue for 300m. Follow a terrace off to the left for easy access to the bottom of the crag, 50mins.

Creideamh 90m VS. Ross Jones, Helen Stocks. 5 Apr 2007.

1. 25m 4b Climb the slabby corner that forms the bottom left arm of the X to a small roof. Pull up and right round the roof and up to a ledge.
2. 25m 4a Climb a short crack and the corner above on the left to reach a small terrace. Climb a short wall to beneath the final headwall.
3. 30m 4c Climb the left side of the wall to the top.

Right of Passage 90m HVS *. Ross Jones, Matt Dent. 5 May 2017.

1. 35m 4b Climb the crack that forms the right arm of the X, leaving this to climb directly up the wall for 15m.
2. 20m 5a Climb the steep crack to the right and the wall above to a large ledge to belay below a blunt arete.
3. 35m 4c Climb up the side of the wall through blocks and then left to pull back on to the wall and a fine finish.

Daonfhlaithreas 50m E2 5b **. Ross Jones, Clare Jones. 30 Jul 2011.

Climb a right-facing wall some 30m to the right to a capping overhang. Take this on the left and follow cracks to the top.

Dòchas 30m E1 5b *. Ross Jones, Clare Jones. 30 Jul 2011.

Start from a raised ledge some 15m further right. From the top of a detached block pull up onto the wall above. Climb up and rightward to the rib above. Climb this and the wall above to finish.

Fios 25m VS 4b. Ross Jones, Helen Stocks. 5 Apr 2007.

A line on the right of the crag. Climb the centre of a small wall for 5m. Pull up onto the hanging wall above, then traverse right and up and leftwards before climbing the wall above.

CREAG NA FAOILINN:

Parental Approval 120m Severe 3c. Grant Cornwallis. 20 Jun 1987.

On the craggy west face of this grim little hill. Go up loose rock and vertical heather to below a big loose chimney (left, below first big roof/overhang). Thrutch up this then climb straight up sound but easy rock to a smooth section. Follow obvious twin cracks, trending left, then more ground to below a big oblong roof (obvious from the track). Trend left again (or up a bulging slab on cracks) to a loose pillar, then right. Continue to a final wall. On right is a loose flake with a deep fissure behind. On left is a pale corner (an obvious nick on skyline from track). Descent is by leftwards over slabs of sorts then down when an overhanging band is reached.

Note: A 20m Severe was climbed by Grant Cornwallis on a crag on the Bealach na h-Imrich's lower slopes (opposite Creag Shomhairle).

PORT VASGO:

Between the Prow area and Skull Island is a north facing wall above a sloping ledge that drops down into the sea. The next two routes are on this wall and left of *Bronxie*.

Cloud Games 20m H. Severe 4b. Ross Jones, Matt Dent. 6 May 2017.

Climb the crack-line up the wall to the left of the blunt prow and then the broken wall above.

The Navigator 25m E1 5a *. Ross Jones, Matt Dent. 6 May 2017.

Start immediate left of the blunt prow and pull up and onto hanging cracks that cut up the side prow pulling round onto the wall and up to the top.

Dallas Dreams 20m Severe *. Matt Dent, Ross Jones. 6 May 2017.

A route at the left end of the Skull Island face, left of *Skull Island* itself. Climb to a roof and hanging corner. Pull through this and then up in to a niche and then to easier ground above.

Midfield Beach (NC 581 653):

This is south of the crag at Port Vasgo, by the same approach but on reaching the shore, turn left and at mid to low tide, boulder hop round the corner to the beautiful sandy beach. This is the highest crag and without birds. Descend off the grass slope behind.

King of Cramp 15m HVS 5b *. Nick Taylor. 18 Aug 2016.

A crack-line on the left side of the buttress is well protected but steep towards the top. Finish up the arete.

Dimples McFringy 15m VS 5a *. Nick Taylor. 18 Aug 2016.

Follow a groove and crack on the front face of the buttress to the obvious overlap. A difficult pull through leads to easier climbing on the final upper wall.

AUCKENGILL, The Quarry, Orange Wall:

Fast Fuse 12m HVS 5a **. Steve Perry, Grace Peach-Perry. 12 Aug 2016.

A parallel crack-line lies 4m right of *Nybster Groove*. Sustained with good protection.

Force of Nature 12m HVS 5b *. Andy Nisbet, Steve Perry, Jonathan Preston. 17 May 2017.

Right of *Fast Fuse* is a slightly thinner crack which doesn't reach the ground. Start directly beneath.

Miss Dynamite 12m HVS 5a *. Andy Nisbet, Steve Perry, Jonathan Preston. 17 May 2017.

Right again is another full-height crack, left of a grotty one.

ULBSTER, Salad Wall (ND 3405 4175):

An impressive wall bounded by a deep cave on its left and an obvious corner on the right with a slabby right wall. The map reference needs checking. The obvious corner is *Salad Wall* (SMCJ 2014).

Seeing the White 30m E2 5c **. Simon Nadin, Rob Christie. Jun 2015.

Start as for *Salad Wall*. Climb directly into a hanging corner above which leads to the roof. This is climbed leftwards into the final corner.

Unnamed E1? Rob Christie, Charlie Macleod.

The wall to the left.

Unnamed 35m E1 5b *. Simon Nadin, Charlie Macleod. Jun 2015.

Starts from the belay of *Hats off to the Catman*. Start up this until it is possible to step left and make tricky moves around a bulge to enter the groove above. Take a direct line to the top.

SARCLET:

Note: *A Paddlers Tale* is solid E4 5c.

Surfer Buttress:

Saga Saga 35m E4 6a **. Simon & Louise Nadin. Jun 2015.

The impressive wall to the left of *Silver Surfer* has an overhang which runs the length of the wall. The middle of the wall has an obvious corner.

Start just right of the corner and climb up into a groove line. Follow this for 5m until moves right exit this onto the wall. Climb the wall directly to the roof above. Gain a weakness in the roof by moving up rightwards to a Friend placement just below the lip. A traverse left for 3m gains some positive edges where it is possible to pull around the roof and onto the wall above. Climb this finishing rightwards.

Hidden Buttress:

An obvious reef lies 100m north of *Silver Surfer*. The first routes are on the buttress just in front of this. At low tide it is possible to belay on the reef, otherwise

it may be necessary to take a hanging belay on the slab at the bottom of the route.

Line of Sight 20m E4 6a **. Simon Nadin, Charlie Macleod. Jun 2016.

A black corner sits 4m to the right of the left arete of the buttress. Climb easily up the corner to the roof. From an undercut in the roof, it is possible to place good small wires in cracks above. A difficult sequence of moves around the roof gains a good hold and large Cams for protection. Another awkward move gains the black groove above. Follow this more easily to the top.

Stitch in Time 20m E2 5c ***. Simon Nadin, Ed Nind. 22 May 2017.

From the same belay as *Line of Sight*, climb cracks and a shallow corner leading to the corner at the right edge of the roof on the previous route. Pull around the roof into the continuation corner. Moves right across the bulge to gain another crack (often wet). Follow the crack until forced right to tackle a final bulge and crack. Fantastic climbing with good protection but can be slow to dry.

Unnamed 20m E5 6b ***. Simon Nadin, Murdoch Jamieson. 31 May 2017.

The right edge of the buttress has a series of stepped hanging corners. Starting off the right side of the slab, climb rightwards into the first of these corners. Climb this awkwardly until a resting position is gained below the main roof. A Camalot 6 protects the roof and the difficult crux moves to enter the next corner above. Climb the corner to just below the roof and then move right to the shallow corner above. This is followed until moves right lead to the arete. Climb this for a few feet before finishing up the wall on the left.

The next route is in the north facing recess around the arete from the last route. Needs good conditions.

Unnamed 22m E4 5c **. Murdoch Jamieson, Simon Nadin. 31 May 2017.

Climbs the obvious corner until it peters out below an overhanging wall. A series of daunting moves on good holds lead steeply past adequate protection towards the final exit crack. Intimidating and spectacular climbing that passes through some very unlikely terrain.

Across the recess is a slim buttress with an overhanging prow above it.

Seal of Disapproval 25m E2 5b *. Simon Nadin, Rob Christie. 14 May 2017.

From a hanging belay, climb the cracks in the centre of the buttress to a ledge below the left-hand sidewall. Gain a hand rail above and move right before making tricky moves to the obvious flake-crack above. Move up and then leftwards to the hanging ramp. This is climbed to a finish above its left edge.

Man or Mouse 25m E4 6a ***. Simon Nadin, Charlie Macleod. 26 May 2017.

Fantastic climbing with amazing positions and good gear. Needs a good dry spell. Four metres to the right of *Seal of Disapproval* is a north facing corner with a good ledge at its base. Climb the black corner with increasing difficulty to a point 2m below the roof where a traverse left can be made to an obvious good hold and another hanging corner. Climb this passing the next bulge with difficulty (crux, can seep) to some better holds and a rest on the arete. Continue up the overhanging crack on the right side of the arete.

Across the bay from here is a prominent yellow arete with a bird infested left wall. This lies 5m to the south of the gloop at the top of the cliff. The next route starts from a ledge 2m left of the arete.

Paranormal 30m E3 5a. Simon Nadin, Allan Sinclair. 9 Apr 2017.

From the ledge, climb the wall on the right via cracks to a good ledge. Follow a shallow groove above for 3m until a step right onto the wall 1m left of the arete. Climb the wall and then the arete itself to reach a shoulder below a final steep wall. The wall is tackled slightly to the right with numerous detachable holds. You have been warned!

Above the Gloop is an abseil stake. The next route is accessed from here and tackles the obvious central corner two-thirds up the wall.

Gloop Issues 30m E1 5c **. Simon Nadin, Rob Christie, Allan Sinclair. Jun 2016.

Start from a good ledge at the bottom of the groove. Climb this to the first roof. Pass this on the right with tricky moves moving back left beneath another roof and into the main corner. Follow this to the next roof and crux moves into a slim final corner. This is climbed until it peters out where moves right gain the rib, groove and top.

Peekabo VS. Rob Christie, Charlie Macleod. 9 Apr 2017.

The next groove to the right.

Djapana Buttreass:

Unnamed 25m E3 6a **. Simon Nadin, Ed Nind. 22 May 2017.

To the right of *Djapana* is an obvious corner set in the right arete. Belay from an obvious ledge near the bottom. It may be possible to start from a lower position with a low tide and calm sea! Climb the corner with awkward moves passing the obvious roof. Great climbing but can be very greasy so does need a dry spell.

ELLENS GEO (ND 327 407):

From Whaligoe Steps, walk north along the coastline for about 15mins until the pink sandstone and conglomerate walls are visible. An unusual cliff, with climbing that alternates between both sandstone and conglomerate bedding planes. On the whole these routes are well protected by Cams. They are however big lines, especially the right wall and generally require a full rack from micro Cams up to a size 4.

The cliff is in two sections split by the obvious corner taken by *Where the Taught Wave Hangs*. The first route starts on a smaller buttress which juts out at right-angles to the main wall.

Ham it Up 15m HVS 5b **. Rob Christie, Louise Nadin. 8 Oct 2016.

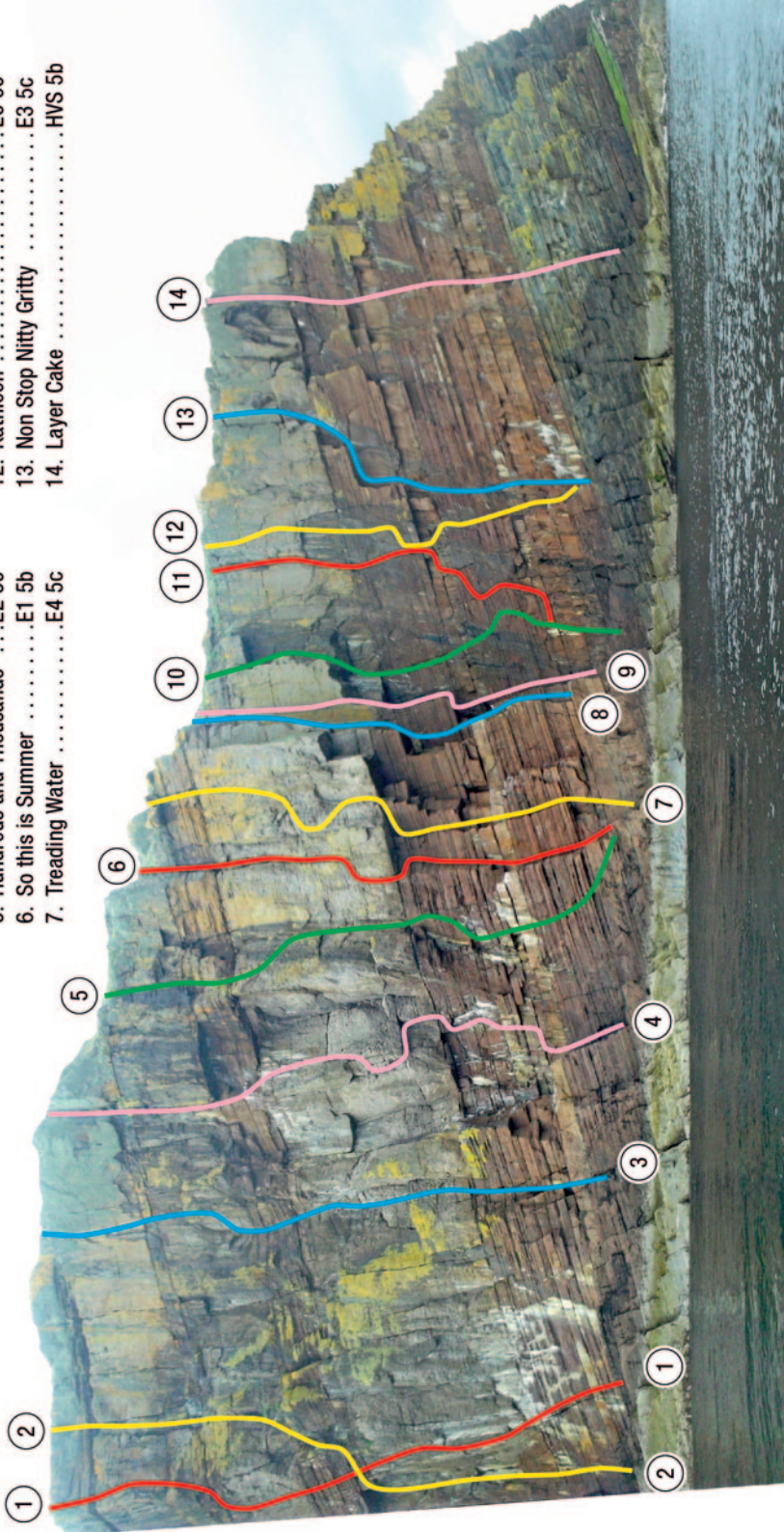
Climbs the obvious crack with a steep start.

The Draining Board 25m E4 6a ***. Simon Nadin, Jacob Crisp. 6 Oct 2016.

Follows the line of the waterfall! Start at the base of a large corner leading to the left-hand side of the roof. Climb the corner and then the blunt rib on the right to good Cams in a break. Move right for 2m. Climb the wall directly followed by a black corner to the top.

ELLENS GEO

1. Gagging ClauseE5 6a
2. Guest Pass ViolationE3 5c
3. StratagemE3 5c
4. Brains as well as BrawnE4 6a
5. Hundreds and Thousands ...E2 5c
6. So this is SummerE1 5b
7. Treading WaterE4 5c
8. Where the Taught Wave HangsHVS 5a
9. Towed in the HoleE4 6a
10. Pig's EarE4 5c
11. The Fracture ClinicE4 5c
12. KathleenE3 5c
13. Non Stop Nitty GrittyE3 5c
14. Layer CakeHVS 5b



Gagging Clause 25m E5 6a ***. Murdoch Jamieson, Simon Nadin. 22 Jul 2015. Seven metres to the right a steep crack leads directly to the right side of the roof. Climb the crack with good but awkward gear. Pull through the roof and continue steeply and spectacularly up the wall on good holds towards a blunt rib to the right of the final corner on *The Draining Board*. Climb the rib finishing on its right side.

Guest Pass Violation 26m E3 5c **. Ian Taylor, Tess Fryer. 8 Aug 2015. Start up the shallow groove to the left of *Gagging Clause*. Climb the groove and traverse right beneath the roof to finish up easier rock above.

Right again an obvious crack splits the yellow wall (project).

Stratagem 26m E3 5c ***. Simon Nadin, Rob Christie. 30 Jun 2015. Two metres right of the yellow crack, an easy start up a sandstone corner leads to a conglomerate corner and ledge. Above this another band of sandstone below a curving flake-crack in a shallow groove leads to a step right onto a rib which is climbed until a rest can be found beneath the headwall. Climb slightly rightwards before committing to a reach back left into the crack which is followed with difficulty to the top.

The next features to the right are an unclimbed conglomerate corner followed by an undercut crack and roof in the arete.

Brains as well as Brawn 28m E4 6a ***. Simon Nadin, Murdoch Jamieson. 22 Jul 2015.

Start in the big sandstone corner below the hanging undercut crack. Climb the corner and traverse right along the break to below the right-hand side of the undercut crack. Climb steeply up into the crack and undercut leftwards out onto the arete. Climb this for a few feet before swinging right onto the slabber face. Climb this to the left side of the large roof. An awkward and exposed move gains the hanging corner above. Follow this steeply to the top. Originally graded E5.

Below the top of the cliff there is a grassy ledge near to the central corner line. It is possible to reach ledges at the bottom of the cliff by a free abseil from here. The next three routes start from approximately the same point.

Hundreds and Thousands 30m E2 5c ***. Simon Nadin, Rob Christie. May 2015.

Start from the ledges beneath the large corner and roof. Traverse leftwards for 2m to gain another ledge. Climb steeply up the sandstone, passing lots of breaks to gain the hanging conglomerate corner above. Follow this until it is possible to move leftwards across the left wall just below the next sandstone band. Climb this steeply to finish up a shallow conglomerate corner.

So this is Summer 30m E2 5b ***. Simon Nadin, Rob Christie. May 2015. Climb the corner above the ledges to the left side of the roof. Pull around this on its left before making steep moves back right across the wall to gain the crack. Follow this to the grassy ledge below the top.



Tess Fryer leads Towed in the Hole (E4 6a), Ellens Geo. Photo: Simon Nadin.

Treading Water 30m E4 5c ***. Simon & Louise Nadin. Jun 2015.

The next shallower corner leads to the centre of the roof. Commit to a traverse right and gain the shallow groove at the side of the roof. Pull through here to a rest. Move up a slightly leftwards to get gear before traversing back rightwards to climb the centre of the wall and small roof at the top.

The next route is the large central corner bounding the left side of the sheer, mostly sandstone wall.

Where the Taught Wave Hangs HVS 5b ** (SMCJ 2006)

The obvious central corner. A direct finish makes it E1.

The first route on the right wall starts below the wide chimney-crack and prominent hanging arete.

Towed in the Hole 32m E4 6a ***. Simon Nadin, Rob Christie, Louise Nadin. 8 Oct 2016.

Spectacular and varied climbing. Climb and bridge the deep cleft until it is possible to step left (good cams on the right) onto the hanging nose. Move leftwards across the slab to the arete. Pull up through the bulge in a very exposed position to gain better holds on the left. Steep fingery wall climbing follows a vague crack-line above.

Pig's Ear 32m E4 5c ***. Simon & Louise Nadin. Sep 2015.

Low down and 3m to the right is an obvious white streak. Climb up to this and follow a vague weakness rightwards for 2m (cams in slightly flared pockets). Move diagonally left across the wall until a crack can be reached. Follow this to the roof above (3.5 & 4 Friend). A long reach gains a good hold in the middle of the roof and powerful moves attain a standing position on the lip. Finish more easily up the corner above.



Ian Taylor on The Fracture Clinic (E4 5c), Ellens Geo. Photo: Simon Nadin.

The Fracture Clinic 32m E4 5c ***. Simon & Louise Nadin. 27 Sep 2015.
Start from the same belay as *Pig's Ear*. Traverse right from the top of the white streak for 2m. Steep moves through the bulge above gain a crack-line. Move up this for 2m before climbing rightwards across the wall to the next crack system. Climb this before moving right again into yet another crack. Follow this to a bulge which is passed with difficulty to gain the final corner. Follow this to the top.

The next two routes start from the same belay below a large corner and roof which has a crack running the length of it.

Kathleen 32m E3 5c ***. Simon & Louise Nadin. 2 Oct 2016.

Climb the corner on the left of the belay to another roof. Move left beneath this to reach a crack shared with *The Fracture Clinic*. Climb this for 2m before moving right across the wall to reach a crack. Follow this to the conglomerate bulge with a deep crack on its right. Pull through the bulge above the crack to gain the wall above. Fingery climbing leads slightly leftwards up a vague crack and hidden pockets to gain sanctuary of good holds below the top. Finish up the short wall to the right of the arete.

Non Stop Nitty Gritty 32m E3 5c ***. Rob Christie, Allan Sinclair. Sep 2016.
Cracks above the belay lead to the looming corner and roof. Difficult moves gain entry into the bottomless corner-crack. Once beneath the roof, a thank god foot-ledge helps progress rightwards to the end of the roof. More sustained climbing leads rightwards to the final corner-crack. Intimidating and requiring careful rope management.

Layer Cake HVS 5b ** (SMCJ 2006)

Follow the corner-line running the full height of the cliff with the crux at the top.

MID CLYTH, Inset Wall:

Amateur Operatics 15m E3 5c **. Peter Herd, Liam Malone. 14 Jul 2016.

A line straight through the steepest section of the wall between *Susan* and *Theatre of Cruelty*. Start as for *T of C* but move right from the starting flake to follow a thin crack up to an obvious steepening. Climb directly through this to a ledge near the top and finish directly by the shallow groove.

Stack Area (Skerry Mor):

Note: *Simon Says* is solid E3 5c. *Simon Says* and *First Passed the Post* are well worth **, as are the *** routes on the Inset Wall.

LATHERONWHEEL, Big Flat Wall:

Macallan's Choice, Direct Start E2 5b **. Simon & Louise Nadin. Jun 2015.

Hand-jam up the well protected, overhanging crack leading out of the roof of the niche to join the original route.

DWS:

A deep water soloing venue at Latheronwheel. This is the most southerly buttress so far. Seen from the top of *Shearwater*, a rocky ridge descends to the sea. An obvious slanting crack splits the left side of this overhanging wall. Scramble down to the edge of the buttress from where it is possible to access a 5c traverse which can be climbed to the obvious niche and crack by the right arete. The arete

can be climbed at 5a as an escape but the top section isn't of the best quality. The smaller crack-line that leads directly to the top of the slanting crack is 5b.

Deep South:

A new buttress between DWS and *Shearwater*. There is a rocky platform at the bottom which is mostly unaffected by the tide. It is possible to scramble down the gully to the north.

Deep South 15m E1 5a **. Rob Christie, Charlie Macleod, Allan Sinclair, Simon Nadin. 2017.

An obvious corner capped by a roof.

Unnamed 15m Severe *. Rob Christie, Charlie Macleod, Allan Sinclair, Simon Nadin. 2017.

The wall and cracks just to the left of the right arete of the buttress.

It is possible to walk along the bottom of the ledge system until a chasm is reached. The buttress to the left of this has been climbed at about VS, as well as some other lines.

Shearwater Wall:

The left side of this wall is very undercut and above deep water with an obvious steep crack.

Ma Cloud of Cordite 5c DWS *. Simon Nadin. 26 Mar 2017.

Traverse out just above the water line to climb past the bottom of the crack and onto the left arete. Follow this passing the left edge of a roof. Finish easily rightwards.

Walnut Whipper 5c DWS *. Simon Nadin. 26 Mar 2017.

Traverse out to the crack and climb this, sometimes damp.

Mindfall 8m HVS 5a *. Simon Nadin, Rob Christie. 5 Feb 2017.

Start 2m left of *Shearwater* at a large flake and climb directly to a shallow corner near the top of the crag.

Deep Blue 8m HVS 5a *. Simon Nadin, Rob Christie. 5 Feb 2017.

Climb the wall and breaks 2m right of *Shearwater* leading to a right-facing corner. Finish up this.

Unnamed 8m Severe *. Simon Nadin, Rob Christie. 5 Feb 2017.

Climb the wall and corners 2m right again.

South Corner:

The following two routes were climbed as DWS. Access is by scrambling down the south side of the buttress and traversing to the base of the routes. Needs high tide.

Marjoram Habit 13m HVS 4c **. Simon Nadin. 29 Jan 2017.

A steep wall leads to a shallow scoop 2m right of dream.

Dill the Weed 14m HVS 5a. Simon Nadin. 29 Jan 2017.

Starts up the corner just left of the right arete of the buttress. Follow this until the corner steepens and it is possible to step out right. Climb under the roof and around its right side before stepping back left to finish up the front of the buttress.

ORKNEY, Old Man of Hoy:

East Face Chimney Variation 145m E1 5a *. Richard Ive, Robert Moorcroft. 13 Sep 2016.

An exciting and memorable alternative to pitch 4 of the original route. Due to the traversing nature of the fifth pitch, the route requires a confident approach from both leader and second.

1. to 3. Climb the first three pitches of the original route to the large ledge.
4. 45m 5a Climb up the left-hand chimney. Continue up the corner above to reach an imposing overhang. Belay at the right edge of the overhang.
5. 10m 4c Embark on a delicate rightwards traverse across the impending left wall of the original route's final corner pitch. This gains a belay on the original route. An exciting pitch.
6. 20m 4c As for the original route to the summit.

North Gaulton Castle:

Solitude 45m E2 5b *. Kevin Woods, David Macmorris. 23 Jul 2016.

Start at a ledge at the base of the north-west arete, accessed by boat at high tide.

1. 25m 5b Climb up and slightly right on good rock to a recess. Pull through a blocky overhang to a large pale coloured break, wriggle leftward and surmount a further step to the base of the green steps.
2. 20m 5b Climb up the blocky staircase before making bold and committing moves up the face left of a thin groove to a ledge. Finish up a short crack.

Note: Kevin Woods thinks the *Original Line* and *Out of the Blue* are different, although starting at the same place, and has sent a topo.

South Ronaldsay, Grimness:

Heading south on the 4th Barrier, take the first exit (signposted Honeysgeo) and drive to the beach where you can park at its north end (ND 487 935). Walk south along the road, then first left and through a gate. Follow cliff around until ND 493 927, marked Out Hillock on the 1: 25000 map, 15 to 20mins.

The crag is a south-east facing sea-cliff maximum height 15m. Descent is possible via a scramble at the very north end but better is to abseil from a large attached block down *Well that's not what I Expected* (240cm sling). Routes are listed south to north.

Main Crag:

Cheese Louise 15m V.Diff. Iain Spence, Linda Somerville. Apr 2017.

Start at the bottom of the dyke close to the sea or step across the gap. Climb just to the right of the roof up easy slabs and finish up a corner-crack.

Brum 15m V.Diff. Linda Somerville, Iain Spence. Apr 2017.

Start in the middle of where the dyke slopes up steeply. Follow easy angled slabs, finishing up through the small roof.

Cleopatra the Chiropractor 15m Diff. Iain Spence, Donna Stephenson. Mar 2017.

Start just before the basalt dyke drops away. Go up and left, following easy slabs until underneath small roof. Move to the left of this and finish up a corner-crack.

Mulher de Guerra Portuguesa 15m V.Diff. Iain Spence, Beta Rodrigues. Oct 2016.

A gentle slab onto a ledge, then climb a corner-crack on a steeper slab.

Assipattle 15m Severe. Iain Spence, Antony Mottershead. Aug 2016.

Go straight up left of a crack to an easy slab traverse below small roof. Go between two roofs and up a thin crack, then finish straight up or head right onto a slab.

Ken Made Us Fat 12m Diff. Ross Mackie, Ken Shuto. Sep 2016.

The left edge of the large slab changes into an arete, then back into a slab.

Well that's not what I Expected 12m V.Diff. Ken Shuto, Ross Mackie. Sep 2015.

Straight up right of the large wide slab.

Suomi 15m Diff. Iain Spence, Laura Hackman. Jul 2015.

Same start as *Ken Made us Fat*, but head right to a flake. Go to the left of a small roof, then finish up through an open corner to the highest point.

The Hup Step 15m Severe. Gareth Squire, Iain Spence. Sep 2016.

Straight up the slab then up through the first roof to the right of the large slab.

Arabella the Killer Whale 15m VS. Linda Somerville, Iain Spence. Sep 2016.

Straight up easy ground onto the small slab, then through the second roof.

Mjolnir 14m Severe. Gareth Squire, Iain Spence. Aug 2016.

Start left and head towards the large flake. Squeeze underneath this to the right, then finish to the right of the double roof.

Rumpelstilskin 14m H.Severe. Antony Mottershead, Iain Spence. Aug 2016.

A direct steep route through gaps between roofs.

Pineapple Socks 14m Severe. Linda Somerville, Iain Spence. Sep 2016.

Go up a slab to the right of the flake to the large roof. Traverse underneath then to its left.

Mutant Gabloos 13m H.Severe. Linda Somerville, Iain Spence. Aug 2015.

Go up a steep wall onto an awkward slab, then straight up through the largest part of the roof, easier than it looks.

Neil the Seal 13m V.Diff. Linda Somerville, Keith Dampney. Jul 2015.

Start at an inconspicuous thread up through two large horizontal cracks, then finish in a corner to the right of a roof.

Frank the Blind Sheep 10m V.Diff. Iain Spence, Linda Somerville. Aug 2015.

To the right of *Neil the Seal*. Finish up a thin crack in the blank looking wall.



Mike Soldner on Motion Suspended (E2 5c), Mirki Wall, Shetland. Photo: Ross Jones.

Jormungandr 10m Severe. Iain Spence, Beta Rodrigues. Apr 2016.
Climb a very open corner and thin groove to a hole, then up a steep wall and a very small roof.

Remote Control 9m VS. Scott Johnstone, Iain Spence. Mar 2017.
Go straight up through the large square hole and finish left.

NORTHERN HIGHLANDS CENTRAL

STONE VALLEY CRAGS, Flowerdale Wall:

Just right of the extreme left end of the buttress is a shallow heathery bay.

Extra Thyme 25m VS 4c. Jonathan Preston, Chris Robinson, Sarah Atkinson. 8 Oct 2016.

Start just right of the bay where the rock is undercut. Climb through to a good spike on the left. Follow the white coloured groove above. Step left at heather and continue up to a short corner. Finish up this and easier ground above.

Asphodel 25m E2 5c. Jonathan Preston; Chris Robinson. 8 Oct 2016.
The impending wall between *Heather Mourning* and *Rock Around the Block*. Climb stepped rock to a steepening. Fingery moves through the bulge lead to better holds. Continue more easily via some blocky rock to the top.

STONE VALLEY CRAGS AREA, Meall an Triubhais Dhuibh, Main Wall:

Militant Tendency 20m E2 5b *. John Mackenzie, Andrew James. 9 Oct 2016.
A route with a strong bias to the left, taking the slanting crack in the lower tier. The innocuous look is a deception; it is well protected but sustained and leads to the heather and the larch belay above. It forms a more direct start to either of the other two routes described in the SMCJ 2014.

PORT ERRADALE, North Stack, Seaward Face:

Tenks Tours 13m H. Severe 4b. Richard Harrison, Ben Noble. 17 Apr 2017.
Climb the crack starting with the hardest move, then follow a left-trending curving crack to the top on good holds and good rock. The rock on the other routes on the stack is less good.

LOCH TOLLAIDH, Ewe Walls:

Ewebiquitous 25m HVS 5a. Jonathan Preston, Andy Nisbet. 8 May 2016.
Start 5m right of the heathery break which is just left of *Ewe Tree Slab*. Climb up into a shallow groove, gain a ledge on the right, then traverse 3m right to cleaner rock leading first up, then slightly right to join the top of *Foot in Mouth* up the final arete.

LOCH MAREE CRAG:

The Circus 45m 8a+ ***. Dave MacLeod. Jun 2017.
The extension to *Hafgufa*, originally bolted by Ian Taylor, finishing up the soaring prow at the top of the crag. The upper part is only about 7b+ in itself but makes the whole pitch a superb trip with sustained interest.

GRUINARD BAY CRAGS:

More Cowbell 10m E5 6a **. Ian Taylor. 9 Mar 2017.

At a lower level and left of Post Crag is an area of small walls and aretes. This route climbs the wall just left of the tallest and most obvious leaning arete. Headpointed above a bouldering mat.

Jetty Buttress, Short West Wall:

Hissy 15m HVS 5b. Jonathan Preston, Andy Nisbet. 9 May 2017.

Start just right of the gully. Move up, then swing left (to avoid a wet step). Climb a left-facing corner and step right until under an overhanging crack through the overhang above. Climb the crack.

Goat Crag: New routes here at:

<<http://www.northwestoutdoors.co.uk/northwestoutdoorsullapool/2016/6/14/goat-crag-top-deck>>

CARN NAM BUAILTEAN, Sylph Buttress:

Sylph, Left-Hand Finish 30m VS 4b *. Sarah Atkinson, Jonathan Preston. 11 May 2017.

1. Instead of moving right (the guidebook says left but this is wrong) to the blunt arete, carry on straight up to belay below a steep crack.
2. Climb the crack with an awkward move at mid-height.

Gossamer Right-Hand Finish 30m VS 4c **. Sarah Atkinson, Jonathan Preston. 11 May 2017.

From the belay at the top of pitch 1 of *Sylph* and *Gossamer*, go right for 5m and climb the obvious twin cracks to a ledge in a niche. Step up and climb the continuation crack and slab to the top. A great pitch on excellent rock.

CARN NAM BUAILTEAN, Golden Buttress:

Note: Jonathan Preston notes that all three routes can be done in one pitch; 45, 50 and 40m respectively. The perched blocks on pitch 1 of *Heart of Gold* have been trundled.

FANNAICHS, Icicle Works Crag:

Love is a Wonderful Colour 25m III. Ewan Lyons. 5 Mar 2017.

A line of least resistance up the ice sheet on the right of the crag.

STRATHFARRAR, Sgurr na Muice, North-East Face:

Globetrotter 280m III,4 *. John Mackenzie, Andrew James. 29 Jan 2017.

To the left of *Trotters Gully* (p344 of NH Central) is a broad turf buttress forming its left wall. Left of centre on this buttress is a turf runnel which lies left of a shallow gully.

1. 35m Start up the steepening turf runnel to belays on the right.
2. 30m The runnel steepens and narrows and is climbed to a hidden rock recess on the right.
3. 40m Traverse horizontally left into a hidden narrow gully which is climbed to its exit.
4. 40m Continue in the same line heading for a closed continuation of the gully, but move right to a good flake below a rock wall.
5. 45m Continue up to easier ground which steepens to another rock wall.

6. 35m Step above the stance and climb to an iced slab above which good ice leads directly to a narrow prominent chimney. Climb this steeply; a fine pitch.
7. 50m Move left from the stance to follow a turfing runnel to the top.

STRATHCONON, Creag Ghlas, West Buttress:

Glitterati 20m VS 5a. Sarah Atkinson, John Lyall. 11 May 2016.

Start just left of the heathery crack, left of *Gloaming Wall*, and go up by flakes to join the upper part of the crack for a short way. Make thin moves left to a left-slanting ramp near the top and step back right to the finish of the crack.

BEN WYVIS AREA, STRUIE HILL CRAG:

Old Kids on the Block 25m Diff.

Right of *Pink Slab* and 2m right of a pine tree, climb the left side of an arete for 4m, then step right and continue to the block finishing behind it by 8m of heather.

Achilles Left-Hand 20m VS 4c **. Dave Allan, Davy Moy. 25 May 2017.

Starts as for *Achilles Chiel* but finishes left. Climb a left-slanting rib then a short arete to a slab. Trend left to a small slanting overlap and follow the thin crack leading from it.

Le Cadeau 20m HVS 5a *. Dave Allan, Davy Moy. 9 May 2017.

Climb the recessed corner behind the slanting rib of *Achilles Chiel* to an overhang. Follow cracks above to the slab and finish midway between the miniature corner on the left and the wide crack on the right.

The Whip 25m Severe. Dave Allan, Davy Moy. 25 May 2017.

This pleasant climb, right of *Hairy Eyrie*, follows the big, open, slightly dirty corner and wide crack with a small tree near the top. Start up the wall just right of the corner.

Grey Slab is renamed *Pocket Slab*.

MOY ROCK:

Little Squeezer 6c+. Andy Tibbs. Jun 2016.

Between *Little Teaser* and *Pulling on Pebbles*.

Cobbledegook 25m 7a *. Ian Taylor. Feb 2017.

Climb *Pulling on Pebbles* to half-height, then follow the right-hand line of bolts to finish at the chain of *Ticks Ate all the Midges*.

NORTHERN HIGHLANDS SOUTH

KNOYDART, Monny Crag (NM 733 995):

Approach: From Inverie, follow the Airoir road for 1 mile to parking on the right before a fork in the road. Walk along the low left fork, then follow the rocky beach to cross a tidal inlet to the south. Follow the coast line back south-east to the monument. The south facing crag is now well seen.

Descent: Easy grassy ground between the two main crags.

Left Buttress:

Gripping Doune 45m V.Diff 4a. Peter Abernethy, George Crossley. 11 May 2017.

On the far left of the left-hand buttress, climb a couple of steep moves to a long right to left ramp. Ascend the ramp to a final airy move to a grassy ledge and then a slab to the top.

Main Buttress:

Illuminati Confirmed 80m Severe **. Ben Norris, Kirsty Tulloch. 10 Apr 2017. Takes the obvious line from the lowest point of the crag, left of centre when viewed from the monument.

1. Start from a tall boulder below a prominent triangular feature. Climb to this, then step up and right (or take the bulge direct) to the first wide ledge.
2. From a band of orange rock, climb the wall, stepping right and up to another wide ledge.
3. Climb the faint crack to a small bulge above another ledge. Surmount this (crux), then continue up to the summit.

Main Buttress, Right Wall:

Approaching from the lowest buttress, walk up a steep grass slope to the bottom of a diamond shaped wall.

Plastic Madonna 20m V.Diff 4a *. Peter Abernethy, George Crossley. 13 May 2017.

Climb the slab to a left-slanting bulge and follow this 8m to a weakness and a prominent quartz vein. Gain the slab and easier ground above to the top.

Monumental 20m Diff. George Crossley, Peter Abernethy. 11 May 2017.

Start right of *Plastic Madonna*. Climb the furthest left of right-slanting cracks to gain the rib and use this to pass the steep bulge on its right side to reach the top.

DRUIM SHIONNACH, West Face:

Children of the Grave 90m IV,4 *. Steve Kennedy, Andy MacDonald. 5 Mar 2017.

Start below two parallel grooves about 10m left of the wide capped chimney which is just left of the start of *Hurting II*. Climb the left-hand groove which ends at a small roof at 15m. Surmount the roof by a slab on the left and continue directly up mixed ground to belay on the main ramp just right of the upper chimney of *Poems* (50m). Finish either by the chimney or by moving right and finishing by the upper part of the ramp (40m).

THE SADDLE, Forcan Ridge South Side:

Travelsick Ptarmigan 120m III. John Lyall, Pauline Dix, Jan Roberts. Feb 2011. The crest of the rib left of *Millenium Chimney*. The route was gained from a short way up *Millenium Chimney* but could be started more directly. A delicate traverse left gained a turf line up the rib, which gave bold but good climbing, with a steep section round a block.

A' CHRALAIG, Lochan na Craigaig:

Dream of White Ledges 140m II. Andy Nisbet, Steve Perry. 25 Nov 2016.

A diagonal line up the right face of *Curled Buttress*. Start down right of its crest

(well below *Curled Buttress*) and climb an easy ramp to a spike (10m). Continue up the ramp to its top, then traverse an exposed ledge round an arete before moving up on turf to a rock outcrop (60m). Go diagonally right and up a turf ramp, continuing right to a slabby corner leading up to the cliff-top (70m).

MULLACH FRAOCH-CHOIRE:

Carry on Nurse 150m II. Sandy Allan, Andy Nisbet, Sarah Sigley. 5 Mar 2017. A fault-line between the central and north buttresses. Low in the grade. Climb via a wide slot to an easy right-slanting snow ramp which leads to the highest crest. A finish back south along the crest improved the route.

Meshuga 180m III. Andy Nisbet, Steve Perry. 9 Mar 2017.

The left side of the north buttress forms a separate crest. Start centrally via a groove until forced out right to an edge, then climb this and move back left to easier slope (45m). Climb the slope to a steepening and go up its right side to a wall (45m). Climb a ramp leading right, then return left to the crest (45m). Follow this to the summit of the left-hand of a pair of ridges (45m). *Frayed at the Edges* climbs the right-hand ridge to its tower and col.

Note: The gully between the south and central buttresses was used for descent, Grade I. The central buttress was climbed by Andy Nisbet in Jan 2017 at Grade II by a right-slanting ramp, then a return left to the easy upper slopes. Andy Nisbet also climbed a better finish to *Frayed at the Edges* on 23 Feb 2017. From the col, descend 10m back towards the corrie, then climb a corner to the highest ridge crest, 30m Grade III.

MEALL GORM:

Colorado Grooves 160m V,6. Simon Richardson, Tom Bohanon. 13 Feb 2017. Start between *Gormless Grooves* and *Gorm Gully* below an inverted triangle of rock.

1. 50m Step right from the belay and climb turf steps up a right-facing corner, then move easily up to a second right-facing corner that leads to the first terrace below a distinctive black wall.
2. 25m Climb a shallow right-facing groove in the black wall via prominent bosses of turf to a small pedestal. Continue up the steep right-facing corner above to the second terrace.
3. 30m Traverse 10m left along the terrace around an edge and climb the line of weakness in the wall above to the third terrace.
4. 30m Continue straight up above terrace to a right-trending ramp that leads to easy ground.
5. 25m Continue straight up and finish up a short left-facing gully.

SGÜRR A' CHAORACHAIN, Patey's Wall:

Wrathchild 35m E2 5c *. Michael Barnard, Alan Hill. 27 May 2017.

Climbs the next break in the wall left of *Gideon's Wrath* (through the 'white patch' mentioned in the description for that route). Continue through the overhang as for *Gideon's Wrath* but then finish directly instead of trending right.

No. 5 Buttress:

Bungalow Bill 20m E1 5a. Michael Barnard, Alan Hill. 9 Jun 2017.

Just above the road. Climb cracks up the left side of the steeper right-hand buttress

(the left-hand buttress is the start of *Vine Street*). Start up and right of the central rib, below a short right-facing groove. Move up this until forced out left onto ledges, then go back up right and follow a thin crack to below its vegetated upper section. Step right and follow another crack to the top.

SGÙRR A' CHAORACHAIN, Far North Buttresses:

Note: Andy Nisbet climbed the right branch of *The Gully in 3D* at Grade III on 14 Feb 2017.

LOCH DUGHAILL CRAGS (SMCJ 2016, p178):

The Archivist – a direct finish was climbed up the obvious thin crack (E1 5b *). This makes a better route, so the original way (regraded HVS 5b) is now a variation. *Dughaill and Dillon* and *The Magic Roundabout* have both been regraded Severe.

Father Maguire 12m VS 4c *. Michael Barnard, Alan Hill. 7 Jun 2017.

The right-hand line on Dughaill's Wall. Start just right of a slanting crack in the lower wall. Move up, then step left and climb the upper part of the crack to gain the ledge below the headwall. Continue directly up this (good Cam protection).

Alternative Facts 10m H.Severe 4a. Alan Hill, Michael Barnard. 7 Jun 2017. Climbs the crack up the wall on the right (some loose rock and vegetation).

Craggy Island 12m VS 4c. Michael Barnard, Alan Hill. 7 Jun 2017.

Climb mid-way between the crack and the arete to its right, finishing up the arete.

Hanging Chad 15m H.Severe 4b. Alan Hill, Michael Barnard. 7 Jun 2017.

Around the corner from the previous routes is a wide crack leading to a roof. Climb the crack and move right to gain a ledge. Continue up the hanging groove above, stepping right and up to finish.

Upper Tier:

Home Economics 12m VS 4c *. Michael Barnard, Alan Hill. 7 Jun 2017.

Lies on the *Quiz Kid* pillar. Gain the pillar directly and continue via horizontal breaks; where these become rounded, step left and up to finish as for *Quiz Kid*.

Sewing Practice 12m Severe 4b. Alan Hill, Michael Barnard. 8 Jun 2017.

Climbs the most prominent crack in the wall right of *Quiz Kid* (just left of an easier groove).

Extra Revision 12m H.Severe 4b *. Michael Barnard, Alan Hill. 7 Jun 2017.

The left-hand line on the *Swot Team* prow. Climb a thin crack leading to a wide break (large Cams). Traverse right to gain the arete, then finish as for *Swot Team*.

Punishment Exercise 12m E2 5b *. Michael Barnard, Alan Hill. 8 Jun 2017.

Start as for the above, but step left below the break to climb the thin vertical crack.

Suspect Detention 10m VS 5a. Michael Barnard, Alan Hill. 8 Jun 2017.

Lies on the NW face of the pinnacle. Climb the vertical cracks up the wall (hard to start and steep at the top).

Stoats 'n' Pollcats 20m VS 4c *. Alan Hill, Michael Barnard. 8 Jun 2017.

Behind and just past the pinnacle is a cracked rib leading to a lower angled rounded arete. A crack starts up the crest of the rib; climb the next crack just right of this, leading through a bulge (crux). Continue up the fine upper arete.

CREAG AN FHITHICH EAST:

(NG 894 538) North-North-West facing

These routes lie further left on the hillside from the existing Creag an Fhithich climbs, again on the top tier below the skyline. The crag is seen ahead when driving south towards Annat from Torridon village, with the routes being on a larger wall on the far right side of the visible face. Park in Annat (NG 894 544) and follow the hill path until just past the trees, then go rightwards up the hillside to reach the crag (20mins). Alternatively take a left-slanting approach from near the pub (park at the road bridge), or combine with Creag an Fhithich and contour round. Note that 50m ropes are needed for some of the routes in order to reach the belays.

The highest part of the crag is an impressive dome of rock on the right. Routes are described right to left from here.

Can Salmond 25m HVS 5a . Michael Barnard, Alan Hill. 9 Jun 2017.

Start below the right side of the dome, at a short vertical crack. Go up this until possible to gain ledges on the right (stepping right higher is E1 5a), then move up to a short left-facing groove. Thrutch up this to gain the ledge above, then step left to climb the upper wall past a small larch.

Sturgeon's Supper 25m VS 5a *. Michael Barnard, Alan Hill. 9 Jun 2017.

Good climbing up the crack and corner on the left side of the dome.

Moving left, the ground becomes more slabby and low angled; the next route lies on the left side of this section:

Orange Roughy 20m Severe *. Alan Hill, Michael Barnard. 9 Jun 2017.

Easy climbing leads to a fine crack in the slabby upper wall.

Left of the above is a shorter steeper section of crag with two obvious parallel crack-lines.

Great White Shark 15m E2 5b **. Michael Barnard, Alan Hill. 9 Jun 2017.

A direct and serious line up the centre of the wall right of the right-hand crack. Climb easily up to the break below the wall, then move up to a higher break (good Cams, last protection). Continue with sustained interest, finishing left up the final slanting break.

Salmond's Leap 15m VS 4c *. Michael Barnard, Alan Hill. 9 Jun 2017.

The right-hand crack.

SGÙRR DUBH, Larch Tree Crag (SMCJ 2015, p488):

Sadly, the larch tree which gave the crag its name is no more. It was found lying on the ground stripped of most of its bark – looked like a stag attack.

Stag Attack 20m VS 4b *. Steve Kennedy. 1 May 2017.

The thin crack on the wall left of the jamming crack of *Larch Tree Crack*, joining that route near the top.

Stripper 25m V.Diff *. Steve Kennedy. 1 May 2017.

Start about 5m right of and above the start of *Larch Tree Slab* and climb a crack-line leading over a small bulge to the headwall. Finish up the slab on the left beneath the headwall.

HAIRPIN CRAG:

Hair-Trigger Hanging 30m E2 5c *. Michael Barnard, Alan Hill. 8 Jun 2017.

Start just left of *The Text Book*. Climb just left of that route until possible to gain a ledge on the left. Step left and move up to below the roof, then traverse right to gain a ledge below the right side of a slabby wall leading out left to the arete. Traverse the wall (crux) to finish up the arete and easier grooves above.

Trumpets of Jericho 30m E2 5b *. Michael Barnard, Alan Hill. 8 Jun 2017.

Start as for *The Text Book*. Climb up into the corner, but then take the steep crack up the left wall, finishing up the arete.

INVERALLIGIN TO DIABAIG, Inveralligin Sea-Cliffs, Boomerang Crag (NG 811 571):

A small south facing crag of impeccable gneiss situated below the main path on the Rubha na h-Airde Glaise peninsula on the hillside above Discovery Rock.

Down Under 9m VS 4c *. Cynthia Grindley, Steve Kennedy, Colin Moody. 16 Oct 2016.

Start just right of the left edge and climb a short slab to gain a left-facing corner. From the top of the corner, move right onto a shelf and finish up slabs.

Aussie Round 9m Severe 4a *. Colin Moody, Cynthia Grindley, Steve Kennedy. 16 Oct 2016.

The central crack system.

Kylie 9m VS 5b *. Steve Kennedy, Cynthia Grindley, Colin Moody. 16 Oct 2016.

The wall 2m right of *Aussie Round*. A few initial, thin technical moves lead past a couple of horizontal breaks to the easy upper slab.

Rubha na-h Airde Glaise:

Headland of the grey or hoary height.

Approach: Park at Wester Alligin and approach as for Creag Alligin to a bifurcation at NG 813 572 where the Diabaig path heads off west over the moor. Continue south-west 60m above the shoreline on a faint path to a flat boggy area 500m before the tip of the peninsula. The outline of Discovery Rock is seen on the hillside to the right. For Big Bill's Crag turn down left to the shore at a ruined shieling a little further towards the headland. For Peninsula Crag head down a slight hollow running south-west (thick bracken) to the shore and the crag is immediately on the right.

Peninsula Crag:

(NG 808 607) Alt 10m South facing

This impending cliff of red gneiss lies on the left side of the promontory shoreline directly opposite the Shildaig narrows and gives some excellent climbing. The sloping stratification provides added interest. The harder routes were briefly inspected and cleaned before lead. Routes are described from right to left, starting with a smooth reset wall just above and right of the main wall.

Penny for your Thoughts 10m E2 5c *. Martin Moran, Robin Thomas. 25 Mar 2016.

Start in the centre, climb to a detached flake, then go left to a thin break and steeply up to a finishing flake.

The main wall is gently overhanging apart from an easement at two-thirds height.

Lines on my Face 16m E3 6a **. Martin Moran, Robin Thomas. 22 Jul 2016.
On the right edge of the wall climb into a niche, exit left on a handrail and move up with difficulty to gain big holds in the glaci. Climb the upper wall on positive holds to a sloping finish.

It's a Plain Shame 16m E4 6a **. Martin Moran, Robin Thomas. 22 Jul 2016.
Move up left from the start of *Lines on my Face* under a bulge. Surmount this by a bold move to good holds and runners in a ramp, and pull on to the resting break. Fix a runner up right in *Lines on my Face* then climb the wall just left by some stretchy moves to a short, obvious finishing flake.

Wind of Change 18m E5 6a ***. Martin Moran, Robin Thomas. 25 Mar 2016.
The original route of the crag starts down left at the base of the wall. Climb a steep flake-crack, then move strenuously out left for 2m along a sloping break, make a difficult move left at its end to a vertical weakness and pull up to a break (crux). Move right along this to a good resting position. Move awkwardly out left on a finger break and pull straight up to a finishing flake.

Do You Feel Like We Do? 18m E5/6 6a ***. Martin Moran, Robin Thomas. 22 Jul 2016.

The impending wall 3m to the left provides an arm-wilting direct version of *Wind of Change* with just adequate protection. Pull over the first bulge using a thin crack to gain holds in a niche and continue straight up to join *Wind of Change* just below the break (beware loose rock). Continue up this to finish.

A vertical vegetated gully bounds the main wall on the left. The walls to the left are more primitive in appearance. A ledge at two-thirds height is thickly-covered in heather and saplings.

Reawakening 10m E1 5b *. Martin Moran, Robin Thomas. 22 Jul 2016.
Gain the huge flake in the middle of the wall by some sharp fingery cracks and climb it to a lower-off from the crowning spike (in-situ sling). After intensive gardening the route might be extended to the upper wall.

COIRE DUBH CRAGS, Creag Coire Dubh:

Salute the Sun 30m H.Severe *. Sarah Atkinson, John Lyall. 14 Jun 2016.

Just right of the large block/pillar on *Sandcastle* is a dirty looking groove running the full height of the crag. Follow this to the top.

DIABAIG:

Dire Arete 25m E1 5b. Michael Barnard (unsec). 2 Oct 2016.

The fine hanging arete marking the crag's change in aspect. Start as for *Apprentice Bhoys*, then traverse left above the roof to good gear below the blunt arete. Make a tricky move to start and continue boldly to the top.

Note: Michael Barnard did *Brimstone* with an *Afterglow* variation. Via pitch 2 of *Afterglow* but without the hard finish, instead stepping back into *Brimstone*. He thought the route even better, same grade.

BEINN ALLIGIN:

Salvation Ribs 300m IV,3. John Jackson, Joanne McCandless, Graeme Crowder, Martin Holland, Doug Spencer, Neil Hamlett. 4 Mar 2017.

Climb the buttress left of *West Coast Boomer* starting up a turfy groove through the lower tier, 10m left of the start of the gully. Above much variation is possible with easier lines generally being out left until moving back right after four pitches to overlook *West Coast Boomer* where the angle eases. Best with well frozen turf, but could save the day if the ice lines aren't in condition.

LIATHACH, Coire na Caime:

Equilateral 250m IV,5. Andy Nisbet, Steve Perry. 5 Feb 2017.

The right edge of the squat triangular buttress left of *Fat Man's Folly*. Start at the right edge of the base and climb a two-stepped fault. Pass right of a long wall and go up left to a terrace (50m). Continue above, then go left and back right to gain and climb a wide slot leading to another terrace (60m). A steep final tier was avoided by going right into *Fat Man's Folly* for a short way, then back left to its top. Follow the easy crest above until it merges with snow slopes leading to the top.

Redcloak Rib 120m II. Neil Wilson, Simon Richardson, Roger Webb. 1 Mar 2017.

The well-defined rib right of Bell's Buttress.

Northern Pinnacles:

Hell Side 150m III. Andy Nisbet. 13 Feb 2017.

On the NW face of the Northern Pinnacles ridge (the opposite side from the existing routes) are several ridges. Many are broken but this one is continuous and leads to the top of the second last pinnacle, climbed by the route *Holy Ghost* on the Coire na Caime side. Its distinctive feature is a steep smooth section of crest at mid-height. Start in the centre and trend left to gain the base of the smooth section. Traverse right under this, climb the first sensible groove and traverse back left above it. Follow a sharp crest with one deviation right to gain the top of the pinnacle.

Sgorr a' Chadail:

The Path and the Way Direct 40m E1 5b *. Rory Brown, Thomas Shaw. 8 May 2017.

A direct start to *The Path and the Way* (SMCJ 2016) which takes the obvious crack-line through a small roof. The crack then continues straight up, to join the cracks and grooves in the upper half of the original route.

Stuc a' Choire Dhuibh Bhig:

The following routes lie on the upper tier of rock immediately left of *Stringless Gully*. The crag is best approached by ascending ground left of the lower tier (steeper on the right).

The Stringman 25m VS 5a **. Michael Barnard, Alan Hill. 6 May 2017.

The best line on the crag is a prominent, widening vertical crack just left of an arete. Go up a short wide crack to a ledge then step right and up a thin crack. Move left to climb the vertical crack (crux).

The other two routes lie on a clean slabby wall further left.

String 'Em Up 25m HVS 5a *. Michael Barnard, Alan Hill. 6 May 2017.

A shallow groove leading to a right-slanting flake in the upper slab.

Slender Threads 25m E2 5b **. Michael Barnard, Alan Hill. 6 May 2017.

Slightly eliminate but very good climbing right of *String 'Em Up*. Move up the blunt rib right of that route to reach a ledge, then a higher ledge. Place a Cam in *String 'Em Up*, then continue up the rib to below the upper slab. Finish up the thin snaking crack right of the right-slanting flake.

The following route climbs vertical cracks up a fine clean wall in the upper tier right of *Triceratops* (well seen from below). This tier is best gained from the right.

Velociraptor 15m E1 5b **. Michael Barnard, Alan Hill. 6 May 2017.

The vertical cracks, with the crux moving left to gain the upper crack.

Bottleneck Slide 15m HVS 5a. Alan Hill, Michael Barnard. 6 May 2017.

The wide corner-crack immediately to the right (Friend 6 useful).

BEINN EIGHE, Far East Wall:

Groovin' High, Variation Start 30m 5a. Michael Barnard, Alan Hill. May 2017.

Two metres left of the normal start is a thin crack. Climb this and move up and left to blocks, then back up rightwards via a series of ramp-lines. Step right below the final wall to gain the belay ledge as for the normal way.

Eastern Ramparts Note: After pitch 2 of the *Eastwood Variation*, moving left along a flake-crack to regain *Pale Rider* (5b) allows this to be climbed at E2.

Sail Mhor:

West Ridge of Morrison's Gully 300m II. Mark Robson, Gavin Mackenzie. 11 Feb 2017.

A mountaineering wander with fine positions, but a little unbalanced by a short steep step of tech 4 one-third of the way up. Likely to have been climbed before. Climb a little way up into the base of *Morrison's Gully* (No.1 Gully) to where it narrows and it's possible to traverse easily out of the gully onto the right (west) flank. Continue rightwards and upwards over small rock steps and easy ground

to a short wall. Surmount this with difficulty and then straight up over more easy ground to a spectacular flat rock platform. Continue up the ridge to the summit of Sail Mhor.

Sgùrr Ban:

Bandersnatch 200m II. Ewan Lyons. 10 Feb 2017.

A line of least resistance up the right side of the crag. Start in the centre of the crag below the large steep wall (right of *The Ramp*). Trend up left to the bottom of a ramp underneath small overhangs. Follow the ramp up right to gain a rib to the left of a cul-de-sac gully. Go up the rib and step right into the shallow continuation gully which is followed to the top.

CAIRNGORMS

COIRE AN T-SNEACHDA, Aladdin's Buttress:

Torment 100m E2 5b. Brian Davison, Andy Nisbet. 18 Sep 2016.

The highlight was the arete overlooking *Damnation* corner. Start just left of the toe of the buttress.

1. 35m 4c Climb a wide groove, often wet, and go up to a nose. Step left on to its top, then climb slabs up and right to a crack in the right wall of a grassy ramp on *Genie*.

2. 20m 4b Pull into the crack and climb slabs to the belay of *Damnation* below its corner system.

2. 30m 5b Climb the corner to a flake and step right. Go up slab to the point where *Salvation* crosses the overlap. Cross the overlap just left of this (or as for *Salvation*, easier), then move diagonally left to near the arete. Move up, then gain the arete. Continue just right of it to the belay of *Damnation*.

3. 15m 5b Climb a crack leading right through a steep section, then easier to the top.

COIRE AN LOCHAIN, No.1 Buttress:

Intravenous Fly Trap 70m X,10. Greg Boswell, Scott Grosdanoff. 8 Feb 2017.

1. 35m Climb the stepped wall 2m to the left of the *Big Daddy* corner. Climb the left side of the wall passing a small overlap, then direct up a crack to reach a hanging pod on the arete. Climb this, then trend right to reach the terrace.

2. 35m Finish up any of the upper pitches from the terrace.

No. 3 Buttress:

Ewen Crest 90m IV,5. Susan Jensen, Andy Nisbet, Jonathan Preston. 28 Dec 2016.

Start just inside *The Couloir* and traverse right on to the crest. Climb grooves to where *Ewen Buttress* reaches the crest (30m). Cross that route and continue up the crest to a pinnacle (30m). *Rear Entry* joins near here. Continue up slabby ground just left of the crest to the top of the buttress (30m).

No.4 Buttress:

Bulgy, Direct Finish HVS 5a ***. Michael Barnard, John MacLeod. 27 Aug 2016.

Where the normal route goes left through the twin roofs, instead climb steeply up



Brian Davison on the FA of Torment (E2 5b), Aladdin's Buttress, Coire an t-Sneachda.
Photo: Andy Nisbet.

the top wall, moving left to use the left edge. A finely positioned pitch and generally well protected (take a full set of Cams up to 4).

SHELTER STONE CRAG:

Note: Ken Crocket & Ian Fulton climbed *Consolation Groove* free in Sep 1971, the first recorded free ascent.

HELL'S LUM CRAG:

Kiwi Slab, Direct Start 70m IV,4. John Lyall. 5 Jan 2017.

Start up a narrow chimney slot about 5m left of the deep right-facing corner of *Big De'il*. Follow this fault and steep ice just right of an icicle fringed boss, to gain the foot of the left-facing corner of the original route, at the end of the traverse.

Note: JL had climbed a line close to this in the mid-eighties, but it seems worth a new description as it gave a superb natural line.

Thin White Duke 150m V,4. John Lyall. 5 Jan 2017.

Start just left of the narrow chimney slot, and climb ice up a slight rib, then slabs, and follow a shallow, left-slanting corner to the left of the icicle fringed boss to reach the traverse of *Kiwi Slab*. Follow the ice sheet above; between *Kiwi Gully* and the corner of *Kiwi Slab*, make a thin move left, then follow a slim, right-slanting corner/groove, then easier slopes to the top. Climbed on perfect ice.

STAG ROCKS:

Last Gasp 70m III/IV,5. John Lyall. 5 Feb 2017.

Starts about 10m left of *Final Groove* and follows a groove! Gain the hanging,

icy groove line by a steep initial wall, and follow this until possible to gain the parallel fault on the left, which leads to a steep wall. Move up left by a crack to gain a big ledge. Move right and onto a block, then up the right edge of the recessed area, passing the roof and finishing by a turf crack. A surprising route.

Notes:

Andy Nisbet & Masa Sakano started *Triple Towers* by a 60m pitch out left from *CM Gully* (the crest had no snow) at Grade III to reach the bay above the ice on Stag Route. *CM Gully* looked Grade IV and certainly not II/III. John Lyall climbed *Serrated Rib* and thought it tricky for Grade II, but all the routes climbed by Bill March in Nov 1969 were undergraded.

MAM SUIM, Creag na h-Iolair:

Operation Grouse 40m III. Simon Richardson, Roger Webb. 24 Feb 2017.

The left-facing corner continuing straight up from the initial short gully of *Storms of Life*.

The Heroes of Telemark 40m III,4. Simon Richardson, Roger Webb. 24 Feb 2017.

A line between *Storms of Life* and *Fate is not an Eagle*. Start up the initial ramp of *Fate is not an Eagle*, then break left up an awkward wall just before the steep corner. Continue up, traverse right, then take a parallel line right of *Storms of Life* up a steep fault in an exposed position to reach easier ground.

CREAGAN COIRE A' CHA-NO:

Plasma Gully, Asthma Finish 20m III,4. Jon Foden, Ivor McCourt. 5 Jan 2017. Follow *Plasma Gully* for most of its length to just before it turns right and steepens. Follow a groove up the steep left wall for 15m to a ledge running right (easy escape). Finish directly up the left wall via a niche and overhanging blocks, well protected fun!

Big Boy Made Me 60m II. Euan Whittaker, Martin Holland. 5 Jan 2017.

The gully immediately left of *Once Were Alpinists*.

1. 35m Climb the gully to where the angle eases.
2. 25m Continue up easier ground to the top.

Cosmopolitan Chimney 60m IV,6. Roger Webb, Simon Richardson. 25 Nov 2016.

To the right of the broken right flank of *International Rib* is a gully topped by a steep narrow chimney. Climb the gully (35m) and continue up the chimney above to a difficult exit on the right.

Half Blood 50m III. Roger Webb, Simon Richardson. 25 Nov 2016.

The line of grooves to the right of *True Blood Direct*.

CNAP COIRE NA SPREIDHE:

Rampe Exposé 300m II. Roger Webb, Simon Richardson. 28 Nov 2016.

Start 50m left of *Goulotte Cachee* and follow a ramp-line into the amphitheatre. Continue along the ramp then break left up a steep wall to the upper snowfield. Climb left of the ridge defining the right edge of the snowfield and exit right up a well-defined wide gully to broken rocks (normally snow) and the top.

Rampline 300m II. Ron Walker, Fi Chappell. 5 Dec 2017.

Just right and parallel to the above route to about halfway, then shares the wide gully, but continues up on the right side of the ridge to the top, zigzagging and breaking through a series of walls, chimneys, ramps and a short steep icy wall before finishing up a wall of big jammed blocks close to the right side of the central ridge.

Note: Ron Walker thinks he has probably climbed and skied the left side of the ridge with a much bigger build-up.

The following four routes lie on another crag which is passed just before reaching the main rock climbing crag. The main feature is an obvious wide flake-crack.

Cheap Day Return 12m VS 5a **. Michael Barnard, Alan Hill. 10 Sep 2016. Climb another crack just right of the main flake-crack (crux) and continue up the slab above to finish as for the next route.

Kick out the Jams 12m E1 5c **. Michael Barnard, Alan Hill. 3 Sep 2016. A struggle up the wide flake-crack (crux). Continue up the equally good upper flake-line.

Further left and up are two parallel corners and a rockfall scar.

Slipstream 15m H. Severe 4b. Alan Hill, Michael Barnard. 3 Sep 2016. The right-hand corner above two large blocks. Good solid rock.

Savage Slut 15m HVS 4c. Alan Hill, Michael Barnard. 3 Sep 2016. The left-hand corner has more than its fair share of loose/rotten rock, passes near a 'death block' and is not recommended.

The next routes lie on the main wall of the crag (right of *Beyond Superstition*) which bears a strong resemblance to some parts of Clach na Beinn.

Acolytes of Gloom 15m E2 5b **. Michael Barnard, Alan Hill. 10 Sep 2016. A fine line up the wall right of *Beyond Superstition*, but forced out right near the top. Start up *Prologue Groove* for a couple of moves, before undercutting left below the roof and pulling through to gain the line of flakes. Continue more easily to a large hold and good nut, then move up and make a delicate move to the obvious thin flake. Step right to finish as for *Prologue Groove*.

Prologue Groove 15m Severe *. Alan Hill, Michael Barnard. 3 Sep 2016. The groove in the centre of the crag.

Five metres right of the groove is a vertical chimney; immediately left of this is a blunt rib with a thin flake-crack either side of the crest.

Baron Von Tollbooth 15m E2 5b **. Michael Barnard, Alan Hill. 3 Sep 2016. Start just up from the base of the rib and gain a hold on the left. Climb the rib using both flake-cracks (little or no protection) to reach respite at a horizontal foot ledge. Continue up then step left to finish up the fine upper crack.
Variation: Chrome Nun Finish E2 5b **. Michael Barnard, Alan Hill. 10 Sep 2016.

From the base of the upper crack, step left to climb the upper tower, finishing directly. A good finish and better in keeping with the main route.

Afterburn 15m Severe. Alan Hill, Michael Barnard. 3 Sep 2016.
The vertical chimney.

One Year 'til the Bus Pass 15m HVS 5a *. Michael Barnard, Alan Hill. 3 Sep 2016.

The obvious left-slanting line in the crest right of the chimney. A bold start (crux) leads to easier climbing up the crack, with the twin flakes on the left providing a good finish.

Blaeberry Jam 40m HVS 5a. Michael Barnard, Alan Hill. 10 Sep 2016.

Just past the main crag a fine steep tower is visible with some lighter coloured rock to the right. This route climbs cracks to the left of the crest, then up the main crack above to finish directly. A bit vegetated lower down, but improves with height.

The Pinnacles:

The 'finger of rock' seen on the approach is actually the first of a group of three.

Supersonic Scientist 10m HVS 5a ***. Michael Barnard, Alan Hill. 10 Sep 2016.

The left-slanting chimney-crack on the underside of the first pinnacle gives a brilliant wee climb.

Methodist Missionary 15m E1 5a *. Michael Barnard, Alan Hill. 10 Sep 2016.
Facing the above is the large slabby face of the smaller second pinnacle. This route climbs a ramp near the left edge to a small roof (RPs) before finishing up the slab above.

CRAIG RAIBEIRT:

Firefly Corner 30m V,6. Iain Small, Simon Richardson. 23 Nov 2016.

The prominent corner right of *Typhoon Corners*. Climb *Typhoon Corners* for 10m, then continue up to the roof. Step right below it and pull up on helpful holds onto wall above. Finish up this to the top.

LURCHER'S CRAG, South of South Gully:

Boules 100m II. Sandy Allan, Susan Jensen, Andy Nisbet. 27 Dec 2016.

Start left of the ridge of *Skittles*. Climb a fault-line up right towards *Skittles* but take another line leading left after 10m. Follow this to a subsidiary crest and take this back right to finish at the same place as *Skittles*.

Receding Hare 100m II. Sandy Allan, Susan Jensen, Andy Nisbet. 27 Dec 2016.
The shallow gully between *Skittles* and *Ten Pins*.

The Alley 100m I. Andy Nisbet. 5 Dec 2016.

A narrow gully between *Ten Pins* and the *Punchdrunk* buttress.

The Seeker 110m II. Andy Nisbet. 2 Jan 2017.

A ramp-line left of the *Punchdrunk* buttress crest. Start just inside *The Alley* and

go out right to gain the base of the ramp which is formed left of a vertical wall near the crest. Follow the ramp to its end, then go up right to the crest (60m). Move out left and climb left of the crest until forced to join it and the other routes to the top (50m).

Storm Barbara 110m III. Andy Nisbet, Jonathan Preston. 22 Dec 2016.

The depression between *Pug Face* and *Drystane Ridge*. Climb the depression to a bay below a steep wall. Traverse right with a step down until about 10m left of the crest of *Drystane Ridge* (30m). Climb up slightly leftwards to a left traverse below a steep wall and reach a chimney-crack (30m). Climb this and move left to reach the easier upper depression (10m). Climb this to the top (40m).

Far South End:

Theory of Relativity 45m VII.9. Steve Perry, Andy Nisbet, Jonathan Preston. 7 Nov 2016.

A groove and crack-line just right of the crest which forms the left edge of the front face of the buttress with the *Canis* routes. Very strenuous but good protection. Start at the base of the crest.

1. 15m Climb steeply into a ramp which leads to an overhanging groove. Climb this with difficulty to ledges where the angle eases.
2. 15m Continue to a small pinnacle and the crack-line directly above.
3. 15m An easier continuation leads to easy ground.

Wolfpack 40m VI.7. Andy Nisbet, Steve Perry, Sarah Sigley. 23 Nov 2016.

A groove just left of the right crest of the *Canis* buttress.

1. 20m Make steep moves leftwards to enter the main groove and climb it to the right crest. Go up just right of the crest to a narrow chimney behind a pinnacle on the crest.
2. 20m Climb the chimney to the top of the pinnacle. Follow the crest to easy ground, joining *Canis Major* high up.

SRÒN NA LAIRIGE:

East of the summit is a small cliff comprised of a rib and buttress.

Stickleback Rib 70m II. Roger Webb, Simon Richardson. 2 Jan 2017.

Climb the well defined left-hand rib in two pitches.

Shark 70m V.7. Simon Richardson, Roger Webb. 2 Jan 2017.

The buttress to the right of *Stickleback Rib* is characterised by a huge down-sloping flake at its base.

1. 30m Start in the corner left of the flake and climb steeply up to a vertical wall. Climb first left, then right to exit on the right edge.
2. 40m Bear left up steep blocky ground to gain an easier finishing ridge that finishes at the same point as *Stickleback Rib*.

BRAERIACH, Garbh Choire Mor:

West Gully, Left-Hand Finish 70m II. Simon Richardson. 20 Jan 2017.

From near the top of *West Gully*, take the narrow left exit that cuts into the right flank of *West Buttress*.

Tewnion Slabs 100m III. Simon Richardson. 20 Jan 2017.

In lean conditions an ice streak forms down the slabby wall between *Sphinx Gully* and *Pinnacle Gully*. This leads to a right-trending ramp and provides a short climb approximating to the summer line climbed by Sandy Tewnion in Jul 1940.

Coire an Lochain:

Sinister Dredge 100m III,4. Roger Webb, Simon Richardson. 5 Jan 2017.

The right-facing corner left of *Ice Elation*. Icy slabs lead to the main corner, which bears left at half-height and contains a couple of steep bulges in its upper half.

Einich Cairn, Coire nan Clach:

Forgotten Face 70m V,7. Roger Webb, Simon Richardson. 29 Jan 2017.

The front face of *The Forgotten Pinnacle*.

1. 30m Climb deceptively awkward slabs (which bank out later in the season) to the base of the steep front face.
2. 20m Continue up the gully on the left, then move back immediately right onto a flake-platform on the front face. Climb the steep cracked wall above to the top of the pinnacle.
3. 20m Descend to the col behind and finish up the easy connecting ridge to the plateau (as for *The Forgotten Pinnacle*).

BEINN A' BHUIRD, Coire nan Clach:

Stonewall Ramp 180m III. Simon Richardson. 15 Mar 2017.

The right wall of The Promontory is cut by an ice-smear ramp. Move easily up snow to the ramp, climb a short ice smear and continue up the shallow gully above to the broad front crest of The Promontory. Finish up easy ground to the top.

Cleirich Couloir 120m II. Simon Richardson. 27 Jan 2017.

The open icy gully immediately north of the small lochan in the right lobe of the corrie starting at NJ 099 003 is fed by a spring and provides a worthwhile climb in lean conditions mid-winter.

LOCHNAGAR, Southern Sector, The Sentinel:

Paladin 130m V,6. Simon Richardson, Sophie Grace Chappell. 22 Dec 2016.

Start 70m left of the toe of the buttress and climb easy mixed ground to the start of the summer route. Follow the summer line to the top.

Perseverance Wall:

Columbus Rib 70m IV,4. Simon Richardson, Ben Richardson. 28 Dec 2016.

The well-defined rib between *Resolution Gully* and *Lunar Eclipse*.

1. 40m Start just right of *Resolution Gully* and climb through a steep bulge on the right wall. Continue up a turfy V-groove to a tower and climb the right flank of this via good cracks to a ledge.
2. 30m Step left and climb the right-trending groove to the top of the buttress. Scramble along a short horizontal section to reach easy snow and the cornice.

The Cathedral:

Fat Daddy 70m VI,7. Guy Robertson, Pete Benson. 25 Nov 2016.

A good short route between *Cracker* and *Cathedral Chimney*. Start up on the left wall of *Cathedral Chimney*, immediately opposite the start of the difficulties on *Magic Pillar* at a rockfall scar.

1. 20m Gain the obvious steep groove from the right and follow this to ledges.

2. 20m Climb short walls and ledges up right towards the edge, then go straight up a steep right-facing flake-crack with a hard exit onto a ledge. Follow wide cracks back up trending left onto an airy perch on the ridge.
3. 30m Climb directly up short turf steps.

CREAG AN DUBH LOCH:

Spitfire 75m E2 *. Michael Barnard, Susan Jensen. 17 Jun 2017.

A good main pitch up the area of wall between *The Fox Moth* and *Bare*. Start 5m left of the latter, at an easy right-facing groove leading to a higher grassy ledge.

1. 45m 5b Go up to the higher ledge, then boldly via thin cracks to reach gear below a bulge. Climb through the bulge, then make a long traverse left across a slab to an obvious, short right-facing corner. Climb the corner and move up before stepping back right on a slab towards a shallow left-trending fault. Climb the fault, then step right and up via thin flakes to level with the 5a corner on *Dragonfly*. Step left into this and continue up to a short right-facing corner.

2. 30m 4b Climb up to gain the ledge above, step left, then continue up past ledges to reach *The Caterpillar*.

False Gully Wall:

Anaemia 70m E5 ***. Jules Lines (rope solo). 31 May 2017.

This excellent varied climb takes the most natural line and is essentially a combination of *An Spearag* and *Sans Fer* with a new third pitch. It is the twin line to the *Sans Fer / Iron in the Soul (Sans Soul)* combination and is a small step up in standard. It should be nice and clean. Start at the right side of the abseil block.

1. 15m 6b Climb the thin crack by mainly using good holds on the left wall. At 6m the holds run out. Stretch in a good nut, then make some tenuous moves right on sidepulls (crux with overhead protection) to gain a partial rest at the base of the flake. Climb the flake past an undercut flange with a bold finish onto a smooth shelf. Belay immediately on the right, small nut and Cams. This is a less sustained method than the original, *An Spearag* which traversed the horizontal break a little higher to gain the flake.

2. 25m 6a Climb the dwindling groove above and continue through the roofed alcove to gain a crack that leads up to a block and crevasse belay.

3. 30m 6a Above is a bulging crack. Go right along a shelf on undercuts and using a high pinch, pull back left into the top of the crack. Follow the line into an open V-groove, step left and continue up the easy rib to the top.

Magrathea 70m E9 ***. Jules Lines, Steve Perry. 5 Aug 2016.

A stunningly minimalistic line up the blank wall to the right of *Startibartfast*. Start at left side of the abseil block at the base of the wall.

1. 20m 7a Climb in the line of the hairline crack (IMP's) to a poor shakeout where a cluster of uninspiring, but 'potentially' adequate micro-wires can be placed. Continue via a desperate sequence of moves to reach a jug atop the wall. Move up onto a shelf on the right; small wires in a slot above provide the belay.

2. 20m 6a Climb the beautiful leaning groove above to a large flake block.

3. 30m 6a Take the short right-facing corner above and follow the line to a niche. Pull left onto a rib and continue up this to the top.

Mostly Harmless 70m E5 ***. Pitch 1 by Jules Lines, 1 Aug 2016 rope solo; Pitches 2&3 by Jules Lines, Danny Laing jnr, 12 Jun 2015.

This superb climb is as good as *Slartibartfast*, but will need a few days of good weather to dry it out on the upper pitches. Pitches 2 and 3 were cleaned as the proposed finish to the main pitch of *Magrathea*, but it was later decided that it would make a great, wholly independent route with the addition of a new first pitch at a more amenable standard. Start to the left of *Slartibartfast* at a rectangular hole directly beneath the central crack on the wall.

1. 20m 6b Boulder up the wall for 5m to gain the first good layback hold at the start of the crack proper; place a crucial IMP4 with difficulty in the base of the seam just to the right (crux). Continue laybacking up the crack to join *Slartibartfast* and belay on the shelf.

2. 20m 6a Pull onto the rib on the right and follow the overhanging crack to a rest at the base of the acutely leaning corner. Climb the corner (large Cam) by wide bridging, which is also required to negotiate the 'permanent' weep here. Near the top of the corner, place a high nut, step left onto the rib and climb delicately up to a shelf and flake belay. A short and tough, well protected pitch that is one of the best on the mountain.

3. 30m 5c Climb directly behind the flake and move awkwardly rightwards onto the base of the large slabby ramp. Climb straight up a series of tiny left-facing grooves and a layback to land on a large ledge. Step right and finish up the rib.

NORTH-EAST OUTCROPS

COVESEA:

Tusken Raider 30m E3 5c *. Peter Herd, Russell Birkett. 1 May 2017.

A mid-height girdle of the main wall in Boulders Bay. Start up *Sandanista* and follow obvious flat holds across the wall, climbing above the roof and joining the following route. The middle section is bold and care should be taken to protect the second.

Fascist Republic 15m E2 5b **. Steve Perry, Julian Lines. 19 Apr 2017.

Climb up *Banana Republic* past the roof. Now make an exhilarating traverse above the roof, all the way to the corner of *Fascist Octopus* using an obvious handrail and placing a good Cam in the crack of *Banana Republic* – *Corbyn Variation*. Once at the corner, make a couple of bold mantels to reach good protection in the upper corner.

Anchuria 15m E6 6c **. Jules Lines. 26 Mar 2017.

The roof and wall to the left of *Banana Republic*. Start off a boulder and climb the wall to the roof just right of a black weep. Make athletic moves through the roof and continue up the hairline in the wall above, shifting to its right side just below the top.

Prisoner of Conscience 15m E7 6b **. Jules Lines. 30 Apr 2017.

A direct line through the overhanging face to the right of *Bottle Dungeon*. Boulder up on crimps to a flat jug at 3m in the faint right-hand groove system. Follow the flying groove up and left to a hands-off rest at half-height. Launch up and right into a sequence of blind right-facing corners and pull wildly through the roof to get established on the leaning headwall. Finish up this more easily.

The Bear 15m E1 5a. Steve Perry. Michael Barnard. 24 Jun 2017.
Climb the corner beside *Honey Barrel*.

Typhoon 15m VS 5a. Steve Perry, Sarah Sigley. 21 Mar 2017.

An easier route on the wall (and easier still using a bunk-up at the start). Start as for *Celebrate the Bullet*, then step right and climb up to the roof directly beneath the upper crack of *Protection Racket*. Traverse rightwards under the roof to the base of a crack on the west face. Climb this on jugs to the top.

Note: A direct start from below has been climbed but only as a boulder problem. Doing this and the top would probably drop the grade.

I Live, I Die, I Live Again 15m E4 6a *. Steve Perry. 18 Apr 2017.

Starts in the corner left of *Creepie Crawl* where a small seep in the bottom can be avoided. Make a boulder problem start and arrange gear in a thin vertical crack before a bold but easier traverse right along a rail. Welcome gear in another thin vertical crack and steady wall climbing leads to a second roof. Finish as for *Creepie Crawl*.

PASS OF BALLATER:

Odorono 10m E1 5c. Michael Barnard (unsec). 13 Jun 2017.

Eliminate, but a good move. Climb *Stinker* to place gear under the overlap, then step down and left to join *Brut*. Now move up and pull directly through the overlap to finish easily.

Zapata 8m HVS 5a. Greg Strange, Rob Archbold. 14 Jul 2016.

Start 1m right of *Fungus Face* and climb the wall left of *Lime Chimney*, finishing at a small right-facing corner.

Poker's Rib E6 6b *. Jules Lines. Mar 2017.

Start on the boulder as for *Peel's Wall* and pull on at undercuts, then move left to gain a good pinch on the rib. Follow the rib to the horizontal. Using a mono, rock up to gain a set of tiny crimps that veer right, then slap for a very smooth pinch on the rib. Use this go for the top.

Slope Shoulders E4 6b *. Jules Lines, Richard Biggar. Summer 2016.

The direct finish to *Slope Arms* gives a fine and fierce micro pitch. Start up *Slope Arms* and at the break (small cam), gain a pinch in the seam up and right. Finish direct.

Morphine Drip E7 6c **. Jules Lines. 26 Oct 2017.

The central line following a hairline seam 2m to the right of *Private Parts*. Start at the diamond shaped block and gain a slot in the wall. Make a desperate move to gain a niche hold before sprinting up to a superb finishing sequence in the scoop at the highest part of the wall. Probably F7c and graded for gear placed on the lead as per FA.

IVF E5 6b. Jules Lines. 2016.

Pull through the roof as per *Copulation* and then improvise right to a good hold on the arete. Finish up it in a fine position.

Sobriety E5 6b **. Jules Lines. Jan 2017.

The parallel line to the left of *Larup Head* gives a good pitch at the upper limit of the grade. Make bouldery moves via an undercut and blind flake to reach a break. Continue direct via a sustained sequence to gain a narrow ledge. Continue on up the crack in the upper wall veering slightly left to finish on jugs.

GLEN CLOVA, Lower North-West Crag:

For a Handful of Beans 30m HVS 5a **.

The route as described in SMCJ 2015 Journal was repeated. Following cleaning and removal of several large loose blocks, the undernoted description provides a more direct independent line.

Good climbing up the centre of the wall. Climb direct up a cracked wall to a niche and arrange protection in the wide left-curving crack above. Step back right and climb the wall above on good positive holds, trending left to a large rowan. Finish up a crack above past a further rowan.

HIGHLAND OUTCROPS

CALLENDER SPORT CRAG (NN 6298 0879):

A conglomerate sport crag developed by Ian McCabe, Peter Nellist and others. The latest info is on <<http://callandercrags.weebly.com/>>

Approach: From the A84 that runs through Callander. Where the A84 changes from Stirling Road to Main Street, turn north up Bracklinn Road, a minor road signed for 'Bracklinn Falls, The Crag' and 'Golf Course'. After 500m turn into the parking on the left signposted 'Callander Crag'. Walk 200m west past a barrier along the forestry road, then turn right uphill on the big path marked with a red waymarker. Follow this uphill round several bends for 15-20mins until below the crag where a clear path goes off horizontally left beneath the cliffs. 50m along this path, opposite a large tree, and with a fallen log pointing the direction, a smaller path leads off rightwards through birch saplings and undergrowth to the foot of the crag. The cleaned section is clearly visible from here. Routes described right to left.

Cobbled Path 20m 5b (8 bolts)

The first line of bolts. Climb the left side of the vague rib to the rightmost lower-off below a tree.

Conglomerate Pickpocket 20m 5c (8 bolts)

Climb the second line of bolts to a section of juggy pockets, then up an incipient rib. At the sixth bolt tread delicately rightwards to move up to the rightmost lower-off below the tree.

Pebble Dash 20m 6a (8 bolts)

Climb as for *Conglomerate Pickpocket* to the 6th bolt, then trend slightly left onto the steeper thin headwall to the second lower-off from the right.

Original Mossy Crack 20m 5b (8 bolts)

Climb the third line of bolts, following an intermittent crack-line. At the top the bolts are first left then right of the crack. Particularly enjoyable climbing.

House of Marbles 20m 5c (9 bolts)

Climb the fourth line of bolts. There is a bit of a stretch to clip the lower-off from the ledge just below the top.

Jacket Off 21m 5c (9 bolts)

The leftmost bolt line to date. Still mossy but climbable.

BALQUHIDDER, Creagan Nam Putan:

Even Mhor Temptation E2 5b. Andrew Woolston, Mike Wilson. 8 Jul 2016.

A direct finish to *Mhor Temptation*. The route goes left at an overlap at half-height. The direct finish goes straight over the overlap and direct to the top. Slightly harder than the original.

Note: *Monachyle Munchies* was thought only worth one star; the start is unprotected and contains the hardest climbing with the crack petering out to an easy finish.

ARGYLL, Creag Nam Fhitheach:

America, Direct Start 25m HVS 5a *. Gary & Karen Latter. 6 Nov 2016.

Start beneath the short left-facing groove just right of *Metamorphosis*. Climb the groove and direct above to gain the crack leading to the normal route.

GLEN GOUR, Indian Slab:

Cherokee 90m HVS 4c *. Jonathan Preston, Andy Nisbet. 5 Jul 2017.

1. 25m 4b Start up *Outrider* and move right to below the hanging slab (as for *Ambush*).

2. 40m 4c Climb the hanging slab direct, starting up 2m left of its right corner, later trending slightly left.

3. 25m Finish rightwards up a broken rib.

ARDNAMURCHAN:

The Mighty Fin 80m HVS 4b. Mike & Paul Brian. 28 Aug 2016.

South-West of Kilchoan at NM 461 623, an impressive blade of rock rises from near sea-level to a height of about 120m. Although the crag is difficult to spot from the land, it makes a spectacular sight from the Oban to Barra ferry. From Kilchoan, take the road to its end past Ormsaigbeg and park in a small quarry. Follow a sheep track to the top of the crag, 20mins. The west face yields some pleasant climbing on good rock but protection is poor, so routes have only been top-roped apart from a short chimney-crack towards the landward end of the cliff (V.Diff). The most obvious line follows the crest of the fin, which gives three exhilarating but poorly protected pitches. Approach by abseil down the gully on the east of the fin.

Wedge Buttress:

Nymph 35m V.Diff *. Cynthia Grindley, Steve Kennedy. 6 Nov 2016.

Climbs a line close to the left edge (left of *Pixie*). Start up a corner-crack close to the left side of the base to reach a wide ledge below a steep wall. Move left and climb cracks to reach a prominent left-facing flaky corner (about 3m from the edge) which leads to the upper slabs.

Meall an Fhir-eoin:

Happy Cow 30m VS 4c. Alan Halewood, Nathan Adam. 17 Apr 2017.

Start at the toe of the rib forming the left side of the heather corner left of *Raging Bull*. Follow the crack up onto the slab and to the base of the undercut wall on the left. Climb this by thin flakes on the left.

Linear Zone 40m VS 4c *. Steve Kennedy, Cynthia Grindley, Colin Moody. 2 Apr 2017.

Climbs the right side of the whaleback joining *Ring of Fire* near the left end of the hand-traverse. Make a move or two up the corner left of the whaleback, step right and climb a pock marked wall to a small roof. A crack on the right side of the roof leads the top of the whaleback (joining *Ring of Fire*). Finish up the crack in the final short wall as for *Ring of Fire*.

LOCHAILORT CRAGS, Quadruple Crack Buttress (NM 799 831):

This small crag is situated about 80m left of Boathouse Crag at a similar level. South facing and characterised by four crack-lines, the middle two being wide and chimney like. Approach by walking about 300m west along the A830 road from the Boathouse parking spot before heading almost directly up to the crag, just before some small trees, passing a telegraph pole on the way uphill (15mins). Good block belay at the top situated well back. The routes are described from right to left.

Line Dance 12m VS 5a *. Steve Kennedy, Eileen Blair, Cynthia Grindley. 2 Jun 2017.

The rightmost finger-crack starting at the lowest point which initially forms a right-facing corner leading to a roof. A tricky move leads around the roof to a small corner breaching another small roof. Climb the corner and slab above, joining the previous routes at the final short slab.

Triple Step 12m V.Diff *. Cynthia Grindley, Steve Kennedy. 3 May 2017.

The wide chimney-crack left of *Line Dance* containing some large chockstones in the upper part and finishing by a short cracked slab.

Jazz Square 12m V.Diff *. Steve Kennedy, Cynthia Grindley. 3 May 2017.

The next chimney-crack immediately left of *Triple Step*, finishing up the cracked slab.

Charleston 10m E1 5b **. Steve Kennedy, Cynthia Grindley. 7 Jun 2017.

The thin crack on the left wall, starting about 5m left of and slightly higher than *Jazz Square*. Sustained with little protection in the lower part. Follow the crack, with the assistance of sidepulls and flakes on the right, finishing up a short slab.

Ten Step 8m Severe. Steve Kennedy, Cynthia Grindley. 7 Jun 2017.

Start 3m left of *Charleston* at a quartz vein. Climb the initial vein, move left onto a ledge, continue up the inset slab above and finish out right.

Boathouse Crag:

T.R.E. 15m E2 5b. Ali Rose. 20 Jun 2017.

The wall left of *Das Boot*. Start 2m left of that route and go up a steep wall (under the tree's branches) towards the right edge of a perched block. No protection for 8m.

Beinn Bheag Slab:

The 45 14m E4 6a. Kev Shields. 25 Mar 2017.

Climb the slab trending leftwards from the obvious thin crack to the left of *Jacobite Rising*. Thin, smeary and bold.

Ardnish, Gecko Crag:

Frog Eyed 8m Severe 4b *. Carol Goodall, Elsie Riley. 21 Aug 2015.

Climb the back of the cave on good holds, exiting right.

Reptile Roof 8m HVS 5a *. Elsie Riley, Carol Goodall. 21 Aug 2015.

Climb the obvious roof at the far west of the crag, moving slightly rightwards over the roof.

Chocaholic's Buttress (Loch nan Uamh):

Du Teillay 12m HVS 5a. Kevin Woods, Alasdair MacLennan. 14 Oct 2016.

The left-hand face with the prominent overlap at half-height. Start several metres left of *Cadbury Flake* at a rib left of a groove. Climb the rib, traverse out right across a hanging slab, and pull over a bulge and block to a slabby top out and tree.

European Union Crag:

(NM 713 843) South facing.

This crag is just west of Chocaholic's Buttress (p310), near an EU road sign. Probably safest to drive beyond the sign, turn and park near the sign facing east. Walk up left (west) to the crag, 2-3mins.

European Court of Human Rights 7m Severe *. Colin Moody, Cynthia Grindley, Steve Kennedy. 24 Apr 2016.

At the left end of the crag (behind trees) is a slab with an undercut base. Climb this to the grass ramp where there is a large block belay up and left.

Eurocrat 12m E1 5b *. Steve Kennedy, Cynthia Grindley, Colin Moody. 24 Apr 2016.

Climb the arete (protection is awkward) and continue up to the grass ramp. Finish up the short steep slab.

Green Paper 12m VS 4b *. Steve Kennedy. 24 Apr 2016.

Climb the unprotected slab left of *Maastricht Treaty* to the grass ramp; finish as for *Eurocrat*.

Maastricht Treaty 10m Severe *. Colin Moody, Cynthia Grindley, Steve Kennedy. 24 Apr 2016.

Follow the obvious crack-line.

Brussels 8m VS 5a *. Colin Moody, Steve Kennedy, Cynthia Grindley. 24 Apr 2016.

The corner-crack at the right-hand side. Gain the ledge, then climb the corner-crack.

Euro Sceptic 12m V.Diff *. Steve Kennedy, Cynthia Grindley, Colin Moody. 24 Apr 2016.

The rib at the right end of the crag, trending right at about mid-height. The finish is 4b but is easily avoided.

Crimson Crag, Loch nam Uamh (NM 713 843):

A small south-west facing sea-cliff is situated about 3 miles east of Beasdale on the north shore of Loch nam Uamh, a short distance south of the A830 close to a wide bend in the road opposite the European Union Crag (SMCJ 2016 p208). The routes are short but on impeccable rock and ideal for an evening or passing visit. Accessible at low to mid tide. About 3mins approach from the road verge!

Approaching from the road, the crag runs southwards below a grassy knoll. The first rocks reached comprise a 5m cracked bulging wall, and thereafter a series of short slabby walls and corners, a prominent overhanging wall and a final slabby area.

The initial wall is undercut with two boulders at the base and offers three good boulder problems (Steve Kennedy, 6 Oct 2016).

Hulk f5+

Start just left of the leftmost boulder and follow a line of flakes trending left to a large hold then pull right.

Ape f5

The central line. Sitting start from the leftmost boulder, climbing directly then finishing rightwards.

Tomboy f4

The right edge from the rightmost boulder.

The slabby walls to the right can be climbed almost anywhere. Beyond, the crag steepens and the more defined routes are described from a prominent arete forming a prow on the left of the main overhanging wall.

The Nose 9m VS 4c *. Steve Kennedy, Cynthia Grindley, Colin Moody. 9 Sep 2016.

The arete is climbed directly passing a prominent pointed flake, finishing up a crack just left of the edge and a short slab above.

Shelf Route 10m VS 5a *. Steve Kennedy, Cynthia Grindley. 4 Sep 2016.

Start as per *The Nose* up to the pointed flake. Pull strenuously out right along a shelf for a couple of moves, then move up onto a slightly higher shelf and finish up a corner and slab on the right.

Animal, Left Finish 9m VS 4c **. Steve Kennedy, Cynthia Grindley. 4 Sep 2016.

A crack runs up the overhanging wall right of *Shelf Route*. Make steep juggy moves up the crack, pull left into a corner at a bulge below the headwall and finish up *Shelf Route*.

Animal, Right Finish 9m VS 5a **. Steve Kennedy, Cynthia Grindley. 4 Sep 2016.

Pull out right from the top of the crack at the bulge and make a thin move on small quartz holds directly up the headwall to finish.

Tears 8m VS 4b *. Cynthia Grindley, Steve Kennedy. 4 Sep 2016.

Start at a small corner next to a flat foothold 2m right of *Animal*. The wall is climbed slightly rightwards into a corner. Continue directly up a crack and steep finishing wall (crux), ignoring the exit on the right.

Sweat 8m Severe 4a *. Steve Kennedy. 4 Sep 2016.

Start below a small overhang 2m right of *Tears* and pull over onto a quartz studded wall. Move up rightwards to a ramp and finish by a rib on the right.

The following routes are located to the left of the overhanging wall.

Book End 8m V.Diff *. Cynthia Grindley, Steve Kennedy. 4 Sep 2016.

The corner immediately left of the overhanging prow (*The Nose*) with a steep start but on generous holds (sometimes damp), finishing up a short slab on the right.

Mini Nose 7m VS 4c *. Steve Kennedy, Cynthia Grindley. 4 Sep 2016.

Left of *Book End* is a narrow slabby buttress forming a small prow on the left side. Steep initial moves over a small roof lead to a slab which is climbed near the left edge via a small finger pod in a crack (without using the corner on the left at any point!).

Wee Corner 7m Mod. Steve Kennedy. 28 Aug 2016.

The wee corner immediately left of *Mini Nose*.

On the opposite (east) side of the grassy knoll is a short, clean slabby wall with a rounded arete. It is even closer to the road than the main wall.

Thirty Seven Steps 7m VS 4b *. Steve Kennedy, Cynthia Grindley. 6 Sep 2016.

The name refers to the distance from the road verge! Climb the system of flake-cracks immediately right of the rounded arete.

Forty One Steps 7m Severe *. Cynthia Grindley, Steve Kennedy. 6 Sep 2016.

Follows the slim right-facing corner on the slab just left of the arete.

CREAG MHOR BHRINICUIRE:

Note: Kevin Woods thinks that that the initial slab of *Penguin Monster*, as marked on the topo in Highland Outcrops South, may be the location of *A Reflection* and that *Penguin Monster* would then start to the left or right. *Morar Magic* and perhaps also *Election Mania* may also describe this same slab.

GLEN NEVIS, Repton Buttress:

Bullet Variation Start 6m. Nathan Adam. 2017.

Follow an undercut flake-crack leftwards to join the little sapling on *Bullet*.

Pandora's Buttress:

Dave MacLeod re-climbed *Move it or Park it* (E5 6c) without its in-situ pegs at

the crux, which have now rotted away. It is still a well-protected route overall, but could be worth E6 6c.

Secretaries' Buttress:

Pablo 25m E6 6b **. Gary Latter. 23 Oct 2016.

A line up the right side of the top tier. Start up the fault of *Secretaries' Crack* for 5m to a projecting boss on the left. Pull round this leftwards into the hanging left-slanting groove and peg runner. Move left and up to a good hold in a quartz recess, then leftwards to join *Ring of Fire Right-Hand*. Pull out rightwards and over a bulge to rejoin that route and climb directly above to join *Vincent*. Pull straight up the wall above and continue directly up rightmost of parallel cracks to finish at a good flake.

Verbatim 18m V.Diff *. Gary Latter. 11 Oct 2016.

The right edge of the wide dyke of *Secretaries' Crack*. Move up rightwards to good holds and continue up the rib.

Autumn Leaves 20m VS 4c *. Gary Latter. 11 Oct 2016.

Start at the same point as *Verbatim*, but step down right to follow a line of good holds rightwards to gain a diagonal crack. Move up leftwards and trend left to finish up the right side of the rib.

Tilted 25m HVS 5a *. Gary & Karen Latter. 23 Oct 2016.

Start as for *Verbatim*, but step down and follow the diagonal crack rightwards to finish at a tiny rowan.

Plagiaries 20m E4 6a **. Gary Latter, Ewan Lyons. 11 Oct 2016.

The diagonal fault that splits the first and second tiers originates as a jam crack splitting the initial roof. Climb this through the roof and step right and up to ledge. Move up onto the wall and climb directly, then move leftwards to a good jug just before a prominent diagonal crack. Finish quite boldly with difficulty to the apex of the wall.

Crown Buttress:

Cool Beans 15m E2 5b. Steve Holmes, Tom Lawfield. 27 Mar 2017.

Climb steeply to gain the slab passing a foot long wobbly block on the right. Climb straight up the slab to the niche just right of the final moves of *Palpitation*.

Bistro Buttress:

Tupilaq 17m E5 6a **. Steve Holmes. 2 May 2017.

At the left end of the buttress. Fierce moves through the roof to get established on the wall, then climb the thin crack with difficulty straight to the prominent pine.

Whale Rock (Gorge) Area:

Brownlee Diagonal 8m HVS 5a *. Mark Roe (DWS). 5 Oct 2016.

The right to left diagonal crack on the wall to the left of *Calladine Prow* (SMCJ 2016). Abseil or down-climb to the very bottom of *Escape Corner*, and make difficult moves left to gain the face. Once established, follow the main crack-line with progressive ease to a tricky final move on the wall's left arete.



Murdoch Jamieson on the 2nd ascent of Isinglas (E8), Binnein Shuas. Photo: Iain Small.

BINNEIN SHUAS:

Stronghold 50m E8 6c **. Dave MacLeod. May 2017.

Exciting and technical climbing through the barrel shaped roof right of *Storming the Bastille*, following the line of a thin seam. Climb *Greatness and Perfection* to the break at the back of the roof. Traverse right for 2m as for that route to a knee-bar rest. Make a couple of moves into the roof, past a good hold and arrange cams in a small slot. Make a hard move and place a crucial 0.5 Camalot in a pocket. Continue with hard layback moves to good holds and gear over the lip. Step right and follow a quartz crack to gain the easy top slab. Continue easily up this to the terrace. F8a climbing.

Siege Engine 60m E7 6c***. Iain Small (unsec). 12 Oct 2016.

A mega endurance trip taking the huge diagonal fault in the left side of The Fortress. Well protected but sustained with the crux near the top. Start below the left wall of the amphitheatre.

1. 30m 6c Climb easily up the short slab to gain the diagonal undercut feature leading out left to *The Rubyat* and a good rest on the arete. Arrange gear and launch rightwards along the diagonal ramp/flake. Continue to a stopping place below a roof and an in-situ thread runner. Step right and climb the steep groove (crux) to eventually gain a welcome jug just before the lip. A further sting in the tail leads to a belay on the slab above.
2. 30m 4b Climb easily up the slab above.

Wallachian Prince, Independent Start 6a. Iain Small, Adam Russell. May 2016.
A direct and independent start, but with no gear.

Pre-Emptive Strike 40m E6 6b. Iain Small (unsec). 3 Jun 2016.

Start up *Delayed Attack* to the crux roof, pull around its left side and climb a slim hanging corner and its right arete. From a small flake atop the arete, launch up an overhanging wall leftwards to flanges, then pull out through to less steep ground. Finish up a featured wall.

Note: Iain Small has made an independent start to this route at E8 named *Isinglas*.

CREAG BHUIDHE:

The following routes lie on a smooth-looking wall down and left from *Low Impact* (p340 Highland Outcrops South). The wall features two obvious crack-lines; left of these is a left-trending ramp-line.

Yellow Fever 30m VS 4c *. Michael Barnard, Alan Hill, Paul Torode. 2 Apr 2017.

Climb the ramp to its top, then move up to ledges (bold). Continue up a crack (crux) to the prominent tree. Either abseil off from here or continue to the top of the crag.

Midriff Crisis 15m H. Severe 4b *. Alan Hill, Michael Barnard, Paul Torode. 2 Apr 2017.

The left-hand crack, leading to a V-groove.

Lag Time 15m VS 5a. Michael Barnard, Alan Hill, Paul Torode. 2 Apr 2017.
The right-hand crack has a tricky start but soon eases off.

The Irrn Bru Lady 15m VS 4b. Alan Hill, Michael Barnard, Paul Torode. 2 Apr 2017.

The rib marking the right end of the wall.

CRUBENBEG CRAG:

This lies 700m west of Crubenbeg holiday cottages and is seen clearly from the A9.

Crubenbeg Twin Cracks 70m VS 4c. Mike & Paul Brian. 29 Aug 2016.

On the upper part of the crag, two parallel cracks about 1m apart lead to a small roof. The line can be studied from the cairn on the nearby tor. Start directly below a large rowan tree.

Climb either to its left on a pillar of blocks, or more easily and cleanly to its right. A thin rising traverse then leads to a belay. Traverse left below an overhang and gain a chimney-crack at its left end. Traverse back right above the lip of the overhang (crux) until established below the twin cracks. Climb the cracks and escape a roof to its left. Finish directly below a TV aerial.

CREAG DUBH, Little Rock:

All the routes on the steep wall were cleaned Sep 2016. There is a rope sling and maillon on a thread up the slope (25m abseil). Both *Heather Wall* and *This One* were repeated by Gary Latter, and thought to be E4, (not E5), both very well-protected. The plaque on *This One* protrudes (not 'incut'), and the route only comes close to *Heather Wall* at the overlap near the top. It is marked incorrectly on the topo in the new Highland Outcrops South guide. The line marked approximates to the following route.

Ling 15m E5 6a **. Gary Latter. 20 Sep 2016.

Start midway between *This One* and *Un Petit Mort*, directly beneath a prominent wide vertical slot. Climb directly to the slot, then right to another V-slot and good holds above. Move back left and up into a tiny left-facing corner. Move left to a good quartz undercling beneath overlap, then direct on good holds to finish leftwards at the same point as *This One*. Very well protected.

Great Wall:

Under the Skin 40m E3 5c **. Gary & Karen Latter. 11 Sep 2016.

Bold climbing leading to a well protected crux, taking the obvious line between *The Hill* and *Inbred*. Start midway between the two. Go directly past incut flakes to a Cam slot at 5m. Move left, up, then back right, then direct up the wall, crossing the small roof in its centre to good holds. Make a hard move from good horizontal break (Cam slot), then slightly rightwards. Pull through the right end of the roof above the ledge on good holds and follow the fault diagonally leftwards, then direct up the wall to a thread.

Inbred Super Direct 40m E1 5b ***. Gary & Karen Latter. Aug 2016.

A superb direct pitch, well protected after the niche. Follow *Inbred* as far as the triangular niche. Climb the crack above steeply on good holds then trend slightly leftwards to gain the right end of a large ledge above. Pull through a crack at the right end of the roof on good holds, then follow a diagonal fault leftwards, then direct up the wall past good horizontal breaks to the thread belay.

Lower Central Wall:

Scampi Fries 30m E1 5a *. Ewan Lyons, Colin Morrison. 11 Sep 2016.

A direct line left of *Phellatio*, finishing up that route. Take a parallel line left of *Phellatio*, initially poorly protected, to reach a ledge on *Phellatio* below overhangs. Climb direct through them to finish up the final crack of *Phellatio*.

DUNTELCHAIG, Seventy Foot Wall:

Cartostrophe 15m E2 5c. Michael Barnard, Steve Perry. 25 Jun 2017.

Some good climbing up the wall between *Razor Flake* and *Seventy Foot Wall*. Start as for the former, going left along the flake but then standing up on it (gear in the break above). Move up to a good hold on the right (crux), then resisting the temptation to use the *Seventy Foot Wall* edge, gain the main break. Traverse left to finish up *Razor Flake*.

Insomnia, Sleepless Start E2 5b. Michael Barnard, Steve Perry. 25 Jun 2017.

A worthwhile alternate start, giving a fully independent route. Climb the obvious right-trending line of flakes between *Seventy Foot Wall* and *Ann Boleyn's Crack* (possible to reach across and place a nut in the former before the crack widens).

Note: Michael Barnard notes that for *Insomnia* original, the description should say 'gain the right side of the arete directly'. Even then, the grade should be E4 6a.

ASHIE FORT:

Mayday Mayday 10m E3 5c *. Davy Moy. 1 May 2017.

Between *The Wall* and *Fat Bird*. Go up to a shallow right-facing corner, climb nearly to its top, then go left on small crimps to the left edge of the slab, finishing straight up. Small finishing holds and poor gear throughout.

BEN NEVIS, AONACHS & CREAG MEAGAI DH**BEN NEVIS, Gardyloo Buttress:**

Tower Face Crack 80m VI.6. Iain Small, Simon Richardson. 27 Mar 2017.

A winter ascent of the summer line. Excellent climbing in an exposed position and a good choice in lean conditions. Start in *Tower Gully* approximately level with the top of the first pitch of *Smith's Route*.

1. 20m Step left onto the right flank of Gardyloo Buttress and climb the left-hand of twin grooves (*Right Edge* takes the right-hand groove) to belay on a small terrace below the main icefall of *Right Edge*.
2. 50m Traverse left and climb the striking crack that runs up just right of the arete to where the angle eases.
3. 10m Easy ground leads to the top.

Tower Ridge, East Flank:

Grand Central 80m VI.6. Simon Richardson, Robin Clothier. 22 Jan 2017.

A mixed route up the buttress between *Upper Tower Cascade Left* and *Upper Tower Cascade Central*. A useful option when conditions are very lean.

1. 20m Start at the toe of the buttress and follow the groove-crack that slices left below steep walls. Climb over several bulges and belay below a steep step.
2. 30m Climb a steep crack through the step, then bear right up another crack

system that leads to a steep open corner topped by a snow slope.

3. 30m Snow and mixed ground lead to the final few metres of *Tower Ridge*.

Cloudjumper 60m VIII,9. Dave MacLeod, Helen Rennard. 5 Mar 2017.

1. 30m Start at the foot of a left-slanting ramp, about 10m left of *Urchin*. Ascend the technical ramp to a cracked overhang. Climb this direct (crux) to a good ledge. Trend right and mantelshelf onto a large ledge below a short very steep wall.

2. 30m Traverse right beneath the steep wall (deceptively delicate) until possible to move upwards. Make a few tenuous moves upwards before reaching more straightforward ground and the top pitch of *Red Dragon*, trending left at the top to reach *Tower Ridge*.

Creag Coire na Ciste:

Swift Runner 180m VII,7. Simon Richardson, Iain Small. 23 Mar 2017.

A good mixed climb taking a direct line cutting through the upper traverse of *Wendigo*.

1 and 2. 70m The route starts up the lower tier that is often avoided when climbing on this part of the mountain. Start 15m left of *North Gully* and climb the narrow gully-ramp that curls around the right side of the lower tier and overlooks *North Gully* in its upper half.

3. 30m Continue up the snow slope above to belay 10m below the left-trending gully-ramp of *Tick Tock Croc*.

3. 30m Climb the imposing tower above by following a hidden line of flakes that cut diagonally across its front face. Finish directly and belay just below the summit.

4. 50m Move up to a ledge, cross *Wendigo* and continue up the steep groove above on thin ice (crux and no protection for 25m on the first ascent) to reach the terrace below the final headwall. Traverse right 5m and finish up the steep, left-leaning narrow corner to the top.

Tick Tock Direct 180m VII,7. Iain Small, Simon Richardson. 24 Mar 2017.

A direct version of *Tick Tock Croc*. Start 10m left of *Swift Runner* below an icefall in the lower tier that is defended by a hanging icicle fringe.

1. 50m Climb up to the icicle fringe and climb it (strenuous but will often form thicker ice) and continue up the icefall above.

2. 55m Continue up snow to the gully-ramp of *Tick Tock Croc*.

3. 25m Climb the gully-ramp of *Tick Tock Croc* and belay 5m below its top.

4. 40m Traverse 3m right to enter a thinly-iced bottomless groove. Climb this to the terrace below the final headwall.

5. 20m Finish up the steep groove just right of the steep left-leaning corner of *Swift Runner*.

North Wall of Carn Dearg:

Failure is not an Option 240m VIII,9. Iain Small, Simon Richardson. 22 Mar 2017.

A challenging mixed climb starting up the steep triangle of overlapping slabs between *Staircase Climb* and *Macphee's Route* and finishing up the deep striking corner in the headwall right of *Waterfall Gully*.

1. 40m Start 5m left of *Macphee's Route* and climb thin icy slabs for 15m to gain a narrow turf break that leads diagonally up and left to an awkward belay below a vertical wall that defines the left side of the triangle. A bold pitch.

2. 55m Ignore the continuation up and right. Instead, step left and climb the narrow hanging ramp in the vertical wall above which leads to an easier ramp that runs up to the apex of the triangle of overlapping slabs.
3. 80m Continue up the central depression (snow and easy mixed) to below the impressive triangular headwall.
4. 30m From a point 5m up and left of the right toe of the headwall, move up and right across a short slab and climb a steep vertical crack to easier ground (as for *From the Jaws of Defeat*). Move up, then right, to gain a small sloping stance below the imposing right groove line that slices through the right side of the headwall.
5. 35m Climb the groove over three steps to gain the top of the headwall. An extremely steep and sustained pitch. The route finishes here. Three ropelengths lead up and left to the upper crest of *Ledge Route*.

The Shape of Things to Come 110m IX,9. Iain Small, Simon Richardson.
2 Mar 2017.

A technical mixed climb taking a direct line up the centre of the wall. A combination with the third pitch of *Brave New World* would result in an even more sustained and direct outing – potentially one of the finest modern mixed lines on Ben Nevis.

1. 35m Start as for *Brave New World* and climb the first 5m up the initial wall to the large spike. Instead of following the left-trending ramp of *Brave New World*, continue directly up the vertical cracked wall above with increasing difficulty to gain Broad Terrace. Belay directly below an imposing right-facing corner.
2. 35m Gain the base of the corner and climb it with increasing difficulty until 2m below the capping roof where an exposed step left can be made to a foot ledge. Gain turfey grooves above and climb directly up to Diagonal Terrace and a large flake.
3. 40m Move left along the terrace for 5m and from the top of a large flake, climb a weakness in the vertical barrier wall above and continue up less steep ground above to gain a steep shallow vegetated bay. Move right, climb past two diagonal faults, then make exposed moves back left above the bay to below a barrier bulge guarding access to the slim left-facing corner above. Gain the corner strenuously and climb it to the girdling terrace. From here the first ascent team moved up and right for 15m to gain the finishing abseil of *Brave New World*.

AONACH MOR, Coire an Lochain:

Merlin 80m III. John Stewart & partner. 31 Jan 2006.

This is a good icy line when conditions are lean. Start 10m right of Homo Buttress. Follow a line of ice in a shallow gully (45m). Ascend ice and snow left to the top (35m).

Big Gully 80m II. Andy Nisbet, Jonathan Preston. 25 Apr 2017.

The big gully between Homo Buttress and The Prow has never previously had a recorded ascent, mostly due to big cornices. The Ben Nevis guide mentions it as a possible descent, but one can only presume it means by abseil.

An Cul Choire:

Sprinter Service 150m II. Alan Halewood, Jamie Bankhead. 10 Nov, 2016.

Just right of the base of *Aonach Seang* is a broad gully that narrows obviously at its top. In early season this can give an icy step that would bank out later. The

gully peters out onto the headwall above but a traverse left takes you onto the top of *Aonach Seang* for an easy finish.

AONACH BEAG, Lower West Face, Skyline Buttress:

Parasol 120m II. Sandy Allan, Andy Nisbet. 3 Mar 2017.

A groove line which is shaded from the sun. Start at the left side of a bay some 30m right of *Bottleneck Gully*. Climb the left of two faults to reach and climb a right-slanting recessed ramp to a big snow patch. Go to its top and climb a deep groove and its left branch to another snow patch. Taking left-hand options, climb two tricky grooves to the top (hard when lean but bank up).

Skyline Ridge 150m II. Andy Nisbet. 27 Feb 2017.

A vague ridge which forms the right edge of this section of buttress with *Bottleneck Gully*. Start in the bay some 50m right of *Bottleneck Gully*. Follow a low-angled ramp out right to the crest. Follow the left side of the crest (the right being very escapable), open to variation, to a final optional tier with some fine flakes on its left.

STOB COIRE AN LAOIGH:

Note: Erick Baillot & Dave Kerr climbed the hanging corner/ramp right of *Centrepont* on 5 Mar 2017 at VI,6. Climb a short groove to a low ledge then a steeper wall, trending right at its top to gain the corner/ramp. Climb this to the ledge below the upper tier.

CREAG MEAGAI DH:

These routes are on the right as you enter the Inner Corrie, starting right of the lowest wall at a big gully, which may be *The Soldier's Song*, but uncertain. The first route climbs the rib on the left of the gully.

Ardairnuff 160m V,6. John Lyall, Pete MacPherson. 19 Nov 2016.

Gain the route by the big gully and follow the left fork to where it turns up the fall line, then gain the vague rib on the right. Follow this escapable lower section, with one awkward wall, to an easing in the angle. The steep tower above is split by a widening crack (crux), then a slab is climbed, followed by a superbly helpful pillar to the top.

Softairnuff 140m III/IV,4. Graeme Ertle, Justin Finlay, John Lyall. 21 Nov 2016.

Climbs up the buttress to the right of the big gully. Start by following a ramp rightwards under the broken lower wall, and go up easy ground to gain parallel grooves about 15m left of the left-hand of two icefalls. Take the left-hand of the grooves and continuation up a chimney on the left, to gain a big terrace. Go up the rib above and over a short wall to a belay ledge in a corner. Move to the right side of the blocks above and go up by brilliant cracks and edges. A short final wall is taken on the left.

GLEN COE

BUACHAILLE ETIVE MOR, The Chasm to Crowberry Traverse:

A clean buttress on this traverse. The rock is good quality and naturally quite clean, technical, and the angle is just off vertical. The buttress is just to the right of the start of *Neolith* (Glen Coe p51).

Endolith 25m E5 6a *. Iain Small, Blair Fyffe. Jul 2017.

A shallow groove up the left-hand side of the buttress. Start just right of a down-pointing flake. Make tricky moves up into the shallow groove. Follow this to its top. Step right to climb a very thin intermittent crack directly to the top.

Megalith 25m E6 6a *. Iain Small, Blair Fyffe. Jul 2017.

Start at a diagonal groove just right of the start of *Endolith*. Make hard moves up the groove to easier ground. Climb up and right to the left end of an area of overlaps and a small rock scar. Step left and make hard and blind moves directly up. Continue straight up the wall (sustained), stepping right just below the top of the crag.

The Chasm note: Ewan Lyons has sent a pitch by pitch description of *The Chasm* with photos of each pitch. On the SMC website.

Creag a' Bhancair:

Constant Gardener 100m E6 6b **. Iain Small, Blair Fyffe. 19 Jul 2016.

A sustained bold route. Start below a small diagonal overlap just to the left of the sports wall.

1. 25m 6b Pull up to the overlap, and from its left end, climb directly up into a slight scoop below a bulge (crucial 1 wire). Make hard moves through the bulge to the right end of a horizontal break (gear). Step right and climb a faint diagonal crack to below a bulge (large Cam in pocket). Pull over this to a ledge.
2. 30m 6b Climb up rightwards to a ramp-line which steepens to become a vertical corner. From the top of the corner, make hard moves right. Continue up the gradually easing wall above.
3. 45m 5a Continue up the wall over various bulges to reach easier ground.

CHURCH DOOR BUTTRESS:

The Prentice Pillar 110m VII,8. Iain Small, Helen Rennard. 14 Jan 2017.

Climbs the obvious fault on the lower front (west) face, just right of *Hoargasm*. The first pitch is partially detached from the rock face behind.

1. 30m Start in a small snow bay and head leftwards to reach a good ledge below steep cracks. Climb these (with an in-situ bulldog from the first ascent at the top of the cracks). Make delicate moves rightwards across a slab followed by strenuous moves to reach the belay.
2. 50m Easier ground leads to the headwall.
3. 30m Climb a stiff corner to a fractured headwall and finish.

The Ninety-Five Theses 105m IX,9. Iain Small, Simon Richardson. 7 Mar 2017. The prominent steep groove 10m right of *Gates of Paradise* is the last major continuous feature before the crag tapers to the right. On the first ascent the capping roof was climbed using ice. Start below a deeply recessed V-groove.

1. 15m Climb up to the base of the steep V-groove and climb this with increasing difficulty and exit left onto the top of a projecting fin of rock. This forms the left side of a ledge that runs into the foot of the main corner. From the fin gain a short flake-crack that leads to a good ledge perched on the arete.

2. 40m Follow a flake-crack right into the main corner and climb it to an area of bulges capped by two prominent roofs. Strenuously pull up and left to small foot ledges then pull right around the first roof into a short groove that leads to below the second and largest capping roof. On this ascent the roof was tackled directly by pulling onto its icicle fringe and climbing thin vertical ice above.
3. 50m Finish easily up snow.

CREAG DOIRE-BHEITH:

Vertebrae 30m V.Diff. Kevin Woods, Oliver Skeoch. 19 Jan 2017.

Starting just left of *The Happy Whistler*, this climbs a short wall, then trends up and left, following ramps on a route of least resistance to the easing of angle.

SGORR DHONUILL, Coire Dearg:

Mousetrap 80m I/II. Paul Headland, John Oaks, Tim Hakim. 4 Mar 2017.

From the car park above Ballachulish (NN 048 588), follow the forestry track on the west side of the valley to the head of the track (NN 037 567). Take the path through the woods towards the deep cut gully on the western side of Coire Dearg (NN 030 559). Climb the gully passing a short steepening on the left.

STOB MHIC MHARTUIN:

(NN 208 575) South facing

The crag is just below the summit. Routes by Oliver Skeoch, 20 Jun 2017.

A Wave, An Awesome Wave 30m Severe 4b.

Start just to the right of a scoop. Climb the overhang via a crack, then trend left beneath a suspect block. Climb directly up to a clean wall and surmount this before easier ground leads to the top.

Flakes Of Wrath 30m Severe 4a.

Takes a diagonal line across the buttress. Start to the left of the scoop, climb the slab and pass under the detached block. Continue right here before climbing up to a left-trending ramp. Climb this on solid flakes to the top.

Mellowdrama 20m H.Severe 4b.

Start 2m right of the scoop. Climb a narrow rib that becomes a wider slab. Cross the overlap on its right and at a slanted ledge, step right to a steep juggy wall. Climb this to the top.

I am my Mother's Child 20m VS 4c.

Start at an overhanging scoop beneath the tallest part of the buttress. Climb this directly to beneath a steep slab. Climb the slab to a small ledge beneath a steeper wall. Traverse right to a corner, climb this, step left and finish directly.

BEN STARAV, Stob Coire Dhearg:

Curtains for Mickey 160m II/III . Paul Headland, John Oaks, Tim Hakim. 5 Mar 2017.

From the toe of the central buttress, climb the gully on its right. A short steep section on pitch 3 provides the crux. The route finishes on a sharp subsidiary ridge.



Iain Thow on the immaculate Slabathon (Grade 3), Ben Starav – with Ben Cruachan in the distance. Photo: Noel Williams.

SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS

BEN VORLICH, Summit Crag:

Moral Compass 30m VII,9 *. Greg Boswell, Guy Robertson. 14 Jan 2017.

On a wall immediately behind and up the hill from *Logical Progression* (SMCJ 1999). Climb straight up the cracked wall staying in the right-hand crack all the way. Deceptively steep and hard higher up!

Note: Greg Boswell later removed all the rotting gear from *Logical Progression* in the hope of a clean ground-up ascent.

BEINN AN LOCHAIN, Kinglas Crag:

Clockwork Orange 70m V,4. Stuart McFarlane, Brian Shackleton. 13 Jan 2017.

A parallel line to the right of *Bakerloo Line*.

1. 45m Climb the obvious fault-line until thin ice gains access to the upper ramp; belay in a niche.

2. 25m Move left under a roof, step onto a thin ice slab and continue up this to reach snow slope.

East Face:

Alan Brook notes a possible first ascent of the left to right diagonal shelf on 3 Dec 1976, in a party led by Alistair Milner and also accompanied by David Brook, Beryl Milner & Gail Nieman.

BEINN HEASGARNICH, Coire Heasgarnich:

The Wind Horse 70m III. Simon Richardson. 6 Nov 2016.

The narrow rib immediately right of *Prayer Flag* divides the furthest right of the gully exits from the Basin. Start below the centre of the buttress and move up and left to below a steep wall. Surmount this by climbing up and right (crux) then continue up easier ground near the crest to the top.

Stupa 180m I/II. Simon Richardson. 6 Nov 2016.

Follow the left side of the broad right-bounding buttress of the corrie. The finest climbing is found close to the left edge overlooking the big snow basin.

LOWLAND OUTCROPS & GALLOWAY HILLS

AYRSHIRE, Loudoun Hill:

Note: Grant Cornwallis climbed *Lambchops* (Lowland Outcrops p161) in 1982.

GALLOWAY HILLS, BIG GAIRY, Telephoto Buttress:

This lies on the right side of Big Gairy about mid-height on the hillside, 200m to the right of the present junction between felled and mature forestry, where the track from Talnotry stops descending and turns further to the right. It is foreshortened and not fully visible until arrival. The best ascent is to start at this junction of forestry and ascend through the mature forestry, up and right then back left, crossing the wall at its top about 25m left of the mature forestry. Continue up and rightwards to a low escarpment, then traverse right for 200m to where a bracken slope leads to the left of the crag, 50mins from the main road at Talnotry.

The main section of the crag is undercut and the following routes start at the two breaks in the overhang.

Through the Looking Glass 40m HVS 4c **. Ian Magill, Andrew Fraser. May 2016.

A bold outing up the main slab on excellent granite. Micro cams make it slightly less bold. Start at the wide chimney which is the left break, immediately swing right on a spike and pull up onto the broad right-hand slab. Climb the wall on the left to gain the long, thin main slab and pad up this to the overlap. The climbing eases slightly on the upper slab above, but not much. Superb!

Mad Dogs and Englishmen 40m VS 4c *. Stephen Reid, Chris King. 2 Jun 2016.

Pleasant climbing at the top end of the grade but with excellent protection. Follow *Through the Looking Glass* to the broad right-hand slab, then take the shallow groove above to a steep short wall. Traverse right across the slab until one can step over a slight overlap and continue rightwards, then back up left to a ledge. The steep headwall is climbed via the obvious notch.

Call me a Doctor 170m E1 5b *. Andrew Fraser, Ian Magill (with Chris King & Stephen Reid for pitch 1). 2 Jun 2016.

The technical crux first pitch forms a fine climb in its own right. While the remainder is good, there are short sections of decomposing heather on pitch 2.

1. 45m 5b The right break in the overhang is gained via a short wall. Desperate moves gain respite at a resting place on the left but the shallow groove and crack above are still puzzling. The final headwall is climbed via a crack on the right. Follow the easier slabs to the right, then left, then heather to a shallow corner at the right end of slabs capped by a roof.

2. 30m 5a Climb the slabs up and left to the right-hand crack through the roof. Move round the right end of the roof on precarious heather into a niche. Pull out of this on the left, onto a desperate slab and heather to below a short cracked slab.

3. 45m 4b A good pitch. Climb the short cracked slab rightwards to the foot of a steeper slab, in the lower centre of which is a grassy groove. Climb the slab to the right of the grassy groove, then slightly left to gain a heathery niche below a cracked corner on an upper slab. Swing out left from the corner onto a slab and continue up this to a heather terrace.

4. 50m 3c Start 6m down the terrace, bypassing the steep start, where it is possible to step right onto the slab. Follow the slab up, then right round the corner. Easier but clean slabs lead up and right.

GALLOWAY SEA-CLIFFS, Southwick Pinnacles note:

Owen Ross notes that access has changed due to a new building and he was unable to find *Lot's Wife*.

FIFE, Limekilns:

Blackjack 13m E1 5a. Adam Russell. 14 Jul 2016.

An eliminate line directly up the centre of the back wall of the alcove. Climb the centre of the wall between *One Ringer* and *Two Ringer* without recourse to either, through the black section of rock to finish by a short hanging corner.

BERWICKSHIRE COAST, Fast Castle:

Against the Grain 65m E1 5a/MXS. Adam Russell, Lia Guest. 6 Aug 2016.

A finely positioned esoteric trip through geological time, taking the obvious line traversing through the bands immediately above the lip of the sea cave. Beyond a certain point retreat would involve down-climbing or a swim. Approach as for *Castle Wall*.

1. 40m 5a Start up the slabby corner right of the sea-cave, where the rock bands become much thinner. Traverse hard left across a smooth slab to awkwardly gain a big guano covered ledge. Continue left, following the easiest line around the projecting rib and across the lip of the sea cave to join *Gannet Groove* at its overhanging corner. Pull over this and continue up left on more reliable rock to near the arete.

2. 25m 4b As for *Gannet Groove*.

Ladywell Craig, Ladywell Lower Crag, East Bay:

This is the horseshoe shaped bay immediately to the east of Lower Crag, with clean but slightly friable greywacke and a small stack at its western end. An ancient stake was found set back from the top, suggesting someone may have climbed or investigated the crag before.

Stressed to Impress 18m E2 5b *. Daniel Carden, Michael Haywood, Cameron Carr. 24 May 2017.

A wide left-trending crack dissects the left end of the main crag. Start 4m left of its base, making thin moves towards a spike in the crack. Cross the slanting crack and delicately ascend the bold wall above, passing a vertical crack.

Notes:

Ladywell Craig, Lower Crag: *Shortbow* was climbed in May 2017. Some other routes look worthwhile but they will all need a good brush to become climbable again, due to a thick covering of furry lichen.

Ladywell Craig, Upper Left Crag: The HVS 5b * right-hand crack is quite good and deserves a name. Good stake in place above.