

NEW ROUTES

The deadline for sending route descriptions to the New Routes Editor is 30 June each year.

OUTER HEBRIDES

The following just missed the new guide.

ISLE OF LEWIS, Tobha Mòr, Valtos:

The broad headland to the north of Valtos is split in two by Geodha Maladail. In the new Outer Hebrides guide a number of routes are described on Tobha Beag, the eastern part of the headland. The routes below all lie on the western half of this headland which is called Tobha Mòr. They are described in a clockwise direction around the headland.

The first and most impressive crag lies on the west side of Tobha Mòr. It is very difficult to see from above though a distant view of it can be had from the cliff-top on the western side of Camas na Clibhe.

Park as for the Tobha Beag routes (NB 0878 3666). Head west at first before contouring northwards along the western flank of Seuchaval on pleasant grassy ground. Some minor amusement can be found on a boss of delightful rock on the shore at Stac a' Ruta. There is also a fun low level scramble on the south side of Camas Shannageadh – best done in a southerly direction.

Turn a corner after 500m and head in a north-westerly direction to a point overlooking the most westerly part of the headland. A slabby ramp runs out in a south-westerly direction from the base of the cliff. This ramp borders a narrow inlet called Geodha Staca nan Gall.

In order to inspect the face and identify the best place to abseil, it is worth scrambling down a little to the north of the ramp by a zigzag route on good rock starting from NB 08466 37713.

Since the top of the crag overhangs the base, it is important not to arrange the abseil too far north. A conspicuous boulder lies on the cliff-top above the middle of the crag. Place the rope further south opposite the southern tip of the ramp where there is a small south-facing shield of rock at the top of the crag (NB 08461 37646).

Stranger on the Shore 75m HVS 5a **. Andrew Wielochowski, Noel Williams. 16 May 2018.

This route follows a conspicuous break which traverses the whole face from south to north. Fine climbing on good rock with adequate protection. Most atmospheric at mid to high tide. Abseil directly to a ledge at the southern end of the traverse line. Move a few metres left along the ledge to where it is possible to arrange a belay with a view of the climb ahead.

1. 35m 5a Follow the natural break line leftwards. Hand-traverse a short section past guano-covered rock, and continue traversing till a fine Cam slot is reached. Step down and swing boldly left to a good foothold. Climb steeply leftwards to gain a commodious ledge. The second can remove the Cam and place it at foot level to protect the precarious move down.

2. 30m Continue traversing more easily to near the end of the ledge.

3. 10m 4a From the left end of the ledge, step down and cross a corner to gain the finishing slab.



Geodha Staca nan Gall: Stranger on the Shore (HVS, 5a) traverses the face by the obvious crackline. Photo: Noel Williams.

The scramble route down to the ramp can also be followed northwards along the base of the cliff to where two Diff corners were ascended. Eventually a wide rift stops further progress. The next three routes lie to the east of this rift on an area of excellent north-west-facing slabs. Although they start some distance above the sea, breaking waves can make things exciting at high tide. Approach by abseil from the vicinity of NB 08505 37766.

Ocean Edge 50m Severe. Andrew Wielochowski, Noel Williams. 16 May 2018. A varied climb, which overlooks the rift on the right. Protection is spaced initially. Best split into two pitches. From a ledge overlooking the rift, climb the obvious arete with an awkward step followed by a small bulge. Continue on slightly easier ground to a stance. A black slabby wall leads to the top.

The Angry Sea 45m Severe *. Noel Williams, Andrew Wielochowski. 17 May 2018.

Start a few metres left of the previous route. Climb up steps of excellent black rock with little protection at first. Continue up pleasant slabs and cracks to easy ground.

Breaking the Waves 40m V.Diff. Andrew Wielochowski, Noel Williams. 17 May 2018.

Start from a big black ledge near the left (east) end of the slabby face. Climb a black corner via a hard step. Continue more easily above keeping left where possible.

To the east of the previous three routes, the headland is split by Geodha Dubh. On the eastern side of this geo there is a slanting cave. Situated above this is a broad band of pink pegmatite with a rift to its north. The next two routes are approached by an easy abseil down this band of pegmatite.

A Little Bit of Everything 25m Severe *. Noel Williams, Andrew Wielochowski. 13 May 2018.

A pleasantly varied climb on very good rock. Traverse round leftwards into the rift just above where it seals. Climb up a steep corner and step right to gain a short slabby wall. Continue up this on the right, then step left to finish up a left-trending crack.

Rest Easy 15m V.Diff. Andrew Wielochowski, Noel Williams. 13 May 2018. Another well protected climb on good rock. Start on a good ledge 5m up and left of the rift. Climb a steep corner, then step left below a roof. Continue leftwards more easily.

LIANAMUIL (112m):

Lost Shepherds 70m VS 4c. Daniel Grammatica, Rick Salter, Rob Woodall, Alan Whatley, Colin Crawford. 29 Jun 2018.

Land on a big platform on the west side of the stack, at the foot of four sea caves bounded by a rock terrace. Aim for swell forecast 0.5m or less, as it will likely be at least twice that at the stack. Best after mid August as a few razorbills on route, and fulmars on the top slopes. Start 10m to the right of the large roofless cave at the base of a large rounded buttress.

1. 20m 4b Climb a sloping ramp rightwards with increasing difficulty to a small stance.
 2. 10m 4b Climb an open groove, then keep right to gain the end of a ledge, passing an overhung corner to a small stance.
 3. 15m 4c Ascend the left wall passing a bulge. Exit the corner rightwards to cross a bird ledge and through quartzite bands.
 4. 25m Scramble to grassy ground above.
- Descent: From a block and platform directly above the big cave, using stake, block and peg anchors. A spectacular free hanging 50m abseil to sea-level slabs.

ST KILDA, Soay:

Wet Foot West 230m VS. Sam Tolhurst, Steven Van Dijck, Bob Harrison. 1 Jun 2018.

Located on the western tip of Soay, this route is a contender for the UK's most westerly climb. Arrival was via dinghy, landing on a platform with a small groove 20m left of the large sea cave.

1. 45m Climb a small chimney to a corner-crack and climb this for 4m to a prominent ramp which runs from right to left across the crag. Traverse the ramp for 30m.
 2. 55m Continue along the ramp for 50m to below green walls.
 3. 20m Climb up the green wall for 4m, then traverse left and climb down a prominent gully for 8m to its base above a large platform. Could be straightened.
 4. 50m Traverse down left, then go up a left-trending ramp. Continue until below a large gully leading up the crag. From here it is possible to traverse left and up to a defined pinnacle that marks the end of the climb. The first ascensionists took a groove on the right.
 5. 30m 4b Climb up a groove and subsequent corner to a large ledge, overlooking slabs to its left, cracking pitch.
 6. 30m An exposed climb down the prominent slab gains the base of the pinnacle. Climb the pinnacle.
- Descent back down the route.

Ruaival Slabs:

Walk towards Ruaival peak from the town. Descend at the end of the grass into the scree at the start of the sea cut between Hirta and Dun. Continue along the shore of the sea cut until below the large grey buttress of steepening slabs, with a large roof above the sea to the left.

The Last and Outmaist Ile 140m HVS. Sam Tolhurst, Steven Van Dijck, Bob Harrison. 2 Jun 2018.

A similar line may have been climbed in 1987 (*Soay*, see SMCJ 1998), but the description and route length varies.

1. 30m Climb the easiest way up the slab, onto the right of the large ledge that runs horizontally across the whole Ruaival slabs about one-third up.
2. 25m Follow the grey slabby ridge up to a ledge underneath the steeper wall.
3. 35m 4c Climb straight up the headwall to a large rock next to the obvious platform.
4. 50m A scramble leads over the ridge to the grass.

Cowboys From Hell 230m E1. Sam Tolhurst, Steven Van Dijck. 3 Jun 2018.

1. 30m As for *The Last and Outmaist Ile*.

2. 45m Traverse leftwards across the slab. Down-climb the obvious gully (mid-way across the slab) until possible to step across. Climb up leftwards in the cracks towards a small ledge on the arete.
3. 25m Continue around the corner of the buttress, traversing left until able to down-climb towards the obvious black platform. Belay with small roofs high above and sea below.
4. 20m 5b Continue the traverse blindly to the left, around the corner. Down-climb the steep overlaps to join the ledge which crosses the entire face. Belay below a roof with the ledge continuing left.
5. 50m 5b Follow the ledge leftwards to a sloping boulder. Traverse the lip of the boulder and mantel onto it. Climb up a fine corner and continue up to the slabs above.
6. 60m Scramble up the slopes to the top.

The Swallow over the Sea 165m E1. Sam Tolhurst, Steven Van Dijck, Bob Harrison. 4 Jun 2018.

1. 30m As for *The Last and Outmaist Ile / Cowboys From Hell*.
2. 25m As for *Cowboys From Hell* but descend the gully to its base.
3. 25m 5b Traverse left and make an exposed traverse around the obvious bulge (over the bulge is easier). Climb straight up and belay underneath the cracks as for *Cowboys From Hell*.
4. 45m Climb just to the right of the left arete and through the bigger blocks at the top.
5. 40m Scramble to the top.

Jesus and the Leper 160m VS. Sam Tolhurst, Bob Harrison. 9 Jun 2018.

1. 30m As for *The Last and Outmaist Ile / Cowboys From Hell*.
2. 30m Traverse out left as for *The Swallow over the Sea* to the top of the gully, then traverse left to the arete.
3. 50m 4b Step right and follow a right-trending crack-line to the mid-way ledge. Continue right along the mid-way ledge, to climb the steep headwall in a right-rising line, crossing and finishing right of *The Last and Outmaist Ile*.
4. 50m Scramble to the top.

Walk on Water 50m E2 5b. Sam Tolhurst, Bob Harrison. 9 Jun 2018.

A harder variation to pitch 4 of *Jesus and the Leper*, climbing the blank slab right of its crack. Climb directly up the slabs to the halfway ledge.

The Ferry Man 50m E4 5c. Sam Tolhurst, Steven Van Dijck. 3 Jun 2018.

A technical and bold climb, possibly E5 due to suspect rock and poor protection. Climbs the two steep black slabs to the right of the main Ruaival slabs. Start on a large vegetated ledge below the full height left slab. Climb the slab direct for 20m until possible to step right on grass to the base of the steeper darker second slab. Arrange poor brass offsets, then climb the centre of the slab trending slightly left to a small recess of micro blocks. Continue trending leftwards to join a small foot ledge between the right and left slabs. Step left and down onto the left slab. Traverse left across the slab to the arete, then climb it to top out in a loose gully. Belay on the large boulder as for *The Last and Outmaist Ile*. Scramble out 50m.

Ruaival Face:

The Dead Travel Fast 35m E5 6b. Sam Tolhurst. 8 Jun 2018.



*Sam Tolhurst on FA of The Kraken, E3 6a, The Ile of Dun, St Kilda.
Photo: Bob Harrison.*

Access is gained by walking to the Mistress Stone from Harbour Village; pass under the Mistress Stone and scramble down to an abseil point. Abseil access as for *Boat Race* (SMCJ 2011).

Belay from slabs at the base of the face, just above the sea. Climb up trending leftwards through cracks until below the left end of the distinct horizontal roof. Climb up to below the left end of this roof, then climb over it into laybacks up the left side of the distinct upside down V feature (highly visible from below or sea). Make hard barn door moves up the layback to strenuous undercuts and poor side pulls. Leave the upside down V and continue straight up the face to large ledges below large roofs. A tricky right traverse with a sting in the tail mantel allows access to the ledges below the abseil; climb up and out.

The Ile of Dun (Giomach Sgòr):

The Kraken 120m E3. Sam Tolhurst, Steven Van Dijck, Bob Harrison. 6 Jun 2018.

An instant classic on the south side of Dun, needing a double set of Cams. The obvious corner-crack on the west side of Giomach Sgor (pitch 4). Use a hanging belay, either in the obvious pod or just above on the slab. A challenge remains to climb the entire corner from the sea.

1. 50m From the east side of Giomach Sgor, land in the quiet bay below the obvious right to left ramp. Climb the ramp, then the dark vertical gully.
2. 20m Continue left below the ridge into the gap between two pinnacles.
3. 15m An airy traverse over an abyss and up to a large block that marks the access down into the corner. Abseil down into the corner to the hanging belay.
4. 35m 6a Climb the obvious corner through the roof.

INNER HEBRIDES AND ARRAN

RUM, Askival, Pineapple Crag:

Left of Big Blank Slab (SMCJ 2017) is a shorter wall.

Pineapple Juice 16m VS 4c *. Colin Moody, Donette Swain, Billy Hood, Cynthia Grindley, Todd Swain. 2 Jun 2018.

Climb the left-facing corner-crack in the middle of the wall to the ledge. Step right and continue up the fault.

Pineapple Rings 18m E2 5c *. Billy Hood, Cynthia Grindley, Colin Moody, Todd Swain. 2 Jun 2018.

Start at the right side of the wall below an overlap. Climb up and climb the overlap at the left-hand end; move up right to climb a bulge.

MULL:

A large number of routes on crags in Mull and on nearby islands are on the SMC website.

ARRAN, Cir Mhor:

Absolute Zero 80m E6 ***. Jules Lines (on-sight). 13 Jul 2017.

This is an excellent direct line through *Vanishing Point*, low in the grade.

1. 50m 6a Climb the topless crack which leads directly up via very bold padding

into the flake of Vanishing Point. Follow the flake and at its top, veer up leftwards to gain an intermittent pocketed crack and follow it to belay under the large roof at its right side.

2. 30m 5c Pull directly over the roof and go up to join *West Flank Route*. Follow toe pockets up and right to gain the flying arete and layback boldly up this to join *Vanishing Point* where it traverses in from the right. Follow it up the bold slab to finish.

Note: Pitch 3 of *The Sickie* doesn't seem possible as described (at 4c anyway). The only suggestion is that the FAists followed the microgranite vein round the corner and finished up *South Ridge Direct*. Going up direct to join Sou-Wester Slabs is easy and logical.

SKYE

GLEN SLIGACHAN CRAGS:

Damselflies 70m V.Diff *. Colin Moody, Cynthia Grindley. 26 May 2018.

The ridge between *Runaway Slabs* and *Luke's Climb* (p33 Cuillin guide). Walk up right below white overhanging walls to start. Climb up left, then up to the overlap (45m). Move up right under the overlap, then step left over it and continue up (25m).

SGÜRR NAN GILLEAN, Pinnacle Ridge:

Third-Fourth Gully 85m V,5 **. Donald MacLachlan, Mike Lates, Jeannie Sherwood. 17 Mar 2018.

An ice route finally climbed in perfect conditions.

1. 35m Climb the prominent right-hand ice groove to a hanging belay where it broadens.

2. 50m Climb up leftward until possible to break through the overlap. Traverse the lip (crux) to a continuation and to the crest.

Note: *Second-Third Pinnacle Ridge*. The guide says 'Grade II if banked out' but Mike Lates has failed on it twice and it looks at least Grade IV.

The rock routes on the Second Pinnacle have a very loose 20m band of rock low down and Mike wonders if the original route started up *First-Second Gully*.

Knight's Peak:

Subsidiary Gully 210m III. Steve Kennedy, Andy MacDonald. 4 Mar 2018.

Mostly easy apart from the top pitch leading to *Pinnacle Ridge*. The initial section is taken by *West Face* (right-hand start). Follow the gully easily on snow to a wall which blocks access to the upper slopes. The wall is breached by a short ice filled groove which provides access to the upper slopes and ridge above, finishing a short distance right of the summit of Knight's Peak.

AM BASTEIR, North Face

Head Crusher 95m III *. Steve Kennedy, Stan Pearson. 24 Feb 2018.

Starts about 80m up and left from the start of *The Deadline*. Follows the most prominent disjointed system of ramps running diagonally right across the upper left side of the face.

1. 60m Start up a short icefall leading onto the lower ramp. Move slightly leftwards at the top and continue to reach the buttress edge and large block (crossing the finishing gully of *The Breadline*).

2. 35m Continue out rightwards following the upper right-trending ramp, via a short step, to reach the east ridge of Am Basteir.

SGÙRR A' BHASTEIR:

Norman's Conquest 80m III. Mark Francis, David Bowdler, Murdo Nicolson. 12 Feb 2017.

Well to the right of *Broad Gully* and 150m to the left of the NW ridge is a dogleg gully with a narrow start.

SGÙRR THUILM, North Face:

The Mincing Link 300m III. Mark Francis, David Bowdler. 13 Jan 2017.

The face is split by two gullies, most obvious lower down. This route starts 100m left of these and follows a series of short icefalls, trending left eventually to join the left gully and finishing up turfy chimneys ending on the ridge 150m from the summit.

Woman Friday 400m III,4. Mark Francis, David Bowdler. 11 Feb 2017.

At the toe of the obvious buttress is a narrow gully running right to left. This route follows this for three pitches, then dog-legs to the right. Easier ground leads to various exit gullies which finish on the summit.

COIRE A' GHREADAIDH, An Diallaid:

Mother Tongue 150m II/III. Mark Francis, David Bowdler, Murdo Nicolson. 14 Jan 2017.

To the right of *Footrot*, the buttress is split by a narrow chimney dyke. The route follows this in two pitches.

COIRE NA BANACHDAICH:

Calcutta Gully 55m III,4. Donald McLachlan, Mike Lates, Lucy Spark. 25 Feb 2018.

This is the right-hand of the two obvious faults on the final tier below the summit slopes of Sgurr Dearg, the left-hand being *Bard's Gully* (2013?). Approach by the normal Coire na Banachdaich path and head straight up where the path leads left to Bealach na Banachdaich.

1. 25m Neve led to a series of short ice steps and rock belay before the prominent steep ice-fall.

2. 30m Good ice led up to a steep finish before easy slopes above.

Note: *Kibby's Route* gave a good 30m pitch of ice at Grade IV.

INACCESSIBLE PINNACLE:

South Crack 30m VI,6. Douglas Sutton, Andrew Campbell, Matt Barratt. 7 Jan 2018.

The summer line gives sustained and quality climbing.

SGÙRR DEARG, North Face:

The Un Pin 250m I. Andy Nisbet. 13 Mar 2018.

A surprisingly easy ramp-line immediately under the steep Coruisk sidewall of

An Stac and the Inaccessible Pinnacle. Just left of *Inaccessible Icefall* (SMCJ 2016). It was reached by descending from Bealach na Banachdaich but could also be reached by descending from the base of An Stac. Climbed under heavy snow conditions and might often be Grade II.

AN STAC:

North Wall Route 75m E1 **. Mike Lates, Malcolm Airey. 12 Jun 2018.

A wild adventure climbing a hidden chimney line on the steep north wall.

Approach by descending the scree and slabs on the north side of the In Pinn (presumably reversing the above route?). Descend a final 20m open chimney to reach a blocky bay.

1. 25m 4a Gain the shattered shelf line that leads easily but airily onto the face to an undercut corner-line. Hanging stance.
2. 25m 5b Above initial steep moves the angle eases to a large ledge.
3. 15m 5b Tackle the narrow pod with a well-protected wild exit to another recess. Exit this.
4. 10m 4b Finish more easily up to join *An Stac Direct*.

SGÜRR DEARG, Practise Buttress:

Tea and Talisker 55m HVS **. Al Phizacklea, Dennis Lee, John Holden. 19 May 2018.

Climbs the smooth wall left of *Western Drainpipe Ridge*. Perhaps E1. Scramble to the ledge above pitch 1 of *Western Drainpipe Ridge*.

1. 15m 4c Climb the crack left of pitch 2 of *Western Drainpipe Ridge* to reach a ledge out left.
2. 40m 5a Follow a shallow crease which peters out into a fine crack-line (old peg runner). Step left to a small ledge, and continue trending diagonally left across the slabs to reach a shallow corner which leads easily to a ledge with a block. Abseil off.

SGÜRR MHICCOINNICH, West Buttress:

Mackenzie's Fledgling Groove 95m VS 4c. Mike Lates, Malcolm Airey. 2 Jul 2018.

Takes the parallel line left of *Mackenzie's Flying Groove* from the grassy bay in *Bomb Alley*.

1. 50m 4b Start up the orange recess heading leftwards for 20m. Bear back more steeply rightward up blocky holds in an exposed position. Belay on Collie's Ledge.
2. 45m 4c Move 5m right and climb the vertical fault common to *Mackenzie's Flying Groove* for 15m. Traverse the horizontal fault leftwards for 10m until it is possible to climb more steeply into the upper flying groove. Follow this easily leftward to blocks immediately below the summit.

Mackenzie's Flying Groove 95m E1 **. Lucy Spark, Mike Lates. 9 Jun 2018. Start at the back of the grassy bay in *Bomb Alley*.

1. 50m 5a Climb the central line with a crux at 5m. Belay on Collie's Ledge.
2. 45m 5b The fault continues vertically for 15m to a small overhung ledge. Committing moves give access to a flying groove that rises rightwards to finish above the left wall of *King's Chimney*. Good climbing in a superb position.

Cannon and Wall 20m E1 5c **. Mike Lates, Malcolm Airey. 2 Jul 2018.

Takes the right wall of *King's Chimney* before tackling the cannon directly to finish. Start at the upper ledge in *King's Chimney*. Climb *King's Chimney* for 5m and place a high side runner before foot traversing the obvious break to the right edge. Gain good holds on the very edge to make a short steep sequence. Continue easily to the final steepening where it is easy to finish by the normal route. Step round right and tackle the overhang by long fierce moves.

SRÒN NA CÌCHE:

Note: The slab and its right-bounding arete under *Rib of Doom* have been climbed but linking into an independent route has not been achieved. In June 2005, Alex Glasgow & Jamie Bankhead climbed the slab via a thin vertical crack (HVS 4c). Near the top of the slab, they escaped right on to *Rib of Doom*. In 2017, Rich Parker & Lucy Spark climbed the arete (15m 4c), then a strenuous overhanging corner. They moved up left and climbed an awkward wall (5a, crux). Easier climbing led to a belay at junction with *Wallwork's Route*, which they finished up.

COIRE A' GHRUNDA, Sròn na Ciche, South Crag:

Thrice Brewed 105m HVS **. Al Phizacklea, John Holden. 23 May 2018.

Climbs the cleanest of the slabs left of *White Slab Direct*. Lovely delicate climbing on excellent rock. Start just left of *White Slab* and its graffiti.

1. 20m 4b Climb the shallow flake in the right side of the rounded rib just left of *White Slab*, to below a long slender groove.

2. 35m 5a Traverse left onto a blunt rib, go up this, then back right into the slender groove where it opens into a wide V. Trend left onto a rounded rib and follow this delicately to a ledge.

3. 50m 5a Start just right of two yellow flashes in the wall above. Pull directly onto the slab with a thin crack which leads to ledges. Use a vague scoop up the cleanest slabs above to gain a flake, step right and follow the slab which leads to a vague rib and the left side of a long horizontal roof. Climb out left to belay (level with the base of the *White Slab*).

The line becomes very broken and much easier above, so two abseils gains the base of the crag.

LOCH CORUIK CRAG:

This route is on the left-hand slabby buttress (Cuillin guide p224).

Mrs Merton 55m E1 *. Robert Middleton, Helen Fairclough. 30 Mar 2018.

1. 35m 5a Climb up at a niche towards the left of the main face and traverse leftwards for 5m above an overhang on an obvious ledge towards the left arete. Arrange good but fiddly protection at ledge level before committing boldly to the left-slanting crack above. Pass two jammed blocks to a slight rest at a downwards pointing flake, then go directly up where the crack peters out past a tiny triangular niche to a ledge. Continue up the easier wall above to a larger ledge and belay.

2. 20m 4b Climb the layback crack above.

Freda and Barry 50m Severe *. Helen Fairclough, Robert Middleton. 30 Mar 2018.

Start from the right end of the obvious ledge on *Mrs Merton*.

1. 30m 4b Climb directly up a vertical crack for 6m to join a left-slanting crack which is followed to a niche. Climb just left of a grassy groove to a large ledge.

2. 20m 4a Gain and follow the higher of two right-sloping cracks.

Note: *Mrs Beaton* was thought VS 4c ** and a good left to right diagonal route on the JMCS hut crag was climbed at about VS 4b **.

GLAMAIG, Sgurr Mhairi:

Obvious ice forms frequently on cliffs immediately above the sheep fanks in Sconser, but usually thin.

Mhairi's Christening 50m IV,5. Mike Lates. Lucy Spark. 7 Mar 2018.

Climbs the 2nd line from the left with a steep finish.

Mhairi's Wedding Cake 180m IV,5. Mike Lates. Lucy Spark. 7 Mar 2018.

Climbs the longest and most prominent line. A 25m vertical tier leads to easier ground for 50m. Climb two higher tiers more easily.

SGÜRR NAN EACH, Bealach Buttresses:

Trundle Chimney 60m III *. Nathan Adam, Gary Campbell. 12 Feb 2018.

The obvious and atmospheric chimney on the right side of the buttress, right of the summer route *Trundle Buttress*. Two well protected steps between snow leads to a small col and belay from where it is possible to either continue to the top of the crag via the summer line of *Trundle Buttress* or descend easily into a large snow gully on the right. A 40m pitch of ice and snow low down was omitted and would make a good start, but the base of the chimney can be gained from the right along a snowy ledge. Likely to be harder under thin conditions.

BLABHEINN, South Buttress

Note: *Canopy* is well worth a star or two when dry (Mike Lates).

CÀRN LIATH:

Western Arete Direct E1 5a. Dan Moore, Serge Gomez. 30 May 2016.

Climbs the left-hand groove all the way (rather than moving into the right-hand groove). Great but bold climbing, some suspect rock but not just here, all over the crag!

BALMACQUIEN:

Pinch Punch 18m Severe. Mark Hudson, Flora Hudson. 1 Apr 2018.

Takes a direct line up the wall 5m left of *Secret Weapon*. At half tide and below, scramble to a wide barnacle platform just left of that route. Climb towards a left-facing corner in the cliff-top forming the left end of the tower with *Secret Weapon* as its right end. Easy climbing leads past a reachy middle steepening (can be sidestepped to the left) and then takes fine airy steps up the final corner.

BORNESKETAIG, Organ Pipes:

Skull & Coxswain 12m E2 5c *. Todd Swain, Colin Moody. 13 May 2018.

Up and right from *Skull and Jawbone* is a small buttress. Climb the central crack-line in the buttress.

Cat Food 22m HVS 5a **. Colin Moody, Cynthia Grindley. 20 Aug 2017.

Twin cracks right of *Power to Believe*; finish up the right-hand crack.

Gully Walls:

These are wrongly marked as B on the map on p123 Skye Sea-Cliffs; they are mid-way between B and 9.

Tornado 12m HVS 5a **. Todd Swain, Cynthia Grindley, Colin Moody. 13 May 2018.

The twin cracks right of *Twister*.

Cyclone 14m HVS 5a *. Todd Swain, Cynthia Grindley, Colin Moody. 13 May 2018.

To the right are two cracks finishing on a ledge at about 5m. Climb the left crack to the ledge, then step up left and continue.

Whirlpool 14m E2 5c *. Todd Swain, Donette Swain, Cynthia Grindley, Colin Moody. 14 May 2018.

Climb the desperate right crack to the ledge. Move up right to a higher ledge, step left and climb twin cracks.

Waterspout 14m HVS 5a *. Todd Swain, Donette Swain, Cynthia Grindley, Colin Moody. 14 May 2018.

To the right are two more short cracks. Climb the left-hand crack to a ledge, twin cracks above, then the right-facing corner-crack.

Waterlogged 14m HVS 5a *. Todd Swain, Donette Swain, Cynthia Grindley, Colin Moody. 14 May 2018.

Right of the second set of short cracks is a crack with a jammed log. Climb past the log, climb a corner-crack, then twin cracks. Step left and finish up *Waterspout*.

NA HURANAN:

A large number of routes on various new sectors are on the SMC website.

NEIST, Financial Sector:

Gammy's Link E2 5b **. Michael Barnard, Adrian Crofton. 30 Jun 2017.

Good independent climbing. From the starting ledge of *Gammy's Purse*, climb the steep corner on the left (crux, micro-cams required). Step right around the arete (as for *Lottery Live Start*) to join and continue up *Gammy's Purse*.

Wall Street, Direct Finish E3 6a. Michael Barnard, Adrian Crofton. 30 Jun 2017. A brutal finish up the obvious thin crack.

South of the Steps, Sonamara Area:

Pretentious Neighbour 25m HVS 5a. Al Phizacklea, John Holden. 22 May 2018.

Start on left side of the prow containing *Transitive Nightfall of Diamonds*. Pull out left to a cracked block on the arete and climb up to a ledge. Climb the centre of a short smooth face to enter a small V-groove and pull directly over the capping roof.

RAASAY, Fladda Walls:

A large number of routes on these walls are on the SMC website.

NORTHERN HIGHLANDS NORTH

ALLADALE SLABS, West Wing:

Grumble 150m Severe **. Dave Allan, Duncan McGavin. 7 Jun 2018.
Between *Bang* and *Tane*. Start at a grassy hollow 20m down and left of the rib where *Tane* starts.

1. 45m Climb a tongue of rock, move left a little at its top and climb a left-facing corner. At its top go 6m right to belay.
2. 35m Go back left to the top of the corner and climb a shallow scoop, then continue up to the left of the twin overhangs and blocks under the overhang just above.
3. 25m Traverse right under the overhang then climb up to beneath the upper overhang.
4. 45m Traverse left under the overhang, then go up and climb a prominent 6m right-facing corner to easier ground.

ARDMAIR Note:

The small abused rowan at the start of *Dangerous Dancer* is no more, making the route slightly bolder and harder, but not enough to change the grade.

BEINN MOR COIGACH:

Eagle Gully 250m II. Dave Allan. 2 Mar 2001.

The leftmost gully line on the face a few hundred metres north-west of Sgurr an Fhidleir. Take the right fork at the start and the left fork high up.

CUL BEAG, Lurgainn Slabs, West Face, Gully Wall:

This takes a deep corner on the approach, on the closest of the crags, 20mins. This is the steep sidewall of the grassy gully used on the approach and two-thirds of the way along this is a deep corner giving the following route.

Apex Corner 25m VS 5a **. John Mackenzie, Andrew James. 12 Jun 2018.

An interesting route with elegant moves, protected by medium to large gear. Climb the corner to exit up left to finish by an easy slab to good belays.

Lower Tier:

Tip-Toe Slab 35m VS 4b. John Mackenzie, Andrew James. 12 Jun 2018.

To the right of *Forgotten Groove* (SMCJ 2010) is a slab, reached via a recess with a juniper bush. Climb the slab tongue above the bush and keep mainly to the slab on the left using a heathery crack for protection. A large heather bay above has a short undercut slab which is taken on the right by a protruding hold to move up left to finish.

Top Tier:

Towards the right-hand end of this tier, best approached via the 'normal' gully right of the Lower Tier of slabs, is a fine looking pink slab topped by a headwall split by a crack. To the left of this slab is another with an obvious corner bounding its left side and taken by the following route.

Papier Mache 25m Severe 4b. John Mackenzie, Andrew James. 18 Jul 2017.

Climb the slab just right of the corner to reach a grass patch. Avoid this on the right and climb a short wall and overhang on good holds to the top.



John Mackenzie on pitch 2 FA of Breakthrough, HVS 5a, Cul Beag. Photo: Andrew James.

Paper Tiger 30m VS 4c ***. John Mackenzie, Andrew James. 18 Jul 2017.

A fine contrasting climb, easier than it looks, taking the pink slab and cracked headwall. Start at the lowest point of the slab below a short wall, climb the wall to reach the slab and follow a left-trending crack-line to below the headwall. Climb the steep crack to a platform. Finish by an easy short slab.

To reach the next route is more difficult. There is a deer trod running below the Middle Tier that runs below the highest part of the Top Tier below a shorter line of aretes and grooves that lie to the west, avoiding the cliff edge that drops off just beyond *G.F.C.* (SMCJ 2010). Though there are several other ways to reach the broad platform below the next section of crag the deer trod is the best. Another way would be to climb the first two pitches of *Pebbledash*, then to traverse left.

The WSW section of the crag has more lichen than the other areas, but the following route is very clean.

Breakthrough 85m HVS 5a ***. Andrew James, John Mackenzie. 30 May 2018. This very fine climb takes a central line well left of *G.F.C.* following a lower slab, then a chimney-crack and finally corners to the top. It is well protected, exposed and strenuous in places but delicate in others.

1. 30m 4a Start at the lowest rock rib before the platform drops away leftwards to a gully. Climb the rib to a large block, then up the fine slab above to a horizontal crack. Move left to a very narrow ledge with one crack.
2. 20m 5a A short traverse left along the ledge leads to the chimney crack. This is undercut to start and leads strenuously up over a variety of problems to arrive at large chockstones.
3. 20m 5a Step right onto the slab edge avoiding a dirty groove above and up this pleasantly to below the corners on the right. Climb the steep corner to a sloping stance below the top corner.
4. 15m 4c Climb the corner and a rib above to a large boulder at the top.

STAC POLLAIDH, West Buttress, North Face:

Note: Iain Young & John Higham repeated *Pollaidhstyrene* (V,6) in Jan 2018 but missed out the wide crack by traversing away to the right (IV,5 overall).

No.2 Buttress:

Sweaty Betty 45m E4 **. Tess Fryer, Ian Taylor. 25 May 2018.

Lies to the left of *The Orifice* in the recess with the rockfall scar. Sustained well protected climbing, needs a few days to dry after a wet spell.

1. 25m 6a Scramble 5m to a ledge left of a small rowan, then climb the arching crack-line, passing the left side of the first big roof by awkward manoeuvres. One metre below the next small roof, go hard right to gain a crack-line on the right wall and follow this to a V shaped roof. Go round the left side of this and the right side of another roof to the ledge above.
2. 20m 5c Move a couple of metres left along the ledge until below a corner (best to re-belay here). Climb the deceptive corner, with a couple of hollow blocks which wouldn't move on abseil.

Upper No.2 Buttress:

The following route was climbed thinking it was *Bats in the Belfry*, but it was a lot harder. Whether it is new or not is uncertain.



Tess Fryer on the FA of Sweaty Betty, E4 6a, Stac Pollaidh. Photo: Ian Taylor.

Going Batty 35m E1 5b *. Jonathan Preston, Sarah Atkinson. 5 Jul 2017.

Climb easily onto the concave slab at the right end of the buttress (sounds like *Bats in the Belfry* but didn't lead to a cave). Climb incipient cracks up the middle of the slab to a steepening. Using a rounded flake on the right, make steep moves up the groove above to a tricky exit. Easier ground leads up a crack and short gully to the top.

No.3 Buttress:

Half Axe Chimney 120m III. Roger Webb, Neil Wilson. 20 Jan 2018.

The chimney line immediately left of *Summer Isle Arete*. Well shaded by the arete, it keeps condition better than other south facing lines on Stac Pollaidh and gives two good pitches before easy ground.

Note: *Slovo* is misplaced in Northern Highlands North (p125) and it actually takes a chimney set into 'the slender fin about 40m right of *Summer Isles Arete*', next to the route *Consider the Lillies*.

The Keep:

The following two routes lie on the lower left-hand buttress which overlooks the broad gully descending from the main col (where the walkers' path joins the ridge). Ascend directly from the road. One of the main features visible is a corner running up the crest of the buttress; this is the line of *Finders Keepers*. The routes can be approached by scrambling up from the left to reach good ledges near the crest.

The Grafter 20m E1 5b *. Michael Barnard, Alan Hill. 10 Jun 2018.

Climbs a line of steep cracks immediately left of the crest.

Finders Keepers 20m HVS 5a. Michael Barnard, Alan Hill. 10 Jun 2018.

Start as for the above, then move right to gain the corner which is followed to the top. Some blocks require care.

The next two routes lie on the same section of crag as the existing climbs and can be gained the same way, or alternatively by traversing round from the top of the above routes (passing a short awkward step), or by abseiling in from the ridge. Some blocks require care. Belay at the left end of the terrace, at the base of an obvious left-trending groove (*Coigach's Burning*).

Pollaidh Wants a Cracker 30m HVS 5a. Michael Barnard, Alan Hill. 10 Jun 2018.

Climb the groove to the heather ledge. Instead of its leftward continuation, climb the vertical crack to its right via a series of steps, finishing directly.

Playing for Keeps 30m HVS. Michael Barnard, Alan Hill. 10 Jun 2018.

An entertaining route with a traditional feel. Immediately right of the left-trending groove is a steep corner-crack; right again is a wide crack.

1. 15m 5b Climb the wide crack up to the roof, traverse left under this and pull onto a ledge. Ascend the short off-width crack above (crux) and move up to a large grassy ledge.

2. 15m 5a Start up the corner above, then take a slanting break to gain the left

arete. Continue up the crack just left of the arete, pulling through the bulge for an exposed finish.

REIFF, Seal Song Area:

Madness 12m H.Severe 4b. Ewan Lyons. 9 Apr 2018.

Climbs the bulges on the wall between *Deep Chimney* and *Reiffer*.

Minch Walls:

The Year of the Ski 10m E1 5b. Ian Taylor, Tess Fryer. Mar 2018.

Climb straight up between *Slip Jig* and *Polka*.

Bay of Pigs:

The peg on *Making Bacon* is no more, so it will now be solid E5.

Hidden Rock:

Bobby Shafto 8m HVS 5b. Tess Fryer, Ian Taylor. Mar 2018.

Start as for *Storm in a Teacup* but climb the crack directly above.

Spaced Out Rockers Cliff:

Misha Direct 35m E7 6b **. Ian Taylor, Tess Fryer. 24 Jul 2017.

Follow *Misha* to the top of the vague crack where it rejoins *Headlong*. Move right and up to a shallow incut break near a round pocket (poor F2 and RP in the break). From a good incut above, make a big move to a shallow break, then up to the *Spaced Out Rockers* break. Move slightly left and climb a hard thin seam using a shallow finger pocket. Finish direct. Low in the grade.

Leaning Block:

The Screamer Direct 15m E5 6b *. Ian Taylor, Tess Fryer. Jul 2017.

Start mid-way between *The Screamer* and *The Gift* and climb direct to join *The Screamer*. Finish direct where the original moves right at the top.

CUL MOR:

North-East Ridge 350m III,4. John Higham, Iain Young. 7 Jan 2018.

On this ascent a line was followed far to the right of the one depicted in the Highland Scrambles North guide. Approaching from the floor of Coire Gorm and traverse west until on the broad junction between the north and west faces of the lower buttress. Climb by short steep steps, turfy ledges and chimneys to gain the top of the pinnacle below Biod a' Mhioltait. Descend the gully to the west, regain the ridge, pass Biod a' Mhioltait itself to the east then climb grooves cutting through the final steep section of the ridge. Easy ground leads to the summit of Sròn Garbh. Escapable climbing, but very fine situations.

TARBET CRAGS, Brown Crag:

Gordon 12m VS 4c *. Simon Needham, Denise Forster. 25 May 2018.

Start at the base of *Raw Sienna*, but follow the slabby scoop leftwards. Pull left across the overlap of *Distinctly Ochreish*, then climb directly to the top.

FAR NORTH-WEST CRAGS, Upstream Crag:

Michael Barnard notes that his route *In the Land of Grey and Pink* (SMCJ 2017 p150) is the best route on the crag and should be **.

RUHBA A' MHILL BHAIN (NC 2055 2155):

This small peninsula on the south side of the seaward end of Loch Inchard is home to some fine short sea-cliffs. These include:

Fisherman's Crag (NC 212 555), nearby Pinnacle Crag, Twin Walls, Dark Crag, The Grand Slabs and Eilean Dubh. Many new routes on these crags are on the SMC website.

ARKLE:

South Rib 280m III. Neil Wilson, Roger Webb, Simon Richardson. 10 Dec 2017.

Follow the summer line over several steps to the top.

FOINAVEN:

Note: On a winter ascent of *Pobble* on 20 Jan 2018, Helen Rennard & Ben Silvestre went closer to the summer line on pitch one whereas the original ascent traversed in from the right on ledges.

CRANSTACKIE, Pink Slab:

Pegmatite Perfection 60m VS 4b. Dave Allan, Duncan McGavin. 24 Jul 2017. Start at the lowest rocks at the left side of the slab and climb a thin crack to a large patch of grass. Avoid the grass by climbing along an edge on the right. Gain the big crack above and follow it to a large ledge (40m). Continue up the crack, then rightwards to finish.

PORT MOR SEA-STACK (NC 19588 64170):

Seaward Edge 16m H.Severe 4b *. Sam Wainwright, Caelan Barnes. 5 Nov 2017.

From the seaward toe, move up a wall and make a mantelshelf move onto a ledge (optional belay). Climb the steep slab on the left arete passing a thread to the summit.

BEN HOPE:

See article and topo on pp.109–15.

North-West Rib 350m I/II. Iain Easingwood. 28 Dec 2017.

A narrow rib on the NW face running left to right starting at a small wedge shaped buttress, climbing the left side of the buttress initially, then continue along the crest of the rib taking the small steps direct without much difficulty, joining the North Ridge. This ridge is the second ridge left of *Miles' Ridge*.

Longphort 400m III. Andy Nisbet, Jonathan Preston. 25 Jan 2018.

The big gully between *Tower Ridge* and *Viking Ridge*. Low in the grade. The lower section of the gully was not in condition, so this was passed by a zigzag line on the left side of *Viking Ridge* (not included in the length) before the gully could be gained. Climb snow and short ice steps to a fork. The main branch heads up slightly right. Follow this on snow to a 60m ice pitch, not steep. More snow and small steps lead up and easily left to the top. A steep groove on the right was taken as a 50m finish with more interest.

Longphort Left 400m III. Andy Nisbet. 26 Jan 2018.

Start as for the main gully, but take the left fork at about half-height. This starts with an ice pitch, then snow leading to a steeper finish. Take an icy groove on the



Michael Barnard on FA of Direct Bombardment, HVS 5a, Ruhba a' Mhill Bhain, near Kinlochbervie. Photo: Alan Hill.

right, but which leads fairly straight up to near the finish of North Ridge. Finish along its narrow crest.

I Spy 600m III. Dave McGimpsey, Andy Nisbet. 16 Feb 2018.

A less prominent ridge right of *Viking Ridge*, but still independent climbing to the cliff-top. The easiest start is off to the right to gain the ridge proper. The first steep tier was climbed from the right and crossing the crest. The crest was then followed to a very steep section. Climb an iced corner on the right (needs good ice to be Grade III). Further ice leads to a right-slanting gully which leads more easily to the top.

Odin 400m IV,4. Sandy Allan, Andy Nisbet. 13 Jan 2018.

A big depression between *Notos* and *Valhalla*. It has the advantage of easy access via *Notos* when there is no ice low down (as on this occasion). The easy start is not included in the length. Gain snow in the base of depression and follow this with increasing amounts of ice as it bends right into a gully. Continue up to a fork. The bigger left branch was taken leading to another fork high up where the right branch was taken.

Odin Right 400m IV,4. Sandy Allan, Dave McGimpsey, Andy Nisbet. 21 Feb 2018.

Follow *Odin* to the fork. Take the right side of the big ice pitch and which leads into the right branch (not obvious as a branch as the right side of the ice pitch is convex) and follow this up three further ice pitches to a crest. Continue as a right rising traverse into a finishing snow gully (actually a branch of the following route).

Loki 400m III. Dave McGimpsey, Andy Nisbet, Jonathan Preston. 9 Feb 2018.

A big gully which curves out of the big depression of *Odin* and runs parallel to the next ridge (*Valhalla*). Start as for *Odin* but when it begins to steepen, take an ice line out right (not obvious). It leads up into the big gully on the right and which starts with a steep but short ice pitch. Climb the gully with short ice pitches but mostly snow to the top. Low in the grade.

Blue River 600m IV,4. Dave McGimpsey, Andy Nisbet. 13 Feb 2018.

The gully between *Scandi High* and the next ridge (*The Turf Factor*). Start up a small left-slanting gully to continue up the watercourse over small steps. A larger step was bypassed on the right, then another step climbed on ice. A barrier wall was passed on the left before the main gully was followed up over two bigger ice pitches. After the second, the gully turns left and heads up towards *Scandi High*. At the top, either go left via a through route or climb another ice pitch and go left. Go up into a snow bay, cross this rightwards and go up a ramp to a crest (*The Turf Factor*), which is close to the top.

The Turf Factor 600m IV,4. Andy Nisbet, Steve Perry, Jonathan Preston. 4 Jan 2018.

The next ridge right of *Scandi High*, first left of *South Tower Ridge*. A line close to the crest was followed through the lower tiers to reach a steep band. This was climbed by a wide chimney on the left leading to a steep turf corner in the next tier. The ridge turns left to an undercut tier. Pull up left at the left end of the undercut section and return immediately right to the crest. Follow this to another

steep section, again passed by moving left and immediately back right. Finish more easily.

Note: JP measured the vertical height as 500m, which would make the rope length an underestimate.

Skeleton Gully 500m IV,4. Dave McGimpsey, Andy Nisbet. 17 Feb 2018.

A gully between *Harpie* and *Bobsled Buttress*. Only the initial step on the lower tier wasn't formed so this was passed on the left and the gully joined above. The gully was followed through the lower tier and more easily above to a junction. The right fork leads on to *Bobsled Buttress* so the left was taken. It steepens to a large icefall. This was gained from the left and followed to the top slopes, finishing on the right.

Bobsled Buttress 500m III. Andy Nisbet, Steve Perry. 1 Jan 2018.

The next ridge to the right of *Harpie*. A short first tier was climbed centrally. The next and largest tier was started on its right edge and a ramp followed leftwards, then up steeply (crux). The crest was then followed apart from a steep tier high up, where a wide groove on the right led to easier ground.

BEN HEE, Coire Leacach:

Hopalong 120m II. Andy Nisbet, Steve Perry. 10 Mar 2018.

A frozen stream at the exit of Coire Leacach (NC 446 348). A deep, narrow V-gully leads to easier ice and snow.

CREAG NA H-IOLAIRE (near Klibreck):

Easan Fheidh 90m VI,6 ****. Steve Perry, Sophie Grace Chappell. 5 Mar 2018.

This spectacular waterfall at NC 5857 2528 forms only rarely, but is really worth seeking out when it does. Given its low altitude, it is unlikely to be in condition unless the burn beside the bridge at the Crask Inn is frozen. The climbing is steep and sustained, plus with added commitment due to the remote location.

Approach: Follow the track leading east from the Crask Inn, up into the Bealach Easach and descend the other side. The waterfall will come into view 1km before you reach Loch a' Bhealaich. Descend from the track and scramble up the gulch. The waterfall base is accessed easily from a magnificent amphitheatre at the top of the gulch.

1. 35m Climb the right side through a steep section at 10m, then traverse right on small rising foot ledges to a snow scoop right of an ice pillar.
2. 40m Move left around the ice pillar and climb a vertical section of chandeliered ice (crux) to hanging icicles. Move left under these into steadily easier ground trending right and reaching turf. Continue rightwards onto a turfy ramp and a block belay.
3. 15m Climb a turfy groove at the end of the short ramp to the top.

Sideshow Gully 70m II/III. Davy Moy, Dave Allan. 24 Dec 2010.

This is 15m left of *Easan Fheidh*.

CARN AN TIONAIL, Creag na h-Uidhe:

Gully 3 200m II. Dave Allan. 10 Apr 2013.

The third gully from the left.



Andy Wilby on Friend or Foe, 6c+, Creag Dubh (Loch Loyal). Photo: Simon Nadin.

CREAG DHUBH (Loch Loyal):

Macular Generator 7a+ *. Simon Nadin. 25 Jun 2018.

Start at the right side of the toe of the buttress. Follow the line of bolts trending rightwards to join Friend or Foe at the big pocket below the flake. Step left from the top of the flake and climb diagonally leftwards by a sustained and thin sequence across the slab to reach a break. Slightly easier climbing follows between breaks to the top of the crag.

Vision On 7b+ *. Simon Nadin. 23 Jul 2017.

The slab to the right of *Friend or Foe*, 12 bolts. Pull through the overlap 3m right and weave up the slab finishing just to the right of the obvious seam/crack on *Friend or Foe* by a technical and fingery sequence (crux). Sustained and very difficult to read.

NOSS HEAD, Castle Sinclair Stacks:

Castle Sinclair Girmigoe VS 4c. Steve Perry. 6 Jun 2018.

The larger stack north-east of the slender pinnacle. Climb the easy looking north-east end via a rightward traverse in (crux) on very friable rock. The tide will determine the length of this traverse.

ELLENS GEO (ND 327 407):

The Magical Red Line E4 5c. Simon Nadin, Ed Nind. 25 Aug 2017.

A direct line from a belay in a small corner to the large hanging corner right of *Nitty Gritty*. Move left from the top of the corner onto the arete, then climb a thin crack in the wall above (crux) to gain easier finishing cracks.

Note: Peter Herd added a new girdle. 4 pitches at E3 5c ***.

MID CLYTH, Shelf Area (NH North p369):

Rio Line 20m HVS 5a *. Mick Tighe. 17 Aug 2016.

Start 3m right of *Circle Line* and climb out of the right side of the little recess to a good ledge. Go up and right through the slate band to climb the steep headwall using a flake. Good rock and good protection.

Le Petit Balcon 20m HVS 5a **. Mick & Kathy Tighe. 13 Aug 2015.

There are some overhangs high up 10-15m right/north of *Rio Line*. Start below the left end of the overhangs beside some bright green weed. A good ledge runs along the cliff here at about 5m above sea-level. Climb up to the ledge or start from it. Climb a crack in the steep white wall until under the overhang. Go diagonally up and left across the slate band until under a smaller overhang. Step right onto the *Petit Balcon* and climb the fine crack to the top.

The Rite of Spring 20m VS 4b/c. Mick & Kathy Tighe. 13 Aug 2015.

Another 10m or so right a sinuous fault-line weaves up to the right of the overhangs. Can be wet after heavy rain, but fine climbing when dry.

Shades of Grey 20m HVS 5a (1PA). Mick & Kathy Tighe. 17 Aug 2016.

A shallow left/south facing corner in a grey area of rock in the middle of the main face. Excellent climbing up the corner to the much harder, short crack at the top (1PA).

There's a big cave where the shelf area ends with scope for adventurous routes.

Just before this (south) is a smaller shallow cave with a roof at half-height.

Mid Clyth Crisis 20m VS 4c *. Mick & Kathy Tighe. 13 Aug 2015.

Start below the left end of the overhang emanating from the smaller cave. Balance up the fine black rock and climb a short wall just left of the overhang. Tricky moves up and left lead to the slate band and a hoodie groove to finish.

Tricky Issue 20m E1 5b *. Mick & Kathy Tighe. 2015.

Start under the middle of the roof. Traverse up and left to the edge of the roof. A short wall leads to a crack. Climb this and find a way through the headwall.

Cave Issue 20m E1 5b. Mick & Kathy Tighe. 2015.

Climb straight up 2m right of the cave via a short left-facing corner. There is a fragile steep headwall so go hard left or right.

CREAG BHEAG:

North Coast 500 50m 6a+. Dominic Oughton (unsec). 6 Aug 2017.

A left-to-right traverse of the whole crag following the obvious break near the top, clipping bolts on existing routes. Start up *Tied Up* to its 4th bolt and then make steep moves on under-clings to join the high level break around *Turbine Charged*. Head rightwards on generally good holds in the break clipping bolts just above, with a pumpy crux around *Fleet Street*. Beyond *Twin Track* the climbing becomes easier along a ledge system (slightly crumbly in places) to reach the lower-off of *The Bheaginning*. Lower off here (60m rope needed), or for the full 100m tick, reverse the route (as per the first ascent, or if your belayer doesn't fancy following).

MIGDALE ROCK:

A number of older routes on this crag near Bonar Bridge (NH 650 908) are on the SMC website.

THE BLACK SLAB:

A number of older routes on this crag near The Mound (NH 764 978) are on the SMC website.

ORKNEY, Tomb of the Eagles, Old Head:

Approach from the Tomb of the Eagles return path before taking the coastal path along the south side of the largest inlet of Ham Geo. Continue as far south as possible and after crossing a small stream, the area is visible to the left, marked by two triangular buttresses (skerries) flanked to the right (looking out) by a third square buttress. ND 470 835. The first route is tidal and best approached by descending behind the squarer southern buttress to reach a good ledge.

Old Head Route 25m E2 ****. Simon Litchfield, Franco Cookson. 2 Aug 2017.

An excellent route, tackling the obvious groove. Start at the corner on the tidal ledge. Step right to climb the steep wall on big holds. Easy moves lead to a capping roof with a crack. Gain this with difficulty using a hanging rib to the left. The upper groove maintains technical interest, before a final layback up the flake.

The following route is non-tidal and is best approached by carefully scrambling down the north side of the most southern buttress.

The Overfall 8m E6 6a **. Simon Litchfield, Franco Cookson. 2 Aug 2017.
The centre of the prominent, overhanging black wall provides a bold micro-route, tackling the face on crimps. The climbing is good and never technically desperate but the fall potential is double its length and almost certainly painful and wet.

Roseness:

A crag at ND 5218 9864. 6 routes on the SMC website.

SHETLAND, Foula:

Ultima Thule 353m E7 6b ***. Dave MacLeod, Calum Muskett. 19 May 2018.
A big undertaking for an adventurous climbing team taking the central complex section of Nebbifjeld. To find the abseil point locate a large grassy corner that descends some 50m to the cliff-wide roof. Stakes would be useful although there is protection in a little hollow above the corner. The first ascensionists used a drone to locate the corner! A 250m abseil straight down with a few re-belays should take you to the foot of the route at the top of the grassy ledges and a left-facing corner with an off-width. Ropes were left in place. Most pitches are of E5 and above in difficulty and the rock varies from good quality sandstone to sand. There are also some bold pitches in the route's mid to upper half. Topo provided.

1. 35m 5a Up the initial sandy groove until several metres beneath an overhang, then traverse right on better rock to a ledge beneath the next short corner.
2. 40m 5c Up the chossy corner before moving right onto the wall to gain a sandy ledge and some good Cams. Traverse right along the bubbly soft sandstone just above the roof to gain the corner.
3. 45m 6a Follow the corner line up to the big roof. Awkwardly undercut beneath the roof with excellent protection to a rest at its end. Continue up the corner with excellent protection to a belay just beneath the final section of corner.
4. 30m 6b Continue to the top of the corner to a short blank wall above the final overlap. Make a big rock-over, then traverse up and right to a good belay on the large half-height ledge.
5. 68m 6a Traverse the break-line from the ledge with increasing difficulty (walk, crawl, heel-hook, slap!) and many Cams, until you're out of sight of your belayer and on a ledge with good Cams in a flake beneath a short wall capped by a 1m roof.
6. 15m 6b A bold undertaking climbing the wall with indifferent protection in sandy breaks ascending slightly leftwards to the roof. Gain good flat holds above the roof and a tricky mantel onto the ledge.
7. 20m 6b Traverse slightly up and right of the belay ledge with Cams in breaks for protection. Traverse slightly back to the left to a ledge. Make a surprisingly tough mantel to stand up on this ledge and find a belay in some good horizontal cracks almost immediately above the previous belay.
8. 15m 6b Climb the bold wall above the belay to a small jutting sloping ledge (possible RPs and pegs). Make a long reach up to gain another sloping ledge (micro-cams on right) and a further very long reach to gain better holds on a narrow ledge (small Cams out left). A few final tricky moves up a wall gains an awkward belay some 6m below the sandy groove beneath the roof.
9. 50m 6b Ascend the short wall above the belay and enter the sandy groove (pegs very useful) to move right onto the ledge beneath the roof. Traverse leftwards along this with big Cams for protection, until below the final corner. Powerful moves through the roof gain the upper corner and an easing in difficulties.
10. 35m 5a Finish up the grassy corner watching out for fulmars on your way!

Nebbifjeld

Photo: Dave MacLeod



NORTHERN HIGHLANDS CENTRAL

BEINN A' MHUINIDH, Waterfall Buttress:

La Voie Noire 80m VS. Ewan Lyons. 9 Jun 2018.

Best climbed after a drought but may still be greasy near the top of pitch 1.

1. 40m 4c Start right of *Linea Nigra* and follow a ramp to steeper rock right of a big overhang. Exit left over small blocks to below a short, steep black wall.
2. 20m 4b Climb the wall rightwards to an easier angled slab to the lip of the watercourse.
3. 20m Scramble up the black rock left of the watercourse.

STONE VALLEY CRAGS, Stone Valley Crag:

The Time Warp, Stasis Leak Variation. Michael Barnard, Adrian Camm. 23 Sep 2017.

An independent upper section giving a more sustained route. From where the normal route moves up left to join the upper crack of *Beer Bottle*, instead pull out right, aiming for a large triangular hold above. Use this to gain ledges on the right, then step back left to pull onto easier ground. Grade is unchanged.

Creag nan Cadhag:

Andy Wilby notes two link ups.

Clip the first 2 bolts of *Game Over*, then climb straight up the wall to the *Game Over* first chain at 7c+. Continuing into the final boulder problem of Nuclear Nightmare and finishing up that is 8a+. Finishing up the *Game Over* extension will probably be 8b.

LOCH MAREE CRAG:

There are now 26 new sport routes.

Hyperlipid 50m 8c ****. Dave MacLeod. 12 May 2018.

Brilliant varied climbing with a fingery crux near the top. Start up *Testify* to the good rest below the headwall. Blast up the headwall, left of *Testify*'s groove, to gain a good resting jug. If you make it through the fingery boulder problem crux above, rejoin *Testify* at its last bolt.

Spring Voyage 8b/8b+ Dave MacLeod 24 April 2018

A variation on *Hyperlipid*. From the resting jug on the headwall, traverse hard left to the arete of the *Circus* and finish up this.

Testify 50m 8b ***. Dave MacLeod. Oct 2017.

Superb and varied climbing taking the full height of the crag. Start up the first three bolts of *Hafgufa*, then step right and attack a sustained sequence, eventually joining *Golgothic* at the overlap. Follow this to the no-hands rest below the headwall. Step right and follow a steep groove in the headwall to a sting in the tail moving left and up at the top.

Big Ballin' 30m 7b+. Dave MacLeod. 12 May 2018.

Climb the direct line through the bulge leading into the start of the groove on *Bling*.

Rainbow Warriors 35m 8b ***. Dave MacLeod. 2 May 2018.
A fingery direct/left finish to *Hafgufa*.

CARNMORE CRAG:

Wild Side 90m E6 ****. Guy Robertson, Iain Small. 3 Jun 2018.

An outstanding voyage along the big diagonal crack crossing *Carnmore Corner*; brilliant, super-sustained and perfectly protected climbing. Climbed on-sight. Start at the obvious crack between *St George* and *Gob*.

1. 30m 5b Climb the crack past a block and over a small overhang to a junction with *Gob*, then follow this to where a ledge sneaks right towards the corner. Belay just round the edge at the start of the crack, as for *Wilderness*.

2. 25m 6c Climb the crack with sustained interest all the way to a good hold in the wall above and knee bar rest a few metres short of the corner. Power on along the crack (crux) to gain the corner and hanging belay.

3. 35m 6b Continue rightwards out into space on generally good handholds but poor feet to an in-situ thread, then plough on through much thinner but less steep terrain to join and finish up *The Orange Bow*.

GOAT CRAG:

Note from Ian Taylor: Lawrence Hughes has bolted a few new routes. On a buttress left just left of the main crag is 6b+, 6a, 6a (from left to right) and a route to the top of the crag. Climb *Teepee* or *Poster Boy* to belay on ledge above the lower-off, then 15m rising traverse at 4, then 20m pitch about 6a. 2 abseils to the ground.

AN TEALLACH:

Note: Brian Bathurst, Oliver Skeoch & Nigel Wombell climbed *1978 Face Route* on 3 Mar 2018 with a variation after the apex of the snowfield. Instead of making the crux move to gain the gully-ramp, they traversed right and climbed an icy chimney (reliant on a big build-up of ice) to rejoin the normal route higher up.

BEINN TARSUINN:

Tiresome Gully 300m I. Michael Barnard. 25 Feb 2018.

The prominent gully on the NNE face. A fine line; would make a good ski descent.

FANNAICHS, Eag nam Fear-bogha, Icicle Works Buttress:

See SMCJ 2010. The upper left of the two major buttresses has a large rock pinnacle towards its left side (about 15m left of the start of *Icicle Works*).

Exit via the Gift Shop 50m III,4 **. Colin Wells, Stephen Reid. 23 Feb 2018.

A fine climb at a reasonable grade with the hard moves well protected.

1. 15m Climb a narrow groove on the right of the pinnacle to its top. Continue up snow to a steepening and move up to a good rock belay on the right.

2. 35m Make a hard move up and out left. Climb straight up the left-hand of two lines until stopped by an overlap and traverse leftwards until it can be turned to finish up the shallow gully. A further 25m of snow attains a rock belay up on the left.

Only the Lonely 50m IV,4 ***. Colin Wells, Stephen Reid. 25 Feb 2018.

A splendid climb with superb situations.

1. 15m As for *Exit via the Gift Shop*.

2. 35m Make a hard move up and out left. Climb the right-hand of two lines until it eases below a rock band. Traverse horizontally right to a break in the rock wall which allows the upper slope to be gained and go straight up this to an awkward exit.

Lone Star 55m VI,6 ***. Stephen Reid, Colin Wells. 24 Feb 2018.

Steep strenuous climbing up the icefall right of the rock pinnacle. Start 10m right of the pinnacle at a short rock rib.

1. 20m Climb diagonally leftwards and up into an icy scoop. Traverse left onto good ice and climb strenuously to a break below the steep upper fall. Good rock belay hidden round on the left.

2. 35m Return right and climb the icefall with gusto. At its top, overcome a short rock wall and climb straight up to an awkward exit.

Isolation Buttress:

Solo Gully 40m I/II. Stephen Reid, Colin Wells. 24 Feb 2018.

The easy gully splitting the buttress makes a good descent when banked out.

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

Note: For the routes in SMCJ 2010, *Wilkinson Sword* is an icefall on the east (left, not west) side of a low tier of the face and didn't look like 'a sword with a hilt' in 2018. *Just Another Thursday* is at the west end of the same tier (but still well left of *Gormless Gully*) and was the right of three icefalls on a slabby section of the tier. Topo available.

STRATHCONON, Creag Ruadh, 740m Top, North-East Face:

To the right of the routes climbed previously and set at a slightly lower level but accessed from the ramp that forms the base of the existing routes, is a further section of crag, reached by moving down and right along the ramp. This crag, split by shallow gullies and turf ribs, is capped by a distinctive snow dome. The lines seem longer than first appearances would suggest.

Snow Dome 100m II *. John Mackenzie. 23 Feb 2018.

This is the second and most prominent gully when moving right and steeper than it looks. Two or three steep turf steps are followed by increasingly steep snow to crest just left of an outcrop.

Escape from Brexit 70m III. John Mackenzie. 23 Feb 2018.

This lies on the right of the main face and was logically reached by moving down left from an upper ramp after climbing *Snow Dome*. A short icefall lies near the far right end of the main face but a longer and more prominent narrow one lies left again. This provided some awkward moves with 'Brexit-hard' ice over two bulges in a groove to reach snow which was followed to the top. Short lived but tricky.

CREAG A' GHLASTAIL (Glen Orrin):

Central Gully 150m IV,4. Ewan Lyons. 10 Mar 2018.

Climb the initial 20m steep icefall in two steps. A further small step leads to easy ground and an amphitheatre. An easy angled 20m icefall ahead eases off into a big groove and the top. Two alternative steeper finishes are available on the left.

BEN WYVIS, An Cabar, West Face:

Hidden Corner 90m I/II. John Mackenzie. 27 Feb 2018.

The left end of the crags has a rocky edge, well seen from the Garbat path. *Hidden Corner* is tucked away below this edge and follows close to the base of the rocks up steepening snow, turf and some rocky moves, all depending on conditions. It is in condition probably more often than anything else on this face. A purgatorial approach from below up 200m of steep heather could probably be avoided by walking up the Garbat path to the 'boulder', then descending slightly right to avoid the crags and traversing in.

Creag Coire na Feola:

Rapunzel 35m V,5 *. Simon Tickle. 19 Mar 2018.

To the right of *True Blue* is a steep icefall. Climb the steep ice immediately to the right of a large free standing ice pillar.

Note: ST down-climbed the easy ramp line to the right of the icefall. This turned out to be Grade III.

Feola Falls Right-Hand 30m V,5 ***. Simon Tickle. 19 Mar 2018.

Steep icefalls form on the left and right sides of the minor crag above the small lochan to the north of the main crag. This route climbs the right-hand icefall. Initially climb steep ice for 15m until the angle eases. The route now trends right on slightly less steep ice, but in an exhilarating position, before exiting left onto good turf. Traverse up and right on easy ground before descending to the corrie floor.

Another shorter icefall to the right of the minor crag was also climbed at IV,4.

Note: Simon Tickle's approach. Park at Heights of Docharty (NH 526 622). Follow a good track to Meall a' Ghuail, then cross the plantation, picking up a faint path over Meall na Speireig, ending at NH 491 665. Head NW over a spur to enter Coire na Feola. 6 miles and 2.5 to 3hrs depending on conditions underfoot.

BEN WYVIS AREA, STRUIE HILL CRAG:

The Whip Alternative Finish Severe. Dave Allan, Duncan McGavin. Sep 2017. Just above the first chockstone, traverse left into a niche above the nest. Climb out leftwards and up the arete.

The Long Nosed Lion 25m VS 4c *. Dave Allan, Duncan McGavin. Sep 2017. Starting at two tree stumps on the face and right of where the icefall forms, climb a crack to a large sloping ledge. Finish easily up a chimney.

MOY ROCK:

The Adder Stone 12m 6a+. Ian Taylor. 2 Nov 2017.

The line just right of *The Seer*. Continuing up *The Fear* gives a good 7a.

NORTHERN HIGHLANDS SOUTH**GLEN PEAN, Splitter Crag (NM 878 898):**

This crag can be approached by boat along Loch Morar, or on foot from the west end of Loch Arkaig. It lies around 1km east of the end of Loch Morar and is the



Murdoch Jamieson on 2nd Ascent of The Crossing, Glen Pean. Photo: Iain Small.

first and lowest crag reached when approaching from Loch Morar. It is recognisable by the huge left-facing roof and prow taken by *The Crossing*.

The Crossing 70m E5 6a ****. Dave MacLeod, Natalie Berry. Apr 2018.

Many medium and large Cams are useful for this superb exposed and well protected line, taking the diagonal breaks and soaring flake that runs up the diagonal prow. Start at the leftmost vertical crack that comes down the lower wall.

1. 30m 5c Climb this for 10m to access the diagonal break. Follow the break leftwards with good hidden holds to reach a hanging belay on the arete.

2. 10m 6a Balance up to reach the wide, white diagonal crack in the arete and layback/jam along this until it is possible to reach the crack above which leads on jugs to a fine exposed belay as the crack goes around the corner into the roof. It would be possible to link pitches 1 and 2 with extra large Cams.

3. 25m 6a Follow the wild flake-line along the lip of the roof with good gear and huge holds but very strenuous climbing. An 'out there' pitch, as good as any in the country.

SGÜRR NA SGINE, East Face:

The attractive east face throws down a chaotic system of ribs, grooves and shallow gullies. Much variation is possible but there are some distinctive routes which are situated in a fine setting, finishing close to the summit cairn. The north ridge is also a fine route to the summit (Grade I). Routes are described from right to left.

Dirk 160m II *. Steve Kennedy. 7 Jan 2018.

The deep gully on the right side of the face. Straightforward with some short steps. A finish was made up the middle of three corner lines but others are possible. The route ends on the exposed north ridge which leads to the summit cairn.

Sgian Dubh 150m II/III *. Steve Kennedy, Bruce Taylor. 16 Dec 2017.

Takes a line well left of *Dirk*, just right of the centre of the face (right of an open gully), following a groove system in the upper part of the face. The grooves are quite distinct and run between some small pinnacles near the top to finish on what looks like (from the base) the highest point. A direct line was taken to reach the initial groove about halfway up the face, starting up open mixed ground.

Claymore 150m II. Steve Kennedy, Bruce Taylor. 4 Feb 2018.

A mixed route up the left side of the face. Start just beyond (left) the highest point of the scree slopes at the foot and immediately left of a wide gully. Climb an open groove between two rock fins and follow the same line above to a more pronounced right-facing groove/corner in the upper half. From the top of the groove, open slopes lead to a cornice finish just left of the summit cairn.

AM BATHACH:

Beast from the East 400m II. Andy Nisbet. 25 Feb 2018.

A gully on the north-east face and well seen from the track below. Normally there is an ice pitch but only steep snow on this occasion. The gully ends 20m south of the cairn. The length is a guess.

MULLACH FRAOCH-CHOIRE:

Meshugana 160m II. Andy Nisbet. 24 Mar 2018.

Between the crests of *Meshuga* and *Frayed at the Edges* is this gully. It needs a

big build-up to be this grade and looked hard when *Meshuga* was first climbed. The gully starts more steeply (snow on this occasion), then eases and bends right to reach the col. Follow the gully until 20m below the col, then take a zigzag ramp up left to below the last pitch of *Meshuga*. Follow this to the top.

CREAG LUNDIE:

A miniguide with many new routes has been sent by Chris Dickinson. This will be on the SMC website, perhaps in the New Routes section.

BEINN FHADA, Sgurr a' Choire Ghairbh:

Note: *Left-Hand Gully* was climbed several times in 2018 and was reported as 250m II ***.

Far Right Gully 250m I. Andy Nisbet. 5 Apr 2018.

The gully forming the right side of Summit Buttress and tucked in close to the buttress. It has a very short pitch in the narrows but could be Grade II without a good build-up.

Summit Ramps 140m III. Andy Nisbet. 5 Apr 2018.

Climbed as a more interesting finish to the above route. Above the difficulties on the main gully is a left branch which ends in a steep groove. This finish takes a ramp-line overlooking the left branch. From the start of the left branch, traverse left and follow the ramp-line in three sections to an easy finish common to *Summit Buttress*.

Coire an Sgairne:

Attaboy 210m V.6. Dave McGimpsey, Andy Nisbet. 7 Mar 2018.

Start up the right-hand and lower of the diagonal faults right of the big steep wall. Follow the fault to the first break left into an area of turf. Head up left to a steep sidewall and go up under this to reach a diagonal ramp breaking out left across the wall. Climb this and continue up left to a well defined crest. Follow the crest direct to the top, steep but very helpful sections on flakes.

Zeitgeist 210m IV.5. Dave McGimpsey, Andy Nisbet. 26 Feb 2018.

Start up the right-hand and lower of the diagonal faults as for *Attaboy* but go up a little further, break left and go up to the top right side of the area of turf. Exit right over a short wall (about 120m total). Climb a groove above and move left into a gully which exits out of the top of the area of turf (50m). Finish up the gully (40m).

Bealach Buttress:

This is the buttress above Bealach an Sgairne. When standing on a knoll which sits on the bealach itself, a gully leads to the summit of Meall a' Bhealaich. This has been recorded as Grade II in an old district guide but missed from recent guides (it would be Grade I with a right finish and has perhaps been climbed several times by those making a winter traverse from A' Ghlas-bheinn to Beinn Fhada. The following route climbs the ridge on its right.

Bealach Buttress 150m III.4. Andy Nisbet. 5 Apr 2018.

Easy turf leads to a prominent steep section with two distinct V-grooves. Climb just right of the crest between the grooves before traversing into and finishing up

the right groove. Further easy climbing leads to the final escapable buttress, climbed by a ramp on the right and leading left to the crest.

FUAR THOLL, Mainreacan Buttress:

Note: *Snoopy*. In March 2018, Keith Ball & Nick Bullock climbed pitch 5 direct, making it the technical crux of the route.

SGÒRR RUADH, North Face:

Surf 'n' Turf 110m V,6 *. Michael Barnard, Doug Bartholomew. 16 Dec 2017. Essentially a direct start and left variation to *Spanner in the Works*. Start between that route and *Sticky Fingers*, below an obvious right-facing, two stepped corner-groove. Climb this (crux) to the terrace (45m). Continue directly through *Spanner in the Works* and follow the left-hand groove to easier ground.

The American Way 100m IV,4. Simon Richardson, Kelly Cordes, Roger Webb. 5 Feb 2018.

A direct version of *Splintery Edge*. A useful alternative when spindrift is pouring down *Tango in the Night*.

1. 30m Take the left branch of the impasse of *Tango in the Night*, climb up to a ledge (as for *Splintery Edge*) and traverse 10m left to a break just left of a smooth triangular wall. Climb this to a terrace below a steep square-cut gully.
2. 50m Climb the gully passing an awkward bulge (crux), then trend slightly left up open grooves to easier ground.
3. 20m Finish easily up snow to the top.

GLAS BHEINN, East Coire:

To the west of Creag na h-Iolaire is a hanging corrie that forms the north aspect of the broad shoulder containing the 711m top of the mountain. The corrie takes the form of a right-slanting bowl that leads up to the col just south of the main summit. Left of this is the well-defined *Top Gully* that runs up to the top of the cliff. Approximately 200m left of this are two icy gullies. The hanging corrie can be accessed up heather slopes from the path leading to Bealach a' Ghlas-chnoic, although on this occasion a 50m stepped icefall (IV,4) formed from the outflow from the corrie at NG 411 440 was climbed.

Blackwood Gully 100m IV,4. Neil Wilson, Roger Webb, Simon Richardson, 4 Mar 2018.

Climb the better defined left-hand gully in two pitches to a broad terrace.

Tullich Gully 150m III. Simon Richardson. 4 Mar 2018.

The shallower right-hand gully is the longer of the two. It has a continuation pitch above the terrace that leads to a V-slot in the skyline.

Top Gully 160m III,4. Simon Richardson, Neil Wilson, Roger Webb, 4 Mar 2018.

Climb the gully in three long pitches with a steep section at mid-height.

BEINN BHAN, Coire an Fhamair:

Der Riesenwand Variation Finish VII,7. Nick Bullock, Murdo Jamieson. 24 Feb 2018.

Just before the 'memorable swing around a bulge' on the upper left-trending ramp

(near end of difficulties), make some mixed moves right to gain the hanging ice. Climb this and the gully above.

ARDHESLAIG, Right Half:

No Exception 35m VS 4c. Barry & Kay Wright. 8 Jun 2018.

Follows a line between *Quite Gneiss* and *The Exception*. Climb the right edge of the rib. Step across above the overhangs and traverse slightly right. Move up on thin edges to the left of a black scoop. Follow a left-slanting crack above to the upper slab and finish leftwards.

BEINN DAMH, Creagan Dubh Toll nam Biast:

Adiona 200m II. Sandy Allan, Andy Nisbet. 30 Nov 2017.

The right edge of the furthest right buttress (the buttress with *Fawn Gully*). Start up a curving gully on the very right edge (after its base has risen up), then trend left to follow a rounded rib which bounds the left branch of a Grade I gully.

Goulotte Damh 250m V,6. Dave McGimpsey, Andy Nisbet. 4 Mar 2018.

A narrow gully towards the right side of the furthest right buttress and about 100m right of *Fawn Gully* is slow to ice up but good climbing when it does. Ice screw belays used. Climb the gully over several steps to a snow basin (80m). Climb this to its top and exit via a short chimney leading to easy upper slopes.

Stag Party 250m III. Andy Nisbet, Jonathan Preston. 29 Dec 2017.

A line through steep and often icy ground just right of *Fawn Gully*. Start at the base of *Fawn Gully* and gain the widest of several right-slanting ramp-lines. Follow this to an icy steepening. This was incomplete so a traverse right gained turfy steps leading up to easier ground. Follow this left, then finish up by a choice of lines near a vague crest above.

Fawn Gully Right Branch 250m III. Dave McGimpsey, Andy Nisbet. 2 Mar 2018.

Climb the first two pitches of *Fawn Gully*, then follow a gully on the right which gradually eases to snow. Much better than the original when fully iced.

Annex Gully 300m III,4. Andy Nisbet, Jonathan Preston. 12 Dec 2017.

A parallel gully left of *Fawn Gully*, and which forms the edge of the buttress. Climb the gully until a steep right branch leads off. Follow this, with two steep ice bulges leading to the easier upper gully. Two more easy pitches lead to its end. Finish slightly leftwards to an obvious narrow break in the final tier.

Logoless 300m II. Sandy Allan, Andy Nisbet, Jonathan Preston. 16 Dec 2017.

The next buttress left, climbed by turfy grooves near its left edge.

Bambi 350m IV,4. Sandy Allan, Andy Nisbet, Jonathan Preston. 10 Jan 2018.

A big gully between the buttresses either side. The gully extends to the slopes below the cliff but this section rarely holds snow and the gully was gained by walking in from the right at the cliff base. A long easy section of snow with one steep step gained a fork. The right fork is barred by a short overhanging step so the left fork was taken on ice before traversing immediately back right above the step. Higher up, another short step was bypassed on the right. A narrowing high up proved the crux, but would get easier with a good build-up.

Bambi, Left Branch 350m III. Andy Nisbet, Jonathan Preston. 7 Jan 2018.
As above but continuing up the left fork on snow and turf until fairly near the crest, then take a right-trending gully (crux) to two easier pitches to finish.

Abeona 350m III,4. Andy Nisbet, Jonathan Preston. 14 Dec 2017.

The buttress between *Bambi* and *Stalker's Gully*. Make a rising traverse in from the right below slabby ground to below a steep initial band. Start on the crest quite close to *Stalker's Gully*. Start just left of a short corner, cross the top of the corner and gain a ledge. Move left and climb grooves just left of the crest (45m). Go straight up a groove just left of slabs (50m). Go diagonally right up a ramp above the slabs, then straight up (50m). Continue up (60m). Move right and climb a wide groove to a terrace, then continue up (100m). Finish up grooves near the left end of the final tier (55m).

LOCH DIABAIGAS AIRDE:

The south side of Loch Diabaigas Airde contains a selection of slabby buttresses giving good short climbs and boulder problems. The east end of this area is best reached either by walking round the east end of the loch on rough marshy ground or, more pleasantly, by following the track towards a phone mast. This starts some 50m east of the parking place at the Bealach a' Gaoithe. From just east of the mast, follow the high ground round to the west and drop down to the crags. The section of the Bluffs containing the following routes is at (NG 818 592). It is a short narrow defile with slabs on the west side and shorter steeper walls on the east.

Broadband 30m Severe. Roger Robb, Peter Biggar. 18 Aug 2016.

This takes the large shield-like slab. Climb the central crack to an overlap. Go R and up to a second overlap with a grassy ledge: climb the corner and slabs to finish.

Exchange Line 30m V.Diff. Peter MacDonald, Peter Biggar, Roger Robb. 24 Aug 2016.

Climb crack left of a grass moustache to an overlap. Traverse left and go up to and over small overlaps, then take a curving line to the right up the slab.

LIATHACH, Coire Dubh Beag:

Commutation 210m IV,4. Sophie Grace Chappell, Andy Nisbet. 17 Mar 2018.
A direct finish to *The Executioner* but the start of that route wasn't formed so a start was made up *Nil Can't* (50m, 30m) followed by a traverse left along a big terrace (60m) to reach and climb a gully system (60m) which leads up from an unclimbed direct second pitch of *The Executioner*. Finish to steep snow (10m).

Note: *Nil Can't* might be worth Grade III.

Coire Dubh Mor:

Late Forties Groove 60m III,4. Ewan Lyons. 30 Mar 2018.

An icy groove just up and left of *Over Sixties Icefall*. Start at a steep step below the groove or an easier small groove to the right. A further steep icy step leads to easier ground. Visible as a thin white line left of *Over Sixties Icefall* on the topo in NH South.

Coire na Caime:

Sweet Spot 250m V,5. Dave McGimpsey, Andy Nisbet. 23 Feb 2017.

A line of grooves up the crest of the buttress right of *Valentine Buttress* (which is actually a gully). Good but thin icy conditions encountered. Start close to *Vanadium Couloir Direct Start* (although it may have started further right).

1. 60m Climb the left side of ice, then trend left over chockstones to the main groove line. Go up this to below a short narrow chimney.

2. 60m Climb the chimney and trend right to climb a big prominent groove and snow above.

3. 60m A long groove is the continuation. This was entered from the right at mid-height and climbed.

4. 70m Climb a snow crest and a final steepening to the cornice.

Note: A future ascent can try and climb a direct start up a groove in the lowest tier (which was bare) and the top tier groove direct.

LIATHACH, South Side:

Triceratops 70m IV,5. Michael Barnard, Doug Bartholomew. 27 Dec 2017.

Gain the ridge at the gap after the first pinnacle (the summer line probably does this). The second pinnacle was passed on its right flank, with the top wall (third pinnacle) providing the crux.

BEINN EIGHE:

Note: Ewan Lyons thought the *Upper Girdle* was VS 4b.

Sail Mhor:

KerPlunk 90m VII,7. Pete Davies, Ross Cowie. 31 Mar 2018.

An exciting alternative finish to *Jenga* following a steep chimney and corner in the upper headwall 10m to the left.

1. 35m Climb the first pitch of *Jenga* to a snow slope beneath the steep upper headwall. Belay beneath the chimney.

2. 25m Climb the chimney to a semi-hanging belay.

3. 30m Step left out of the chimney to a crack leading into the upper corner. Climb the corner (crux) exiting onto a snow ledge. An easier corner and its right wall lead to the crest and a junction with *Lawson, Ling & Glover's Route*. Follow this to the top.

CAIRNGORMS**HELL'S LUM CRAG:**

The Devil's Alternative 130m IV,4 **. Ewan Lyons. 18 Dec 2017.

Open to variation but basically follow the summer line starting at a bulge around the twin cracks on pitch 2. Iced slabs and bulges lead to the final headwall (crux).

Lost Souls 155m E1 *. Michael Barnard, Alan Hill. 2 Jul 2018.

Variations on *The Devil's Alternative*. Low in the grade.

1. 45m 5a As for *The Devil's Alternative* (hardest move low down).

2. 40m 4c The slabby wall right of *The Devil's Alternative* pitch 2. Move up as for that route, but then initially using a crack on the right, climb the wall (much easier than it looks from below). Continue directly up a short crack, then an easy corner above (*Auld Nick*) to reach the glaxis.

3. 25m 5a Start up the stepped wall as for *The Devil's Alternative*, but continue up the right side of the wall (at one point quite near to *Auld Nick*) to a ledge below the top bulge. Move up leftwards to take the obvious break in the bulge (as for *The Devil's Alternative*).

4. 45m 4c Step left and climb the next wall to exit onto the slab above. Follow *Auld Nick* to the top.

The Devil's Playground 30m E3 5c *. Michael Barnard, Alan Hill. 2 Jul 2018. This route lies on the upper buttress at the extreme right end of the crag and can be approached either by ascending *The Escalator* or by traversing easily in from the right. The route climbs a line of thin seams up the obvious blankest part of the buttress. Go easily up to a corner on the left, place a cam at the base of the wide crack, then step onto the line. Move up rightwards and climb the thin seam (crux, RPs protect) to gain a ledge on the left. Continue more easily to ledges (can walk off right from here).

Sooty's Revenge 180m E2 **. Michael Barnard, Alan Hill. 27 Jun 2018.

Some good climbing right of *Clean Sweep*, with two contrasting crux pitches. The first of these takes the obvious thin right-left diagonal crack-line in the green whaleback. Start below a hairline crack which goes up to reach the main crack.

1. 35m 5b Go up the hairline crack to place a good high RP, then step back down and move right to traverse in under a slanting overlap, reaching the main crack at a small overlap. Pad up past the overlap to an actual hold and continue up the crack-line which gradually eases, to join *Clean Sweep*.

2. 45m 4a As for *Clean Sweep* to the huge block belay.

3. 40m 5b Follow *Clean Sweep* for a few metres, then traverse right via a flake and undercling to reach a line of two thin seams going up the wall above. Climb these (harder for the short), then step left to go more easily up a flake-crack. Step right into a fault-line (the continuation of *The Omen* crack) and ascend this to ledges, then step back left to climb a crack just right of *Clean Sweep*.

4. 25m 5a Move right and starting up a couple of flakes, climb the wall between two blind seams.

5. 35m 4b Continue in a similar line up the wall above, directly up a small tower, then more easily up a fault.

Hell Ain't a Bad Place to Be 40m VS 4b. Michael Barnard, Alan Hill 27 Jun 2018.

Left of *Highway to Hell* is an area of dark pink rock, the most obvious line consisting of a prominent, short right-angled corner at half-height, with vertical cracks above. The corner is surprisingly bold.

The Exorcist VIII,8. Greg Boswell, Guy Robertson. 24 Nov 2017.

Follow the summer route throughout. Thin and technical on the summer crux.

SHELTER STONE CRAG, Central Slabs:

Notes from Jules Lines: There is no longer a peg in *Cupid's Bow*; instead place a small Cam and IMP 1 in the flake on the left.

The peg runners on *Missing Link* have now gone. There is alternative protection including a Rock 2 on its side for the hard move to gain the flake.

The bolt and peg on *Thor* have gone, but there are good wires and a small Cam

at the side pull next to where the bolt was. Also good small Cam at right end of alcove roof to bolster the belay.

The abseil points have been replaced. There are new ones above *Snipers* and *Cupid's Bow*. It is intended to replace *The Pin* abseil during 2018.

Quiver 95m E4 **. Jules Lines, Steve Perry (on-sight). 28 Jun 2018.

Good climbing based on the crack-line to the left of Run of the Arrow.

1. 40m 5a As for *Run of the Arrow*.

2. 30m 6a Climb round the rib as for *Run of the Arrow* to the RPs. Make a thin move left to a sloping foothold in the scoop. Continue on more positive holds until you can step left onto a sloping ledge. Continue up the vague crack-line in the rib until a step right reaches a small wire belay on *Run of the Arrow*.

3. 25m 6a Step back left into the line and continue up the blind flake-line via a difficult mantel and better holds to the top.

Cupid's Bow 80m E6 6b ****. Jules Lines, Caelan Barnes. 27 Jun 2018.

The route follows the bow feature in its entirety (hence no change in name), offering one of the best and most varied pitches on the central slabs.

1. 40m 5a/b As per the original line.

2. 40m 6b Follow the original line to the kink in the bow where the original steps delicately left onto the *Aphrodite* slab. Climb rightwards along the flake of the bow to near its end where an obvious hold provides access to the slab above. Continue thinly up the slab and into the groove. Pull out left onto a shelf and continue left for 5m to belay on Cams. The abseil point is 5m further to the left.

Sweet Granite Kiss 100m E7 **. Jules Lines, Steve Perry. 13 Jul 2018.

A fantastic direct line up the slabs, amalgamating sections of older routes with new sections. Pitch 1 is *Cupid's Bow Variation Start*.

1. 20m 5c Scramble up to below the crack in the steep wall to its right. Climb it up into the corner and continue for 5m to a ledge on the left.

2. 30m 6b Go back into the corner, climb it to its top and continue over an overlap to follow a thin crack to join the diagonal of *Missing Link*. Follow *Missing Link* for 10m to a flake feature directly below the Thor belay. Place an assortment of Cams and RPs here before making hard moves directly to belay.

4) 50m 6b A superb slab pitch. Climb *Thor* to the crescent shaped crack and from its left end, climb thinly up onto a small foothold. A flake jug is agonisingly out of reach. Make a harrowing move, or jump, to gain it (crux). (Very tall people might reach the jug, making the route significantly easier). Continue up to the overlap on the new section of *Cupid's Bow*, gain the hold above the overlap and boldly climb the slab into the corner before stepping out left onto the shelf. Having arranged gear on the shelf, climb the rib above into the diagonal crack and slab above to reach a thin ledge (possible belay, 40m). Continue to the *Icon* belay at the apex of the slabs.

The Graduate 90m HVS. Caelan Barnes, Jules Lines. 27 Jun 2018.

A line which climbs to the cliff-top above the *Cupid's / Run of the Arrow* abseil point.

1. 25m 5a Climb the centre of the slab to reach the *Icon* belay at the apex of the slabs.

2. 45m 4c Scramble up and left to pull into a niche in the centre of the next slab.

Continue climbing diagonally left to reach the notch and block on the skyline arete.

3. 20m Scramble carefully to the plateau. Best to head right and then back left.

Meteor 60m E2 *. Jules Lines, Steve Perry. 13 Jul 2018.

This is a worthwhile finish to any of the slab routes below. Start at the *Icon* belay at the apex of the slabs. From *Cupid's Bow*, climb the first pitch of the previous route. From *The Pin*, scramble up left. The route involves some scrambling but escalates into a superb finale on the headwall. The top 20m headwall is *** in its own right if abseiled from the top and climbed.

1. 20m 5a Scramble up to an overhanging corner. Climb this and the crack in the slab above to a good ledge.

2. 40m 5b Climb rocks up and right heading for the base of the headwall. Step right onto a huge flake ledge with loose blocks. Climb the centre of the wall on good holds, moving left into a continuation crack when possible to reach a chokestone at the top. A superb sustained pitch at upper limit of its grade.

Main Bastion:

The Shard 280m E5 ***. Callum Johnson, Guy Robertson. 4 Jul 2018.

A superb route combining thin slabs low down with strenuous cracks high up. Well protected apart from a serious section near the start of the second pitch. Start at the very lowest point of the crag.

1. 35m 5a From just up and right, step left to gain and follow a crack-line which leads up slightly left to an overlap and hollow blocks. Pull over, move left, then climb the slab using the obvious thin curving crack. Head up left to the grass filled groove and belay by a huge block on the left.

2. 45m 6a Climb the groove, then go right and up to the overlap and good protection. Traverse delicately left to gain good holds, stand on the highest of these, then make thin moves directly (serious) to gain a horizontal break. Step left at the next overlap, then pull over with difficulty to gain and follow the flake-groove to the next overlap and the superb thin crack-line which is followed to a ledge.

3. 60m 4c Climb the easier continuation groove to join *Haystack* and follow this to its belay below the *Steeple* fault.

4. 50m 6a Start up *Haystack/Steeple*, but quickly step left onto the right rib of the *Citadel* fault, then up to gain and follow the overhanging groove and crack-line between big overhangs. Above the overhangs, continue up easier ground to join *Citadel* where it comes back right. Belay below the cracked nose with a chimney just up on the left.

5. 40m 6b Step up right then pull left into a slight groove to gain a sloping ledge. Pull up then steeply out right into the overhanging finger crack and follow this with hard moves near its top just before it lies back. Continue up the superbly-positioned crack to join *Citadel* where it comes in from the right. Climb over the bulge (as for *Citadel*) and belay at the foot on the long, right-trending shallow groove.

6. 50m 5c Climb the sustained groove, then move up slightly left into a final short corner.

CREAGAN COIRE A' CHA-NO, Blood Buttreass:

Blue Blood 40m III. Roger Webb, Simon Richardson. 26 Nov 2017.

Start 10m up and left of the left edge of the buttreass and follow a right-slanting

gully cutting across the wall. Pull over a jutting flake at 20m and step right to the wide crack of *True Blood* (possible belay). Finish up *True Blood* to the top. This section of the cliff cornices easily, but it can be avoided by moving right onto the right arete of the finishing depression.

Cutty Sark Area:

Cutty Ranks 35m IV,6. Luke Davies, Georgia Drew. 25 Nov 2017.

The corner-crack immediately left of *Mainmast*. Features some thin moves lower down before getting to a good rest on a block. Continue up the crack and then easier ground to finish. Probably easier if the bottom of the route is banked out.

Duke's Wall:

Fast and Furry-ous 60m IV,6. Simon Richardson, Roger Webb. 26 Nov 2017.

The line of cracks and grooves between *Wile-E-Coyote* and *Road Runner*.

1. 30m Start up the initial gully of *Road Runner*, then trend left to climb two steep steps to below a vertical cracked wall. Climb the short corner on the right to a ledge and pull through the vertical crack above to a terrace.
2. 30m Move up to the gully-slot above. Pull steeply through its left wall and continue up easier ground left of the final tower of *Kerplunk* to the top.

Road Runner 60m IV,5. Simon Richardson, Roger Webb. 24 Nov 2017.

The left-facing corner 20m right of the prominent groove of *Wile-E-Coyote*.

1. 25m Ascend a wide gully to a short cracked wall and climb it (crux) to good hooks on a ledge. Continue up a second awkward wall that leads through a wide slot to a terrace (junction with *Kerplunk*).
2. 35m Climb the chimney just right of the short corner of *Kerplunk* and continue up the snowy groove right of the final tower to the top.

Reconnaissance Rib 60m III. Simon Richardson. 2 Dec 2017.

The shallow rib between *Kerplunk* and *Hobnailers' Gully*. A steep start leads to easier climbing and a finish up an open right-facing corner.

Downtime 70m II. Christopher Cookson, Neil Taylor. 4 Jan 2018.

Start at the base of *Hobnailers' Gully*. Pass the large block and head left towards the obvious corner. Follow the sequence of corners as they trend left before climbing a steep awkward block to the left. Potential cornice on the final slope. The finish is the same as *Reconnaissance Rib*.

Hobnailers' Gully 60m I/II. Sarah Atkinson, Stephen Blackman, Richard Bott, Alison Coull, Ian Crofton, Andrew Hewison, Chris Huntley, Graeme Morrison, Donald Orr, Jonathan Preston, Fiona Reid, Simon Richardson, Kenny Robb, Alan Smith, Graham Tough, Henning Wackerhage, Mike Watson, Roger Webb. 3 Dec 2017.

The prominent gully to the left of *Duke's Rib*.

Jenga Buttress:

Note: Caelan Barnes & Alex Riley on 5 Jan 2017 started *Jenga Buttress* by the obvious chockstone capped chimney seen on the approach (IV,5).

Turf Factory 60m II. Caelan Barnes. 8 Jan 2017.

The obvious turf gully immediately right of *Once we were Alpinists*.

LURCHER'S CRAG:

Nan 150m III. Simon Yearsley, Malcolm Bass, Andy Nisbet, Steve Perry, Sarah Sigley. 20 Jan 2018.

An icy depression parallel and right of *Right-Hand Icefall*. Forms much less readily.

Hot Dog 250m IV,4. Sandy Allan, Andy Nisbet. 18 Dec 2017.

An ice line which sometimes forms right of *Ultramontane*, just before the buttress base starts to rise up right. Climb an iced slab straight up and over a steepening to a barrier wall. Pass this on the left and continue up to an iced chimney (40m). Climb this to a wall, passed on the left before returning right and up to rock (40m). Climb easily up to a bay right of *Ultramontane*'s ridge, then move right to a vague ridge (*Akita*), followed to join *Ultramontane* high up.

Soo True Start 100m III. Sandy Allan, Andy Nisbet. 22 Jan 2018.

A line of thick ice up the lower tier followed by an icy depression leads direct to the upper depression of the original route (SMCJ 2015).

Piggyback Gully 150m III,4. Sandy Allan, Andy Nisbet. 3 Dec 2017.

A gully between *Piggie in the Middle* and *Husky* is blocked by an overhanging step. Start as for *Perception Gully* but move right and up to the step. Climb a slabby ramp at its right end until possible to move into the easy upper gully. Follow this to the top.

Far South End:

Note: Greg Strange thinks *Deerhound Ridge* should be called *Southern Ridge* as this was its original name in summer. Andy Nisbet admits this is true but thought the original name was dull.

Drystane Ridge 120m III,4 *.

A new description and grade.

The ridge forming the left side of the amphitheatre is steep but helpful. Start on the front face (outside the amphitheatre) and climb a groove to the crest (20m). Follow the crest, often just on its right, with the crux being a steep blocky section with some good flakes at mid-height, to reach a ledge on the left (40m). Finish by the easier upper crest (60m).

Note: To make the route Grade II but not as good, start inside the amphitheatre and climb a turf corner which forms the right side of the ridge to reach the easier upper crest.

Pegleg 80m III,4. Andy Nisbet, Steve Perry, Jonathan Preston. 19 Nov 2017.

A wide fault right of *Drystane Ridge*. Tucked in to the right side of *Drystane Ridge* is the turf corner mentioned above. This route climbs a parallel fault just to the right until possible to traverse right to the opposite side of the fault. Make steep moves through a barrier wall, then trend up right to the top.

Wolf Whistle 75m VII,7. Kacper Tekiele, Sandy Allan, Andy Nisbet. 4 Feb 2018. Based on a pillar which forms the left edge of the back wall of the amphitheatre. Start just left of its crest.

1. 25m Climb a steep corner formed left of its crest and step right to a big ledge.

2. 25m Climb a line of flakes and blocks right of the crest before moving left to the crest.
3. 25m Climb cracks left of the crest to finish up it.

Jaws 70m VII,8. Kacper Tekiele, Sandy Allan. 6 Feb 2018.

A direct line up the pillar gives a bouldery route, using the same belays. Start below the crest.

1. 25m Gain and follow a crack-line in a shallow groove to a big V-groove which leads to the ledge.
2. 25m Climb a cracked bulge on the left, step right and climb to a prominent overhanging groove with a wide crack. Go up this and left to the crest, followed to the third tier.
3. 20m Step up on to a big boulder as for *Wolf Whistle*, then make a strenuous traverse right and climb a steep crack-line to easy ground.

Rottweiler 100m VI,7 ***. Andy Nisbet, Jonathan Preston. 2 Feb 2018.

A more direct line up the amphitheatre face, crossing *Collie's Route*, gives sustained climbing and spectacular moves off a pinnacle. Start at a slabby ramp just left of *Quinn*.

1. 30m Climb the turfey lower part of the ramp before traversing left along a ledge to a narrow V-groove. Wriggle up the groove, then up a couple of bulges rightwards to climb a right-facing corner. At its top, trend left to reach the terrace. Move 5m left to a groove.
2. 35m Move left again and climb a ramp rightwards across the top of the groove and beyond to a pinnacle. Stand on top of the pinnacle and make a wild step up left (excellent protection). Climb a ramp leftwards before moving straight up to a ledge below a steep groove.
3. 15m Climb the groove and easier ground to the crest of *Collie's Ridge*.
4. 20m Finish up this.

BEINN BHROTAIN, Dee Face:

The following routes lie on a slab at the far left end of the cliff (*Brodan's Dyke* crosses this in its upper section). The main feature here is the fine central fault in the slab, obvious on the approach. A narrow line of heather separates this main slab from another slab on the left. Protection is limited and the first three routes are basically solos. Topo provided.

Absolutely Slabulous 55m VS 4a. Michael Barnard. 8 Jul 2017.

The left-hand slab.

Mastiff Slab 65m HVS 4b. Michael Barnard. 8 Jul 2017.

Start below a fault on the far left side of the main slab (just right of the line of heather). Climb the fault, moving rightwards higher up to join the central fault at a short steeper section. Climb this (crux), then move up and right to reach *Brodan's Dyke* (if leading, protection can be found up and right, at the left end of the upper juniper ledge). Follow the dyke out left to just before the grassy gully, then step up and go rightwards up a ramp (delicate). Finish easily.

The Paws 65m HVS 4b *. Michael Barnard. 8 Jul 2017.

Start a few metres up and left of the obvious direct entry to the central fault. Move up on flakes, then up and right to gain the fault. Go up the fault to below a short

steeper section (taken by *Mastiff Slab*); instead climb the knobbly wall on the right, then move up to reach *Brodan's Dyke* (if leading, protection can be found up and right, at the left end of the upper juniper ledge). Continue as for *Mastiff Slab*.

Granite Planet 90m E1 *. Michael Barnard, David Bird. 2 Sep 2017.

Down and right of the direct entry to the central fault is another slab which leads up to the right-hand side of the main slab.

1. 55m 5b Climb the obvious line of weakness in the slab, then move up and right to step left onto a heather ledge. Traverse the ledge until possible to gain the left end of a small higher ledge. Step right and surmount the bulge (unprotected 5a), then move up rightwards to arrange good gear below a small overlap (obvious from below). Step left and surmount the bulge (technical crux), then boldly to gain and continue up a thinner dyke below *Brodan's Dyke* to reach and belay on the right side of the heather ledge.

2. 35m 4b As for *Double Dyker*.

Granite Planet, True Finish 35m E3 5b *. Michael Barnard, David Bird. 2 Sep 2017.

An independent but very bold top pitch. From the belay, traverse left to place gear at the left end of the upper juniper ledge. Step down to *Brodan's Dyke* and follow this to a shallow vertical fault (the upper section of the central fault in the main slab). Go up the fault to where it steepens. Now either continue up the fault (crux) to easier ground, or pad up the thin ramp on the right (slightly easier but more delicate). Pre-practiced.

Double Dyker 90m HVS *. Michael Barnard. 8 July 2017.

Start just right of *Granite Planet*.

1. 55m 4c Climb directly up the fine slab (crux) to gain a heather ledge on the right. Move rightwards up the slab above, passing a single nubble, to gain *Brodan's Dyke* and follow this up and left to the next heather ledge (belay on the right).

2. 35m 4b Move up, initially via a flake, to a right-leaning corner. Go up this to gain the start of another dyke and follow this (protection) to the top.

BEINN A' BHUIRD, Dividing Buttress:

Outpost Route 120m IV,6. Malcolm Bass, Simon Yearsley. 26 Feb 2018.

Enjoyable climbing up the buttress between *Sentinel Route* and *Dividend Route*. Scramble up easy ground to belay at the toe of the flying buttress immediately left of the groove of *Sentinel Route*.

1. 50m Climb steep grooves and flakes just right of the crest, then move more easily left to the base of a groove/corner which is climbed through a steep wall to a cracked slab onto easier ground.

2. 40m Easier climbing staying right of the fault of *Dividend Route* to the cul-de-sac of that fault. Climb a short corner at the top right of the cul-de-sac (just right of where *Dividend Route* goes steeply up), then step back left and climb easier slabs to belay.

3. 30m Move up ledges to the foot of the prominent squat tower on the skyline. Climb this with excellent moves across to and through the flake-crack.

BEN AVON, Meall Gaineimh:

Torniquet 10m VS 5a. Alan Hill, Michael Barnard. 23 Jun 2018.

Left of the existing routes. Start at the base of an easy right-slanting ramp. Take a left-trending crack-line up the wall to its left.

Clach Mheadhoin:

(NJ 164 052) East facing

This is the larger tor between Meall Gaineimh and Clach Bhan. On the right side of the tor is a large buttress with several horizontal breaks on its front face and a chimney-crack on its left side.

Grittier than Grit 20m E1 5a *. Michael Barnard, Alan Hill. 23 Jun 2018.

Take at least one Friend 6. Climb the chimney-crack to its top, reach down to reclaim the cam, then make a tricky move up to gain the big break. Traverse left into the gully, ascend this then step back right to a natural thread belay.

East Meur Gorm Craig:

Exploding Weasles 30m HVS 5b. Alan Hill, Michael Barnard. 23 Jun 2018.

Start as for *That's the Badger* (SMCJ 2016), but take the right fork of the crack up to a ledge below the steep top corner-crack (optional belay). Climb this (crux, large Cams useful).

The Tale of Mr Tod 30m HVS 5b *. Michael Barnard, Alan Hill. 23 Jun 2018.

Start right of the above, below a wide flake-crack. Climb this, finishing as for the above.

The Candyman 25m E2 5c **. Michael Barnard, Alan Hill. 23 Jun 2018.

Good sustained climbing up the steep vertical crack between *Wafer* and *99*, gained from the ledge on the right.

Leabaidh an Daimh Buidhe (Summit Tor):

Routes start on the steeper right-hand side of the SW face (the side seen when approaching from the Sneck). The first main line reached is a fine vertical stepped crack leading directly towards the south summit of the tor.

Bananas in Bandanas 10m HVS 5a. Alan Hill, Michael Barnard. 24 Jun 2018.

A short distance left of the vertical stepped crack is a short hanging crack.

Jim Jams 30m E1 5b **. Michael Barnard, Alan Hill. 24 Jun 2018.

The vertical stepped crack is the line of the crag. After the third step (crux), continue easily to the final tower. Move rightwards up slabby slanting cracks to reach a pedestal. Make the final move from this to gain the south summit.

Nightcap 15m E1 5b **. Michael Barnard, Alan Hill. 24 Jun 2018.

Right of the above is a chimney-gully. Climb the flake-crack on the left wall to reach the horizontal break at its top. Hand-traverse left to gain the ledge below the upper crack of *Jim Jams* (can walk off from here).

Nice One, Cyril 20m V.Diff. Alan Hill, Michael Barnard. 24 Jun 2018.

The chimney-gully.

Variation: *Seesaw Finish* 10m HVS 5b *. Michael Barnard, Alan Hill. 24 Jun 2018.

From the belay above the chimney-gully, carefully stand on a block (the 'Seesaw') and reach up to gain the left-hand flake-crack in the top wall. Climb this to the pedestal of *Jim Jams*, finishing as for that route.

Sneering Crack 25m HVS 5b. Michael Barnard, Alan Hill. 24 Jun 2018.

At the bottom right end of the face is a chimney-crack with large chockstones at half-height. Get established in the chimney with difficulty and continue to its top. Step right and go up a short wall to a thread belay.

The Aardvark 40m HVS 5a. Michael Barnard, Alan Hill. 24 Jun 2018.

The upper part of the SE face of the tor is characterised by two parallel wide cracks; start below the right-hand one. Go up the groove to the base of this crack, then traverse left to climb the other one. Step left at the top of the crack and go up a short wall (as for *Sneering Crack*).

Rocky Raccoon 25m HVS 5a *. Michael Barnard, Alan Hill. 24 Jun 2018.

The ENE face of the tor is split by an open gully. This route climbs a steep chimney-crack on its right wall (crux). Continue up the fine slanting crack in the wall above.

LOCHNAGAR, Southern Sector, Perseverance Wall:

Holdfast 80m IV,6. Simon Richardson, Sophie Grace Chappell. 30 Jan 2018.

The rib and gable wall at the right end of the cliff.

1. 30m Start just right of *Windfall* and climb the well-defined arete to its right to where it eases.
2. 20m Cross the gully of *Windfall* and climb the vertical wall on the left via a large flake (crux) and the right-facing corner above.
3. 30m Continue up the right edge of the buttress above (to the right of the gully of *Athos*), to gain the top of the second exit chimney of *Windfall*. Finish easily up the snow slope above to the top.

Black Spout Pinnacle:

Early Bird Groove 35m IV,6. Drew Stevenson, Stuart Cossar. 11 Nov 2017.

A groove immediately right of *Early Bird*.

West Buttress:

Gryphon Grooves 250m VI,6. Forrest Templeton, Simon Richardson. 25 Mar 2018.

The gully line of *Gargoyle Direct* splits into two above an amphitheatre. This route follows the left branch. Pitches 4 and 5 comprise the new climbing, but the complete ascent is described.

1. and 2. 120m As for *Quasimodo*.
3. 40m Climb the initial ice gully of *Gargoyle Direct* to the amphitheatre.
4. 25m Climb snow up the left side of the amphitheatre to below a huge overhang of chokestones with a frieze of icicles. Climb a short corner on the right, then step left onto the icicle frieze and climb it over the chokestones to belay on *Bell's Pillar*.
5. 35m Step right and continue up the narrow continuation gully up the left branch to below Radar Wall.

6. 30m Finish as for *Quasimodo* by climbing underneath the Gargoyle and moving up and right to finish.

COIRE Kander:

The Committee 60m III. Will Attridge, Oli Jepsen. 10 Mar 2018.

On the first icefall to the right of the bastion approach slopes, climb a narrow iced gully and ascend a series of steeper bulges. Belay in the rocks to the right (60m). Trend rightwards in a broad gully to reach the ramp of The Bastion.

GLEN CLOVA, The Scorrie:

Corner Ahoy! 190m V,6. Forrest Templeton, Simon Richardson. 11 Feb 2018.

A route based on the prominent corner system on the right side of the conical front face of The Scorrie. Approximately 50m right of the start of *Ramp it up Ye*, a left-trending ramp leads up the lower section of the initial left-facing corner. Belay below a steep chimney where the corner steepens.

1. 20m Climb up to the chimney and wriggle up it to where the angle eases.
2. 50m Continue in the line of the corner up and left to where it fades. Trend up and right up a slab by a corner to reach a broad terrace with a 3m pinnacle-block.
3. 50m The right-facing corner defining the upper part of the route is up and right but hidden from this point. Trend diagonally right over a couple of ribs, then climb steeply to a good ledge at the foot of the corner.
4. 20m Climb the corner using the flake on its left wall to a good ledge (crux). A deceptively awkward pitch.
5. 50m Continue in the line of the corner (avoiding the initial chimney-crack on the right) to gain the flat top of the buttress.

The following routes are on the two tiered steep buttress high up just below the summit cairn of the Scorrie (topo provided). This is visible from the car park at the Ranger base. Follow the Scorrie path ridge until a large obvious boulder is encountered. Gear up here and sacks can be left as the descent comes down the same way. Descend steep snow below the buttress. *The Scorrie Romp* (now Grade II, SMCJ 2016) starts up where the dividing ledge (Gastric Band) reaches the ground.

One Man Gastric Band 160m II. Forrest Templeton. 25 Feb 2018.

Start at the same place as *The Scorrie Romp* but instead of going up the continuation corner, follow the Gastric Band leftwards until the next obvious chimney is reached. This peters into a shallow gully and comes out just above and to the left of the obvious tree on pitch 2 of *The Scorrie Romp*. Finish up this.

Catheter Corner 155m V,6. Kevin Murphy, Matt Smith, Forrest Templeton. 31 Mar 2018.

Three excellent pitches with quite sustained climbing. Descend from the ridge passing the start of *The Scorrie Romp* and contour round the toe of the buttress to below an inset rectangular slab leading up to a capping roofed corner.

1. 25m Climb small turf protrusions with the occasional useful crack, cross a small overlap and pass a small tree to the obvious corner.
2. 30m Make awkward undercling moves rightwards under a roof until placements can be reached in a turf groove. Follow this past another more substantial tree over small overlaps to reach the Gastric Band just below a left-facing slabby corner.

3. 30m Climb the left side of the slab until a move right into the corner can be made at about two-thirds height. Belay on a large obvious block which lies almost directly between where *The Scorrie Romp* and *One Man Gastric Band* converge.
4. 70m Share the same easy finish to the top.

The highest line up on the right with an icefall at its base is *Short Hearse* (25m III, Forrest Templeton, 25 Feb 2018)

Coire Farchal:

Silver Surfers 150m IV,5. Euan Whittaker, Paul Warnock, Martin Holland. 7 Feb 2018.

Start between *Coffin Dodger* and *Over the Hill*.

1. 40m Climb straight up over a short step and easy ground to the base of an icicled wall with a protruding block right of the icefall of *Coffin Dodger*.
2. 40m Climb the icy wall past the block to easier ground and a cave formed by an ice shield and the undercut base of a wall.
3. 30m Climb steeply up the ice shield to gain the right-facing corner, which is left of the slot of *Over the Hill*. Easier ground leads to another cave belay under a large block.
4. 40m Easy ground on the left leads to a finish up the short steep groove of *Coffin Dodger* and easy ground above.

Winter Corrie note:

On 6 Feb 2018, the same team climbed *Sun Rock Blues* with a variation finish to pitch 3, by traversing right from the small cave.

Bassies:

Message in a Bottle 130m II. George Allan, John Thomas. 29 Nov 2017.

Left of the buttress containing the grooves of *Flotsam* and *Jetsam* is a slab beyond which is a snowfield. Climb this, move left and follow a depression to a wall which was climbed up its left side followed by a right traverse above it (other options possible). Continue rightward to finish up short steps as for *Flotsam*.

Corrie of Clova:

Birthday Icefall 100m III. Simon Richardson, Ben Richardson. 28 Dec 2017.

The enclosed frozen stream bed starting at NO 331 758 rises in four distinct steps to a prominent headwall that provides a superb 40m ice pitch to finish.

Carpe Diem 80m III,4. Simon Richardson, Sophie Grace Chappell. 18 Dec 2017.

The furthest left buttress on the south face of the corrie. Start at a terrace at the right end of the first tier.

1. 40m Climb a right-slanting open gully and bear left at its top to reach a diagonal left-trending ledge.
2. 40m Continue up the steep left-facing corner (crux) and finish up the easier gully above.

YOLO 40m III. Jeremy Windsor, Simon Richardson. 9 Feb 2018.

The S shaped depression right of *Carpe Diem* finishing just left of the prominent rock tower.

Wildcat Ridge 70m IV,6. Simon Richardson, Jeremy Windsor. 9 Feb 2018.

A little gem taking the well-defined ridge to the right of *Carpe Diem* buttress.

1. 20m Start below the centre of the ridge and climb turfey cracks to below a prominent triangular wall guarding access to the upper ridge.
2. 20m Climb the left-hand of two vertical corner-cracks on surprisingly helpful holds to gain the crest above. Move up this to blocks.
3. 30m Finish along the well-defined upper ridge to the top.

Cat Gully 70m I. Simon Richardson, Jeremy Windsor. 9 Feb 2018.

The well-defined gully to the right of *Wild Cat Ridge* provides a convenient descent.

Feline Crest 60m IV,4. Simon Richardson, Jeremy Windsor. 9 Feb 2018.

The buttress right of *Cat Gully*.

1. 30m Start at the toe of the buttress and climb vegetated slabs to a vertical wall. Step left around the crest and climb a right-facing slot into a groove leading to the crest.
2. 30m Straightforward climbing along the crest leads to the top.

Mousehole Gully 60m II. Jeremy Windsor, Simon Richardson. 9 Feb 2018.

The gully between *Feline Crest* and *Cat's Whiskers* is blocked by an impasse with a remarkable through route.

Cat's Whiskers 60m V,7. Simon Richardson, Jeremy Windsor. 9 Feb 2018.

1. 30m The rightmost buttress and the narrowest of the four. Climb up and right past a large flake at the foot of the buttress and move up a vegetated crack to where the buttress steepens. Traverse 3m left (crux) and move up and right to rejoin the vegetated crack. Follow this up the crest to sloping shelves.
2. 30m Continue up the shelves followed by easier ground to the top.

Corrie Brandy:

VSOP 120m V,5. Simon Richardson, Sophie Grace Chappell. 13 Jan 2018.

A surprisingly steep and technical line up the steep ground left of *Waterloo Gully*. Low down on the cliff, and approximately mid-way between the south end of the crag and *Waterloo Gully* is a prominent, inset, 5m high triangular spike. The route climbs just right of this and continues up mixed ground above exiting up a gully left of a vertical headwall.

1. 30m Climb up a short steep gully to below a V-groove formed on the right side of the inset triangular spike. Climb the groove, exit right at its top and climb delicately up a turfey slab to exit onto a terrace.
2. 35m Step left and climb up to a second terrace. Climb a 5m vertical corner and continue up to a left-trending ramp that leads under the headwall to an icy gully.
3. 15m Climb the gully to its top.
4. 40m Finish up easy snow slopes to the top.

Waterloo Gully 140m III,4. Simon Richardson. 26 Dec 2017.

The prominent deep-cut gully splitting the upper half of the west wall is the most natural winter line in the corrie, but it is hidden from the approach on the west side of Loch Brandy. Start roughly in the centre of the face in a small bay at NO

336 755. Climb an icy gully for 50m to reach easier ground that leads up to the gully. Finish up the snow slope above to the top.

Napoleon 180m V,4. Simon Richardson, Sophie Grace Chappell. 1 Jan 2018.
A serious expedition up the wall to the right of *Waterloo Gully*.

1. 40m Start approx. 100m right of Waterloo Gully beneath a prominent icefall. Climb this and exit left below its final tier to a prominent 2m spike.
2. 30m Move left and climb steepening ground to below a steeper wall.
3. 30m Step left and move up awkward turf shelves to enter an open rocky gully. Climb awkwardly past a huge chokestone to exit onto easier ground leading to a clean vertical wall. Move left 10m to a corner-niche.
4. 40m Move left out of the niche and climb up to a well-defined hidden gully. Climb this to its top.
5. 40m Continue up open snow slopes to the cornice taking care to avoid the landslip crevasse just below the plateau.

First Footing 100m IV,5. Simon Richardson, Sophie Grace Chappell. 1 Jan 2018.

A direct line up the buttress taken by *The Brandy Pad*. Note that poor visibility on the first ascent meant that *The Brandy Pad* was incorrectly located in the 2007 edition of the SMC Cairngorms guidebook. The buttress is situated at NO 340 759 and is the next feature right of the buttress taken by *Smuggler*.

1. 40m Start on the right side of the gully dividing the buttresses taken by *Smuggler* and *The Brandy Pad*. Climb up and trend right over a couple of steep walls to an awkward stance on the left side of the crest.
2. 40m Climb boldly up mossy shelves to reach a clean-cut right-facing corner. Climb this with interest and then follow a turfy ramp to under a short steep wall. Climb that diagonally right to exit on the large terrace below the final tier. Above is the slanting shelf taken by *The Brandy Pad*.
3. 20m Move slightly left and climb the vegetated line of weakness on the left side of the headwall to the top.

Craigs of Loch Wharral:

Y-Gully, Right-Hand 120m II. Simon Richardson. 21 Dec 2017.

The gully defining the left side of the buttress taken by *Heather Boulevard* splits at two-thirds height. Take the right branch along a deep hanging slot (crux) and continue up the snow slope above to the top.

GLEN DOLL, Creag Maud:

Maud's Groove 120m IV,5 *. Pete Benson, Adrian Crofton. 30 Nov 2017.

Climb the left-bounding gully of *Pinnacle Ridge* to the steep walls high on the right. Here there is an obvious bay from which a left-slanting chimney groove starts.

1. 45m Climb the groove to a large stance below a steep wall.
2. 30m Move up right, then use turf blobs to cross a steep slab to step into a shallow chimney groove; climb this to a rocky band moving up and left to a good stance.
3. Easy ground to the summit of the crag.

GLEN PROSEN, South Craig:

Tequila Sunrise 130m IV,4. Simon Richardson, Sophie Grace Chappell. 2 Feb 2018.

A pleasant climb up mixed ground left of *Spanish Dinner*.

1. 50m Start at the foot of *Summit Gully* and trend left across *Spanish Dinner*, to gain a left-slanting diagonal gully. Follow this to where it fades.

2. 50m Continue directly up the cliff, negotiate an awkward steep band by climbing right then left, and belay below the final headwall.

3. 30m Climb a short corner to gain the right-trending ramp leading through the headwall to the top.

WATER OF SAUGHS, Corrie na Berran:

Thales Cleft 80m II. Simon Richardson. 22 Jan 2018.

High up on the left side of the cliff is a shallow-angled buttress cut by a right-slanting gully groove. Approach by easy ground and climb the groove to the top.

Aristotle's Groove 150m III,4. Simon Richardson. 22 Jan 2018.

Approximately 40m right of *S Gully* is a right-facing curling corner-groove that sometimes fills with ice. Climb the groove, exiting left at its top and continue up easier ground to finish up the broad open buttress above, approximately mid-way between the open gully finishes of *S Gully* and *Isosceles*.

Euclid's Proof 150m IV,4. Simon Richardson, Sophie Grace Chappell. 9 Mar 2018.

The well-defined right trending line of ice 50m to the right of *Aristotle's Groove*.

1. 40m Start at the foot of the ramp of *Isosceles* and climb a steep icefall to a terrace. Step right and surmount a second ice step to a left-facing corner.

2. 30m Continue up the corner to a second terrace and climb the steep ice step above on the right.

3. 80m Finish up the easy angled shallow crest right of the open gully of *Isosceles*.

To the right of the left-trending ramp of *Pythagoras* is a 40m wall steep wall that ices readily.

Archimedes' Screw 40m III,4. Simon Richardson, Sophie Grace Chappell. 9 Mar 2018.

In the centre of the wall is a steep sweep of rock. This route follows the right-trending shallow gully to its left.

Plato's Cave 40m IV,5. Simon Richardson, Sophie Grace Chappell. 9 Mar 2018. The narrow gully to the right of the steep sweep of rock. An excellent pitch.

GLEN ESK, Earn Craig:

Note: Toby Burrell & Julie Black on 10 Dec 2017 climbed an alternate finish to *Earn Gully* (SMCJ 2010) when the ice pitch wasn't formed. Climb *Earn Gully* to the flat spot below the exit ice pitch. On the right wall, take a right-facing corner and wall to a prow (8m), then continue along the ridge to exit through heather bushes to the top (15m). IV,4 overall.

Craig Maskeldie:

Central Gully, Alternate Right Wall Finish 45m V,6 (1PA). Ruari Sheehan, Toby Burrell. 11 Feb 2018.

After climbing the centre gully of the trilogy (left of *Dochty Gully*), continue to easier ground below a left-facing corner system. Head slightly rightwards, then directly up steep heather wall into a steep open corner. Mantel this onto easier ground before the crux section. Bridge up a slightly overhanging corner for several metres, ending up on the broad ridge and easier ground (15m, 1PA).

Note: The obvious left-facing corner marking the top of the left edge of the buttress left of *Dochty Gully* is Grade III (George Allan, John Thomas, 6 Mar 2016). Short ice pitches can be climbed or avoided approaching this.

George Allan has noticed a mistake in SMC 2010, that *Shaula Ridge* is to the right of *Doughty Gully*, not *Lee Gully* (which is much further left).

NORTH-EAST OUTCROPS**LONGHAVEN, Red Wall Quarry:**

Cesar 12m 7b+ **.

An easier alternative finish to *The King* provides one of the best routes in the quarry. A future classic! Climb *The King* to the 4th bolt, then continue up left past 2 more bolts to a lower-off. The hardest move is the start to *The King* and all the holds are pretty big so no excuses!!!

LONG HAVEN TO BODDAM, Buchan Walls:

This multi-pitch crag lies in the inlet south of Meackie Point, only about 100m from the road near a cliff-top house. Apparently only one route has been previously recorded here despite the crag's sunny aspect and generally good clean rock. There are a few Kittiwake and Cormorant nests on the left side. A couple of abseil stakes have been placed and these are also useful for belays. It is also possible to access the non-tidal base of the cliff via steep grass to the east, near Meakie Point. Routes by Keith Milne, Ian Milne & David Bird.

Gold Dust HVS (1977).

1. 45m 5a The exact line of this route is not certain. The guidebook description seems to fit the leftmost line, but possibly overlaps with the next route. 'In the centre of the walls is a steep right-sloping ramp. Start 8m along a ledge leading left from the foot of the ramp. Climb the grooves above and the wall to their left to reach a prominent corner. Climb this until below the overhang where a sand filled crack leads left across an undercut wall. When the crack runs out a short wall leads to easy slabs and the top.'

Gold Placer 40m E1 **. Mar 2017.

Takes the straight groove above the orange slab.

1. 25m 5b Climb directly up the lower wall using side pulls to gain the ramp (or bypass on the right). From the ramp, the first few moves are on the left wall, reaching right into the groove to a good wire placement. Above this there are some marginal runners with intricate climbing. After a small ledge, the line continues with solid runners in a wonderful clean granite corner. Belay below a small overhang.

2. 15m 5a Climb the overhang with difficulty using reachy sidepulls to an easy angled slab which finishes on the left.

Prospector 50m VS *. Sep 2016.

Start just right of an overhanging wall.

1. 25m 4b/4c An interesting pitch. Climb a left-slanting ramp until it is possible to move up into a niche. Step left awkwardly and then up short cracks to a ledge. With a high runner on the right, climb the slab centre to the left and up to broken ledges.

2. 25m 4c Climb the corner-crack on the left. Move past a doubtful block by moves on the left wall and then a few moves back right, finishing up a clean slab with a thin crack.

End of the Rainbow 50m E1 *. Apr 2017.

A few metres right is a steep wall with good holds.

1. 30m 5b Climb the wall and onto easier ground. Move left into a shallow groove and crack system which leads up to an overhanging wall. Climb this initially on the right using small ledges and move back right and finish on jugs. Belay at the bollard.

2. 20m 5b Move right around the nose and traverse to the base of the corner. Climb the short overhanging crack to a mantelshelf. Finish easily up a slab. Large Cam useful to protect the mantelshelf.

Nuggets 40m E2 **. Mar 2017.

1. 30m 5a Climb the same initial wall and slab as the previous route. After a few metres, step left and mantelshelf onto the nose. A short crack leads to delicate moves onto a sloping shelf. Move up and left past a smooth nose to a good bollard stance. Excellent rock.

2. 10m 5c Step left to below a thin crack. Move left and up strenuously on rounded holds to reach a better crack. Continue steeply onto a final shelf just below the top.

Panning for Gold 55m H.Severe **. Mar 2017.

Start from a broken ridge at the right side.

1. 30m 4b A few easy steps lead to an enjoyable clean corner-groove. Belay on a ledge 3m below the main overhang.

2. 25m 4b Step up left onto the slab and move around the nose (possible belay). Traverse left onto a slab. Take a wide crack to finish (or a strenuous alternative past a jutting block just to the right, 5a).

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*ie 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*ie.

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.

Fifties Crag:

Located above and right of the Upper Doonie, a short distance below and left of High Crag. Three routes by Simon Stewart are on the SMC website.

HIGHLAND OUTCROPS

TIGNABRUAICH CRAG:

Note by Will Morris: Many of the bolts have been reported as corroded and no longer usable, May 2018.

APPIN, Dallen's Rock (NM 930 485):

The west facing quartzite crag at Lettershuna overlooking the A828, clearly visible from the road and about 20mins drive south from Ballachulish. The original trad routes here have never proved popular due to poor protection and snappy rock so, with local approval, those routes have been superseded by the following cleaned sport routes. A public parking area is situated adjacent to the A828 a few hundred yards to the north. The crag gets the benefit of any afternoon or evening sun. Most of the trees along the base were recently cleared by the Forestry Commission

(2016). The best approach is to come in slightly from the right through some remaining mature trees. The routes are described from right to left.

Power of the West 23m 6a+ **. Steve Kennedy, Chris Docherty, Cynthia Grindley. 5 Jul 2017.

The vague groove line starting from the tree stump on the right side of the crag. Pull steeply into the groove which is followed until steep moves lead left onto the edge of the slab. Move back up right onto the tricky final wall which leads to lower-offs.

The following routes share a lower-off situated under the main roof.

Waldrom 16m 6a **. Steve Kennedy, Chris Docherty, Cynthia Grindley. 5 Jul 2017.

The next line of bolts up the golden coloured slab starting 5m left of *Power of the West*. Climb the initial slab, surmount a bulge, then climb the steep slab, moving left at the finishing moves to gain the lower-off. The final moves may prove difficult for the short. The upper part is close to but always right of *Philomena*.

Philomena 16m 6a **. Cynthia Grindley, Steve Kennedy, Chris Docherty, Julie MacIntyre. 18 Jul 2017.

A sustained line up the left side of the slab, moving rightwards at the top to reach the lower-off.

ARDNAMURCHAN, Meall an Fhir-eoin, Hooded Wall:

Craters of the Moon 20m E1 5a *. Steve Kennedy, Cynthia Grindley. 11 Mar 2018.

The bold slab near the left edge between *Vesuvius* and *Krakatoa*. Slightly eliminate. Start on the right as for *Etna* (or by *Krakatoa*) and traverse left along the lip to the base of the *Krakatoa* crack. Step left into a short left-facing corner, then climb the slab fairly directly above (small Cam in horizontal crack about halfway). Avoid the temptation to place gear in *Krakatoa*!

GLEN NEVIS, Scimitar Buttress:

The Pleasures of the Damned 35m VS 4c. Oliver Barr-Skeoch. 25 Jul 2017.

Climb the steep triangular wall right of *Wanderlust* direct to finish where *Wanderlust* is wrongly marked on p249 of Highland Outcrops South (the correct finish is further left).

Note: The same line was repeated and recorded as E2 5b.

BINNEIN SHUAS:

Dun Briste 55m E8 6c ***. Dave MacLeod. Jul 2017.

The obvious direct finish to *Siege Engine*, taking the large roof and headwall above its traverse. Follow *Siege Engine* to the thread. Arrange good Cams in the roof. Make a very powerful stretch across the roof to gain the short flake-crack on the lip (protection). From the top of the crack, make a hard lunge (crux) to reach the slabs. Climb easily up the slabs above to finish. Well protected and excellent 8a+ climbing.

Isinglas 40m E7 6b ***. Iain Small. 2017.

An excellent varied climb taking the large flange feature in the centre of the wall,

left of *Ardanfreaky*. Climb a delicate slab to reach the roof at the base of the flange. Undercut rightwards to reach a welcome peg runner (crucial wire above). Make a hard move over the bulge and follow the corner/ramp with slightly less difficulty to its top. Move right, then up under the large roof, then step left with a technical move to reach a jug in the break at the left edge of the roof. Make hard technical moves to get established on the slab above (crux) and continue easily to a belay at a flake on the heathery ledge above.

The Braes of Balquither 50m E7/8 6c ***. Iain Small. Jul 2017.

Excellent climbing taking the orange streak in the bulging wall above the start of *Wild Mountain Thyme*. Only just adequately protected. Climb the first 5m of *Wild Mountain Thyme* and arrange protection. Make a hard move up and blindly place a crucial small cam in an undercut. Continue directly with difficulty to reach less steep ground and a good break. Climb the featured wall directly above to reach a belay on the terraces at the top.

CREAGAN NAN NEAD:

Aenbarr 50m E6 6a **. Jules Lines, Dave Cuthbertson. 24 Jun 2018.

An inescapable and very serious climb up the centre of the slab. Climb onto the ledge and from its centre stretch for a pocket and make a committing move to get stood in it. Pad dangerously up the slab to gain a grey incut, step right and up to the vein. Place a Camalot 0.4 and continue directly above this on good holds to the ledge. Continue up the rib as for *Niamh*.

Notes: Jules Lines has straightened several routes, also thought one or two stars at most (but still good).

Fionn: Climb to the nubbin, rock onto it and go up to the pocket, rejoining *Fionn* at the flake.

Niamh: Slightly straightened. From the three pockets, climb up to the break and get small Cams in the letterbox. Climb directly up to better pockets and the pegmatite vein.

Oisín: Go direct from the 2.5 Friend to the prominent flake at E5 6a.

HUNTLY'S CAVE:

The Otherside 12m E2 5c. Ted Collins, Martin Collins. 9 May 2018.

On the other side of the stream from the main crag is a small buttress with an obvious crack and a small roof at half-height. Climb the crack with well protected crux moves past the roof. Traverse left just before the top to abseil off a pine. Some hollow rock at the start.

CREAG TIRIBEG:

The Black Throat 12m Severe 4a. Iain Thow. 27 June 2018.

Climb the black streak up the middle of the crag. Only worthwhile in a drought.

DUNTELCHAIG, Seventy Foot Wall:

Elisha Grays 15m E5 6b *. Steve Perry, Jules Lines. 17 Jun 2018.

Immediately right from the start of *Seventy Foot Wall*, follow a crack which continues through the overhanging headwall above. The headwall is climbed via

the crack and arete, and has nasty fall potential, although it can be protected by two RP zeros (crux placing).

BEN NEVIS, AONACHS, CREAG MEAGAI DH

BEN NEVIS, Tower Ridge, East Flank:

Optimists' Arete 150m V,6 *. Steve Holmes, Ken Applegate. 15 Nov 2017.

Start 3m right of the steep wall and blunt arete just left of *Upper Tower Cascade RH*.

1. 30m Climb cracked blocks and a large offwidth flake to steep walls interspersed with small ledges before belaying under a short left-trending fist crack jammed with chockstones.
2. 30m Make a very exposed step down and left regaining the arete. Climb sustained cracks for 20m to reach easier ground.
3. 50m Climb the faint fault-line to the right gaining a cracked wall.
4. 40m Finish up stepped chimneys to finish 10m left of *Tower Ridge*.

Frosty's Vigil VIII,8. Greg Boswell, Guy Robertson, Adam Russell. 6 Mar 2017. Pitches 1 & 2 of *Angry Chair* (SMCJ 2013), finishing up the top pitch of *Piece Maker* (SMCJ 2015).

Pinnacle Buttress of the Tower:

Infinity Condition 110m IV,5. Robin Clothier, Simon Richardson. 29 Mar 2018. A parallel line to an unnamed route (Small-Richardson, Mar 2013).

1. 60m Start 50m left of *Fatal Error* and climb an awkward right-slanting ramp to easier ground that leads up to the first terrace on Pinnacle Buttress of the Tower. Cross the terrace and climb a short left-trending gully to a belay on the right-slanting ramp of the Small-Richardson.
2. 50m Continue left then right, zigzagging through steep walls to gain a broad gully that exits on the left crest of the buttress (junction with *Pinnacer*). From here, follow *Pinnacer* to join *Tower Ridge* at the foot of the Great Tower in another three pitches.

Moulin Rouge 270m VI,6. Simon Richardson, Sophie Grace Chappell. 20 Mar 2018.

A good mixed route between *Pinnacle Buttress Direct* and *Pinnacle Buttress Right-Hand*. Low in the grade.

1. 50m Start as for *Pinnacle Buttress Direct* and climb an icy diagonal ramp to where the icefall steepens. Take the right branch (sometimes climbed on *Pinnacle Buttress Direct* but depends on how the ice has formed), then continue right along a diagonal terrace (hidden from below) to near its end.
2. 50m Climb straight up, cross the major horizontal terrace and climb the groove system in the well defined rib to the right of *Pinnacle Buttress Direct*. Pass two steep sections and belay below a steep wall with a left-trending corner on the left.
3. 50m Climb the corner to gain the crest and follow this to the terrace below the Great Tower.
4. 50m Move up to Great Tower headwall.
5. 40m Climb the lower section of *Rotten Chimney* and then follow the Western Traverse to a ledge.

6. 30m Step left, and climb the inset groove on the right side of the rib defining the right side of *Rotten Chimney* to the summit of The Great Tower.

The Comb:

Mr Fahrenheit 55m E7 6b ***. Dave MacLeod, Iain Small (both led). 27 Jun 2018.

A pitch of contrast with a serious lower slab and sustained but well protected upper half. It takes the dark brown slab and wall at the left side of The Comb's front face, joining *Don't Die of Ignorance* near the end of its crux pitch. Start in the centre of the immaculate lower slab. Climb on edges to a welcome Cam slot at 8m. Continue boldly up and slightly left to the foot of a small ramp (poor wire and bat-hook runner). Go up and left to the rib, then back right and up to ledges and good protection. Step right into a small corner and climb this to just before the roof at its top. Swing right onto the vertical wall and make a hard move to access the excellent finger crack. Follow this with sustained interest to better holds pulling on the slab grooves above. Continue directly to join the last few metres of *Don't Die of Ignorance* and belay as for that route in a recess below a long chimney. Descend by abseil or continue via much easier terrain above to the plateau.

Don't Stop Me Now 55m E6 6b. Iain Small, Murdo Jamieson (both led). 30 Jun 2018.

The impressive left-facing corner that bounds the right side of the wall taken by the previous route. Sustained technical bridging with the crux high up. From the sloping shelf, climb easier ground to the base of the corner. Climb the corner, pulling out left at a first roof to gain a good foot ledge. Continue up the increasingly technical corner to pull out left round a second small roof (gear strenuous to place) to a ledge. Finish up the awkward final corner to an in-situ abseil point.

South Trident Buttress:

Tempest Corners 320m VI.6. Robin Clothier, Simon Richardson. 18 Mar 2018. Good mixed climbing up the wall between *The Copenhagen Interpretation* and *Joyful Chimneys*. Start on the left side of the long narrow rib (the original line of *Joyful Chimneys* climbs the groove on the right side of the rib).

1. 50m Climb the groove to the left of the rib to join the initial snow bay of *The Copenhagen Interpretation*.
2. 20m Move round the top of rib on mixed ground to belay below a series of left-stepping corners that cut through the steep wall above.
3. 60m Climb the corners past two difficult steps to their end. Continue up a snow slope to steeper mixed ground that is cut by two parallel gully systems.
4. 60m Move across to the left-hand gully system (*The Copenhagen Interpretation* follows the gully to the right) and follow it to a good platform below a steep right-facing corner to the right of the edge of *Pinnacle Arete*.
5. 30m Climb the corner and exit on easier ground at the top of the middle tier of South Trident Buttress (in the vicinity of the top of *The Clanger*).
6. 100m Finish up the top section of *Pinnacle Arete* to the plateau.

Càrn Dearg, North Wall:

Chasing the Ephemeral 60m E6 6b. Iain Small. Martin McKenna. 2 Jul 2018. Climbs the immaculate steep wall just left of *The Shroud*. A long pitch on



*Iain Small on FA of Mr Fahrenheit, E7 6b, Comb Gully Buttress, Ben Nevis.
Photo: Dave MacLeod.*



*Iain Small on FA of Don't Stop Me Now, E6 6b, Comb Gully Buttress, Ben Nevis.
Photo: Murdoch Jamieson.*

beautifully clean, water washed rock that was climbed on-sight. Probably best done during a protracted heat wave! Scramble up grassy ramps and walls to a good grassy ledge immediately below the wall and to the left of the wet gully that forms the start of *Harrison's Route*.

Climb up a short wall, move right and up to a spike and short corner. Take the corner and move out leftwards on sloping holds to gain a foot ledge. Head diagonally right to a large corner flake and climb this to a sloping ramp on top. Arrange Cams above and make hard moves up and left to gain the shallow right-facing corner system that leads to the left end of a long diagonal roof. Climb the finger-crack directly above, with increasing difficulty, to reach a niche. Pull steeply out of this and follow slabby ground to the big grassy terrace and a large flake on the left. Abseil from this (in-situ cord and screwgate).

Raeburn's Buttress:

The Good Friday Agreement 320m VII,7. Iain Small, Simon Richardson. 30 Mar 2018.

A direct line up the rib to the left of *Intermediate Gully*.

1. 40m As for pitch 1 of *Raeburn's Buttress/Boomer's Requiem* to the bifurcation. Belay on the left.

2. 50m Climb *Raeburn's Buttress Original Route* past the cave to the chockstone. Instead of traversing right continue up the steep chimney directly above to a good ledge.

3. 40m Step left and pull into the chimney-gully splitting the left rib of *Intermediate Gully*. Climb up to where the gully steepens and continue up a steep chimney-line past three chockstones before exiting right up a right-slanting fist crack. Move up and left across the *Girdle Traverse* ledge to belay below a steep wide crack slicing through the buttress above.

4. 50m Climb the crack that rises in three distinct sections to more moderate ground and a belay on the crest.

5. 40m Continue up the crest on helpful blocky ground before skirting the final steepening by following a narrow shelf on the right.

6. and 7. 100m Continue up snow and short mixed sections to the summit of Carn Dearg NW.

North Wall of Castle Ridge:

Note: Guy Robertson & Adam Russell freed *Alchemist* at VII,8 on 1 Apr 2018.

Wanderings of Mr Sea 295m IV,4. Robin Clothier, Stuart McFarlane. 3 Apr 2018.

1. 60m Climb pitch 1 of *Last Day in Purgatory*.

2. 55m Move up and right to gain a shelf beneath steep rock; traverse right towards a chimney.

3. 60m Climb the steep chimney to gain a ramp leading to the edge of the buttress (exposed). Move up to belay.

4. 60m Follow grooves above beneath a steep chimney.

5. 60m Traverse 20m right and climb a steep corner to gain snow slopes above.

MAMORES, Mullach nan Coirean (NN 135 656):

Disco Corner 80m IV,5. Gary Campbell, Nathan Adam. 29 Nov 2017.

On the left side of the main crag, following a line close to *Captain Caveman* at

the start, before breaking left near the top. Good, well protected climbing on the upper section.

1. 20m Start as for *Captain Caveman* to the first cave, but move left and follow snow and turf before trending right to belay in the second cave.
2. 15m Step out onto a left-trending ramp via a short corner (bold/poorly protected) before reaching easier ground and moving right to a large ledge.
3. 45m Gain a higher ledge, move left and climb the obvious corner-crack to stand on top of a pinnacle. Pull onto the wall and follow turf ledges leftwards to easier ground, which is climbed to the top.

Coire Dearg:

The principal crag in Coire Dearg faces north and has a very steep bottom section at 850m. On the approach from Glen Nevis the left side of this is masked by another more broken buttress to the north. Between the two and starting higher up is a short buttress with a large obvious gendarme feature near the top; this is called the *Gendarme Buttress of Coire Dearg* in Noel Williams' *Scrambles in Lochaber*. The route climbs the edge of the buttress in the foreground on the approach.

Mistaken Identity 120m III,4. Jon Sanders, Alan Halewood. 28 Nov 2017.

From the toe of this buttress, scramble over bouldery terrain to where the crest steepens. Climb an awkward flake filled groove on the left and then step back onto a ledge on the crest. Step up right delicately or more positively left but regain the crest and easier angled ground. Follow short walls and corners as close to the crest as possible at about Grade II to descend a small tower near the top of the ridge.

CREAG MEAGAI DH, Coire Choille-rai s, Aisre-chaim:

Eighties Rules 130m V,7. Simon Richardson, Mark Robson, Roger Webb. 4 Jan 2018.

1. 30m Start up and left of *Cat Burglar* and climb turf left of a blunt rib. Step left below a roof after 15m and move up steps to the foot of a steep impending corner.
2. 30m Climb the corner (crux), then continue up the ramp to the right before taking the natural line left that leads to a terrace.
3. 30m Step left and climb the right-trending groove to the headwall. Move left under this and climb the bulging chimney-slot in the corner above to where the angle eases.
4. 40m Finish easily up the crest of the buttress as for the other routes.

CREAG MEAGAI DH, Coire Ardair, Pinnacle Buttress:

The Moth Direct 360m VIII,8 **. Iain Small, Helen Rennard, Dave MacLeod. 4 Mar 2018.

A direct start and finish to *The Moth* making the overall route more sustained and more logical. Start 20m down and right of the parent route, below a left-facing corner capped by a roof.

1. 30m Climb the corner, then traverse left under the roof on thin ice to gain a useful incut block (good protection). Pull over the roof to join the turf traverse of *The Moth* pitch 1 and move up to the belay.
2. 40m Climb the left-facing corner to a roof and span left using thin ice and continue to a short steep corner. Bridge up this and move out right to a difficult mantel. Move diagonally back left on steep turf to reach a cracked ledge.

3. 50m Move to the left end of the ledge and access a left-facing corner forming the edge of the huge flake. Move up this, then diagonally right on turf, before climbing the steep turf wall above.
4. 80m Follow ice and turf (common with *The Midge Direct*) to eventually reach the large ledge system. Move slightly left to an in-situ peg under a small roof and belay. Split this pitch if ice is suitable for making an anchor.
5. 50m Step right, climb a steep turf wall and continue to the next ledge system below the final barrier wall (*The Moth* escapes right from here).
6. 50m Climb the steep wall directly above the belay to gain an easier but poorly protected turf groove that leads to a large shelf on the edge of the buttress. Walk right along this for about 10m to a left-facing spike.
7. 60m Mount the spike and climb easily above, just right of the arete to a small cairn on the summit of the Pinnacle.

Paradise Lost 170m VII,8 ***. Iain Small, Andy Inglis. 24 Feb 2018.

Excellent ice and mixed climbing on the buttress left of *Smith's Gully*, adjacent to *Last Day in Paradise*.

1. 50m Start up the first pitch of *Last Day in Paradise* (left-facing corner for 10m, then traverse right onto the large icy slab) then climb the icy slab direct for 15m to steep ice, before climbing up and leftwards for some 15m to a rocky rib and belay at the top of the slab.
2. 40m Step left and climb the helpful, overhanging left-facing corner and roof past an icicle to a mossy left-slanting corner and narrow ice smeared ramp-line. Climb the ramp-line and corner to easier ground, and continue up the snow slope to a belay below the final barrier wall.
3. 50m Traverse right (probably joining *Last Day in Paradise*) and climb the icy central fault to an overhung niche. Step left and forge straight up the steep ice to glory and the final snow slopes.
4. A further 20-30m of easy ground remains to the plateau.

Paradise Lost, Independent Finish 100m VI,7. Simon Richardson, Guy Robertson. 12 Mar 2018.

1. 50m From the belay on *Appolyn Ledge* where *Paradise Lost* rejoins *Last Day in Paradise*, traverse 10m left to gain a short steep gully-groove. Climb this with difficulty and exit onto an exposed crest overlooking *Ritchie's Gully*. Follow this to a snow slope and good belay.
2. 50m Finish up and left on the right flank of *Ritchie's Gully* to gain the plateau.

Note: *Eye Candy* – Pitch 2 is only 30m (not 40m as noted in existing description), so with a 70m rope pitches 2 and 3 can be run together.

GLEN COE

BUACHAILLE ETIVE MOR, The Chasm:

Note: Ewan Lyons has sent a pitch by pitch description of *The Chasm* with photos of each pitch.

Note: Lawrie Brand & Neil Kerr climbed the direct finish to *The Chasm* at VI,5 on 20 Mar 2018. Looking at their pictures, Andy Nisbet doubts it has ever been done at IV,4 and therefore whether it has ever been done.

Central Buttress, South Face:

Poker 85m HVS **. Michael Barnard, John MacLeod. 24 Jul 2017.

A fine companion to *Pegleg*. Start as for that route.

1. 45m 4c Go up the left-trending weakness, then move right to below a slight rib in the wall above (6m right of the *Pegleg* belay). Start up the rib and climb directly up the wall to eventually reach a left-trending line of flakes; follow these more easily and continue up to belay at a small corner which is level with the obvious undercut roof on the right (Friend 3 & 3.5). Excellent bold climbing.
2. 40m 4c Step right to gain the crack just left of the undercut roof (*Waterslide Gully?*). Follow the crack until possible to traverse into the white groove on the right. Climb the groove and continue directly up the corner and crack above.

Poker, Direct Start 20m E3 5b **. Michael Barnard (unsec). 24 Jul 2017.

Start just right of the left-trending weakness of *Pegleg* and climb clean water washed rock leading directly to the slight rib on pitch 1 (unprotected after the first metre or so).

Note: *Gravity and Grace* was thought to be one star, although starting up *Pontoon* for 2 pitches, then stepping left, would be better. 50m E2 5b.

D Gully Buttress:

Marmalade 80m VI,6 *. Michael Barnard, John MacLeod. 7 Jan 2018.

As for summer (two 40m pitches, crux at the start).

Notes from Michael Barnard: *Alpen* – the cave belay can be reached in one 35m pitch.

The diagram on p56 of the Glen Coe guide is a bit misleading as it gives the impression that *Alpen* goes straight up from where it's marked, when really it comes up from the right. Also the routes on p62 are in the wrong order – though the summer routes (*Toast, Marmalade, Cornflake*) all cross *Alpen* at mid-height, they start to its left (as does *Special K*).

BUACHAILLE ETIVE MOR, Crowberry Ridge North-East Face:

Dingle VII,7. Tim Miller, Calum Hicks. 4 Feb 2018.

By the summer route.

The Orphan VII,8. Steve Holmes, Duncan Curry, Hannah Evans. 14 Dec 2017

By the summer route.

The Holy Grail 160m IX,11. Guy Robertson, Greg Boswell. 11 Jan 2018.

One of the best at Grade IX in Scotland – brilliant, very well protected hard climbing and should be in condition most seasons.

1. and 2. 30m, 20m Climb *Raven's Gully* to above the first big chockstone, where a crack-line breaks up on the left.
3. 30m Climb the sustained cracks to belay at an obvious spike and junction with *Guerdon Grooves* (in-situ sling).
4. 30m Climb directly (as for *Guerdon Grooves*) over the steep bulge but where that route goes right follow the obvious right-facing groove up into the base of the Great Cave.
5. 20m An unlikely pitch! Climb delicately up to gain and climb the big off-width

crack through the roof of the Great Cave, to belay in a much smaller cave right on the very lip.

6. 30m Continue up the very steep crack-line (common with *Shibboleth True Finish*) to easier ground.

BUACHAILLE ETIVE BEAG:

Gully 2 II/III. Dean Roberts, Mike Kelly, Tunnell Morgan. 25 Jan 2008.

A winter ascent of a gully first named by T. Graham Brown & party after a summer ascent. The second gully from the left following a stream before climbing right to a snow field.

AONACH DUBH WEST FACE, E Buttress:

Prophets of Pragmatism 45m E8 6b **. Iain Small, Dave MacLeod (both led). 12 Jun 2018.

A serious pitch with poor protection until high up, but good climbing, cutting through the long traverse of *Prophet of Purism*. Start up *Salome* for 7m and arrange runners. Climb rightwards across the wall with difficulty to a good hold and dubious runners. Move up the wall to gain large sidepull pockets and follow these (avoiding a loose flake) to reach jugs and assortment of runners (Cams in pockets and poor wires). Step up and left and make hard moves up the bulging wall (crux) to a welcome pocket that takes a good Camelot 3. Continue up to a further pocket (Camalot 4 and wire) and then move right, then up on small holds, then back left to a break (good wire). Move up and left on good holds to gain the ramp of *Big Top*. Follow *Big Top* to the belay ledge.

STOB COIRE NAN LOCHAIN:

En Garde IX,9. Murdo Jamieson, Iain Small. 16 Dec 2017.

By the summer route, except pitch 1 was extended by continuing up the groove to a ledge below the off-width.

The following three routes start from a belay on the right side of *SC Gully* above its main difficulties. Alternatively, the same point can be reached by a 50m abseil down the upper right wall of *SC Gully*.

SC Chimney 50m V,6. Peter Davies, Helen Rennard. 6 Mar 2017.

A prominent chimney high on the right wall of *SC Gully* easily seen from the corrie floor.

1. 40m Climb steep snow on the right wall of *SC Gully* for 15m to the bottom of a large right-facing corner. Climb the chimney in the corner's left wall and to a good ledge.

2. 10m Step down and left from the ledge into a square-cut recess that leads to the top.

Consolation Corner 45m V,6. Peter Davies, Helen Rennard. 1 Jan 2018.

1. 15m Follow *SC Chimney* to the bottom of the large right-facing corner.

2. 30m On the right wall of the corner, a short thin crack leads to the bottom of a shallow chimney. Climb the chimney and continue direct up a right-facing corner above.

Dig for Victory 45m VI,7. Peter Davies, Donie O'Sullivan. 7 Jan 2018.

The centre of the rib to the left of *SC Chimney*.

1. 35m Climb a steep crack, then a shallow right-facing corner in the centre of the rib to belay on the good ledge as for *SC Chimney*.
2. 10m As for *SC Chimney*. The short cracked wall directly above the ledge would give a good independent finish.

CHURCH DOOR BUTTRESS:

The Lost Arrow 100m X,10. Greg Boswell, Guy Robertson. 11 Dec 2017.

The first winter ascent of the main front face of the crag provides an unusually sustained and exacting climb. Protection is generally excellent, with the exception of the off-width chimney groove. High in the grade.

1. 25m Climb *Lost Arrow* pitch 1.
2. 15m Go up the summer line a short way, then break hard right under the roof crack to climb the precarious wall to its right, before traversing back left to belay on the summer line just above the lip.
3. 20m Step left again and climb the dirty left-hand crack to join the summer route where that swings right at the sloping ledge. Continue direct up cracks to a roof which is passed on the right to belay as for summer below the overhanging off-width at the base of the main corner.
4. 20m Climb the hideous off-width chimney-groove to rejoin the corner which is followed to a hanging belay at the end of the traverse right to the flake.
5. 20m Climb the summer line to the top.

Dark Angel VII,8. Matt Helliker, Nick Bullock, Pete Whittaker. 3 Feb 2018.

A fantastic route up the centre of the tower between *Crypt Route* and *Flake Route* to the top of the right-hand side of the Arch. Cross *West Chimney* and continue direct between *Un Poco Loco* and *Knights Templar* to the top of the buttress.

1. 20m Climb from the foot of the buttress up the left-hand facing off-width to a roof. Step left into a niche and a hanging belay.
2. 40m Follow the crack left for 5m, before stepping right through a overlap to enter the bottom of a splinter crack (crux). Continue up the flared crack to its end with poor feet to pull out left onto a ledge. Continue through the overlaps above to the right of the Arch and belay under an arching rightward line of weakness.
3. 50m Pull steeply up, trending right into the bottom of a hanging groove. Pull through the groove and continue up leftwards following a ramp and steep steps to the top.

AONACH EAGACH, Am Bodach:

At NN169 580 there are two buttresses. They can be accessed easily by approaching up Coire an Ruigh, then turning left (south-west) at the Bealach at 816m, and walking for 5mins to their base, 1hr 15mins.

Bodach Buttress 100m III,4. Andy Hogarth, Andy Nelson. 30 Dec 2017.

The obvious ridge, climbed in four pitches with good stances. Possible to include trickier steps.

Òganach Chimney 60m III,4. Andy Hogarth, Andy Nelson. 30 Dec 2017.

The obvious deep chimney on the buttress nearer the bealach. It has a tricky move under an enormous chockstone, that leads into a bomb bay. Step right to gain an easy groove that exits onto the other side of the buttress. Walk off or continue up scrambling terrain to the top.

CLACH LEATHAD, Summit Cliff:

Gelato 160m IV,5. Andy Nisbet, Ali Rose. 2 Apr 2018.

An ice line on the right side of the left buttress of the cliff. Start easily trending right up an obvious break to reach the side wall of a fault. Pull through a bulge, then go diagonally left to reach a ledge. Traverse back right to the right-hand of twin faults. Go up this to a steep wall on the right (55m). Move back left into the icy fault and climb this to a rock buttress in snow (40m). Climb steep snow to the top (65m).

Scarface 140m IV,5. Andy Nisbet, Jonathan Preston. 26 Mar 2018.

The left branch of the V ice lines (*Eclipse* is the right branch). A steep start leads to an easier groove and a belay on the left (35m). Return right and climb an iced corner to easier ground. Continue up an ice bulge, short groove and snow to a belay (45m). Steep snow to the top, the cornice being small at the top left of the face (60m).

Skyblind 150m V,6. Andy Nisbet, Sarah Sigley. 31 Mar 2018.

The buttress right of *Holme Moss*. Climb turfey ground centrally to below the steep section of the buttress (25m). Start steeply up the centre of this, then move left up steps to gain a ledge. Traverse back right and climb a recess to crux moves over a capping wide crack. Move up to a good belay in a corner below an overhang (45m). Step back down to move left on to easier ground. Go up and left to the isolated buttress (40m). A diagonal line left gained a break in the cornice (40m).

CLACH LEATHAD, Sròn nam Forsair:

Some 300m left (east) of the Summit Cliff and on the north side of Sron nam Forsair ridge is this section of cliff.

Maundy Buttress 120m IV,4. Sophie Grace Chappell, Andy Nisbet, Sarah Sigley. 29 Mar 2018.

At the left end of this section of cliff is this buttress. Start just inside the gully on its right and climb up on to a ramp which leads right into a shallow groove. Follow this to the crest and up to an easing in angle (60m). Follow the vague crest to the top (60m).

Maundy Gully 100m IV,5. Sophie Grace Chappell, Andy Nisbet, Sarah Sigley. 29 Mar 2018.

Close to the right end of this section of cliff is this long groove. Start just left of a steep ice step and mixed climb until above the step (or climb the step, harder). The subsequent groove curves left and steepens. Move right below the steepest section and climb a short ramp and steep mixed ground before returning to the groove above its steep section (60m). Climb steep snow to the top (40m).

Note: A direct ascent of the groove would require ice and good conditions.

CREACH BHEINN, Zeppelin Face (Ardgour):

No Quarter 110m IV,5 *. Steve Kennedy, Andy MacDonald. 7 Feb 2018.

The narrow gully immediately right of *Bring it on Home* (SMCJ 2015). Probably easier in a heavier build up. The description and length excludes the approach up the easy lower section of the gully.

1. 55m From the point where the gully deepens, climb to a small cave with a chockstone which is turned by a short wall on the left. Continue to a steep groove

with the assistance of an accommodating crack on the right wall (crux).

2. 55m Continue up easier slopes into a snow bowl. Move out rightwards to finish.

BEINN MHICCEDIDH, North-East Corrie (Moidart):

Arabian Nights 60m III,4. Steve Kennedy, Andy MacDonald. 10 Dec 2017.

The open groove approximately 50m above and left of the lowest point of the buttress and just left of a deep groove (*Perfumed Garden* starts right of the lowest point – see SMCI 2016). Easy ground leads to the base of a right-slanting groove (10m). Follow the groove on thin ice and finish up easier mixed ground (50m).

Pink Pearl 55m III. Steve Kennedy, Andy MacDonald. 10 Dec 2017.

The disjointed groove system starting about 10m left of *Arabian Nights*. A short groove leads to a big spike at 10m. Climb the groove above to a steep wall, step up left and continue to a large jammed block. Pull steeply over the block then move right (behind the block) and climb a wide crack rightwards to an edge. Finish up leftwards via a further groove.

SGÙRR GHIUBHSACHAIN, North Buttress (Loch Shiel):

Below and right (west) of the summit are a number of easy angled, north facing buttresses split by wide gullies. The steepest rightmost buttress (north to north-west facing) is bounded on the right by a wide slabby bowl. This route starts up a prominent wide ramp running up the right side of the lower part of the buttress.

Bestial Devotion 110m III **. Steve Kennedy, Andy MacDonald. 20 Jan 2018.

1. 60m Follow the ramp until it narrows and bends left to form a gully containing a large chockstone. Move right onto the buttress edge, avoiding the chockstone, and climb the gully above. At the top of the gully, a nice through route (may need clearing of snow) leads to a belay on the buttress edge.

2. 50m Finish by the easy gully and mixed ground above.

SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS

THE COBBLER, South Peak:

Punters Crack 50m E1 5b. Tim Miller, Hugh Simons, Martin McKenna. 10 May 2017.

The direct line to *Deadman's Groove*, probably rarely dry. Start as for *Deadman's Groove*. After the initial corner climb up to the grotty roof, through this towards a second roof and past some dodgy looking blocks. Finish up the corner back into *Deadman's Groove*.

Winter: VIII,9. Martin McKenna, Tim Miller. 15 Dec 2017.

An obvious overhanging crack from the first pitch of *North Wall Groove* linking into the top corner of *Deadman's Groove*.

Note: Dave MacLeod re-cleaned *Ruskoline* on 24 Jun 2018, and climbed it. Now **.

Colander-head Corner 100m V,6 *. Calum Hicks, Morna Baillie. 29 Dec 2017. Located on the right side of the band of rock to the right of *Chockstone Gully*.

Topo provided. Best accessed by dropping down the small col off the north side of the north peak for 100m. Start below the short obvious open book corner.

1. 20m The difficult pitch. Climb the obvious corner with a hard start up to chockstones and easier climbing.
2. and 3. 80m Easy ground leads to the top of Great Gully Buttress.

Centre Peak:

Summit Gully 120m I/II *. Graham Uney, James Pierce. 29 Mar 2018.

The obvious snow gully that finishes at a rocky notch immediately left of the summit block. Climb the gully, go through the notch onto a rock ledge. Traverse the ledge beneath the summit block, and step down at its far end. Almost certainly climbed before, but unrecorded.

Sugar Walls:

Comical Corner 20m IV,5. Ole Kemi, Jeremy Morris. 6 Feb 2018.

Follow the summer line, an obvious corner to the top. Its low altitude means conditions can be tricky, but when in condition, it provides a good option for a short second route of the day or as an approach to the big terrace below North Peak and Great Gully Buttress.

No Pro Wall 15m Severe. Ole Kemi. 17 Jul 2017.

The wall right of *Comical Corner*. Sparse gear, but going left to *Comical Corner* for gear is possible low down. Climb up to a wide grass ledge, and then either walk off right or finish up *Comical Corner* on the left.

Some Pro Edge 15m V.Diff. Ole Kemi. 17 Jul 2017.

An edge and wide crack with a high chockstone right of *Comical Corner* and *No Pro Wall*. Not much gear low down.

BEINN AN LOCHAIN:

Black & White 60m V,5 *. Guy Robertson, Greg Boswell. Jan 2018.

The obvious well-defined arete right of *Back Alley*.

1. 30m Climb direct through the lower bulge right of *Back Alley*. Continue up slightly right by a short steep wall to gain the edge which is followed up and left to a belay by large blocks.
2. 30m Make an exposed traverse left then go back up onto the edge which is followed in a fine position to easier ground.

ARDVORLICH, Quarterdome:

Alan Cassidy & Rob Sutton climbed the *Quarterdome* project on p56 of the Sport guide in May 2018 and felt it to be 8a+ **. The 6b described doesn't seem to make a lot of sense, or at very least needs some more bolts to make it safe!

BEINN AN DOTHaidh, North-East Corrie:

L'Apéritif 40m III,4/5. Ken Applegate, Ryan Ras. 7 Mar 2018.

The crest of the small cone-shaped hillock (p302 Arran, Arrochar and the Southern Highlands guide), was surprisingly good. Start at a small sapling and climb easy ground to gain a short steep groove. Climb this and trend right, then back left to climb a short steepening.

BEINN UDLAIDH:

Jump the Train 170m IV,4. John Higham, Ruth Love. 11 Dec 2017.

This route provides a more direct start to *Sidestep* and an alternative finish to *Hobo*. Start 10m left of *Sidestep* on the left-hand edge of the bay which has the deep chimney approach to *Organ-Pipe Wall* on its right-hand side.

Climb with difficulty a short steep prow, turning small roofs and bulges until easier ground is reached. Trend leftwards for about 20m as the route converges with *Sidestep* to belay in a steep corner. Now trend diagonally rightwards to cross a snowfield and enter the wide gully of *Hobo* to belay where it steepens abruptly. Exit left (*Hobo* exits right) and follow an excellent left-trending groove to the summit snowfields.

BEINN CHUIRN, Coire na Saobhaidhe:

Prospectors 80m IV,4. Martin Holland, Sharon Tinsley, Ian McIntosh. 30 Mar 2018.

To the left of the main central gully is another large gully. Left of this the crag is north facing and fairly continuous. About a third of the way along the crag left of the gully it changes in steepness at an obvious wall / right-facing corner. Start down from and just left of this.

1. 55m Move easily up to gain the bottom of the wall/corner and follow this before breaking right over turf to a ramp coming up from the right. Cross the ramp and make a steep move up to gain a turf groove continuing in the same line as the lower section. Follow the turf groove and corners moving slightly left higher up to near a wedged flake. An excellent long pitch, which could be split at optional belays.

2. 25m Move right from the wedged flake and back left up easy ground to the top.

Lucky Strike 115m III. Martin W. Holland. 6 Mar 2018.

Start at the lowest rocks just left of the main gully. Climb easy ground over a couple of steps to reach the upper buttress between the main gully and the next gully left. Climb the centre of the buttress initially moving right then back left through a short chimney notch.

Gold Star Start 25m III,4. Martin Holland, Sharon Tinsley, Ian McIntosh. 30 Mar 2018.

An ice line can form on the centre right of the lower tier directly below *Silver Star*. This is steeper than it looks and would make a good direct start to *Silver Star*.

BEN LOMOND:

Opinionator 120m IV,5. Robin Clothier, Ian Dempster, Stuart McFarlane. 25 Feb 2018.

Starts between *Endrick Corner* and *Rowardennan Rib*.

1. 30m Climb turfey ground up and right to belay in recess on the square rib.

2. 50m Move left along a ledge to an overlap, then follow a groove above heading for a corner parallel with *Endrick Corner*. Where it steepens, belay on a ledge on the right.

3. 40m Step left onto slab and pull steeply into a groove above (crux). Follow the groove to the top.

Note: David Webster thinks *Solo Buttress* and *Lomond Delight* (Arran, Arrochar and the Southern Highlands guide p350) are the same route.

INVERARNAN:

Drover Falls II/III. Robert Giddy, David Webster. 12 Dec 2017.

On the Allt Arnan starting at NN 3125 1870. After a deep freeze a number of good slabby icefalls may form on the watercourse and can be viewed from the Drovers Inn car park. The first main pitch is 5mins walk from the road. If not fully formed, follow the river up for a further 10mins or so to a roughly 15m high steep ice slide which forms more readily and can be climbed by a number of lines. Between the two main pitches a number of smaller ice steps can also be climbed, and a scramble up the frozen river bed is fun in its own right. The crux of the route may be avoiding falling through thin ice into a plunge pool!

Note: The first pitch was later climbed direct by David Webster on 3 Mar 2018.

BEINN HEASGARNICH, Coire Heasgarnich:

White Lion 110m IV,4. George Allan, John Thomas. 20 Mar 2018.

Four icefalls form on the lower section of cliff right of *Cub Gully*. Climb the third icefall to the right of the gully to belay at the base of a groove in the upper buttress (40m). Climb this and continue directly via walls and corners (50m). Move up right and climb a corner to reach easy ground (20m). A good route.

Androcles 140m V,5. Roger Webb, Simon Richardson. 29 Nov 2017.

An exciting route through the headwall in the centre of the cliff.

1. 50m Follow the open gully system of *The Rambler* to the first terrace.
2. 40m Continue up the right-slanting gully of *The Rambler* to the second terrace beneath the headwall. Cross the terrace to the right then follow a slanting ramp system left to a shallow cave on the right.
3. 30m Make a difficult horizontal left traverse for 5m, then climb delicately up and back right to enter a groove directly above the belay. Climb this to where the angle eases and a small ledge on the left.
4. 20m Continue more easily up grooves to the top.

King of the Jungle 140m VI,5. Simon Richardson, Sophie Grace Chappell. 25 Jan 2018.

A serious and more direct version of *Androcles*.

1. 50m Climb the broad rib of *Simba* to the first terrace,
2. 30m Trend diagonally left and climb an undercut groove just right of an arete to reach the second terrace.
3. 50m Cross the terrace and climb thin ice to reach the end of the traverse of *Androcles*. Instead of trending back right, continue straight up the groove above to a belay where the angle eases.
4. 10m Finish up the groove to the top.

LOWLAND OUTCROPS AND GALLOWAY HILLS

BEN A'AN:

Park at the Ben A'an car park and walk up the path for about 20mins to a crossroads. Turn right and continue along the path for about 300m. Look up to

the left for a large slab. The slab is easy angled and faces south-east with a pleasant open outlook. Rock is a rough schist.

Lazy Fault 12m Diff *. Michael Limonci, Marco Limonci. 5 Jun 2018.
NN 5101 0787. Start at the lowest point on the slab. Climb the large crack on good holds straight to the top. A variation exists near the top to follow another short crack to the right.

Trad 11m V.Diff. Marco Limonci, Danny Flynn. 12 Jun 2018.
A V shaped slab 3m left of *Lazy Fault*. Climb a crack trending right. Continue straight up past an obvious triangular recess.

Givemepeace 11m Severe *. Marco Limonci, Danny Flynn. 12 Jun 2018.
On the same slab as *Trad*. Climb a thin crack up and left, then straight up the blank slab above on small holds.

Little Arete 25m V.Diff. Marco Limonci, Danny Flynn. 12 Jun 2018.
NN 5098 0790. The arete is the second crag from the left edge of the obvious large slab. Start at the lowest point, quite steep at first then easing to a small sloping ledge, then up another short and steep wall; the angle then easing off.

DUMBARTON ROCK:

Note: Alan Cassidy added a new 7a right-hand exit to *Persistence of Vision*, called *Eurovision*.

GALLOWAY HILLS, Cauldron of the Dungeon (NX 461 852):

The Vice Squad 65m V,5 **. Stephen Reid, Andrew Fraser (alt). 9 Feb 2018.
Excellent well protected climbing up the prominent left-trending corner in the Main Buttress. Start at a corner-crack with a vertical right wall, 2m left of a crack with a square hole at 3m and 2m right of a huge block on the terrace.

1. 20m Climb the crack to an awkward exit onto a narrow turf ledge. Climb a short crack on the right to a large heather ledge and flake.
2. 25m On the wall on the left is a massive flake with a body width crack (the Vice) separating it from the main crag. Traverse easily to its right end and start thrutching. Belay on the large second ledge.
3. 20m Climb up onto a small ledge and thence with difficulty to a larger ledge. The offwidth crack above is harder than anything else on the route but is mercifully well protected and brief. Easy ground leads to the end of difficulties.

The Clints of the Spout (NX 509 667):

The corrie to the left of the crag contains several short and broken icefalls, the longest of which, *Up the Spout* (100m, II/III, Andrew Fraser, Stephen Reid, Kev Callachan, 9 Mar 2018), lies towards its right-hand side and has a good top pitch that can be climbed on its left or right.

North-East Corrie of Milldown (NX 514 844):

Fridge Buttress is the broken buttress to the right of *Better Gully* which gives long routes consisting of short hard sections with much scrambling in between. It comes into condition quite quickly but the climbs are very run out in lean conditions. Its main identifying mark is a wide, low left-slanting wall towards its right side which marks the start of *Fridge Magnate* (2011).

Frigidare 205m IV,4. Ian Dempster, Stephen Reid (alt). 10 Dec 2017.

A broad iced slab lies 20m left of the left-slanting wall. Climb the centre of this and intermittent short steps to the left end of a rock buttress (45m). Move right 3m and climb a short icy groove. Easier ground leads up rightwards to the right side of an amphitheatre made of three low buttresses (30m). Traverse left on snow and climb the icy nose of the central buttress (35m). Climb up and left to a short icy slab with overhanging rock on its left. Climb the slab (possible belay) to a snow terrace and traverse left to a spike in amongst blocks 10m below the final buttress (55m). The steep icy groove and wall above towards the right side of this buttress provides a bold hard finish (30m). Alternatively the finish of *Fridge Magnate* lies up the easier angled groove just round to the left.

Note: Due to the sudden appearance of a falling dog and subsequent rescue of a crag-bound party of walkers and dogs, only the leader completed the final pitch. The dog was not badly injured.

Doggone Gully I. Linda Biggar, John Biggar. 10 Dec 2017.

This gully is hidden high up on the right, beyond the low left-slanting wall and an obvious, heathery left-slanting fault. It can be gained by various ways and makes a reasonable descent with care.

Clifton (NX 909 573):

D.I.Y. Low Variation 15m E1 5b *. Tommy Heron, Connor Henley. 9 Sep 2017.

Climb the thin crack flanking *Red Slab* on its right to its top, then traverse right under a bulge along a horizontal crack to the arete. Bold moves gain the huge break and a finish as for *D.I.Y.*

GALLOWAY SEA-CLIFFS, Laggantalluch Head:

Shadow of Intent 25m E3 5c **. Matthew Thompson, Lauren Purkuliar. 13 May 2018.

Another steep and exciting route on this wall. Climb the obvious crack 2m left of *First Touch* to beneath the roof. Style over this on a variety of jams, jugs and nubbins to gain a position of pumpy insecurity above. Move up to meet the ramp of *First Touch*, but swing due left to jugs in a niche and finish up the easier wide crack.