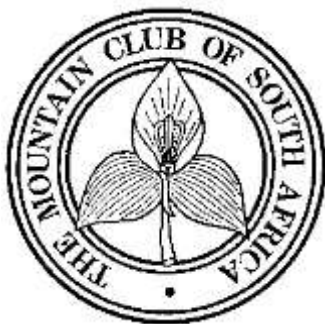


ROCK CLIMBING ROUTES AT TRIDENT, KRANSKLOOF AND CASTLE GORGE



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Preface

This guide is basically a reprint of the previous update to the route book. A number of new routes have been included and in a few cases, existing routes have been described differently, in an attempt to make it easier to find/follow a route. As far as possible the volume is complete. If however, any routes are missing or incompletely described, this is unintentional.

The intention behind the publication is to provide frequent issues of the route guide each containing the latest set of route updates. Feedback regarding any errors, omissions or additions is most welcome. Please submit all feedback to ClimbZA (www.climb.co.za), the MCSA or the author.

This route book is the collective work of many people and I would like to thank all those who helped in any way. Mention must be made of the contributing authors of routes, without whom there would be no route book.

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All photos were taken by the author unless otherwise stated.

Andrew Porter, September 2019

Indemnity

Mountain climbing, rock climbing, abseiling and other related activities are dangerous and can lead to or cause serious injury, material loss and death. The Mountain Club of South Africa advises you not to participate in these activities unless you are competent to do so or are under the guidance of a competent person, and unless you are using the correct equipment.

This route guidebook serves only as an indication as to those routes that have been done before and the degree of difficulty encountered by the opening party. The degree of difficulty expressed herein is highly subjective and will vary from person to person. There is no warranty, express or implied, that these routes are safe for you to do, that you will be able to do them, that you will find and identify them correctly or that you will stay on route.

You climb entirely at your own risk. While every effort has been made to ensure correctness and accuracy, the Mountain Club of South Africa accept no liability or responsibility whatsoever for any accident, injury, death or material loss arising from the use or misuse of this guide book.

Please note that bolts are not placed by the MCSA, but by individual climbers some of whom are MCSA members and some of whom are not. The MCSA therefore cannot and does not check bolt placement for safety. Furthermore bolts deteriorate over time. Check the bolts yourself and try and find when they were placed and by whom before you rely on them. Bolts are not failsafe.

Conventions Used

The true right of a gully is defined as the side of the gully on the right hand side of an observer who is facing downstream. Similarly, the true left of a gully is defined as the side of the gully on the left hand side of an observer who is facing downstream.

The star rating of the individual climb is a guide to the quality of the route. In general the following applies:

No stars	No star rating yet. If it looks good, climb it, otherwise leave it alone.
*	A route of little merit
**	A mediocre route
***	A good route
****	An excellent route
*****	One of the finest. Exceptional.

There is a tendency amongst first ascensionists to not include the star rating for new routes. This is determined by consensus at a later date once the route has been done by a number of parties. The quality of new routes can thus only be determined by climbing it yourself. The quality of older routes can however be believed.

For grading, the newer numeric system is used. Grades have been converted from the old alphanumeric system, using the convention as per the article "Grade Comparison Guide" by Clive Curson, p118 of the MCSA Journal #98 of 1995. This is a guide only so some of the grades may be out by a grade or two.

Please note that bolting is not allowed in the Magaliesberg.

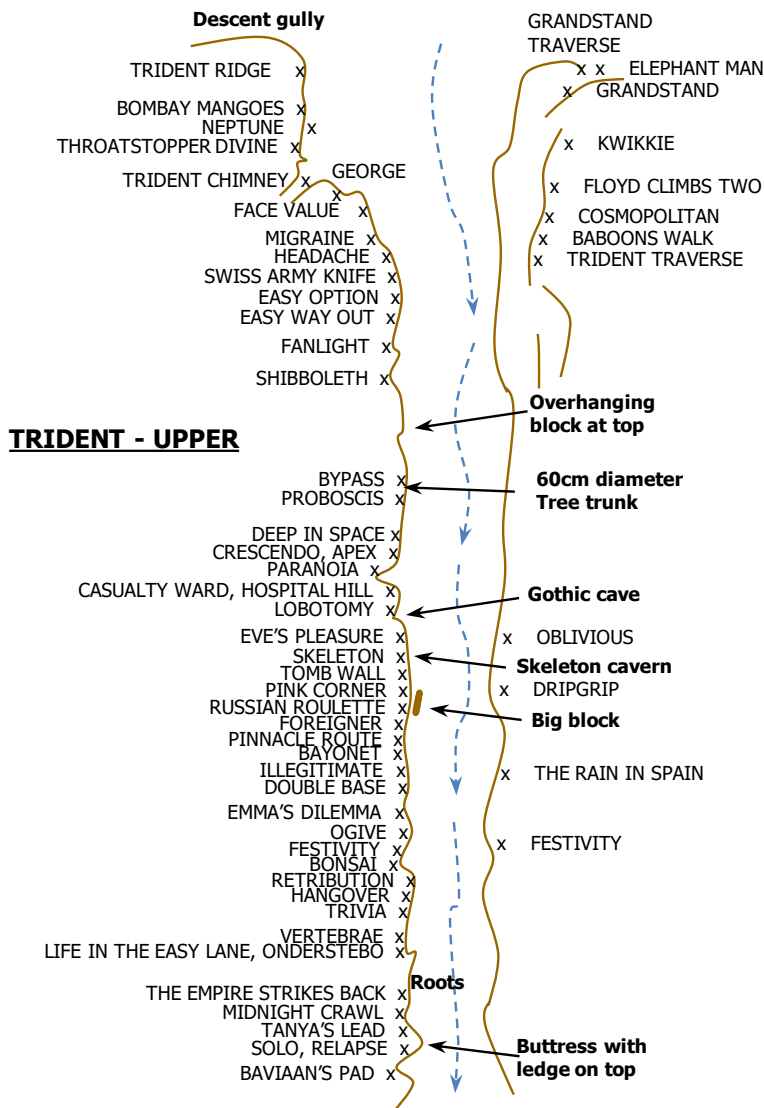
TRIDENT: List of Climbs

Climb Name	Grade	Stars	Pg
UNKNOWN	26/27		46
THE EMPIRE STRIKES BACK	23	****	33
NO ROOM FOR CHALK	23		57
SHOOTOUT	22	***	57
FACE VALUE	21	***	7
CASUALTY WARD	21	*	18
ANGEL	21		57
APEX	20	****	16
LIFEBUOY DIRECT	20	****	56
LOBOTOMY	20	****	20
THE OWL AND THE PUSSYCATS	20	****	17
LIFEBUOY	20	***	56
PARANOIA	20	***	17
SHADY OVERHANG	20	**	58
BEFORE BREAKFAST	20		45
ELEPHANT MAN	19	***	47
REACH FOR THE STARS	19	***	53
SHIBBOLETH	19	***	12
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TRIVIA	19	*	31
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BOMBAY MANGOES	19		3
FOREIGNER	19		25
TOMMY'S HYMENOTOMY	19		53
MIGRAINE	18,A1	****	8
DOUBLE VISION	18	***	46
ILLEGITIMATE	18	***	26
TOMB WALL	18	***	23
CONTRIVITIS	18		56

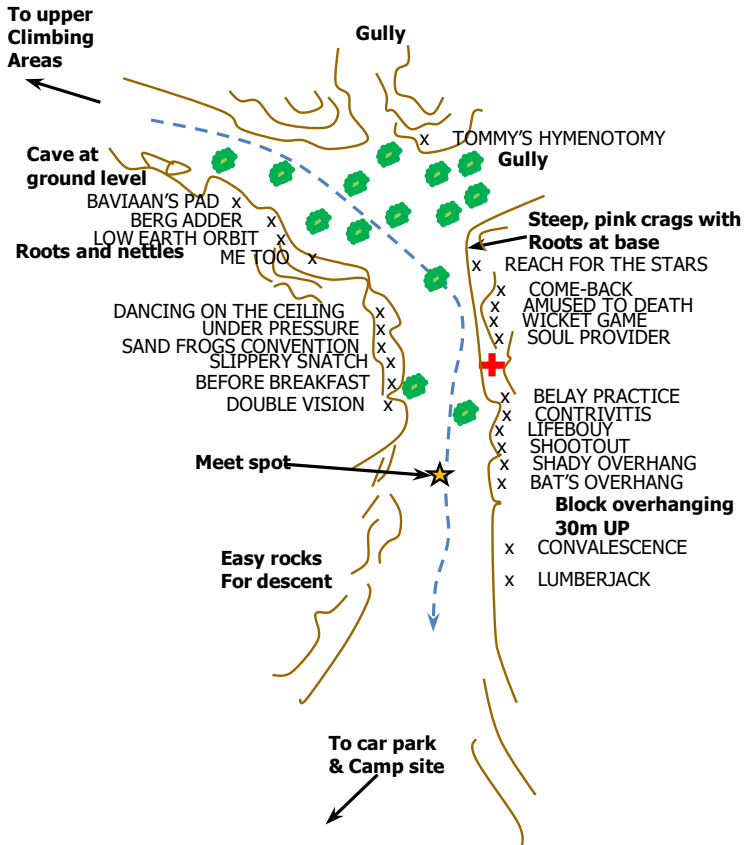
Climb Name	Grade	Stars	Pg
RUSSIAN ROULETTE	17,A2		24
HOSPITAL HILL	17,A1	****	19
SWISS ARMY KNIFE	17	****	10
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BRIDGE OVER TROUBLED WATERS	17	***	43
CRESCENDO	17	***	15
FLOYD CLIMBS TWO	17	***	49
PROBOSCIS	17	***	13
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BERG ADDER	17	**	37
FANLIGHT	17	**	11
SLIPPERY SNATCH	17	**	45
BONSAI	17	*	28
IT	17	*	35
OGIVE	17	*	27
BRATS OVERHANG	17		59
DECEPTION	17		20
SKEWER	17		60
LOW EARTH ORBIT	16	****	39
DANCING ON THE CEILING	16	***	42
FAMOUS LAST WORDS	16	***	55
HEADACHE	16	***	9
COME-BACK	16	**	54
HANGOVER	16	*	30
THE RAIN IN SPAIN	16	*	51
COWBOY	15,A1		21
GEORGE	15	****	6
PINK CORNER	15	****	23
MIDNIGHT CRAWL	15	***	33
NEPTUNE	15	***	4
POCKET ROCKET	15	***	38
EMMAS DILEMMA	15	**	27
RETRIBUTION	15	**	29

Climb Name	Grade	Stars	Pg
SKELETON	15	**	22
BITE	15	*	37
VERTEBRAE	15	*	32
A KWIKKIE	15		48
BYPASS	15		13
DRIPGRIP	15		50
FESTIVITY	15		52
MERMAID	15		4
THROATSTOPPER DIVINE	15		5
ANCIENT TREASURE	14	***	10
LIBRARY FREAK	14	***	41
TANJA'S LEAD	14	***	34
ME TOO	14	**	39
NO MORE HEROES	14	*	52
CONVALESCENCE	13	***	60
AMUSED TO DEATH	13	**	54
DOUBLE BASE	13	**	27
FROM RUSSIA WITH LOVE	13	**	46
LEFT BEETLE BONNET	13	**	44
LIFE IN THE EASY LANE	13	**	33
OBLIVIOUS	13	**	50
ONDERSTEBO	13	**	32
SOUL PROVIDER	13	**	54
WICKET GAME	13	**	54
SAND FROGS CONVENTION	13	*	45
BLIKSEM	13		21
GRASS	13		37
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PINNACLE ROUTE	11	**	25
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THANKS FOR THE MAMMARIES	10	**	42
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Climb Name	Grade	Stars	Pg
TRIDENT CHIMNEY	10		6
RELAPSE	9	**	34
BAVIAANS PAD	9		36
GRANDSTAND TRAVERSE	9		47
MIDNIGHT SPRAWL	8	**	40
MIDNIGHT STAGGER	8	**	41
JUMPING CRACK FLASH	8	*	40
LUMBERJACK	8	*	61
GRANDSTAND	7	*	47
BELAY PRACTICE	7		55
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COSMOPOLITAN	6		49



TRIDENT - LOWER



TRIDENT

General

The kloof is correctly known as Cavern Kloof, but the name Trident has become more popularly used. The walk in is almost level into a wide kloof with beautiful large trees and a small stream. The area contains an excellent range of all grades, with fairly good clean rock.

The meet point is in the lower kloof opposite BATS OVERHANG.

The kloof is in two sections. In the lower section the climbs are on the true left-hand side and average 35m. In the upper section the climbs are almost exclusively on the true right, and range between 45 and 60m.

Water is always available.

Access

Access to Trident is only open to MCSA members. It is essential to contact the landowner in advance. Please also contact the MCSA for the latest access conditions.

Safety

The first aid dump is located on a ledge behind a tree 12m up a small gully on the true left of lower Trident, 20m upstream of the meeting place (BATS OVERHANG). It is marked by tree roots.

Aspect

The climbs in the upper section of the kloof will receive morning shade and afternoon sun.

Climbs such as LIFEBOUY are in the shade most of the day.

Descents

Descent for climbs on the true right for the lower section is down the slope opposite the meet point or for climbs higher up the kloof via the gully above GEORGE.

For climbs such as LIFEBOUY, head slightly upstream to the gully just upstream of REACH FOR THE STARS.

Camping

There is no convenient camping nearby.

Finding Routes

LIFEBOUY is on the first climbable rock on the true left as you enter the kloof.

As you head further upstream, look out for the high gothic cave on the true right. This is where APEX etc are located.

GEORGE is found just before the cliffs end at the upper descent gully.

Climbs on the true right

TRIDENT RIDGE

7

At the upper reaches of Trident Kloof a steep grassy gully enters the kloof on the right side opposite the entrance of a well-wooded side kloof on the left side. This gully is bounded on the downstream side by a steep rock wall about 40m long terminating in TRIDENT CHIMNEY.

Starting at a point near the lower portion of the gully where it reaches the bottom of Trident kloof, the climb goes up the main rock face adjacent to the ridge bounding the gully.

The route is not well defined and a fair amount of variation is possible, becoming more difficult downstream.

First ascent: Date Unknown. Botha and F. Pretorius.

BOMBAY MANGOES

19

Start just right of NEPTUNE.

1. 25m 15 Climb good-looking recess 2m upstream of NEPTUNE for 20m. Traverse right immediately below NEPTUNE'S ledge. Stance at end of ledge.

2. ?m 19 Climb left hand weakness immediately above pillarlet to good ledge (good well-rounded grips). Traverse right to small tree and up grey slab to obvious traverse line left. Traverse left for 4,5m. Stance below first recess (parallel to NEPTUNE'S recess).

3. ?m 13 Climb recess for 3m. Move diagonally up and right to top.

First ascent: 3 Mar 1985 J. de Groot and G. Graafland.

MERMAID

15

The climb starts about 10m to the right (upstream) of the start of NEPTUNE.

- 1. 25m 13** Climb face 10m, traverse right 3m and move up to large ledge and stance.
- 2. 20m 13** Move up 2m, traverse left 3m into shallow recess. Climb recess and small face to stance.
- 3. 22m 15** Ascend face moving about 2m to the left then diagonally up to the right. Traverse 3m left then vertically up to the top.

First ascent: 25 Jan 1987 Merv Prior and R. Green.

NEPTUNE

15 ***

The climb is situated on the centre of the face between TRIDENT RIDGE and TRIDENT CHIMNEY. It starts at a point where the bottom of the face is slightly undercut.

- 1. 14m 13** Ascend a steep grey face, passing to the right of a large poised block, traverse right under a small overhang and thence up to a comfortable stance having a stout tree on it.
- 2. 15m 15** Starting about 2,5m to left of tree, ascend to overhang, then traverse right to base of open book. The open book is the crux of the pitch. It ends on a narrow ledge (stance).
- 3. 30m 13** Traverse right past overhanging recess for about 8m and then ascend 12m bearing slightly left until a smaller recess (which was also passed at a lower level during the traverse) is reached. There is a small tree in the recess a few metres higher. Traverse left onto a small exposed buttress and continue up to a stance about 3m higher in grassy cubby hole.
- 4. 9m 6** Ascend diagonally to the right on rough granulated rock to the summit.

Variations:

- 1. 11** There are easier variations on either side of Pitch 1.
- 2. 6** The open book of Pitch 2 can be avoided by traversing left at its base onto easy rock which continues to the narrow ledge.
- 3. 11** Instead of traversing left onto "exposed buttress" in Pitch 3, continue up recess past the small tree.

First ascent: 1952
Williamson.

R. Davies, T.J. Louw and D.M.

THROATSTOPPER DIVINE

15

The climb is situated 5m to the left of NEPTUNE, just to the left of the large poised block and is beacons. The climb follows the most feasible line on the large bare face between TRIDENT CHIMNEY and NEPTUNE.

- 1. 22m 10** From the beacon up the left-hand crack of a fault line to take off, then straight up for 9m, keeping well left of large poised block. At the level of the top of the block, traverse 9m left and up onto a large ledge with a tree belay.
- 2. 25m 11** Walk along the ledge to the right, up and around on broken mass of jutting out rock then diagonally up to the right and through a 3m high flat-backed V-shaped recess. From the top of this down 1,5m to the left to a small tree on a small stance. tree and nut belay.
- 3. 34m 15** Up from tree for 3m, then diagonally left towards a conspicuous nose 3m or so away. Up onto the nose, then ascend vertically for 18m until a ledge obscured by a vine hanging down the face is reached. From the ledge traverse 3m right to a platform. Up a few metres and scramble 6m diagonally to the left, over blocks to a tree belay.

Note:

In the opening ascent a sling tied to the vine was the only protection found after a 22m runout, hence the climb's name.

First ascent: 16 Aug 1975 T. O'Connor and Roy Kendall.

TRIDENT CHIMNEY**10**

Approximately 50m downstream from the start of the main rock face on the right-hand side of the kloof the rock wall makes a double right angle bend first into the kloof then back to its normal line parallel with the kloof. At the internal angle of this bend is a deep and prominent chimney with various chockstones caught in it. The route follows the chimney to the top. Climb out on right at top.

Note:

There is loose rock in the chimney requiring care.

First ascent: 13 Jul 1947 T. Bright and H. Wong.

GEORGE**15 ******

The climb is immediately adjacent to TRIDENT CHIMNEY. The entire route follows the face of the rockwall facing upstream due to its right-angled bend. (See location of TRIDENT CHIMNEY.)

- 1. 12m 14** Up sloping grey slab starting on right and bearing diagonally left. A study in thin climbing. A ledge and small tree for belay.
- 2. 15m 14** Up corner on right side of ledge to overhang, step out to left and to top of gendarme with a big tree as belay. (Strenuous.)
- 3. 9m 15** A few metres up rock face behind tree, short traverse to left and follow a deep sharp crack to ledge with a very large detached but substantial block as belay.

4. 15m 9 Up in corner to summit.

Variation:

2. 15 About 3,5m up pitch 2, traverse right onto ridge and continue up steep rock with good grips.

First ascent: 13 Jul 1947 T.J. Louw, W.L. Curie, E. Lude and E. Pearlstein.

FACE VALUE

21 ***

Start 3m left of GEORGE.

1. 15m 18 On the left side of the grey slab is a thin crack. Climb this to a ledge with two small trees.

2. 40m 21 Take off from the left end of the ledge and climb up 5m to a mini-stance. Move diagonally right for a few moves then up to an incut rail (good friend placements). Traverse right for one metre then move up using a layback hold (to avoid GEORGE). Climb up diagonally left and then up the grey slab to the top. (Avoid the arete, finish up a grassy break.)

Note:

This route is not well protected.

First ascent: 26 May 1985 George Mallory and Kevin Smith.

MIGRAINE

18,A1 ****

The route is located between GEORGE and HEADACHE.

Between these climbs prominent overhangs cross the face about 1/3 to 2/3 way up. The first overhang is passed by climbing the same recess used by the first pitch of HEADACHE, but 3m to the right. The route avoids the second overhang by traversing across the undercut face between the overhangs and ascending to a prominent nose.

1. 15m 18 Start from same ledge as HEADACHE but 3m to right. Ascend white recessed face, past fixed piton 3m up to a small stance (piton belay).

2. 12m 15,A1 Diagonally right, 9m up. Traverse right around rib into crack. Ascend crack then traverse about 3m across face with 3 pitons (A1). The piton crack used is 1,5m above the undercut bottom edge of the face. Climb diagonally right from the last piton into a shallow recess. Ascend the recess to overhang and then swing out to right onto tip of nose. (Piton belay - this stance is 6m to left of stance at top of pitch 3 of GEORGE.)

3. 15m 10 Ascend sloping face to top, finishing with short chimney.

Variations:

2. 18 Instead of traversing on aid, continue up for 8m, then move right across wall over to the nose.

2 and 3. 25m 19 Instead of traversing right on Pitch 2, climb directly up the flared crack to the top.

First ascent: Feb 1960 R. Davies, P. Scott and M. Urban.

HEADACHE

16 ***

The route starts about 20m downstream of GEORGE midway between two large trees, of trunk diameters approx. 3/4 to 1m. Ascend easy rock to a rock ledge about 9m.

1. 18m 11 Follow the line of a very definite corner vertically up from the ledge to a small stance where the corner ends in an overhang.

2. 3m 16 Ascend to a narrow ledge to the left of the overhang at the top of the sloping slab, slightly to left of the start.

3. 12m 8 Traverse 14m left into prominent crack (EASY OPTION).

Variations:

3a. 18m 17 For an independent finish traverse left 6m from the stance at top of Pitch 2. Then ascend into a small alcove, above which is an overhanging V-shaped crack. Traverse out to the right and ascend a steep face (strenuous) to a big ledge where a small block rests. This pitch is midway between pitch 2 above and the crack of EASY OPTION.

3b. 18m 17 From the top of pitch 2 continue up crack directly above to top. This is a more direct finish than 3a above.

4. 12m 10 Ascend rough rock to top.

*First ascent: 1948 T. Louw, L. Lincoln, G. Thompson,
R. Davies and R. Charlton.*

SWISS ARMY KNIFE

17 ****

Start 5m to the left of the first pitch of HEADACHE, where there is a small recess leading up to a smooth face. Ascend easy rock for about 9m to a large ledge below the recess.

1. 30m 17 Gain the recess by a difficult layback move and continue up the face just to the right of the recess for about 5m before traversing back left into it. Climb up for 3m, step out left onto the arete and continue up a further 2m to the slanting overlap at the top of the recess, where a small nut runner can be placed. Move up a few metres and then step out left onto the steep face. Climb up this, diagonally left for the first 5m and then diagonally back right and up to a small stance with thread belay about 5m left of the stance on top of pitch 2 of HEADACHE.

2. 24m 17 (Same as variation for pitch 3 of HEADACHE) Ascend diagonally leftward into small alcove, above which is an overhanging V-shaped crack. Traverse out right and ascend steep face and then continue more easily to the top.

First ascent: Oct 1969 Paul Fatti, J. Anderson and M. Saunders.

ANCIENT TREASURE

14 ***

15m downstream of SWISS ARMY KNIFE is a gully. Walk up gully for 10m to the start of rock proper.

1. 18m 13 Climb the corner formed by a left slanting crack and a face to the left of it for 10m. Exit onto big ledge to the right. Walk along ledge for 8m to a broken corner.

2. 30m 14 Climb broken corner and follow recess above to top. Tree belay.

Note: Surprisingly good climbing on clean rock. 2 very old pitons were found on pitch 2.

First ascent: 23 Nov 2008 Ulrike Kiefer and Chris Ziranek.

EASY OPTION

11 *

Start about 3m to right of EASY WAY OUT.

1. 22m 11 Ascend face moving left for 2m then straight up for 6m. Climb left into diagonally right sloping corner crack up to corner belay 14m.

2. 20m 9 Proceed directly up easy face. Ascend to top moving slightly left.

First ascent: Unknown H. Wong.

EASY WAY OUT

7

The start is from approximately the same position as for EASY OPTION. Having gained the rocky ledge about 9m above stream bed follow this to its left extremity from where a 3,5m wide slab inclined at an easy angle slopes up almost to the summit. The route lies on this slab all the way to the top.

First ascent: Unknown R. Forsyth.

FANLIGHT

17 **

The climb is situated just below EASY WAY OUT, starting behind prominent pinnacle.

1. 18m 11 Start up face. Traverse 3m right into crack. Climb overhang in crack and continue up crack to stance below face.

2. 18m 17 The pitch follows a shallow crack, sloping slightly left, with an eyehole at the top which is visible from below. Start pitch by mantleshelf and then move left to crack. Follow the crack to the eyehole which is at an overhang and finish up short face to top. This pitch was opened artificially, but has since been found feasible free.

Variation:

1. 18m 17 Instead of the first pitch, ascend the steep face immediately behind the pinnacle.

First ascent: 14 Aug 1960 R. Charlton, B. Penzhorn, M. Urban and Miss S. McLean.

SHIBBOLETH

19 ***

Route takes a column and then a wall to the left of FANLIGHT.

1. 20m 15 Climb front of column turning the headwall on the left.

2. 10m 17 Step across from summit of the column onto the wall (4m to the left of FANLIGHT). Step diagonally left into shallow recess, then straight up steep wall 5m. Then good holds lead to belay stance.

3. 10m 19 Traverse left on a slab wall to stance directly opposite by using hand rail or by making fine moves slightly higher.

4. 10m 19 Step back right onto wall and climb shallow recess making gymnastic moves near the top to reach small stance under summit overhangs.

5. 15m 17 Traverse right 5m (where a stance can be made if rope drag is anticipated). Step up left onto sloping block and make exposed moves over roof then climb wall to summit.

Note:

Owing to zig-zag nature of route the pitches have been kept short.

First ascent: Mar 1980 C. Ward and A. Wood.

BYPASS

15

The climb is located about 10m upstream from PROBOSCIS and generally follows the buttress on the right of PROBOSCIS. The crux of the route is a series of small overhangs at the same level as the crux pitch on PROBOSCIS. The route here bears left until a ledge is reached just right of the nose of PROBOSCIS, thence up and slightly right (steep) and past a small cabbage tree. A grey face finishes the climb. There are several variations to the lower part of the climb.

First ascent: 7 Aug 1960 M. Urban, H. Blades, P. Street and R. Charlton.

PROBOSCIS

17 ***

The climb starts about 15m upstream from CRESCENDO opposite a large tree with trunk about 60cm in diameter. There is a small but prominent triangular overhang about 18m up which resembles a nose. The nose points downstream. The route goes to the left of the nose.

1. 15m 7 Start on a staircase which goes up to the left. Then climb diagonally right to a wide ledge. This pitch is on grey rock. The remainder of the climb is on red rock.

2. 8m 12 Start at left hand end of ledge with a pull-up. Continue up to another ledge on which there is a tree over to the right.

3. 14m 17 Start at left hand end of ledge again. The face slopes back initially but is rather devoid of grips. It then steepens but the grips are good. At the top of the steep section which passes to the left of the nose, climb out to the right onto a small ledge. Piton belay.

4. 12m 10 Continue up pleasant clean rock to the top.

First ascent: 26 Mar 1950 D. Bell and F. Villa.

DEEP IN SPACE

19 **

The climb starts about 30m upstream from the start of HOSPITAL HILL, at a point where a tall tree is growing close to the cliff. Beginning up a small chimney and continues up an attractive open book to a small tree, then traverses left over Lobotomy and back right again to finish straight up above the starting point.

1. 20m 11 Climb up chimney and open book until you reach a small stance with a small tree.

2. 40m 19 From the stance move slightly right and up for 3m to a small rest point on a large sloping ramp. Then traverse left for 7m (strenuous) to a very exposed rest point below a large semi-detached flake. Move around the flake on the left and continue rightwards (awkward), then move rightwards (10m) to a small ledge with 2 good pegs in place.

3. 15m 13 Traverse left for 15m and then climb up short steep face above, between 2 large aloes to the top.

Note:

A pleasant and exposed route spoilt by poor protection and bad rock.

First ascent: 29 Mar 1985 N. Margetts and partner.

CRESCENDO

17 ***

The route is on a prominent yellow face immediately upstream of a large high "Gothic" cave, the pointed roof of which reaches nearly to the top of the krantz.

1. 15m 11 Start on a small grey face in a small corner climbing to a good ledge with two trees.

2. 18m 15 Take off from the ledge on the downstream side, climb upwards for 6m, then bear right into a corner. Climb as high as possible in the corner until it is possible to slide one's fingers along a prominent horizontal crack in the nose on the right and taking the weight on the hands swing round the nose. Traverse right 6m to a ledge and tree.

3. 22m 17 Traverse left and diagonally upwards for about 6m where a piton can be placed which safeguards both the leader and last man on the previous pitch. Climb up onto a small leaning-out ledge by means of a long arm pull then traverse 12m to the right round a nose and up past a clump of aloes.

Note:

Exposed. Strength and balance required.

Variation:

3. 15 (CATS WALK) Instead of pitch 3 above ascend the face directly above the stance. To get onto this face, a small overhang must be negotiated followed by a delicate traverse to the right (difficult). Then continue directly upwards on steep rock with good holds to the top. This variation is easier and less strenuous than the original pitch 3.

(1956 R. Davies and R. Charlton)

First ascent: 13 Nov 1949 E. Scholes and P. Campbell.

APEX

20 ****

This climb, which has a common start with CRESCENDO follows an exposed line to the right of the high cave of HOSPITAL HILL.

1. 15m 13 Climb directly up to a large tree 5m above the ground and then continue diagonally rightwards via a small overhang to a small ledge. Stance is common with CRESCENDO.

2. 15m 15 Climb the recess above the stance for 5m and then traverse left for 3m along an exposed ledge. A long pull up leads on to another ledge and then continue straight up the exposed face to a very small stance with peg and nut runner belays about 3m below the overhangs and 5m right of the lip of the cave.

3. 22m 20 Step down 1,5m from stance and traverse left for 3m across the face to below a 2m recess capped by an overhang. Climb the recess to the overhang and make an exposed traverse left and then up to surmount the overhang. Continue up steep rock to a small ledge at the base of the recess. Traverse left for 1,5m and then climb the slightly overhanging face, initially on good holds, but getting poorer higher up to an off-balance resting place where a small nut runner can be placed for protection. Traverse left across the exposed face just above the roof of the cave and continue on off-balance traverse to the grey face opposite, where the angle eases. Climb easily to the top.

Note:

The first free ascent was on 3 May 1981 by Kevin Smith and M. Mears.

First ascent: Aug 1972 Paul Fatti and Art McGarr.

THE OWL AND THE PUSSYCATS

20 ****

Find the massive gothic cave. Below and slightly right of this is a big tree growing out the base of the wall. Belay just to the right of the tree. The start and first half of the route may be shared with Paranoia.

1. 45m 20 Scramble up behind the tree to a sloping ledge beneath some chossy-looking rock. Traverse right to the arête on glassy rock. Climb up diagonally right to bypass the roof. Continue up and rightwards on easy, juggy rock, aiming for a leftwards diagonal break up the steep headwall. Crank up this to end up on a small ledge on the left-hand arête (you look down onto APEX's face from this ledge). Climb the short crack above to the top. The headwall is a wild place to be. The gear is good.

First ascent: 13 July 2014 H. Pringle, N. Grech-Cumbo and M. Penso.

PARANOIA

20 ***

Start 5m upstream of CASUALTY WARD i.e. at the upstream entrance to the cave which is several metres above the ground.

1. 25m 17 Climb up to a recess and continue up to a roof 20m up. Traverse right around the arete to gain a ledge just above a small tree on the APEX face.

2. 30m 20 Climb up diagonally right past a large loose block to a ledge then back diagonally left to the top of a block. From there move strenuously up to big jugs and finish diagonally right on smaller holds. Exit just right of aloes.

Note:

Steep sustained face climbing mostly on good jugs.

First ascent: 10 Feb 1985 George Mallory and S. Mallory.

CASUALTY WARD

21 *

Start as for HOSPITAL HILL, i.e. scramble up to the base of the high "Gothic" cave which reaches right to the top of the crag.

In the right wall of the cave is an overhanging jam-crack.

1. 25m 21 Climb the jam-crack into a small resting cave. Continue up the steep crack to belay in the deep, sloping cave. (Large nuts useful for runners.)

2. 25m 15 Chimney out spectacularly and horizontally to the lip of the cave and up the slab to the top.

First ascent: Oct 1979 D. Cheesmond, B. Cross and C. Lomax.

HOSPITAL HILL

17,A1 ****

Start a few meters downstream of CRESCENDO from a cave high up. An intriguing route.

1. 12m 9 Traverse right and ascend 12m into gloomy gully closed in at top. (This is the cave with the pointed roof referred to in description of CRESCENDO.)

2. ?m 15,A1 Ascend 5m and then traverse left out of the gully onto steep face. Around the corner is a fixed piton. Abseil 8m from piton and pendulum to ledge 3m to left (piton belay).

3. 17m 17 Ascend 9m then traverse 8m to the left between two overhangs. The overhang above is very large, the one below smaller and ripple-marked. (The first 1,5m of the traverse is the crux.) Piton belay at end of traverse.

4. 18m 15 Up and slightly right on steep rock (fair grips).

Variations:

2 and 3. 20 Avoid abseil by dropping down onto rail. Rail left strenuously.

3 and 4. 20 From crux move slightly left, then up overhanging recess strenuously to top. (Oct 1979 D. Cheesmond, B. Gross and C. Lomax)

First ascent: May 1963 R. Davies and B. Penzhorn.

DECEPTION

17

The climb is located between EVE'S PLEASURE and HOSPITAL HILL. Start at cave.

1. 22m 15 Climb obvious crack just left of cave, continue easily to a little cavern on right. Belay.

2. 25m 17 From right hand side of cavern climb diagonally right past fixed piton and up a further 2,5m. Traverse 1,5m right to below little overhang. This is just left of third stance of HOSPITAL HILL. Ascend overhang strenuously to welcome resting place. Continue straight up to fixed piton driven in deeply. At this point the face is overhanging. Swing out right, onto little nose, ascend diagonally right to top.

Note: Protection is good but scarce.

First ascent: 22 Oct 1978 J. Esterhuysen and R. Davis.

LOBOTOMY

20 ****

The climb starts 2m to the left of the "obvious crack" in DECEPTION's first pitch, crosses the line of HOSPITAL HILL and finishes up the steep face to the right of HOSPITAL HILL'S top grade 20 pitch.

1. 25m 15 Climb to top of open book. Move right and step onto the face on the right. Move around the corner and climb diagonally right for 6m to stance at a peg 2m below the steep recess of HOSPITAL HILL'S top 20 pitch.

2. 25m 20 Traverse 2m right to beneath a short open book capped by an overhang. On the undercut right-hand wall of this open book is an obvious horizontal crack. Reach up to the rail and climb up and to the right until you can stand out on the tip of the nose formed by the right wall of the open book (crux). Climb diagonally left for 2m then continue up steep face to the top bearing slightly right (sustained).

First ascent: 10 Oct 1982 J. van Eeden and S.J. Mallory.

BLIKSEM

13

Begin just right of the cave above the scree slope.

1. 9m 7 Climb as for EVE'S PLEASURE, then traverse out to the right and up until past the tree in the open book on the left.

2. 5m 13 Straight up in the open book. (Variation: Traverse out right at the first opportunity.)

3. 22m 13 Climb over the crack on an overhanging slab and traverse right and then up to a fixed piton, then left and up to a block from where the overhang can be overcome. Again right and up until past the last overhang. Scramble 3m to belay.

First ascent: Jan 1966 H.M. Verloren van Themaat and J. du Plessis.

COWBOY

15,A1

This is a variation to BLIKSEM.

3. 20m 15,A1 A bold lasso on the third pitch avoids the use of excessive aid. From the top of the second pitch, step across the open groove and gain a steep recess by an awkward move. (Peg in place.) Climb the recess moving right at the top to a fixed piton under an overhang. At this point, the original route traversed left. Lasso a spike above the overhang and, using a sling for aid, climb the overhang direct. After moving up for a few metres, traverse right around a nose and then climb to a good stance and belay.

First ascent: 6 Jan 1974 P. Goodridge and D. Hughes.

EVE'S PLEASURE

10 *

Start 20m upstream from SKELETON CAVE and scramble up 10m to large cave. Walk left and upwards to tree belay.

1. 40m 10 From tree traverse left (very exposed) to overlook SKELETON CAVE, then ascend steeply, exiting to the right just past a tree. Continue easily to the top.

First ascent: 13 Nov 1949 R. Charlton, E. Bannerman, T. Martins, M. Lude and J. Bett.

SKELETON

15 **

The route starts immediately to the left of a cavern situated above a prominent scree slope.

1. 18m 15 The first pitch starts on a ledge on top of sloping rock. Above this stance the rock wall forms an obtuse vertical angle. The first pitch goes up the easier inclined face to the right of the angle to a small platform.

2. 22m 13 Up the angle for about 2,5m then a traverse of about 4m left, thence diagonally up towards the right to a shallow recess which starts at an overhang. There is a small tree in this recess. Pass the tree and continue up the recess to the summit.

Note:

There is some loose rock on the second pitch, which can, however, be avoided with care.

First ascent: 7 Mar 1948 T. Louw, L. Lincoln and H. Howard.

TOMB WALL

18 ***

The climb ascends the steep red wall immediately left of SKELETON and follows the arete to the top. Ascend the slab to the left of SKELETON CAVE and chockstone belay, below the corner.

1. 18m 18 A meter-and-a-half left of the corner taken by SKELETON is a shallow groove running up the red wall. Ascend this (18) for 6m, then follow good incut holds up leftwards to the arete. Continue up the arete to a ledge and peg belay.

2. 12m 13 Continue up the arete to the top.

First ascent: Nov 1968 A.D. Barley, R.P. Barley, K. Fletcher and A. Carmen.

PINK CORNER

15 ****

This climb is on the buttress about 15m downstream from SKELETON, starting to the right of a very large block at the foot of the face.

1. 8m 15 Ascend a steepish face, with sloping grips, to a platform with a small tree. This pitch can be obviated by scrambling up easy rock around to the right.

2. 22m 15 Ascend loose-looking but easy rock for 5m (fixed piton), traverse left under a small overhang and then ascend 5m to a larger overhang (eye running belay point). From here traverse left and ascend easier rock for 12m to a small stance (fixed piton).

3. 12m 11 Ascend then traverse right and ascend to a cubby hole in which there is a stamvrug tree.

4. 22m 10 Ascend the face to the left of the recess above the cubby hole. About 12m up, the climb proper ends at a wide terrace, but one can continue up the face for another 9m on steep rock.

Variations:

- a. 13** At the level of the terrace on pitch 4, traverse left under some creepers and ascend the face about 9m downstream of pitch 4.
- b. 17** From top of pitch 2 ascend straight up i.e. avoiding the traverse right to the stamvrug tree. One can then end up on the normal pitch 4 or continue up and out left with variation (a).

First ascent: 18 Sep 1949 R. Davies, F. Villa, E. Chadwick and H. Lude.

RUSSIAN ROULETTE

17,A2

Scramble up to a recessed crack in a steep face midway between PINNACLE ROUTE and PINK CORNER.

- 1. 15m 17,A2** Climb the steep recess 4m to a peg. Aid up (5 points) moving left at the top. Pull up and climb into a niche. A more comfortable stance can be made 3m to the right.
- 2. 10m 15** Traverse to the right, crossing the Pink Corner route, until beneath a tree. Climb up to the tree. Stance common with PINK CORNER.
- 3. 30m 9** Traverse right 2m, then straight up just to the left of a ridge. Continue to the top.

First ascent: 18 Jan 1976 E. Pickl, E. Budding and E. Haber.

FOREIGNER

19

The route starts between PINNACLE ROUTE and PINK CORNER and goes up the right-hand side of the prominent red wall between the two routes.

1. 12m 5 Scramble up the obvious recess to a broad ledge below the red wall.

2. 18m 19 Climb the vague break directly above the recess of the first pitch, bearing left just above a bolt (found in place by the opening party). Belay on a small stance on the right, close to the belay on PINK CORNER.

3. 24m 19 From the top of the last pitch, climb up for about 1,5m before moving right, then up a further 1,5m until it is possible to move left into a corner. Climb the corner to the top.

First ascent: 11 Mar 1979 E. February and A. Lambert.

PINNACLE ROUTE

11 **

Start just downstream of PINK CORNER at easy grey slab with corner on right. Scramble up slab (5) to ledge and continue leftwards past trees to base of pinnacle (upstream side).

1. 25m 10 Ascend corner between pinnacle and main cliff and walk through behind pinnacle to far side (possible stance behind pinnacle). Step down slightly on downstream side of pinnacle and then traverse (crux) to tree (slight ascent) and on to large ledge (slight descent) and good stance.

2. 30m 11 Climb easily up leftwards to top of large block (15m). Step off block to left and ascend steeply to top. Variations possible on front of pinnacle (10), and to the left of the block on pitch 2, (5) or right (13)

First ascent: Unknown T. Bright and T. Louw.

BAYONET

19 *

The route takes the arete on the prominent pinnacle to the right of ILLEGITIMATE. The start is directly below the arete and just to the left of a set of overhangs at ground level.

1. 34m 11 Climb straight up the grey face to the arete of the pinnacle. Use layback flake on the arete to gain the overhangs. Move onto the right-hand face to avoid these and once above them swing back onto the arete. Continue up the arete for 5m to a ledge.

2. 20m 19 Continue to the top of the pinnacle. Step onto and ascend the smooth face above using a peg for aid to gain a ledge. Move left off the ledge and continue to the top.

Notes:

1. 2 pegs on the route suggest that part of and perhaps the whole route has been climbed previously.

2. It is unknown who made the first free ascent.

First ascent: 14 Jul 1974 Paul Fatti, D. Peters and Art McGarr.

ILLEGITIMATE

18 ***

Downstream from PINK CORNER, on the same side of the kloof is a small pinnacle, the top of which is lower than the top of the kloof wall. On the left of the pinnacle is a crack which runs the whole way up the krantz, ending in a spectacular open book.

1. 18m 16 Ascend short wall to the left of the crack climbing right in a series of short steps to foot of crack. Ascend the off-width crack to the first reasonable ledge where there is a tree belay. (The face to the left is easier.)

2. 12m 10 Continue up the crack to just below the open book. There is a good chockstone.

3. 15m 18 Climb the open book (chockstone half way up).

First ascent: 11 Mar 1951 D. Bell and Merv Prior.

DOUBLE BASE

13 **

The start is 5m downstream from the start of ILLEGITIMATE and is marked by a prominent pinnacle, whose top is a little lower than the top of the face. The first pitch takes the recess.

1. 25m 11 Climb the shallow recess and then diagonally leftwards across the grey slab to the tree.

2. 34m 13 Climb up the grey slab to just right of the white bulge at the foot of the steepest part of the red face. Ascend the face on good grips to a little ledge level with the pinnacle on the right. Climb diagonally left up to the top of the face.

First ascent: Feb 1969 E.J. Ellis and D. Peters.

EMMAS DILEMMA

15 **

Starts 7m right of a corner crack which provides an easy ascent to the right-hand end of RETRIBUTION LEDGE.

1. 25m 15 Start on a grey wall. Move up and left for 3m on an ascending traverse to a ledge. Move slightly right. Follow an obvious shallow depression up to a large ledge.

2. 25m 13 Climb the yellow wall with a bulge in the middle behind the stance. Keep right of an obvious easy crack to the left which joins Retribution top pitch. Climb the left side of the bulge following a definite crack. Finish up easy rock.

First ascent: Jul 1976 C. Ward and J. Gregory.

OGIVE

17 *

Immediately downstream of an easy grade 7 crack formerly incorrectly known as SOLO is a root covered cave. Start 4-5m upstream of cave.

1. 16m 11 Ascend the wall to a ledge and nut belay (or tree belay on right).

2. 12m 13 Continue directly up the wall above the first pitch to a small overhang. Either move left under it or move left above it to gain a large ledge and block belay.

3. 18m 17 Ascend the chimney or rib on its left which leads to the left-hand side of the "ogive" (arched overhang). Traverse right under the overhang, step down and make an awkward move right to gain the front face of a detached pillar. Move up right to a chockstone belay in the chimney.

4. 12m 7 Continue up the chimney to the top.

Notes:

1. The top pitch runs very close to RETRIBUTION, keeping parallel with it and joins the same crack system to the top.

2. A direct finish at grade 19 has been added by T. White and S. Morkel.

First ascent: Unknown Merv Prior and party.

BONSAI

17 *

Start 5m left of cave with hanging roots upstream from the start of RETRIBUTION.

1. 15m 14 Climb a narrow crack.

2. 20m 13 Climb narrow slanting crack from a ledge about 4m right from top of first pitch. From top of crack bear right up face. Exit from the top of the crack with blocks on other side to a large ledge.

3. 40m 17 Climb the crack with a tree and roots in it on the corner of a buttress. Step right, around onto the face, climb up to overhangs, traverse right (small tree) and hand-traverse on a good ledge to a small platform (strenuous). From there climb to top.

Note:

On 2 Jan 1983, E. Wood, E. Wood and K. Kelly climbed a variation to the 3rd pitch, climbing the splendid grey face and straight to the top at grade 12, which they called FLUMMOXED.

A further variation to pitch 3 is to move left on the ledge, climbing diagonally left up grey face to the right-hand side of a prominent pinnacle and out at the top.

First ascent: Aug 1975 J. Linke, H. Vogl and C. Ward.

RETRIBUTION

15 **

The climb starts about 20m upstream from ONDERSTEBOS, 2m left of a slender tree.

1. 12m 11 Ascend a crack to a wide ledge screened by trees.

2. 12m 15 Up approximately the centre of the grey slab above ledge. At about halfway up a short traverse of about two steps to the right thence straight up to a wide platform.

3. 12m 11 Starting at the extreme right-hand side of the platform climb up in corner of red rock to a point immediately underneath the very large overhang. Traverse right about 6m to a stance adjacent to a slit through which daylight is seen. A chockstone in this slit can be used as a belay.

4. 20m 14 Traverse right round the nose and up to other side of slit where chockstone can again be used as belay. Then straight up to summit.

Note:

In the previously published Route Book, the climb SOLO was incorrectly shown next to RETRIBUTION DIRECT. This is in fact a grade 7 crack giving access to the large rock ledge which a number of other climbs pass over. There is no easy continuation to this crack.

Variation:

For a direct start, start 1m right of the tree at the base of easy grade 7 crack (formerly known as SOLO).

1. 25m 17 Climb up into a small recess with a little overhang. Move left and up a crack to a tree. Continue above the tree to a short wall, move slightly right and up to a ledge.

Move diagonally left onto a steep wall on good holds (small blocks which appear to be loose are in fact sound). Continue up to an undercut block. Traverse slightly left to a good ledge. Move up and over right to a large ledge with tree. Continue above the tree laying away on a slanting crack to the top of pitch 3 above using the same belay stance (chockstone in a slit).

(Jul 1976 J. Gregory and C. Ward)

First ascent: 26 Mar 1950 S. Penny, T. Louw and R. Kinsley.

HANGOVER

16 *

Start 2m downstream from the small tree at the start of RETRIBUTION.

1. 15m 13 Climb a few metres of the start of RETRIBUTION. Move awkwardly left into the corner, then continue up until level with the large ledge on the right. Traverse onto the ledge. (Same ledge as found at top of first pitch of RETRIBUTION.)

2. 18m 16 From the left side of the ledge, climb diagonally up left to the overhangs 8m away, via a delicate step up at 4m. Traverse boldly left on good grips for 5m before moving up. Ascend 6m to a large ledge on the right.

3. 34m 10 Climb the face above trending leftwards to the recess which is followed to the top.

First ascent: 18 Nov 1974 Art McGarr, Paul Fatti and D. Peters.

TRIVIA

19 *

Start about halfway between ONDERSTEBO and RETRIBUTION, just left of the roots coming down from the face and below a shallow cave 4m up.

1. 25m 17 Scramble up to the foot of a short, steep face, just right of the cave and just left of the roots. Delicate climbing diagonally up left leads to an easier angled ramp above the cave which is followed to a stance on a ledge.

2. 15m 19 Climb straight up for 4m and then move diagonally up right to the base of a shallow open book. Climb this to a small overhang and then step very delicately right onto a ledge and stance in the recess, about 3m below a large overhang.

3. 25m 17 Climb up to the overhang and then make an awkward, strenuous move out left onto a small sloping ledge. Continue diagonally left to the base of a shallow recess above the overhang which is climbed to the top.

Variation: AFTER LUNCH 15 *

2. 30m 15 Above the first stance there are two breaks leading to the face between TRIVIA and ONDERSTEBO. Take the left break leading onto the face. Climb up the middle of the face to the top. (Jul 1983 George Mallory and Charles Edelstein)

First ascent: Mar 1975 Art McGarr, L.P. Fatti and A. Dick.

VERTEBRAE

15 *

Start on the left-hand side of a recess 3m right of ONDERSTEBEBO.

1. 25m 15 Climb a groove on the left-hand side of the recess until it is possible to move right under the overhang and across a short wall. Follow the groove above to a stance and tree belay.

2. 28m 13 Move diagonally right over easy rock to the foot of a steep red wall. Ascend a corner on the left until it is possible to step onto the wall. Either climb straight up the centre of the wall or move across to a rib on the right-hand side and climb that.

First ascent: 1968

Merv Prior and party.

ONDERSTEBEBO

13 **

The climb starts immediately below a small cave at a point where many prominent thick roots descend over the rock face from a tree growing out of the rocks.

1. 22m 7 Vertically up an obvious easy rock face to a large tree.

2. 9m 11 Up from the tree for about 3m and then diagonally right to a ledge. Scramble 12m to right into a corner (tree belay).

3. 10m 13 Straight up the corner in the rock wall to a small overhang. Move right (strenuous ONDERSTEBEBO move). Continue to climb the recess to top.

First ascent: 15 Dec 1948 T. Louw, W. Politzer and P. Ronald.

LIFE IN THE EASY LANE

13 **

Using the first grade 7 pitch of ONDERSTEBOS, gain the large tree. Step right onto blocks.

1. 20m 13 or 17 Climb a V-shaped recess capped by a roof until under the roof (4m). Break out right (13) or break straight through (17). Continue up a clean recess/ crack slightly to the left to the top.

First ascent: 15 Apr 1985 Ian Guest, Tim Hoole and L. Middleburg.

THE EMPIRE STRIKES BACK

23 ****

To the right of MIDNIGHT CRAWL there is a cave at ground level, and right of this an obvious overhanging crack line.

1. ?m 23 Start up the hanging tree roots for 6m to join the crack. Follow this through a roof. It is possible to step left above the roof onto a block (which forms the roof of the cave). Continue up the very overhanging crack to the ledge.

First ascent: Jul 1984 A. Jardin and Steve Bradshaw.

MIDNIGHT CRAWL

15 ***

Start in large cave bounded on the left by a smooth red face and on the right by an overhanging wall. There are some blocks trapped in the "roof". Ascend the upstream facing left hand retaining wall of the cave.

1. 15m 15 Climb the slab, initially up a faint crack in its middle and finally in the corner on the right, the crux being the rounding of the final overhang to gain a belay ledge.

2. 15m 11 After a delicate step over to the right, traverse 3m to the right to a big ledge. Scramble 12m up easy rock to tree belay.

3. 28m 15 Climb up in corner until forced out right by overhang. Diagonally right to a block jutting out from face 40cm, where a piton safeguards the move onto the ledge (the last 5m to the block are strenuous). Easier climbing on face to top.

Variations:

3a. 28m 11 Step down and traverse right for 8m into corner, from where it is possible to climb up to the block mentioned above from the right (easier) and to top.

3b. 28m 16 Continue up crack through overhang to top.

First ascent: May 1963 R.J. Stallebrass, A.D. van Doornum and D. Lubbe.

TANJA'S LEAD

14 ***

This climb starts left of MIDNIGHT CRAWL.

1. 20m 14 Climb the short face, pull through an overhang and continue up to a good ledge.

2. 20m 13 Climb the break above to the top of the crag.

First ascent: 1989 T. Truter, Martin Seegers and Darryl Margetts.

RELAPSE

9 **

Start as for SOLO in a crack to the left of an upstream facing slab.

1. 15m 9 Climb up and left over dark coloured bulging rock, then up to tree.

2. 20m 9 Move right into corner then do a step over onto the front of the prominent arete.

3. 20m 9 Climb steep face moving left past tree to top, or go directly up corner (10).

First ascent: Unknown Party Unknown.

SOLO

7

The climb starts in the middle of a small face set at right-angles to the main kloof, immediately after the first narrow part of the kloof, after the junction with the side kloof on the true left side.

1. 16m 7 Climb a crack about 0,5m wide, in which is a large root. The first 6m is grade 7, after which the crack eases off and the next 10m is 5/6 which leads onto a sloping grassy ledge with a big tree.

2. 17m 7 Continue the same line, behind the tree and into the recess; at the second tree, more pleasant moves are made by climbing the face on the left of the recess, although the recess may also be climbed. 17m of grade 7 rock and scrambling to top.

First ascent: Unknown R. Forsyth.

IT

17 *

To the left of the polished slab of the first pitch of MIDNIGHT CRAWL one finds RELAPSE. The route commences about 3m to the left of RELAPSE on the corner of the block proceeding up a shallow undercut recess.

1. 12m 17 From where the earth bank falls away to the left around the corner, traverse left to under the base of the recess. Using a small foothold stand up and pull into recess taking care not to dislodge a very loose block on the left page. A piton affords some protection from this point. Proceed easily up recess to large ledge.

From here various easy routes lead to the top.

Note:

There is no protection for the cruxes.

First ascent: 30 Mar 1985 Ian Guest and Tim Hoole.

TECHNIQUE

13

The climb starts on the right hand (i.e. upstream) side of the dark face just downstream of the polished slabs ascended by SOLO and RELAPSE. The start is 5m to the left of an overhang 6m up the dark face and 8m downstream of the polished slab.

1. 25m 13 Climb the face using a vague recess until it peters out on narrow ledge going up to the right. Gain ledge, move left and continue directly up to the large ledge.

There are two large trees at the back of the ledge from where the shattered chimney/corner used by SOLO begins.

2. 30m 11 Start 5m to the left of the chimney/recess used by SOLO at a short crack. Climb up trending slightly right for 5m on steep rock with good grips. Move left and then up to gain a short corner and continue directly up to the top.

First ascent: 11 Sep 1983 D. Peters and M. Arsenjevic.

BAVIAANS PAD

9

The climb starts in well-defined small corner about 20m below SOLO and either a grade 7 or 8 start may be made.

1. 17m 9 Climb a shallow recess with a narrow opening at the top. 7m of grade 8 onto a square ledge. Or alternatively, climb easy rock about 5m to the left of this, moving up and to the right to reach the same square ledge (7). Climb straight up following the crack for 10m to tree stance.

2. 11m 7 Move to the right onto big block of rock and around the corner 3m and climb in recess to reach sloping grassy ledge 3m. Walk 5m to big tree for belay.

3. 17m 8 Climb the main face behind big tree (at this point climb crosses SOLO). Belay at ledge with tree growing out horizontally.

4. 12m 7 Climb up and to the right to final V-shaped recess at top.

Variation:

2. 10m 10 Climb the steep crack directly above the tree on good grips. Continue straight up to the large ledge.
(M. Arsenjevic and D. Peters)

First ascent: Sep 1964 R. Charlton and M. Urban.

GRASS

13

A few metres upstream from BITE is an obvious steep slab bordered on the right-hand side by a steep wall.

1. 30m 13 Ascend the slab, easily on the left-hand side or with more difficulty on the right, to gain a small ledge below an undercut shallow open book. Climb open book to top.

First ascent: 12 Feb 1984 A.M. Maddison and R. Brand.

BITE

15 *

This route ascends the obvious overhang a few metres to the right of BERG ADDER, immediately before GRASS.

1. 30m 15 Ascend open book to gain the base of the overhang. Traverse out right to gain a small ledge. Finish as for GRASS.

First ascent: 13 Feb 1984 A.M. Maddison and R. Brand.

BERG ADDER

17 **

On the left-hand side of the kloof approximately 200m upstream from DOUBLE VISION is an obvious short buttress/pinnacle. The climb takes the obvious line through the large flakes above. Cairn.

1. 30m 17 Ascend gully on upstream side of pinnacle to gain the start of the flake. Ascend flake to top.

First ascent: 12 Feb 1984 A.M. Maddison and R. Brand.

POCKET ROCKET

15 ***

On scrambling down the gully just downstream of the MIDNIGHT CRAWL buttress one comes across a groove system at the downstream extremity of the buttress. A salient feature of the route is a small rock pinnacle just underneath a horizontal dinner plate protrusion.

The route starts on top of a large block just up from the start of the crack-cairn on the top of the block.

1. 30m 15 Climb the crack just below the erectile projectile. Move cautiously up, pass the little pinnacle, and climb the faint open book above to reach the top of the gendarme. Move across the little gully and climb the rough wall behind to reach the comfortable belay stance on the top.

Notes:

1. The holds slope in such a way that it feels as if the route is trying to spit you out.

2. An excellent route on rock which is not as easy as it first appears.

First ascent: 30 Dec 1997 Greg Devine and Tim Willmot.

LOW EARTH ORBIT

16 ****

Just downstream of the MIDNIGHT CRAWL buttress is a scramble gully. A long sloping ledge starts just upstream of the base of this gully. Start at the upstream extremity of the sloping ledge below the crack system on the left-hand side of a gendarme.

1. 25m 16 Climb the steep crack making for the short curved crack high up out on the arete. Ascend this and then climb up the blocky arete to reach the comfortable belay stance on top.

Notes:

- 1.** The holds slope in such a way that it feels as if the route is trying to spit you out.
- 2.** Descend by moving slightly upstream and then scrambling down the gully.

First ascent: 11 Jan 1998 Ken Thrash, Darryl Margetts, Greg Devine and Tim Willmot.

ME TOO

14 **

The route climbs the pronounced chimney some 5m downstream of LOW EARTH ORBIT.

Start from the same long sloping ledge marking the start of LOW EARTH ORBIT.

1. 25m 14 Climb the chimney, delicately at first, to reach the tree above. Regain the chimney, with difficulty, and continue to reach the comfortable belay stance on top.

Notes:

- 1.** Protection is adequate though hard to find.
- 2.** When the tree disappears, one suspects that the grade is going to jump a tad.
- 3.** Descend as for MIDNIGHT SPRAWL.

First ascent: 3 May 1998 E.A. Lombard and Tim Willmot.

JUMPING CRACK FLASH

8 *

The route takes the vertical crack up the downstream retaining wall of the descent gully downstream of the MIDNIGHT SPRAWL buttress. Start just up from the start of the descent gully at the start of the crack - cairn.

1. 35m 8 Climb the crack breaking through the roof above and take a stance on the comfortable ledge on top. Be careful on pulling the jug at the outer extremity of the roof as its integrity may be suspect.

Notes:

- 1.** Protection is excellent and the route is easier than it looks.
- 2.** Descend as for MIDNIGHT SPRAWL.

First ascent: 11 Jan 1998 Darryl Margetts, Tim Willmot, Ken Thrash, and Greg Devine.

MIDNIGHT SPRAWL

8 **

On reaching the bottom of the scramble gully downstream of the MIDNIGHT CRAWL buttress, one finds a slab reminiscent of that climb on the downstream side of the gully. The route ascends the crack on the right boundary of the slab - cairn.

1. 40m 8 Climb the slab using the crack on the right for protection. Exit at the top of the slab and move slightly right up the groove to take a comfortable stance next to the tree at the top.

Notes:

- 1.** A good route for its grade.
- 2.** Descend by moving slightly upstream and scrambling down the gully by zigging upstream and zagging downstream. At the downstream extremity of each zig-zag down climb the groove until the scree slope is reached.

First ascent: 11 Jan 1998 T.P. Willmot, D. Margetts, K. Thrash and G. Devine.

MIDNIGHT STAGGER

8 **

Takes the crack up the centre of the MIDNIGHT SPRAWL slab - cairn.

1. 40m 8 Climb the centre of the slab using the crack for protection. Climb straight up to take a comfortable stance on top.

Notes:

1. A good route for its grade.
2. Descend as for MIDNIGHT SPRAWL

First ascent: 11 Jan 1998 Darryl Margetts, Tim Willmot, Greg Devine and Ken Thrash.

LIBRARY FREAK

14 ***

The route takes the bottomless laid back open book(s) immediately downstream of the MIDNIGHT SPRAWL buttress - cairn.

1. 40m 14 Climb up the base of the first open book (approximately 4m up). Gain this with some trepidation (crux). Climb up the laid back open book above to reach the bulge at the top. Move through the bulge on left to gain the second open book above. Climb this. Careful of the loose block above the tree. Move left and climb the clean crisp rock above until forced to exit left. Climb up to the comfortable stance on top via the short wall. Careful of another possibly loose block on top of the wall.

Notes:

1. Easier than it looks. The holds are all there.
2. Superlative clean climbing.
3. Descend as for MIDNIGHT SPRAWL.

First ascent: 11 Jan 1988 Greg Devine, Tim Willmot, Ken Thrash and Darryl Margetts.

THANKS FOR THE MAMMARIES

10 **

About halfway between DANCING ON THE CEILING and LIBRARY FREAK is a pronounced roof and curving crack above a smooth slab. The route takes a line up the centre of the clean buttress just downstream of this roof/slab combination (cairn).

1. 30m 10 Take an arbitrary line up to the top. Probably the most interesting part is pulling through on huge jugs to exit before taking a stance.

Note:

1. Despite the easy grade a worthwhile pleasant clean climb for a beginner.
2. Descend as for MIDNIGHT SPRAWL.

First ascent: Feb 2002 Tim Willmot, Bob Buckley and Kaffie Van Graan.

DANCING ON THE CEILING

16 ***

The route takes the clean crisp deep open book capped by a roof approximately 3m up. The line is the first salient feature when moving upstream from the route BRIDGE OVER TROUBLED WATERS (approx. 20m). At the right extremity is a left leaning, tree root choked slab which moves up leftwards to meet the line, next to the roof (cairn).

1. 28m 16 Move up the open book to just under the roof. Move rightwards, doing a foot swap in mid stride and lay back up to reach the base of the clean open book above. Climb the open book dodging to the right at the top to clear a clod of vegetation. Ascend an arbitrary line to the top. Take a comfortable stance.

Notes:

1. Protection is good at the crux.
2. A worthwhile, technically pleasing, mid-range route.

First ascent: 30 Dec 1997 Tim Willmot and Greg Devine.

BRIDGE OVER TROUBLED WATERS

17 ***

Approximately 5m upstream of the BEETLE BONNET duet is a grotty looking broken groove. The route follows this until it becomes very steep, traverses right and then moves up a small broken corner to reach the top - cairn.

1. 30m 17 Climb the groove to reach a small ledge above which the groove becomes very steep. Move up for about 2m and then traverse delicately right (crux) across the steep wall to reach the small broken open book. Climb this and tend diagonally leftwards to reach the comfortable belay stance on top.

First ascent: 31 Mar 1996 R. Persson, Ulrike Kiefer and Tim Willmot.

RIGHT BEETLE BONNET

13

Just upstream of the low buttress sticking out into the kloof (see UNDER PRESSURE) is a Volkswagen Beetle Bonnet shaped feature. The route takes the right-hand crack line of the Y - cairn.

1. 25m 13 Move up to the base of the crack. Climb this, fighting through the tree close to the start of the crack. Climb up steepening rock to exit right. Fight through some hanging creeper and then take a line straight up to a comfortable stance on top.

First ascent: 31 Mar 1996 T.P. Willmot, U. Kiefer and R. Persson.

LEFT BEETLE BONNET

13 **

The route takes the left crack line of the Y-shaped Volkswagen Beetle Bonnet feature mentioned in RIGHT BEETLE BONNET.

Start at the same point as this route - cairn.

1. 25m 13 Move up to the base of the left leaning crack. Climb up to the large left leaning detached block. Climb up behind this to reach the left leaning open book above. Move up to exit left. Climb up to the comfortable belay stance on top.

First ascent: 31 Mar 1996 Ulrike Kiefer, R. Persson and Tim Willmot.

UNDER PRESSURE

17 ***

Approximately 40m upstream of DOUBLE VISION is a low (more or less two body lengths) buttress sticking out into the kloof. The route takes the broken looking faint open book just downstream of this buttress. The route makes for the white alcove (capped by a roof) high up and breaks right to clear.

1. 32m 17 Start up the faint open book (cairn). After a few metres move slightly left and pull up by means of a long reach. Climb up to the white alcove beneath the roof (by moving slightly right). Step down to the right and gain the upstream open book awkwardly. Pull up to easier ground and climb the crack (clearing the ledge on the left) and steep wall above to clear the small roof. Take a stance on the top of the prominent gendarme.

First ascent: 22 Oct 1995 Ulrike Kiefer and Tim Willmot.

SAND FROGS CONVENTION

13 *

About 5m downstream of UNDER PRESSURE is a left slanting rock. The route takes this crack - cairn.

1. 26m 13 Climb up to the clearly defined left slanting crack. Move up the face to the left of the crack, at times awkwardly, until able to clear on the left. Climb up the broken rock to reach a comfortable belay stance above.

First ascent: 22 Oct 1995 Ulrike Kiefer and Tim Willmot.

SLIPPERY SNATCH

17 **

The route is about 80m upstream of DOUBLE VISION. A steep (slightly overhanging) face is partially obscured by a large and prominent stamvrug (forked near the base), which also marks the start of the climb.

1. 20m 17 Climb the well-defined recess behind the tree, following its natural curve. Break through the recess in the overhang to belay at a stamvrug bush.

First ascent: Oct 1984 T. O'Connor, Tim Willmot and P. Greenfield.

BEFORE BREAKFAST

20

This is a steep short crack about 50m upstream of LIFEBOUY but on the opposite side of the kloof. It is about 20m upstream from DOUBLE VISION and just before a very large tree.

1. 15m 20 Climb the crack in the red rock breaking out right at the top to a tree belay. Scramble off on right.

First ascent: Jul 1983 George Mallory and Charles Edelstein.

BEFORE HEAD-FIST

19

The climb starts about 3m downstream from BEFORE BREAKFAST following a crack just right of the roots.

1. 17m 19 Climb the crack to a platform on the left. Step right and up onto bulge gaining a handrail on the headwall (piton). Rail right awkwardly and then up to stance.

Note:

The piton was found in place.

First ascent: 4 May 1985 Ian Guest and Tim Hoole.

UNKNOWN

26/27

This is a bolted route.

First ascent: circa 1988 Ian Guest and Tim Hoole.

DOUBLE VISION

18 ***

Ascends the obvious couloir capped by a large overhang, on the left-hand side of the kloof, directly opposite the First Aid dump.

1. 38m 18 Climb right hand side of couloir on good but extremely polished holds. Move into the back of the couloir and ascend to below the overhang immediately right of slab. Move up and left across slab to gain easier ground. Finish up easier rock above.

First ascent: 13 Feb 1984 A.M. Maddison and R. Brand.

FROM RUSSIA WITH LOVE

13 **

When descending from the lower crags on the right-hand side of the kloof, a steep slab on the left-hand side is encountered.

1. 10m 13 Climb up the middle of the slab.

First ascent: 1994 D. Margetts (solo)

Climbs on the true left

ELEPHANT MAN

19 ***

The climb is located on the left-hand faces opposite the descent gully at the top of the kloof. Start at the base of an open book which leads up to a red overhang. The climb skirts this overhang to the right and then breaks through a second overhang via a bottomless shallow open book.

1. 11m 15 Climb open book, stepping right at tree at 5m. Belay in corner on broken rock 2m below first overhang.

2. 20m 19 Climb up diagonally right to below overhangs (3m). Traverse right on good holds onto sloping arete. Swing left on good holds and move up diagonally left to break/open book in second roof. Step up on loose block and wedge trunk into shallow open book. Wedge up open book until a resting point is reached. Climb up break line until angle eases at grade 17.

First ascent: 17 Dec 1982 S. Morkel and T. White.

GRANDSTAND TRAVERSE

9

The climb starts about 16m upstream from the start of GRANDSTAND at a small gnarled tree 2m downstream from the boulder at the corner of the gully leading out of Trident kloof to the west.

1. 18m 9 Climb almost vertically for 9m to a large sloping ledge from which the route angles slightly to the right while climbing a further 5m. Scramble up the last 4m to the base of GRANDSTAND PINNACLE.

2. 14m 7 Climb the face just to the left of the pinnacle, surmount overhang 3m up (some moves encroach on PINNACLE CHIMNEY) and continue to top of pinnacle. Alternatively, the east face of the pinnacle can be climbed which maintains a grade 9 difficulty to the top.

3. 20m 8 Belay leader from the pinnacle top from where the pitch starts as a horizontal traverse to the left for 6m, at the same level as the belayer, turn the corner above an overhang, angle upwards to the left for 9m to a big chockstone which is the last obstacle before reaching the top, which is only 3m to the left of the top of GRANDSTAND.

First ascent: Feb 1977 J. Langmore and D. Scott.

GRANDSTAND

7 *

The climb is on a prominent buttress at the corner formed by the main kloof and the wooded gully opposite TRIDENT RIDGE. Variations to the right and left are possible. Ascend the buttress to a small pinnacle, thence directly to top of krantz.

First ascent: Date unknown Party unknown.

A KWIKKIE

15

On right hand side looking up Trident at the last high yellow buttress at the top of the kloof, opposite the descent gully. Start 25m downstream from the corner of the buttress, after scrambling up to a wide grass ledge.

1. 30m 15 Climb the bulging wall and traverse diagonally right up to a block which looks as if it is standing on nothing. Climb over it to a large ledge. From the ledge follow a crack which slants right. Continue up a steep wall above and finish left of an overhang.

First ascent: Jul 1976 J. Gregory and C. Ward.

FLOYD CLIMBS TWO

17 ***

The start is located opposite GEORGE descent gully slightly upstream in a woody side gully to the main kloof. The route follows the arete formed by the upper limits of the main kloof and the side gully. Start in a pronounced open book in the side gully (near GRANDSTAND).

1. 15m 11 Ascend open book, climbing diagonally right across right hand page to ledge on arete.

2. 25m 17 Above the ledge is a vague recess capped by an overhang about 3m to the right of arete. Climb to overhangs breaking out left (crux). Follow arete to top.

First ascent: 7 Apr 1985 Tim Hoole and Ian Guest.

COSMOPOLITAN

6

On the left side of the kloof immediately below the entry of the side kloof is a prominent buttress which due to its good rock, easy angle and general rough structure offers opportunity for easy climbs of grade 6 standard with the possibility of many variations and the linking together of different routes.

First ascent: 7 Mar 1948 H. Rowland.

BABOONS WALK

6

No Description.

First ascent: 7 Mar 1948 D.P. Liebenberg.

TRIDENT TRAVERSE

7

First ascent: 7 Mar 1948 J.P.K. Roux.

OBLIVIOUS

13 **

Directly opposite SKELETON CAVERN is a steep wall topped by a series of open books leading up diagonally leftwards.

Scramble 10m up to the base of the wall. The route starts at the base of the wall approximately 5m to the left of a long prominent overhang which occurs very close to ground level.

1. 35m 13 Ascend the wall in a shallow recess (strenuous) to a slight overhang. Traverse right to a comfortable ledge with tree (15m). From the ledge ascend diagonally leftwards through a pronounced series of open books to the top where a large tree in the centre of a gully may be used as a belay. The crux is on the wall at the beginning of the pitch.

First ascent: 10 Oct 1984 Tim Willmot, T. O'Connor and P. Greenfield.

DRIPGRIP

15

Directly opposite PINK CORNER is a rather broken buttress. Scramble 12m up to its base. The initial objective is a cave at 5m guarded by a short steep wall providing the crux of the climb.

1. 5m 15 Ascend the shallow recess which leads directly up the cave, where there is a wild fig tree, and tree belay.

2. 15m 11 Continue up the crackline behind with a step left at 5m then over blocks to tree belay.

3. 17m 7 Ascend rightwards then up left to avoid a detached flake to the top. Alternatively continue up towards right finishing up a small rib.

Note:

Pitch 1 is often wet, but the following variations are usually dry:

1a. 17 Start 6m left of the original start and move up to a semi-hand traverse right to gain the ledge.

1b. 15 Start 5m right of the original start and ascend a steep wall on good holds.

First ascent: Jan 1968 Merv Prior, A. Carmen and A. Koster.

THE RAIN IN SPAIN**16 ***

Situated approximately opposite BAYONET (or PINNACLE ROUTE). Scramble up vegetated ledge starting opposite Illegitimate and move along ledge up to left. Route starts up steep wall to right of corner with tree root in it (cairn). A tree with a 30cm diameter trunk grows on this ledge about 2m from start.

1. 35m 16 Climb steep wall moving right to small cubbyhole (5m). Climb straight up steep rock above to base of short open book with tree. Climb open book and arete above to top.

First ascent: 26 Dec 1986 Stewart Middlemiss and A. Margetts.

FESTIVITY

15

Directly opposite roots below OGIVE. Climb starts next to large tree with hammerkop's nest.

1. 12m 11 Ascend face, bearing slightly left, to large ledge and tree belay.

2. 22m 11 Climb steep broken face at left of ledge, moving gradually left, to a point at the right of large cave.

3. 18m 15 Climb easy face for 12m to base of open book. Climb steep open book 6m to top of climb.

First ascent: 26 Oct 1970 Merv Prior and R. Green.

NO MORE HEROES

14 *

Two low-angle tree-filled gullies enter Trident on the true left at the dogleg between the upper and lower climbing area. (These gullies are extensions of the upper and lower parts of the kloof respectively.) From the streambed walk about 100m up the upper gully to where the true left side reaches its' highest. The route follows a red dihedral, topping out at a one meter long horizontal rock finger.

Belay on top of a four meter high rock buttress between a tree and the base of the face.

1. 30m 14 Climb diagonally left over an easy juggy wall to gain the dihedral just above a large creeper. Keeping in the corner as much as possible, climb to the top.

First ascent: 14 Mar 1987 M. Smith and Kevin Smith.

TOMMY'S HYMENOTOMY

19

About 100m upstream of LIFEBOUY, on the same side of the kloof, is a gully, after which you come to a small rock buttress. The route takes the face facing the kloof. Half-way up there is a ledge where a small tree is visible. Above the ledge is an open book.

1. 30m 19 Climb the face starting about 2m left of the arete. Directly up for 4m and then tend diagonally right towards the arete for 3-4m and then up left to a large ledge with a tree growing on it. Climb the open book directly above and swing up and left to a resting place. Continue up the steep crack directly above to the top.

First ascent: May 1985 Charles Edelstein, T. Gluck, M. Greenslade, Kevin Smith and George Mallory (with varying degrees of success.)

REACH FOR THE STARS

19 ***

Walk upstream of LIFEBOUY and as the kloof takes a turn to the left a face can be seen with roots hanging down.

1. 20m 19 Climb up past the roots to an open book on the left. Move up the open book to a small ledge. Continue up steep face to a good belay ledge.

2. 15m 12 Above is a recess with a face - climb the recess to the left.

Note:

Reach dependant.

*First ascent: 1989
and Adele Margetts.*

Martin Seegers, Darryl Margetts

COME-BACK

16 **

Climb the off-width above the roots to the right of REACH FOR THE STARS.

1. 20m 16 Start at the base of the off-width at the roots. Climb the roots then the off-width to a good ledge.

2. 15m 14 Climb the short face to the left of the second pitch of REACH FOR THE STARS.

*First ascent: 1990 Darryl Margetts, Martin Seegers,
R. Brand and A. Mercer.*

AMUSED TO DEATH

13 **

1. 30m 13 Climb the break 2-3m right of COME-BACK.

*First ascent: 1990 Martin Seegers, Darryl Margetts,
A. Mercer and R. Brand.*

WICKET GAME

13 **

1. 30m 13 Climb the break 2m right of AMUSED TO DEATH.

*First ascent: 1990 Darryl Margetts and Martin
Seegers.*

SOUL PROVIDER

13 **

1. 30m 13 Climb the break 2-3m right of WICKET GAME.

*First ascent: 1990 Martin Seegers and Darryl
Margetts.*

FAMOUS LAST WORDS

16 ***

Situated about 80m upstream and on the same side as LIFEBOUY, just downstream of the wide gully. The first major feature of this wall downstream of the gully (marked as 'Steep pink crags roots at base', on map of lower kloof), is a downstream-facing corner, liberally festooned with roots. Downstream of this corner is a large tree next to the face; start 10m right of this tree, below a red open-book (8m up), at some tree roots.

1. 35m 16 Climb easily up stepped ledges towards the open-book. Ascend this for 2m then move out easily rightwards, below its capping roof. Climb the clean, attractive face above via the obvious break, to a ledge adjacent to a tree. Continue directly up a short wall and recess to belay on a large, horizontally-growing fig tree.

Note:

Nice climbing. Good afternoon pitch.

First ascent: Dec 1991 Russ Dodding, with R. Barker, G. MacKintosh and R. Persson.

BELAY PRACTICE

7

At the left-hand side of the smooth rock wall on which LIFEBOUY, SHADY OVERHANG and BAT'S OVERHANG are situated. The route follows an obvious line immediately to the left of the smooth rock wall.

An easier start is up the deeper recess about 5m left of the smooth face. A more difficult first pitch 13 is up the shallow recess about 1,5m left of the smooth face. From the belay practice ledge (large block here) continue on up right-angled recess.

First ascent: Unknown Party unknown

CONTRIVITIS

18

Start 5m to the left of LIFEBOUY.

1. 40m 18 Climb the face tending diagonally right to just above the "lifebuoy" hold. Continue up the face to the top, just to the right of the LIFEBOUY DIRECT crack.

First ascent: 1 Jan 1986 Charles Edelstein and A.J. Smith.

LIFEBOUY

20 ***

The route starts 9m to left of SHADY OVERHANG.

1. 15m 20 Ascend 6m to beginning of a shallow recess, where a vertically inserted piton was left. Move up to overhang. Then move left out of recess, up for 2,5m then diagonally right and up for 8m to a small stance. On this portion the grips were rather smooth. A "lifebuoy" grip is encountered however, which enables one to rest for a few seconds.

2. 8m 15 At stance level traverse right 6m and descend slightly to share a stance with SHADY OVERHANG.

3. 23m 13 Ascend diagonally left and up to base of recess (dead bush halfway when climb was opened) and exit left at top. From here traverse left and up to base of chimney-like recess up to a good tree belay.

First ascent: 31 Aug 1964 H. Graafland and J. Anderson.

LIFEBOUY DIRECT

20 ****

Start as for LIFEBOUY, but continue directly up the crack above the "lifebuoy" hold, instead of moving right. Can be done as 1 pitch.

First ascent: 1 Jan 1986 Charles Edelstein, B. O'Meara and A.J. Smith.

SHOOTOUT

22 ***

Start a few meters downstream of LIFEBOUY, in a left-facing corner.

1. 15m 22 Climb straight up to the largest flat roof and break through the right-hand side of this. Continue up to a ledge on the right.

Easy rock leads to the top.

First ascent: Circa 1980 A. Smith and J. Brown.

ANGEL

21

The route starts 1m to the left of SHADY OVERHANG.

1. 12m 21 Climb onto a block and traverse left 1m, from where a wedge can be placed in a crack high up on the left. Climb up to the roof and continue through the roof 1m to the left then up right to gain a stance on top of a block.

2. 30m 15 Traverse right 2m, here the route crosses LIFEBOUY, and ascend 2m then left 4m. Continue up a recess to the top.

Note:

Opened with aid at 15,A2.

First ascent: 18 Jan 1976 E. Pickl, E. Budding and E. Haber.

NO ROOM FOR CHALK

23

Start as for SHADY OVERHANG.

1. 15m 23 Climb straight up to the roof (SHADY OVERHANG trends right). Break through about 2m left of SHADY OVERHANG and follow the thin crack to a ledge.

Easy rock leads to the top.

First ascent: Jul 1984 A. Jardin and Steve Bradshaw.

SHADY OVERHANG

20 **

The climb is on the polished face downstream of the practice belay pitch. There are large trees in the kloof in this area, which shade the lower half of the face. The upper branches actually brush the face in places.

1. 12m 20 Ascend 8m on steep rock to an overhang. Climb the overhang at its least severe point i.e. via a shallow cleft which slopes diagonally up to the right. About 4 pitons (A2) were used in the opening ascent at the overhang. The pitch continues up diagonally right to a prominent ledge with piton belay.

2. 18m 10 Traverse left to above first pitch and then ascend to stance.

3. 6m 11 Continue upwards to top.

Note:

The first free ascent was in 1980 by Charles Edelstein.

First ascent: 1956

J. Cottrell and P. Harris.

BAT'S OVERHANG

17 ***

This climb is situated 20m upstream from CONVALESCENCE on the same side of the kloof. It climbs the first break just to the right of a lonely bolt on a blank wall.

1. 35m 17 Climb polished-looking rock to underneath overhang. There is a fixed piton below the roof to the left. Pull through the overhang using a large nose-like jug to a small ledge. Continue up diagonally left on much easier rock to the top.

First ascent: 24 Nov 1956 R. Cameron, A. McGrindle and E. Adcock.

BRATS OVERHANG

17

Start just to the right of BATS OVERHANG.

1. 40m 17 The route takes the overhanging rock and continues in a direct line to the top of the crag.

First ascent: 1 Jan 1986 Charles Edelstein, B. O'Meara and A.J. Smith.

SKEWER

17

The route follows a line which starts 3m to the right of the start of BAT'S OVERHANG and goes straight up and through V-shaped open book at the top of the crag. This open book is to the right of the final Convalescence slab.

1. 35m 17 Climb up broken rock to below first overhang. Use handjam to move through overhang to below second overhang. Swing left on good handhold and reach 1,5m to another good hold. Climb 2m and then move right into mantleshelf. Climb up easier rock to base of V-shaped open book to the right of the final slab of CONVALESCENCE. Climb up open book.

Note:

The route write-up was submitted by T. White and S. Morkel.

First ascent: Unknown Party Unknown.

CONVALESCENCE

13 ***

The climb is situated on the first sizeable face on the right-hand side of the kloof, ascending. The face is topped by a prominent overhang.

1. 18m 11 Commence from the path which runs along the base of the face at this point. Ascend to within 3m of the prominent overhang where a piton belay can be made.

2. 18m 7 Traverse left, gaining height at the same time, to a small ledge of white rock 6m up. (Fixed piton.)

3. 12m 13 Ascend the steep red face above the stance on small but sharp grips, and finish up a crack 3m to the left of the start of the pitch.

Variation:

A slight recess midway between the normal start and BAT'S OVERHANG takes one from the ground to a point about three-quarters way along the traverse pitch.

First ascent: 16 Sep 1951 R. Davies and I. Keith.

LUMBERJACK**8 ***

Crack/chimney with large wedged block 12m downstream from CONVALESCENCE. The climb finishes through the first obvious break in the overhangs to the right of Convalescence.

1. 18m 7 Follow crack to block (one can pass between block and face). Gain top of block via its right-hand face. Continue up nose, starting a few metres to right of stance on large ledge.

2. 15m 8 Up and a shade left on face above, passing left of small overhang. This gives access to small recess which leads up into open book formed by the face and the right side of the above-mentioned break in the overhang.

Variation:

2. 15m 7 It is possible, by ascending small white recess on right side of face, to pass to the right of the main overhangs.

First ascent: 7 Feb 1959 R. Kinsley, J. Holland and P. Bloomfield.

KRANSKLOOF: List of Climbs

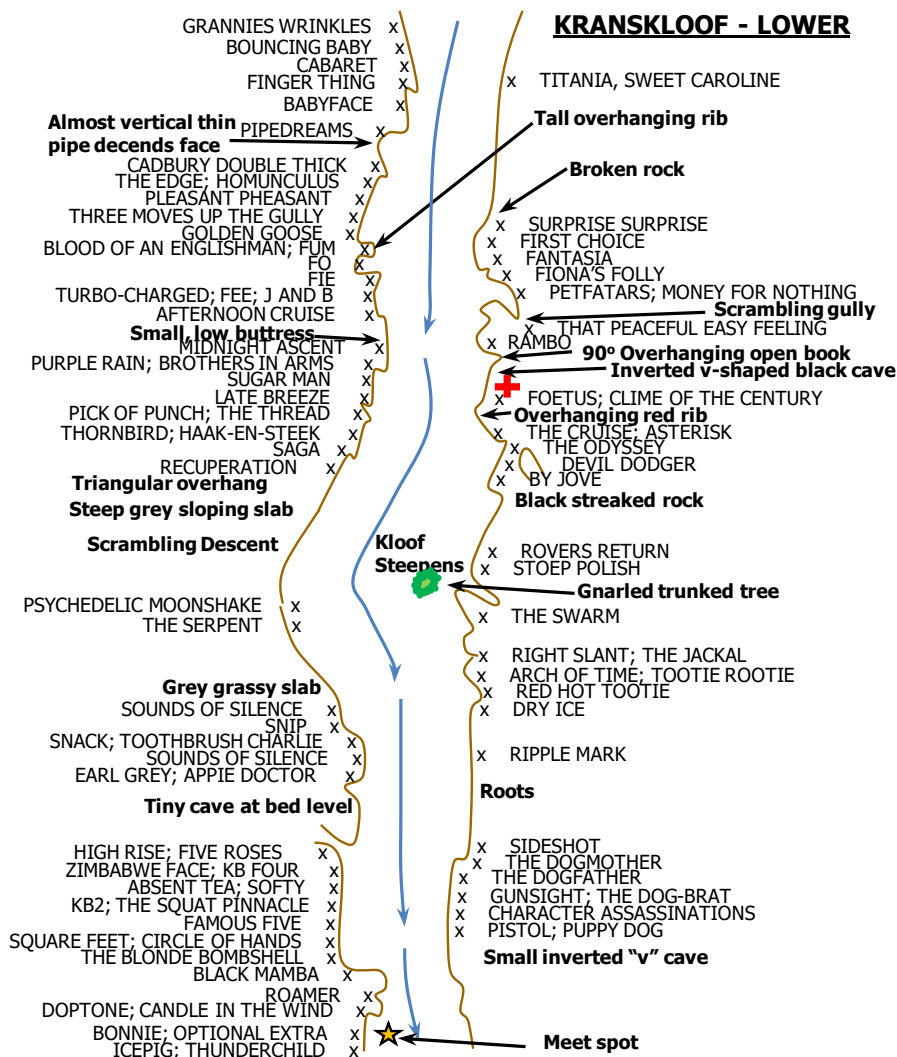
Climb Name	Grade	Stars	Pg
PSYCHO THERAPY	27	*****	133
SEA OF MADNESS	26	*****	133
RAINBOW CHICKEN	26		87
THAT PEACEFUL EASY FEELING	25	*****	129
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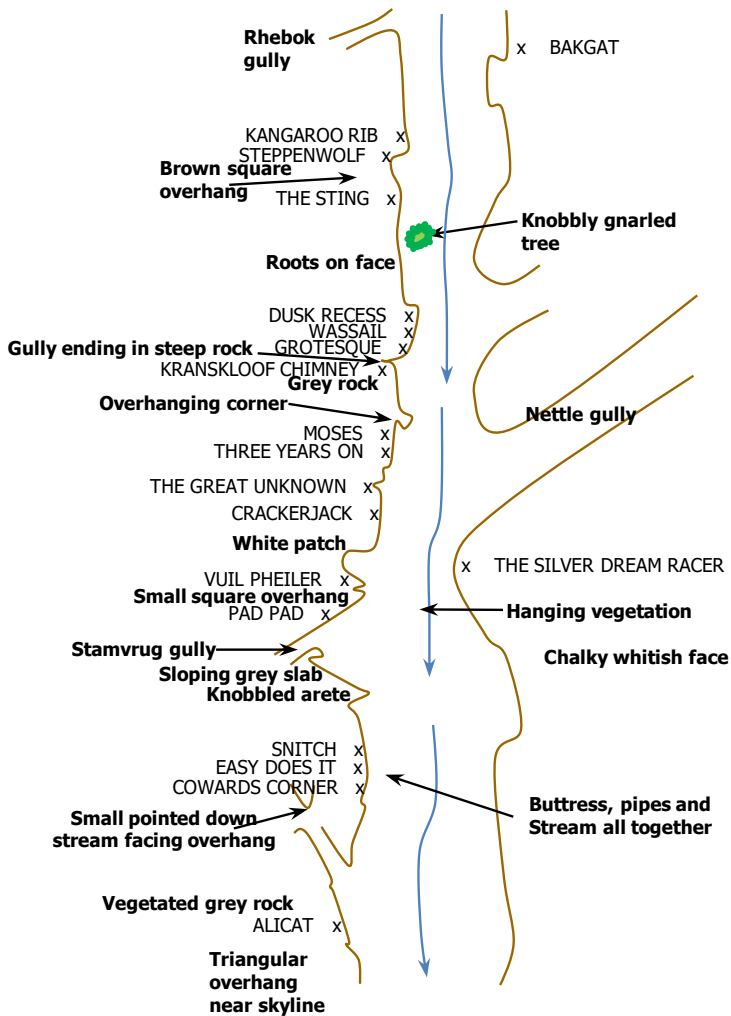
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NUISANCE	17	*	121
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HOMUNCULUS	16		83
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RIGHT SLANT	15,A2	**	137
SIDESHOT	15,A1	**	140
APPIE DOCTOR	15	***	107
LATE BREEZE	15	***	96
ONE FOR THE POT	15	***	110
SURPRISE SURPRISE	15	***	125
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Climb Name	Grade	Stars	Pg
CANDLE IN THE WIND	15	**	120
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THREE YEARS ON	15	**	75
CABARET	15	*	80
KANGAROO RIB	15	*	71
ALICAT	15		78
EAGER EAGLE	15		84
NORTH AMERICA WALL	15		117
SWEET CAROLINE	15		124
TOOTIE ROOTIE	15		138
THE ROCK MECHANIC AND THE ARTIST	14,A1		108
BABYFACE	14	***	81
BONNIE	14	***	121
GRANNY'S WRINKLES	14	**	79
PIPE DREAMS	14	**	82
TOOTHBRUSH CHARLIE	14	**	104
BLOOD OF AN ENGLISHMAN	14	*	88
KB 1,5	14		115
THE GREAT UNKNOWN	14		76
AFTERNOON CRUISE	13	***	90
FIE	13	***	88
STEPPENWOLF	13	***	71
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Climb Name	Grade	Stars	Pg
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OPTIONAL EXTRA	12	**	122
RIPPLE MARK	12	*	140
DOPTONE	11	**	121
EASY DOES IT	11	**	77
FEE	11	**	89
FO	11	**	88
KB FOUR	11	**	114
LAST DROP	11	*	112
PAD PAD	11	*	77
KB ONE	11		116
KRANSKLOOF CHIMNEY	11		74
SNIP	11		104
BAKGAT	10	***	123
PLEASANT PHEASANT	10	*	84
KB THREE	10		115
KB TWO	10		116
RECUPERATION	10		101
ROAMER	10		119
SNITCH	10		77
VUIL PHEILER	10		76
DUSK RECESS	9	**	72
HAAK-EN-STEEL	9	*	99
BY JOVE	9		134
SAGA	7		100
COWARDS CORNER	6		78



KRANSKLOOF - UPPER



KRANSKLOOF

General

The kloof is broad and more than one kilometre long. The walk-in is almost flat, but the kloof itself is fairly steep in places.

The meetpoint is usually at the foot of the first crags encountered when entering the kloof at its base.

Climbs range from 35 to 80 metres, the longest being in the area opposite Nettle Gully, about three-quarters of the way up the kloof. The rock is generally clean and affords excellent climbing. A feature of the area is the rather pronounced slope of some of the rock strata. Sloping holds and stances are often found.

Water is always available, but there are no decent swimming spots.

Access

Access is permitted to MCSA members (plus one guest each) and special arrangements made by the MCSA Access Committee must be adhered to without exception.

Safety

The first aid dump is in a narrow cave at the top of a 45m high narrow gully immediately to the right of the start of FOETUS. This is on the true left of the kloof just after it steepens. FOETUS is just to the right of the inverted "V" shaped black cave.

Aspect

The kloof can be visited all year round as it is fairly broad and has cliffs facing sun / in shade in both morning and afternoon. Being broad, it receives more sun than the other kloofs. It is often a good choice in winter.

The true right will generally receive sun in the afternoon, and the true left is in sun in the morning.

Descents

Descent gullies are easily found. (See topo.) Alternatively, make your way downstream until able to enter the kloof near its base. Doing this will bring you back to your tea, which may or may not be a good thing.

Camping

There is no convenient camping nearby.

Finding Routes

The approach to Kranskloof brings you into its base. The DOG-routes can be found on the first steep buttress on the true left as you enter the kloof.

The SWARM is easily identified by following the stream bed up the kloof from here. A short distance upstream, the stream bed forms a smooth slab of rock that brushes against the cliffs. This is where THE SWARM is located.

THE CRUISE etc. are on a buttress upstream of this that just shouts out to be climbed on!

Climbs on the true right

KANGAROO RIB

15 *

To the right of STEPPENWOLF there is a prominent rib. The climb is up the right-hand side of this rib.

1. 40m 15 Climb up right of a tree protruding from a steep face. Move up into a crack running up this face. Climb to a ledge and traverse left to the rib. Climb up the right-hand side of the rib until the rock overhangs slightly. Move left around the rib and up to a ledge. Continue up easy-angled rock to the top.

Note:

The climb may be broken into two pitches.

First ascent: 20 Apr 1980 L. Cobber and C. Ward.

STEPPENWOLF

13 ***

The route takes the obvious chimney that runs the full height of the krantz and lies 50m downstream of RHEBOK GULLY.

1. 23m 13 Climb the chimney and continue up the face to the left of the recess. Move to the face on the right side of the recess and climb it until level with the overhang blocking the chimney above. Traverse left to the overhang and pull through to gain a good stance.

2. 20m 11 Continue up the chimney to the top.

First ascent: Feb 1980 D. Peters, C. Ward and E. Druschke.

THE STING

17 ****

50m downstream of Reebok Gully is an obvious chimney running the height of the cliff. Start 5m to the left of this below a very steep white face which leads to a band of overhangs 30m up.

1. 10m 11 Climb the short rock band to a large ledge directly below the steep white face.

2. 35m 17 Climb the steep orange face to the overhang 18m up. Traverse 3m left to the end of the overhang and climb the open book above for 2m before traversing right onto the nose. Continue up to the ledge.

First ascent: Feb 1980 E. Druschke, C. Ward and D. Peters.

DUSK RECESS

9 **

15m upstream from WASSAIL.

1. 20m 9 Start in a deep recess and climb bearing left to a small corner. Climb up, bear slightly right and then back left to a good stance.

2. 25m 8 Continue straight up keeping right in a wide recess to the top.

First ascent: 20 Apr 1980 C. Ward.

WASSAIL

17 ***

Approximately 10m upstream from GROTESQUE. Cairn.

1. 30m 17 Start below the right-hand end of an overhang which is situated about 10m above the streambed. Climb to the overhang, move right turning the corner and traversing right (approximately 5m). Climb up to a tree on a ledge.

2. 20m 15 Step down from the ledge and traverse left across a break in the wall. Step around an arete. Climb diagonally left to a good ledge.

3. 30m 13 Climb up and onto the arete continuing up to the top.

Note:

Pitch 1 was first climbed by A. Wood and C. Ward.

First ascent: Dec 1980 A. Wood, D. Peters and C. Ward.

WASSAIL DIRECT

18 ***

1. 50m 18 Start below the right-hand end of an overhang which is situated about 10m above the streambed. Climb to the overhang, moving right, passing the overhang at its right extremity. Then basically climb straight up following crack-lines in the grey face, first tending right, back left, then straight up, passing a stunted stamvrug tree near the top of the face to a good ledge.

2. 10m 14 Scramble to the top and a good tree belay

Note:

60m ropes are recommended, which will allow a single abseil descent from the tree at the top.

First ascent: 19 Oct 2008 C.H. Ziranek and J.C. Prinsloo.

GROTESQUE

17 **

Situated opposite the gully that is just above Nettle Gully. The climb follows the prominent V-shaped diagonally left-sloping fault line that runs right of the downstream-facing face.

1. 20m 11 Climb the fault line that runs diagonally left to a tree with gross limbs. Continue up a few metres to a good ledge on the left.

2. 16m 17 Traverse 5m left to the recess and climb it until level with a cubbyhole. Move right to the cubbyhole and continue to a very large ledge.

3. 30m 11 Climb an obvious steep recess above on excellent rock to the top.

First ascent: Dec 1980 D. Peters, A. Wood and C. Ward.

KRANSKLOOF CHIMNEY

11

Start on the true right-hand wall of the kloof opposite the junction with NETTLE GULLY in a gully ending in steep rock (downstream of GROTESQUE).

1. 40m 7 Start at the base of the grey face and climb/scramble 15m onto a wide ledge. Move right past the gully that forms the base of a prominent chimney with two overhangs. Climb the right-hand wall of the gully to a stance 15m above ledge. (This pitch can be divided into two sections if an intermediate stance is made at the ledge at the base of the gully.)

2. 35m 11 Move left from the stance and diagonally upwards to the base of the chimney and climb to the top.

First ascent: 9 Aug 1981 S. van Rensburg, H. Barker, R. and A. Friede.

MOSES

13 **

Start where the perennial spring gushes out of the rock on the true right-hand side of the kloof.

1. 20m 11 Climb diagonally left up an obvious crack / fault, and finally straddle through a small overhang to gain a ledge.

2. 20m 10 Climb 5m up to a corner just right of the prominent rib 15m up. From the corner traverse left round the prominent rib to a ledge with a large tree.

3. 20m 13 Climb the face at the back of the ledge to the top, by keeping to the corner.

First ascent: Mar 1979 D. Peters and G. Moseley.

THREE YEARS ON

15 **

The route takes the grey slab with a narrow crack up its right-hand side just downstream from MOSES (about 10 m down from the spring).

1. 25m 15 Climb the slab finding protection in the crack on the right of the large ledge with a tree.

2. 35m 13 Climb the groove behind the ledge for a short distance before stepping right to gain the base of the grey slab above with a crack up its right-hand side. Ascend the slab close to the crack until forced left into the faint water worn groove to the left of the slab. Climb this to the top.

Note:

Descent down RHEBOK GULLY.

First ascent: 24 Jun 1990 T.P. Wilmot, F. Greig and M. Greenslade.

THE GREAT UNKNOWN

14

Situated 25m downstream of the spring (at the base of MOSES) and therefore directly opposite NETTLE GULLY is an obvious downstream facing open book.

1. **25m 13** Climb the open book to a ledge and tree belay.
2. **25m 14** Climb the corner at the back of the ledge past two trees, to reach the base of an obvious corner which is followed to the summit.

First ascent: 28 Jul 1985 M. Smith and H. Gill.

CRACKERJACK

19 ****

The climb takes the prominent red crack / chimney 50m upstream of STAMVRUG GULLY and 50m downstream of the spring.

1. **10m 5** Scramble through the easy rock band to the large ledge at the foot of the prominent red crack / chimney.
2. **20m 19** Climb the crack / chimney right to its top before traversing several metres to the right to a ledge with a large tree.
3. **33m 13** Climb the chimney above exiting on the right side of it and continue up the arete to the top.

First ascent: 5 Aug 1979 C. Ward and D. Peters.

VUIL PHEILER

10

Start 50m upstream from STAMVRUG GULLY and right of PAD PAD, 20m above the stream level.

1. **45m 10** Climb the sloping grey pillar that has a vertical wall on its left-hand side. The climb steepens towards the top.

First ascent: Oct 1980 C. Fatti and P. Kaiser.

PAD PAD

11 *

Start left of VUIL PHEILER. The climb follows a slab which narrows to one metre at the top.

1. 30m 8 Climb on the slab (easy at first) to a small tree where the rock is red.

2. 15m 11 Continue straight up to the top.

First ascent: Apr 1981 C. and A. Fatti.

SNITCH

10

Start just upstream of EASY DOES IT, at a narrow point in the kloof bed beside a large tree.

1. 45m 10 Climb 20m up a clean grey face, following a vertical crack line to an overhang. Climb the break to the left of the overhang onto a small nose (good holds). Continue straight up to the top.

Note:

A clean, pleasant climb.

First ascent: Oct 1980 C. Fatti and P. Kaiser.

EASY DOES IT

11 **

50m downstream of STAMVRUG GULLY a well-defined ridge projects into the kloof. The climb starts up the distinctive 10m high open book just downstream of this ridge.

1. 33m 10 Climb the open book keeping in the corner. Continue up the corner/chimney for a short distance before moving onto the face on the right. Climb the face passing a small stamvrug tree on the left to a stance next to a small pinnacle with a block on it.

2. 33m 11 Bypass the overhang 5m up by climbing the face just to the right of it and continue up 5m to just below a

ledge. Traverse a few metres left to a well-defined crack and follow this to the top.

First ascent: 5 Aug 1979 C. Ward and D. Peters.

COWARDS CORNER

6

80m downstream of STAMVRUG GULLY, the faces are some distance above the kloof. Bash through the bush and proceed leftwards to a very obvious corner with an easy-angled slab forming the left-hand side. The start is a good tree at the base of the climb.

- 1. 40m 6** Climb in the corner, moving generally leftwards. Stance just before the corner runs out
- 2. 25m 6** Continue up the corner for 2m and generally right onto the nose and then up to a good tree.

First ascent: 20 Apr 1980 E. Jones and Ms F. Richardson.

ALICAT

15

The climb starts on the right-hand side of the kloof between "triangular overhang" and "vegetated grey face" (see map), directly below a prominent skyline ridge.

- 1. 30m 15** Climb the small open book to the left of a prominent recess and continue up the crack at the apex of the recess to a stance on a good ledge.
- 2. 30m 10** Ascend the grey face to a good ledge with a tree directly below the rib.
- 3. 45m 15** Move left of the small tree and ascend the steep ramp until it is possible to move right onto the ridge. Climb the ridge to the top.

First ascent: Mar 1983 A. Wilson, G. Graafland and J. de Groot.

GRANNY'S WRINKLES

14 **

The climb is situated on the right extremity of the BABY FACE buttress. Walk 10m right from the start of BOUNCING BABY around a bulge to an obvious recess.

1. 25m 13 Climb the corner/recess to a small overhang. Move left onto wall. Climb this to big ledge. Walk right for 3m to tree belay.

2. 25m 14 Move right for 5m past line of trees above. Climb centre of face to top. (The centre section of this face becomes rather thin halfway up and can be avoided by moving right or left.)

First ascent: 22 Jul 2007 U. Kiefer and K. van Graan.

BOUNCING BABY

17 ***

The route takes the very steep chimney/recess in the middle of the buttress that lies 45m upstream of the water pipe which hangs down the krantz. Three trees grow out of the chimney in the lower 12m. Scramble 20m up the side of the kloof to the foot of the buttress.

1. 27m 15 Climb the chimney/recess to just above the ripple-marked overhang 17m up. Traverse rightwards across the slab above the overhang then climb diagonally rightwards to a good stance 7m above.

2. 25m 17 Climb the corner above to the overhang 7m up. Hand-traverse right to gain the ledge above (crux). Climb the face above moving to its right edge after a short distance.

First ascent: 4 Feb 1979 C. Ward, G. Moseley and D. Peters.

CABARET

15 *

The climb goes up the steep face 5m downstream of BOUNCING BABY.

1. 35m 15 Start on the left of a 6m high pinnacle. Climb the recess past the right-hand side of the big overhang. Follow the corner to a flaky overhang. Ascend the left-hand face to the overhang above. Traverse right to tree and belay.

2. 20m 13 Traverse 3m left (back) into the recess and climb the recess past the left-hand side of the overhang. Climb the face above to the top.

First ascent: Jun 1979 R. and E. Druschke and H. Vogl.

FINGER THING

17 ***

The climb goes up the left-hand side of the buttress which lies 45m upstream of the water pipe which hangs down the krantz. Start 15m left of BOUNCING BABY in a small defined corner.

1. 23m 17 Climb in the corner until the rock bulges and overhangs slightly. Traverse right on a handrail running out to the edge of the corner. Move up a small face on the outside edge 3m and traverse left back into the top of the corner. Continue up to a good ledge and tree belay.

2. 30m 13 Above and slightly to one side of the belay is a break bearing diagonally right in a series of steps. Move up diagonally right over these steps then traverse rightwards to a short chimney. Climb straight up to the top.

Variation: (For a direct finish)

2. 30m 17 From the belay ledge traverse left 2m metres then move up and right to gain the start of the obvious crack. Ascend directly up the crack to the top.

(13 Feb 1983 A.M. Maddison and A. Mercer)

First ascent: 1 Jul 1979 D. Peters and C. Ward.

HAPPY DAYS

18 ***

2 meters to the right of FINGER THING is a vertical crack line that tends right to a small roof at 10 meters

1. 23m 18 Climb the crack and surmount the roof (crux). Continue up the crack to its end, then straight up the face above to the right-hand end of a good ledge and tree belay (common with FINGER THING)

2. 20m 16 From the right end of the stance, climb up tending right to a ledge at 10m. Traverse right 3m to avoid some dodgy large flakes. Climb vertically up through a chimney recess just left of a predominant nose (which can be seen from ground level) to a good ledge in front of a cubby hole.

3. 10m 14 Climb straight up to the top

First ascent: 12 Oct 2008 C.H. Ziranek, J.C. Prinsloo and R. Korb.

BABYFACE

14 ***

The climb goes up the downstream face of the buttress which lies 45m upstream of the small water pipe which runs down the krantz. 2,5m left of FINGER THING is a tree with a crack behind it which leads to a large ledge.

1. 15m 11 Climb the crack behind the tree to a large ledge. Belay about 4m at the back of the ledge at some trees.

2. 35m 14 Move right onto a face, keeping more or less in the middle. All the ledges slope left into a deceptively deep chimney. Avoid climbing too far left. Zig-zag up the face keeping more or less to the centre. 5m from the top traverse diagonally right to an arete on the right-hand edge of the face. Continue to the top.

First ascent: 1 Jul 1979 D. Peters and C. Ward.

PIPE DREAMS

14 **

The climb starts where the water pipe running down from the top of the krantz reaches the floor, upstream of CADBURY DOUBLE THICK. The climb follows the arête just left of this pipe.

1. 45m 14 Start in the cubby hole where the pipe comes down. Move out left onto arête. Follow this arête, keeping on the wall just to the left of it. Climb past two big flakes. Ascent steep crack on good holds to big ledge. The pipe crosses this ledge.

2. 15m 13 Move 2m right from the right end of this ledge. Ascend wall above to top.

First ascent: 22 Jul 2007 U. Kiefer and K. van Graan.

CADBURY DOUBLE THICK

16 ***

The route takes the prominent grey slab to the left of the descending pipe. Start in the corner on the right-hand side of the grey slab.

1. 15m 15 Climb the recess via a tree to stance on the right.

2. 25m 16 Climb the diagonal fault from right to left across the grey face to the left of a big overhang. Continue straight up steep rock to the top.

Notes:

1. Very little protection on pitch 2. Poor rock?

2. The first pitch is considered by some to be 17.

3. Also, whether it deserves any stars at all is debatable.

First ascent: Apr 1979 E. Druschke and R. Nienaber.

THE EDGE

19

Situated between HOMUNCULUS and CADBURY DOUBLE THICK.

1. 20m 19 Left of the start of CADBURY DOUBLE THICK there is a diagonal traverse line running up to the left. Climb this to a small cubbyhole. Move up and around the edge to the same stance as HOMUNCULUS.

2. 25m 17 Climb the arete and move over to the right side. Continue straight up to the top and belay as for CADBURY DOUBLE THICK.

First ascent: Jan 1983 D. Hartley and C. Ward.

HOMUNCULUS

16

The climb is on the true right-hand side of the kloof, directly opposite the pipe drip, and goes up just to the left of the obvious arete which is bound on its upstream side by a smooth grey wall. The climb goes up the magnificent shiny white wall.

1. 27m 16 Traverse left onto the face and move up past a tree at 12m in a crack to a grassy ledge leading off left. Climb diagonally right to a good stance on the arete.

2. 22m 16 Climb straight up, keeping just to the left of the arete.

Note:

To descend, walk down left for 20m to the obvious gully corner, down this short way, then move left, to scramble down the first 15m of pitch 1.

First ascent: 10 Mar 1979 K. Smith and D. Luyt.

PLEASANT PHEASANT

10 *

The route is between HOMUNCULUS and EAGER EAGLE. Start about 10r downstream of HOMUNCULUS at the lowest point on the grey rock buttress.

1. 30m 10 Climb up directly above the start for about 10m. Then move slightly right towards the tree mentioned in the HOMUNCULUS first pitch. Move diagonally left again before reaching the tree and stance on a large ledge.

2. 45m 10 Climb up the face above keeping about a metre to the right of a crack. Then continue diagonally up right to the right-hand side of two small trees. Then continue diagonally left again to finish between two overhangs. Scramble to the top.

Note:

A clean pleasant route. Protection is sparse on pitch 1.

First ascent: 1981

C. and A. Fatti.

EAGER EAGLE

15

The climb takes the steep gully mentioned in the description of the location of GOLDEN GOOSE (i.e. immediately underneath the second pitch of that route). A large tree marks the start of the route.

1. 45m 13 Climb the gully/chimney direct to the large triangular overhang at the top of the crag, passing several large chockstones at 35m.

2. 10m 15 From a high position, traverse left under the roof. 3m of hand/elbow traverse complete the climb.

Note:

A pleasing climb on clean rock.

Variation:

2. 10m 13 From the belay, traverse off right, under the roof, using a large ledge, passing a small tree at the exit.

First ascent: 23 Jan 1983 L. Gardiner and R. Dodding.

THREE MOVES UP THE GULLY

20 **

The routelet takes the overlapping slab 10 metres upstream of GOLDEN GOOSE. Cairn.

1. 15m 20 Follow the vague recess to below the bulge (about 5 m up). Pull left on small holds to the corner above. Follow this to the big ledge.

Note:

Climbing on the crux is bold.

First ascent: 1 Oct 1989 S. Kelsey and T.P. Wilmot.

CRIMSON HAZE

23

Scramble halfway up the "steep gully blocked by a prominent triangular overhang at the top of the crag", right of GOLDEN GOOSE. Stance at a ledge and small tree, level with GOLDEN GOOSE'S mega-rail.

1. 20m 23 Step left across the gully to gain the ledges at the base of a steep, obtuse-angled dihedral. Climb this to the top.

First ascent: 24 Oct 1987 K.M. Smith.

UNFORGETTABLE FIRE

23 ***

Has the same start as GOLDEN GOOSE.

1. 25m 23 Climb GOLDEN GOOSE to the mega rail. Continue straight up the flake above and where that ends move up and left. Finish easily up to the tree at the top of GOLDEN GOOSE.

First ascent: 1986 M. Brunke and party.

GOLDEN GOOSE

17 ***

The climb is situated on a sharp ridge with overhangs half-way up. The right-hand side of the sharp edge leads to a steep gully which is blocked by a prominent triangular overhang at the top of the crag. Scramble easily up the gully.

1. 43m 17 A smooth steep face leads up on the right-hand side of the ridge. Climb the face for 12m to where it begins to overhang. A good handrail leads off to the left. Hand swing to the left and continue traversing to a very exposed two-man stance on the edge of the ridge. Move around the corner onto the exposed face. Traverse 5m left to the corner and follow it up the face to a little overhang. Continue up the face to the top.

Variation: (16)

From the small stance at the end of the rail, instead of moving up right-hand side of slab, traverse left above roof and move up thin slab.

Note:

Originally, a starting pitch was first climbed on 7 Jun 1981 by J. McLennan, C. Ward and D. Peters. It climbed the face and open book along the ridge before stepping down to a small stance at the top of the gully.

First ascent: Date unknown C. Ward, D. Peters and A. Wood.

RAINBOW CHICKEN

26

Climbs the face to the left of GOLDEN GOOSE.

1. 15m 19 Climb a vague groove up the face between FUM and GOLDEN GOOSE to a narrow ledge (sparse gear).

2. 30m 26 Climb up on the left and then move right onto the face. Climb past a bolt on sidepulls and underclings to the roof (peg). Pull through and continue up the corner above to a tree.

Note:

Pitch 1 was first climbed in 1989 by S. Middlemiss and C. Curson.

First ascent: 1992

S. Middlemiss and M. Hislop.

FUM

17 ***

The climb goes up the downstream face of the sharp-edged ridge taken by GOLDEN GOOSE. The climb finishes through the broken pointed overhangs at the top of the krantz.

1. 30m 17 The climb starts with a mantleshelf 5m to the right of the back of the gully. Continue up the face to the left of the small but distinct corner until the rock steepens and changes colour to orange. Continue up the rounded rib with a vertical crack in it for a few metres until it is possible to make an awkward traverse a few metres right to gain the beginning of the crack which leads through the overhangs above. A small tree grows out of the crack a few metres above. Climb the crack to the top. It is possible to avoid the final steep few metres of the crack by traversing left across a sloping slab then up.

First ascent: 7 Jun 1981 C. Ward, A. Wood, D. Peters and J. McLennan.

BLOOD OF AN ENGLISHMAN

14 *

Located between FO and FUM.

1. 35m 14 Climb the crack to the right of FOE to a tree. Follow the wall above into a recess and pull into the V-groove above. Ascend the right-hand groove to the top.

First ascent: 9 Nov 1986 R. Dodding, T.P. Wilmot and S. Middlemiss.

FO

11 **

The right crack line of the two mentioned in FIE is climbed. This crack lies in the corner between the back of the short gully and the downstream side of the short gully.

1. 20m 11 Ascend the crack line. Good Climbing.

First ascent: 23 Mar 1981 J. McLennan, D. Peters and C. Ward.

FIE

13 ***

Just below the arete described in GOLDEN GOOSE there is a short gully. Two crack lines go up the face on the downstream side of the gully. This route generally follows the left-hand crack line.

1. 25m 13 Climb the centre of the rib just to the left of the left crack until level with a tree on the face on the left. Move right to the crack and follow this to the top. Very good climbing.

First ascent: 22 Mar 1981 C. Ward, J. McLennan and D. Peters.

TURBO-CHARGED

20

This route is situated on the left-hand wall of the large recess and to the left of the routes FEE, FIE, FO and FUM. Scramble up about 6m to an obvious roof. The route takes the right-hand crack of a dual crack system which runs through the roof. The crux is getting past the roof, but good protection can be placed at the lip.

1. 20m 20 Hand-jam strenuously through the roof and ascend for about 3m. Traverse left for about 4m to the corner. Move around the corner onto an exposed face, then diagonally left up the face to a cubby hole stance.

First ascent: Oct 1983 K. Swanson and P. Schlotfeldt.

FEE

11 **

The climb goes up the corner 5m downstream of the gully where FIE, FO and FUM begin.

1. 17m 8 Climb the corner to the comfortable ledge below the large overhang on the right (gully) side of the buttress.

2. 20m 11 Climb the face on the right of the roof and traverse left to a big tree. Continue diagonally left to a big flake on the corner of the buttress. Surmount this and continue up parallel cracks to the top.

First ascent: 24 May 1981 J. McLennan and M. Romancia.

J AND B

12 **

This route starts on the front of the low buttress on the left of FEE, FIE, FO, FUM.

1. 25m 12 Climb the recess to the left of the centre of the buttress to a good ledge (8m) (or climb the front of the buttress to the same ledge (13)). Continue straight up the obvious line to a stance below a left-slanting diagonal crack.

2. 17m 10 Follow the line of the crack to the top of the buttress.

First ascent: 3 Apr 1979 B.R. de Villiers and G. Moseley.

AFTERNOON CRUISE

13 ***

Start about 20m downstream of the FEE, FIE, FO, FUM buttress in an open book recess with a large tree nearby.

1. 20m 13 Climb up the open book to a ledge with a tree on it. Continue climbing up the corner on the left of the ledge to a wide crack. Follow the crack up to the top of a small pillar. Move right using a mantleshelf move to the ledge.

2. 20m 13 Move up the crack system behind the ledge to a tree. Climb the face behind the tree, then continue up easier ground to a broad ledge. Scramble to the top.

First ascent: 14 Apr 1985 D. and N. Margetts.

MIDNIGHT ASCENT

15 **

This climb starts about 3m to the right, and upstream of, PURPLE RAIN where the cliff takes a right angle turn. The climb starts on the nose just downstream of a prominent tree.

1. 15m 13 Climb up the arete over a series of ledges, until you reach a large block to the right. Pass a tree on the left and follow the easy recess up to a comfortable ledge.

2. 15m 15 Climb up the crack system above the ledge moving slightly left at the top to a good ledge. Scramble off rightwards.

First ascent: 4 Aug 1985 D. Margetts and N. Margetts.

PURPLE RAIN

19 ***

This climb starts about 50m upstream of LATE BREEZE on the left-hand side of a prominent overhang.

1. 30m 19 Climb the ridge to the right of the prominent overhang. Keeping on the ridge move up until a traverse up left past a crack system is made into the prominent open book with large tree in it. Climb the open book past the tree up to the overhang with the crack running through it. Surmount the overhang (crux) and continue up to a good ledge.

2. 30m 17 Climb up the crack passing through the bulging face directly behind the ledge. Continue up to a large ledge with a crack at its rear. Climb this crack to a bush, continue up the recess above.

First ascent: 4 Aug 1985 D. Margetts and N. Margetts.

BROTHERS IN ARMS

21 ****

This climb is the direct start to PURPLE RAIN. It takes the impressive overhanging recess with the large tree half way up to an overhang, 25m upstream and on the same side of the kloof as LATE BREEZE.

- 1. 18m 20** Climb up a short slab to the overhang. Move through the overhangs using 3 fixed pegs for protection. Continue up the open book above to belay in the tree.
- 2. 18m 18** Climb up the open book to a crack in the overhang. Move through the overhang to a ledge.
- 3. 30m 17** Moving slightly left on the ledge, climb the crack through the bulge onto a large ledge. Move right to the arete and climb this to the top.

Notes:

- 1.** Pitch 2 and the first part of pitch 3 are shared with PURPLE RAIN.
- 2.** Pitches 1 and 2 can be combined.
- 3.** Before he made the Statue of Liberty disappear, David Copperfield first practised (very successfully) on the pegs on this route.

First ascent: 24 May 1985 N. Margetts and D. Margetts.

CHARGE OF THE LIGHT BRIGADE

20 **

This climb is situated just downstream from BROTHERS IN ARMS on a buttress just as you come out of the BROTHERS IN ARMS enclave.

- 1. 25m 20** Climb up the middle of the face (sparse protection) with the crux getting off the ground. Continue up the face avoiding a ledge on the right arete. Reach the ledge with a tree and continue up the dihedral to a small overhang. Exit to the left and scramble to a ledge.
- 2. 15m 10** Climb back to the left of the large overhang. Traverse right onto the lip and climb the arete to a large ledge (Camp Six).
- 3. 15m 17** Traverse left from the stance. Move up to a short open book below the overhang. Continue up to an overhang. Move left through the overhang and follow the face to the top (good exposure).

Notes:

- 1.** The first pitch provides good climbing with limited protection.
- 2.** The stance on top of pitch 2 is very similar to Camp 6 on the nose of EL CAPITAN, YOSEMITE.
- 3.** A **** climb can be created by climbing the first pitch of MORE GOOFY THAN MICKEY MOUSE and then finishing up pitches 2 and 3 of CHARGE OF THE LIGHT BRIGADE.

Variation to pitches 2 and 3:

40m 17 Instead of moving right at the overhang, climb straight up the face past an overlap to a ledge. Move left into a downstream facing openbook. Climb this, moving out left near top past a tree then up short face to top of crag. (2007 D. Margetts and T. Margetts)

First ascent: 10 Aug 1986 D. Margetts, G. Margetts and A. Mercer.

MORE GOOFY THAN MICKEY MOUSE

12 **

This climb starts 35m upstream of LATE BREEZE (5m upstream of SUGAR MAN) in a prominent recess.

1. 25m 12 Climb the recess up a series of steps to a short dual crack system. The right crack has a small nettle bush in it. Climb the left crack to a small ledge. Continue up the recess to where the crack steepens. By using either hand holds on the sides of the crack, or jams in the crack, ascend to a good ledge.

First ascent: 4 Aug 1985 D. Margetts and N. Margetts.

SUGAR MAN

17 ***

This climb starts about 30m upstream of LATE BREEZE in a shallow open book with a crack running up it (Note - a crack system 1 to 2 m upstream does not constitute the climb).

1. 25m 17 Climb the shallow open book to a small ledge passing a wedged block (crux). Continue up the crack system directly below a small overhang. An attractive layback crack slightly to the right is a feature of the upper parts of the crack system. Exit left to avoid the overhang onto a good ledge with tree belay.

Scramble up the easy rock to the top of the kloof.

First ascent: 4 Aug 1985 D. Margetts and N. Margetts.

COLD FACT

16 **

This climb is situated about 10m upstream of LATE BREEZE and about 3m downstream of SUGERMAN. (The next crack downstream from SUGERMAN.)

1. 25m 16 Ascend the crack 3m to the first ledge (small tree). Continue up easier ground to a small ledge and tree. Ascend the finger crack past another small tree onto a good ledge. Moving leftwards 1 to 2m, climb the face to the top.

Note:

A pleasant climb, well protected and on good rock.

First ascent: 10 Aug 1986 G. Margetts, D. Margetts, A. Mercer and T. Snyders.

NUTCRACKER**20 *****

This climb ascends a fine crack on the wall just upstream of LATE BREEZE, between the arete (DINGBATS HIMALAYAN EPIC) and COLD FACT.

1. 30m 20 Ascend the steep face to a good ledge (19 5m) (small wire protection). Continue up easier ground to a ledge and small tree just 1 to 2m left of a larger tree. Climb the steep face above (crux). Follow easier rock to a large ledge and belay.

Note:

Technically stimulating moves on good rock.

First ascent: Unknown D. Margetts, G. Margetts and G. Winfield.

DINGBATS HIMALAYAN EPIC**15 ****

This climb ascends the arete just upstream of LATE BREEZE.

1. 30m 15 Starting just upstream of LATE BREEZE, climb the arete.

Notes:

1. A pleasant climb on good rock but protection sparse lower down.

2. The name of this climb is derived from the ramblings of the leader on the opening ascent.

First ascent: 7 Sep 1986 G. Winfield, D. Margetts and G. Margetts.

LATE BREEZE

15 ***

The route lies on the first big buttress upstream of the grey grassy slabs. The route starts in the obvious polished black corner (the second corner from the downstream side of the buttress).

1. 25m 15 Climb the open book to a tree belay on the large ledge.

2. 20m 13 Climb the crack system up the buttress slightly left of the stance either breaking left to reach the tree belay or continuing up the broken rock to reach a stance on the perched block on top.

First ascent: Apr 1979 E. Druschke and R. Nienaber.

THE THREAD

22 *****

Start directly below slab 2m to left of the start of LATE BREEZE.

1. 40m 22 Move up to the start of the slab where a horizontal crack is encountered, continue up 4m (20) to another resting spot. (This section is shared with PUNCHLINE.) Then continue straight up avoiding the arete to the hollow block. Move up further rightwards to a jug handhold at the start of the fine horizontal crack. Traverse right 4m (across slab) to the base of the prominent crack line (crux). Climb this to the top exiting slightly left to a ledge and tree belay.

2. 15m 17 Climb directly above the stance to the base of an overhang, pull through the overhang (runner in crack to left). Continue up to the top of the block.

Note:

There are various ways to cross from the left side of the slab to the right:

- a.** Hands about 2m below the rail 21/22.
- b.** Hands about 4m below the rail 20. It makes sense to place the nut for the original traverse before down climbing to this height. (K. and M. Smith, Circa 1985)
- c.** Climb up until hands are about 2-3m above the rail, then traverse right 21.

The grades are somewhat reach dependent.

First ascent: 21 Apr 1985 N. and D. Margetts.

PUNCHLINE

20 ****

Ascends the fine slab that forms the left-hand side of the LATE BREEZE corner. Start 3m left of LATE BREEZE. Cairn.

1. 35m 20 Ascend a leftward-leaning crack system until it is possible to step right on to the slab proper, above a small overlap. Protected by friends in the horizontal crack, make hard moves to a good resting ledge. Continue up in the same line, following a shallow recess 2m from the arete, until level with a hollow-sounding jammed block. From here traverse left on to the arete (crux of PICK OF PUNCH) and climb the last few metres of that route.

First ascent: 13 Jan 1985 R. Dodding and S. Middlemiss.

PICK OF PUNCH

17 **

Take the arete some 5m downstream of LATE BREEZE.

1. 23m 15 Climb the buttress, keeping to the crest, to a ledge with blocks. (There are easier variations to the left.)

2. 23m 17 Climb the left side of the crest for 5m, move awkwardly to the right side of the crest and continue up to a large ledge. A further 7m of climbing leads to the top.

First ascent: 8 Apr 1979 D. Cheesmond and D. Peters.

THORN BIRD

17 *

The route takes a very shallow open book to begin.

It starts 5m upstream of HAAK-EN-STEEL and climbs the centre of the face until gradually forced left by the roof to join HAAK-EN-STEEL above the tree - Cairn.

1. 30m 17 Start at the base of the open book. Tricky and thin to start. Climb the steps above until the roof is encountered. Take a stance just above the tree. The crux is to mantleshelf up to the stance.

2. 15m 9 Finish up the groove as for HAAK-EN-STEEL. Take a comfortable stance on top.

Note:

Protection is thin at start, adequate thereafter.

First ascent: 11 Sep 1994 U. Kiefer and T.P. Wilmot.

HAAK-EN-STEEL

9 *

The route is on the first buttress upstream of the grassy broken grey slabs, on the right side of the kloof. The route follows the first obvious corner on the left-hand side of the buttress (downstream side).

1. 45m 9 Climb in the corner or just to the right of it. The pitch may be conveniently split.

First ascent: 22 Mar 1981 D. Peters, J. McLennan and C. Ward.

SAGA

7

Begin just left of HAAK-EN-STEEL. From the second grey grassy sloping slab walk onto the broad ledge on the right about 15m above the stream.

1. 20m 7 Move up 1 m, traverse to the right 2 or 3m to a blunt nose. Climb up this nose 11 m, move slightly left on broad ledge and up another 4m onto the big ledge.

2. 10m 7 Climb over the branches of a stamvrug tree to the right into a chimney which is climbed for 5m, and emerge right onto a good ledge.

3. 15m 7 Start at the right end of a ledge climbing up over two blocks. Move left towards the chimney and climb up the blocks to the top.

First ascent: 19 Apr 1980 R. and M. Forsyth.

WHO WAS THAT MASKED MAN

21 **

Starts approximately 20m downstream of LATE BREEZE. A bolt about 8m up marks the face that is climbed. The climb starts at the base of the face to the left of the corner with a tree in it. SOUNDS OF SILENCE ascends the crack around the corner on the left.

1. 23m 21 Climb directly up to the bolt. Continue past the bolt up the face, then move left onto the arete to a small ledge. Climb the short steep arete to the large ledge shared with SOUNDS OF SILENCE.

2. 20m 17 Move to the right past a tree. Climb the arete and face to the top of the crag.

First ascent: 6 Nov 1988 D. Margetts, M. Seegers, T. Truter, A. Margetts and E. Boyes. (With M. Townshend and B. Truter on the 1st pitch)

SOUNDS OF SILENCE

20 ***

This route starts about 50m downstream of the start of THE THREAD. It ascends the crack around the corner on the left of WHO WAS THAT MASKED MAN.

To reach the start, climb a large boulder to the flat, sloping ledge at the bottom of the descent ramp on the true right of the kloof.

1. 30m 20 Climb the vague crack line for 7m and then move slightly left. Continue up past a number of small ledges to a broad ledge with tree belay.

2. 30m 19 Move up and left to an open book. Climb the open book to easier rock. Continue up the easy face to the top of crag.

First ascent: 14 Feb 1988 D. Margetts and M.J. Seegers.

RECUPERATION

10

The climb starts at a large tree at a large rock platform at the foot of the buttress immediately upstream of the scramble descent route. It is a very direct route, straight up the face, 16m to the left of the corner, starting at a cairn.

1. 18m 8 Climb directly in line with the small tree on a small ledge, do a layback and mantleshelf move, and belay on a tree in a recess on a large, wide ledge.

2. 14m 10 Climb 3m up to a large ledge, and then 7m up a wide chimney, the top of which is very smooth and strenuous.

3. 21m 8 Traverse 10m to a corner on the right, initially off-balance, then climb up a steep corner on good holds.

Note:

A very pleasant and direct route on good rock.

First ascent: 23 Jan 1983 H.M. Winder and A. Wepner.

PSYCHEDELIC MOONSHAKE

20 ***

This climb ascends the steep face situated on the left after one has descended the ramp descent (steep grassy sloping slabs). The start is found about 4m to the right of the climb THE SERPENT and about 10m downstream of RECUPERATION.

1. 25m 20 Climb directly up to the bulge where a fixed piton protects the crux. Continue up a direct line to a tree belay.

2. 20m 20 Move up to a higher ledge. Continue up the face (thin) to beneath the obvious overhang. Pull through the overhang (crux). Climb easier rock to the top.

First ascent: 8 Feb 1987 A. Lainis, D. Margetts and G. Margetts.

THE SERPENT

16 ***

This climb starts downstream of PICK OF PUNCH and ascends a recess (open book) up a face on the left side as one descends the ramp descent route with the large overhang near the top.

1. 25m 15 Climb the open book to a small ledge on the left. Continue up the face to a large ledge.

2. 15m 16 Climb the face above the stance, first moving slightly left then tending right near the top.

Note:

The name of the route is derived from a large snake seen at the base of the climb.

First ascent: 11 Jan 1987 D. Margetts and V. Nienhaber.

THE BLOCKY HORROR SHOW

13 **

Starts to the right of ICEPIG i.e. at the base of the ramp with the large overhang.

1. 10m 13 Traverse right from the ramp to a good ledge. Climb the corner with the crack on the left side of the ledge to a broad ledge. (Alternatively - climb the easier crack/chimney around the corner to the right, however, it is loose.)

2. 20m 12 Move along the ledge to the base of the chimney. Climb the face and chimney to the top of the crag.

Note:

Good climb for beginners.

First ascent: 14 Feb 1988 D. Margetts, M. Seegers, T. Truter, A. Mercer and E. Boyes.

ICEPIG

16 **

Ascends the face just to the right (looking up) of the large overhang at the top of the ramp descent gully on the true right of the kloof.

1. 35m 16 Traverse right from the ramp to the base of the face onto a ledge with a crack at its rear. Climb up the face moving slightly right to the base of a dihedral. Climb the dihedral to a tree. Move left onto a slab and continue to the top of the crag, bypassing an overhang.

First ascent: 14 Feb 1988 M. Seegers, D. Margetts, E. Boyes and A. Mercer.

BILIARY KILLS

19 ***

Just upstream of MARK THE RIPPLES is a short buttress.

1. 15m 19 Start on the downstream facing side of the buttress. Climb a crack system up to a large sloping ledge.

First ascent: Jan 1992 D. Margetts, A. McCann, P. McCann and Bonnie.

TOOTHBRUSH CHARLIE

14 **

1. 25m 14 Climb the face and then the crack left of BILIARY KILLS.

First ascent: 1993 B. Schuman, D. Margetts and G. Devine.

SNIP

11

Start just to the right of SNACK where there is a small red-brown corner about 10m above the kloof floor with a roof above it.

1. 30m 11 Climb the face 4m right of SNACK. Continue up in the corner, move over the overhang and traverse right onto a slab. Continue straight up the slab and the wall above to the top.

First ascent: 9 Aug 1981 A. and C. Fatti and C. Ward.

SNACK

13 *

Start 10m upstream from MARK THE RIPPLES where there is a small recess and crack running up to some overhangs.

1. 35m 13 Climb the crack to a slab and move left to a flake leaning against the face. Climb this and step around right below a large overhang and move up slightly and traverse diagonally up right under the overhang (tree growing from crack). Turn the overhang at the extreme right-hand end. Continue up the crack and climb the fault line to the top.

First ascent: 9 Aug 1981 A. and C. Fatti and C. Ward.

LAPSANG SONCHONG

17 **

The climb starts 5m right of MARK THE RIPPLES ascending the face and then the overhang mentioned under SNACK.

1. 20m 15 Climb the face to the left of the flake leaning against the face. Belay at the flake.

2. 30m 17 Climb up the flake and open book passing a small tree to gain the base of the overhang. Exit left and climb the easier rock to top.

First ascent: 22 Sep 1985 A.M. Maddison, A. Mercer and D. Margetts.

MARK THE RIPPLES

12 ***

Start on the true right-hand side of the kloof, opposite RIPPLE MARK. The climb begins on a polished sloping black slab at ground level and initially goes up a smooth black corner which overhangs 30m up.

- 1. 25m 11** Climb a recess with some cracks higher up to a small stance. (At the stance, be careful of large loose blocks, particularly if used as a belay point.)
 - 2. 20m 9** Traverse diagonally left 20m to a large platform stance above a tree.
 - 3. 25m 12** Climb a clean pleasant face to the top, with a steeper grassy portion at the finish (crux).
- Variation: (For a direct finish)**
- 3. 25m 15** Ascend the recess on the left face above via a small tree to the overhang. Surmount the overhang on its right. Follow the recess to top. (Jun 1979 R. and E. Druschke and H. Vogl.)

First ascent: Jun 1979 C. Fatti, P. Kaiser, S. Gans and I. Kelman.

EARL GREY

19 ***

The route starts immediately left of MARK THE RIPPLES, passing through the square-cut overhang above.

- 1. 18m 15** Ascend the steep, brown, fluted rock immediately left of the start of MARK THE RIPPLES. (Small friends for protection.) Bridge up until able to reach a side-pull then move up to the ledge above.
- 2. 35m 19** Climb the crack system to below the roof, where good protection may be arranged. Exit through the crack on the upstream side by layback/jamming to gain easier ground above.

Variation:

From beneath the roof it is possible to exit on the downstream side. Using a small foothold on the nose, move left onto easier ground.

First ascent: Jan 1985 A.M. Maddison and A. Mercer.

APPIE DOCTOR

15 ***

Start 15m downstream of MARK THE RIPPLES where there is a 20m high recess.

- 1. 28m 11** Climb on the right-hand side of the recess until it is possible to step out right onto a ledge. Continue up from the ledge until below a detached rib.
- 2. 30m 15** Climb the crack on the left-hand side of the rib and continue up the face above to the top.

First ascent: 9 Aug 1981 A. and C. Fatti and C. Ward.

DOLONG

18 ***

Left of APPIE DOCTOR, halfway up the crag a V-shaped groove may be seen. The route ascends the crack below this to gain the groove. Begin 5m right of FIVE ROSES (tiny cave at bed level).

- 1. 20m 15** Ascend the open book for 10m, move left onto face and up to ledge below crack.
- 2. 20m 18** Climb the crack to gain the base of the V-groove. Ascend the groove to the top.

First ascent: 22 Sep 1985 A. Mercer, D. Margetts and A. Maddison.

THE ROCK MECHANIC AND THE ARTIST

14,A1

From the meeting spot, walk about 100m upstream until a break in the pipe is reached, just below ZIMBABWE FACE. 20m above this, on the true right, there is a steep gully up which one can scramble to reach the top. Just upstream of this again, there is a small amphitheatre, with a small cave at ground level. Scramble up 10m to the start of the open slabs. In the corner on the right, there is a continuously overhanging corner. Left of the corner, there is a slightly on-angle slab, with two steps of roofs. The route takes the obvious crack line through these roofs.

1. 30m A1 There is a convenient ledge to belay from, belay in the crack on the right-hand end of the ledge, but start climbing 3m left of this. Easy nutting and solid hooking up the slab, until a sketchy free move finds one on a narrow, glassy, sloping foot-ledge just below the first roof. A solid cam in the lip, followed by a few hook moves brings one to the second roof. An awkward move onto a broad ledge is the end of the aiding, and easy free follows straight up to a huge slab-ledge, with superb pro.

2. 25m 14 Follow the slab above the ledge to the trees and blocks at the top.

Notes:

1. Descend by abseiling the second pitch, then scrambling easily left into the gully mentioned earlier, and thence to the bottom.

2. A short, fat "universal" or "stake" piton would be useful on the initial slab on the first pitch to provide protection for the hook moves.

First ascent: 30 Aug 1998 D. Morgan and M. Pretorius.

FIVE ROSES

19 ***

The route starts at the tiny cave at bed level marked on the map just downstream of APPIE DOCTOR, taking a line from the cave to the top of the overhang above.

1. 35m 19 From the cave ascend easily to below a shallow open book. Climb the open book until able to move right awkwardly onto a small sloping ledge. Continue up the face to a ledge below a slanting dihedral.

2. 35m 17 From the ledge move right (1m) and then ascend the arete. Climb awkwardly at first to gain a shallow open book. Ascend this until directly below the overhanging crack. Pull through the overhang on excellent jams to the top.

Note:

It is possible to omit the final overhang by traversing left, where the grade of the pitch falls to 15.

First ascent: 14 Jul 1985 A.M. Maddison and A.J. Mercer.

CAREBEAR SURPRISE

17 **

This climb starts on the true right on the upstream side of the gully leading up to the climb ONE FOR THE POT.

1. 40m 17 Climb to the base of short buttress. Climb the break to sloping slab (crux). Continue up the slab to a sloping ledge. Manteshelf onto ledge and climb face above to top of crag.

First ascent: 2008 K. Thrash, D. Margetts and A. Margetts.

ONE FOR THE POT

15 ***

This climb takes the break which starts at the top of a short gully on the true right, just upstream of SOFTY. Scramble up the gully past slab on the left (STONERS DELIGHT) and buttress on right with crack in it (CAREBEAR SURPRISE) to its highest point. It starts higher than the surrounding climbs.

1. 40m 15 Climb up to the first overhang. Continue up easy rock to open book. Continue up, moving left to top of crag.

First ascent: 1985 A. Maddison, D. Margetts and A. Mercer.

STONERS DELIGHT

13 **

This climb ascends the face and corner on the gully leading up to the climb ONE FOR THE POT. It is just upstream of SOFTY.

1. 30m 13 Start on the right hand side of the slab. Move onto slab and across it to the upstream facing corner. Ascend corner to a point where one can climb a short recess on the left hand wall. Climb recess to ledge. Continue moving left and up to top of crag.

First ascent: 2008 D. Margetts and A. Margetts.

FAMILY OUTING

16

This climb starts right of SOFTY.

1. 30m 16 Climb the face to start, then the recess to top of crag.

First ascent: 2000 N. Margetts and D. Margetts.

SOFTY

18 **

This climb starts almost opposite GUNSIGHT in the centre of a buttress where a root (about 8cm in diameter) from a tree half way up the face passes into the ground.

1. 23m 18 Climb the recess with the root in it until the tree lies to ones left. Make an awkward move rightwards to below an overhang with a crack through it. Climb the overhang (crux) to a good ledge.

2. 15m 13 Moving slightly left above the ledge climb the recess and crack system to the top.

Note:

The crux on pitch 1 can be avoided by traversing right lower down and climbing easier rock to the ledge.

First ascent: 15 Sep 1985 D. Margetts and A. Mercer.

HIGH RISE

19 ****

This climb is situated on the buttress just upstream of the attractive face with KB4 and ABSENTIA on it. The climb follows the downstream arete with a large tree projecting out from the base of the climb. A prominent gully with a cave recess is found just downstream of the climb.

1. 30m 19 Climb the short face with roots to the right. Follow the open book moving right when the face steepens, continue up to a small overhang. Move left and up to a block. Continue up the arete using lugs (layback holds) until another small overhang is reached. Move left again and pull through on good holds. Continue up to small ledge.

2. 12m 13 Move up to the rail, then leftward to a small stance, and then traverse right to the crack system. Follow this to top.

Note:

A good clean enjoyable route.

Variation to pitch 2:

21 After the small ledge, instead of moving right, move left to a short face and overlap. Climb this into a short break up to a ledge. (2008 K. Thrash and D. Margetts)

First ascent: 23 Mar 1986 C. Ward, D. Margetts and R. Brand.

LAST DROP

11 *

Climb the recess/gully between ZIMBABWE FACE and HIGH RISE - 30m.

First ascent: 1993 D. Margetts and G. Devine.

ZIMBABWE FACE

16 ***

This climb ascends the attractive face opposite PISTOL. The climb starts where a tree grows $\pm 0,5\text{m}$ from the base of the cliff, and several large flat boulders occur. (This is the same start as KB4).

1. 20m 14 Climb the face tending slightly rightwards to a ledge with a tree in it.

2. 15m 16 After moving slightly upwards above the tree step left onto the face. Ascend the face following the crack system to the top (good climbing)

Notes:

1. Protection on pitch 2 is sparse.

2. A four star route is created if the first pitch of ABSENT-TEA is combined with the second pitch of ZIMBABWE FACE. Instead of moving left after the first pitch of ABSENT-TEA, move slightly right and continue up the face to join ZIMBABWE FACE.

First ascent: 15 Sep 1985 D. Margetts and A. Mercer.

ABSENT-TEA

17 ***

This climb starts 5m downstream of ZIMBABWE FACE in a smooth sided shallow open book, and passes through the overhang above.

1. 17m 17 Climb the shallow open book (small nuts useful). Move slightly rightwards at the top of the open book to a good ledge. Belay at the right end of ledge where good nut placements are found.

2. 15m 16 Climb up the face to beneath the overhang with the crack passing through it, pull through the overhang and ascend to the top.

Note:

A good abseil tree can be found at the top of pitch 2.

First ascent: 15 Sep 1985 D. Margetts and A. Mercer.

ARPERIGATOR

18

The climb starts in the base of the recess 4m to the right of KB1 (cairn). There is a rhombohedral overhang about 20m up.

1. 38m 18 Climb the recess past small trees to the overhang. Pull through the notch in the overhang to the ledge. Traverse 1,5m left under the second overhang, up the face for 3m and back right into the recess above the second overhang. Climb the recess and rib above to the top.

Note:

Climbing through the second overhang was done by the second at 19.

First ascent: 30 Sep 1985 S. Middlemiss, A. Maddison and D. Margetts.

KB FOUR

11 **

10m up from KB THREE on the same side (cairn).

1. 45m 11 Start at a high point behind a large block. Climb up diagonally left to the obvious break. Move up to the easy ground in the gully. Climb the good jamming crack on the left wall.

First ascent: 29 Aug 1982 N. Cleaver and C. Ward.

BILABONG DIHEDRAL

17 **

On the left corner of the chimney containing KB3 is an open book containing a substantial root for much of its length. The route follows the open book to the top.

1. 25m 17 Ascend the open book to the top, moving left at the overhang (at mid-height) then back right again.

2. 15m 13 Ascend the steep wall above, moving right round the overhang and up to the stance.

First ascent: 29 Sep 1985 A.M. Maddison, D. Margetts and S. Middlemiss.

DOWN UNDER

18 ***

This route takes the steep face 5m to the right of and upstream of the climb THE SQUAT PINNACLE.

1. 30m 18 Climb the easy face up to the overhang, move through the overhang on the left side (crux). Continue up the face to a good ledge (avoiding easy open book to the left). Climb the recess/chimney at the back of the ledge to the overhang, surmount the overhang and continue to the top.

Note:

This climb can be split into 2 pitches.

First ascent: 29 Sep 1985 D. Margetts, A. Maddison and S. Middlemiss.

KB 1,5**14**

Start 3m to the right of the chimney with the chockstone i.e. 1 m to left of the large tree.

1. 20m 14 Climb the series of short open books leading right to the larger smoothed walled open book at the top, climb this to a large ledge.

First ascent: 30 Sep 1985 S. Middlemiss.

KB THREE**10**

15m up from KB TWO on the same side of the kloof at a corner (cairn).

1. 30m 10 Climb the well defined chimney to a good ledge. Scramble up to the top.

First ascent: 29 Aug 1982 N. Cleaver and C. Ward.

THE SQUAT PINNACLE**15 *****

This route starts 5m upstream of KB1 on the right side of a squat pinnacle.

1. 25m 15 Climb the right arete of the pinnacle Continue up a short open book avoiding a tree (the climb is 13 if the tree is used). Continue up a pleasant face to the top of the pinnacle.

2. 15m 9 Climb up the pleasant face behind the pinnacle to the right of a grassy recess.

First ascent: 6 Oct 1985 D. Margetts, A. Margetts, A. Maddison, C. Ward, H. Bolton and R. Brand.

KB TWO

10

10m up from KB ONE on the same side (cairn).

- 1. 45m 10** Climb the wall right of the short chockstoned chimney to a good ledge. Climb straight up to a small recess. Move out right and up a short wall to the top. This climb can be split into two pitches if required.

First ascent: 29 Aug 1982 C. Ward and N. Cleaver.

THE PARTING SHOT

20 ***

The route takes the face of the squat pinnacle mentioned in KB 1, slightly downstream from PISTOL, on the opposite side. Start 3m upstream from KB1.

- 1. 35m 20** Ascend the face directly below the pinnacle easily to a ledge at mid-height. From the ledge move directly up the face of the pinnacle (crux). Holds improve towards the top.
- 2. 15m 8** Ascend the pleasant face to the top, or scramble off to the left.

First ascent: 6 Oct 1985 A.M. Maddison, D. Margetts and C. Ward.

KB ONE

11

On the same side of the kloof and 10m upstream from NORTH AMERICA WALL. On the wall right of the recess (cairn).

- 1. 50m 11** Climb up left of the fault line to a squat pinnacle. Climb past on the left and continue up to the top. The climb can be split into two pitches at the pinnacle.

First ascent: 29 Aug 1982 C. Ward and N. Cleaver.

FAMOUS FIVE

19 ***

This climb is situated 10m upstream of NORTH AMERICAN WALL.

1. 30m 19 Climb the crack to the right of the large cave overhang until forced right to easier ground, continue up to a small tree. Make a difficult traverse 2m left over lip of overhang to a small stance at base of recess (crux). Follow recess to top of buttress with difficult moves at 3m and 6m.

Note:

A good route with sustained climbing from the traverse line onwards. Adequate protection on small nuts.

First ascent: 23 Feb 1986 C. Ward, D. Margetts, A. Mercer, N. Margetts and C. Edelstein.

NORTH AMERICA WALL

15

Upstream from ROAMER there is a large recess capped by overhanging rock. Start on a buttress left of the recess, behind a tree 4m out from the recess (cairn).

1. 45m 15 Climb straight up the wall over a little bulge to a large ledge. Continue on the right, right of the large root, to the top of the crag.

First ascent: 29 Aug 1982 N. Cleaver and C. Ward.

WAVING NOT DROWNING

18 **

Take the slim groove 5m right of CIRCLE OF HANDS. Step off the tree and climb the groove direct.

First ascent: 1986 M. Haffner.

SQUARE FEET

20 ***

Starts 3m to the right of CIRCLE OF HANDS. (i.e. 3m to the left of WAVING NOT DROWNING).

1. 25m 20 Start directly below the small overhang at 4m. Climb straight up (peg and rope sling for protection). Follow the crack above to ledge, thence move up the wall above, exiting to the left of the small overhang at the top.

First ascent: 6 Dec 1986 S. Middlemiss (unseconded)

CIRCLE OF HANDS

20 ***

This route is situated on buttress about 20m upstream of the meetspot, and takes the obvious crack straight out of the streambed. About 8m away from the rock face is a large tree (unique in Kranskloof) with a very thick trunk.

1. 30m 20 Climb the break on brownish rock to a small bulge about 6m up. Continue up the book above and exit right and then straight up to a tree.

First ascent: May 1985 M. Brunke, S. and G. Mallory, K. Smith, J. Brown and D. van der Riet.

THE BLOND BOMBSHELL

19 **

This route starts 2 to 3m downstream from CIRCLE OF HANDS at the deepest part of a small cave.

1. 15m 19 Ascend the overhanging corner on the left of a small cave just downstream of CIRCLE OF HANDS. Continue up the short face above the corner to easier ground.

2. 30m 17 Move left to a short chimney on the left side of a steep face. After climbing up a few meters move right onto the arete and continue up to a ledge below the final steep face. Climb this final face tending slightly leftwards.

First ascent: 24 May 1987 D. Margetts and A. Mercer.

ROAMER

10

Some 20m upstream from the meet point is a small undercut buttress abutting the main kloof wall. This buttress and the wall above provide 30m of nondescript grade 10 climbing.

The small buttress may be surmounted via a grade 6 pitch behind a tree to the left of a recess or via harder pitches on the left and right sides of the buttress.

1. ?m 10 Above the small buttress there is a stepped recess which is climbed with the aid of a 2m pinnacle in its second, or to the right lies a pleasant grade 6 face with a series of sloping ledges. Both pitches end on a wide sloping ledge. The way off lies up a short grey recess with two tricky grade 10 moves left onto a miniature grey slab.

First ascent: 9 Aug 1981 Miss T. Wulffers, R. Fox and H. Winder.

NORMA JEAN

20 **

Climbs the steep face just to the right of CANDLE IN THE WIND.

1. 10m 20 Ascend the steep face with the sloping ledge at its base. Avoid the corner on the right and the arete to the left.

2. 20m 8 Climb the easy face above to the top of crag.

Note:

On the opening ascent a micro wire was pre-placed on the 1st pitch.

First ascent: 12 Jun 1988 D. Margetts.

CANDLE IN THE WIND

15 **

This climb starts just downstream of ROAMER (i.e. about 10 to 15m upstream of the lower meet spot). It climbs the open book just to the right of a gully recess.

1. 30m 15 Climb the open book (recess) using the slab on left. Continue up to a ledge with a small tree. Continue up past the tree by moving left onto the slab. Climb up to a small grassy ledge with a corner above. Up the corner and continue up the open book to the top of the crag.

Note:

Can be divided into two pitches.

First ascent: 11 Jan 1987 A. Mercer and D. Margetts. (both soloed)

BLACK MAMBA

22 **

Located in a gully about 20 to 30m upstream of the lower campsite. The route pulls through the overhang at the back of the gully. The gully is about 20-30m downstream of CIRCLE OF HANDS.

1. 20m 22 Climb up to and pull through the overhang on the right-hand side (crux). Continue up the face to a small tree, then make a tricky traverse to the right for two to three metres. Climb the face above to a stance and scramble to the top.

Note:

This climb bites early!

First ascent: 13 Dec 1987 M. Seegers and D. Margetts.

DOPTONE

11 **

This route starts just upstream of the lower meet site (about 10 to 15m) i.e. downstream of ROAMER.

1. 30m 11 Ascend the slab to the left of a gully for about 15m, up to a small ledge. Traverse right for 1 to 2m to the arete. Climb this, continuing up easier ground to the top.

*First ascent: 11 Jan 1987 D. Margetts and V. Nienhaber.
(both soloed)*

NUISANCE

17 *

This climb ascends the overhanging face right of BONNIE, just above the meet spot.

1. 30m 17 Start directly below the overhang. Climb the face directly to overhang, and pull through to a large ledge. Scramble to summit.

First ascent: 1989 D. Margetts and others.

BONNIE

14 ***

This climb takes the buttress directly above the meet spot.

1. 30m 14 Climb easy rock up to the overhang. Move left to the ledge. Climb the crack system just to the left of the nose (crux). Move up to the ledge above the nose. Continue easily up a series of ledges to the belay in the shade of a small tree.

Variation:

1. 30m 19 Climb up to the base of the nose of BONNIE but instead of moving to the left of the nose (as in BONNIE), climb up the crack system to the right of the nose. Continue up into an open book. Climb this to the roof and pull through to a good ledge in common with the normal BONNIE route. Continue as in BONNIE. (24 May 1987 D. Margetts, A. Mercer and G. Lainis.)

First ascent: 1 Dec 1985 D. Margetts and N. Margetts.

THUNDERCHILD

22 ***

The climb ascends the steep face (downstream facing) to the left (looking up) of the nose directly above the lower campsite i.e. to the left of the climb BONNIE.

1. 20m 22 Climb easy rock up to a good large ledge. Ascend the middle of the steep face avoiding the crack and recess and arete to the right completely. Follow a thin crack line initially up to a rail, then continue up the face to a good ledge where a belay can be made. Climb easily to the top of the crag.

Notes:

- 1.** A fixed peg was placed near the top of the face.
- 2.** Small wires (RPs) were used on the lower section of the face which constitutes the crux.
- 3.** The recess and arete on the right was avoided completely.

First ascent: 5 Sep 1987 D. Margetts.

OPTIONAL EXTRA

12 **

This climb takes the same buttress as BONNIE and climbs the downstream face. Scramble up to the left of the buttress to a good tree belay.

1. 25m 12 Climb up the short face to a large ledge. Climb up the small open book to finish up the crack in the slightly overhanging face.

First ascent: 1 Dec 1985 N. Margetts and M. Margetts.

Climbs on the true left

BAKGAT

10 ***

The climb takes the obvious red chimney just downstream of and opposite to RHEBUCK GULLY.

1. 12m 10 Climb generally up the right side of the chimney to the small stance and tree.

2. 40m 10 Climb the crack in the right corner of the chimney and continue up the chimney to the top.

Note:

Variations are possible on both pitches.

First ascent: Feb 1980 D. Peters, E. Druschke and C. Ward.

THE SILVER DREAM RACER

17 ***

Start 50m downstream of NETTLE GULLY on the true left of the kloof. Scramble up the open book to a broad ledge. Continue up and traverse right to another large platform with a cairn.

1. 25m 17 Start climbing about 2m to the right of the left-hand edge of the upper ledge. Follow the crack system up to an overhang (this is situated to the left of the more prominent overhang with a V-recess in it). Moving left, break through the overhang, then continue up to a good ledge.

2. 10m 13 Move up the chimney/recess on the left of the ledge to easier ground and the tree belay.

Note:

To descend abseil via the tree from the top of the route.

First ascent: 14 Apr 1985 N. and D. Margetts.

TITANIA

17

Situated 1.5m from the broken-pipe drip on the true left of the kloof where two obvious breaks take off from opposite ends of an elevated block.

1. 20m 17 Straddle the overhanging recess for 8m.

Continue straight up to the overhang that forms the base of an obvious nose. Stance on the left of the nose.

2. 45m 13 Traverse right onto the nose. Climb up and out to the left. Continue to the false top of the buttress. Traverse the gap and ascend the crack on the left to the true top of the buttress.

First ascent: 30 Jan 1983 J. de Groot and G. Graafland.

SWEET CAROLINE

15

Situated 15m from the broken-pipe drip on the true left of the kloof where two obvious breaks take off from opposite ends of an elevated block.

1. 25m 15 Straddle the grey recess on the right-hand edge of the block for 4m. Move diagonally right over the bulge.

Continue upwards via the slightly overhanging open book to the well-defined recess with the intricately rippled floor.

2. 40m 15 Straddle the recess until it closes. Step out onto the face and pull up. Continue upwards keeping right at the top of the buttress.

First ascent: 30 Jan 1983 J. de Groot and G. Graafland.

SURPRISE SURPRISE

15 ***

Opposite GOLDEN GOOSE is a high buttress. The route takes a thin crack line up the broken rock at the left extremity of this buttress and makes for the V-notch visible high up - cairn.

1. 41m 15 Climb the crack (using the rounded holds which all seem to slope the wrong way) until the angle eases and one can take a stance in the recess below the roof of the V-notch. The crux is about half way up and for height challenged persons comprises a precarious lay back move.

2. 10m 15 Move up to the roof and straddle through this (airy) to the easier ground above. Climb the headwall of the pinnacle above moving first left and then up and to the right to break through the roof (good grips) to reach the top of the pinnacle

Notes:

1. A surprisingly excellent climb on steep rock, airy but all there.

2. Descend from the top, carefully, down the steep gully immediately upstream of the route.

First ascent: 5 Jan 1997 G. Devine and T.P. Wilmot.

FIRST CHOICE

15 **

The climb starts 30m downstream of the point where water flows out of the pipe, on the left side of the kloof. The climb inclines leftwards up the first solid buttress downstream of a long stretch of broken krantz.

1. 20m 11 Climb up 3m in a broken open book, move 2m right over the broken bulge. Continue up for 6m to an overhang then move right over the bulge onto the broad sloping ledge. Continue up diagonally left for 5m to the small stance with loose block. (Peg belay.)

2. 20m 15 Traverse 6m diagonally left to a chimney and climb the chimney to the ledge.

3. 25m 6 Continue up the ridge via the large ledge to the top.

Variation:

2b. 11 After 5m up the chimney, traverse 5m right then straight up the crack and round the small tree to the right. Move 5m left along the ledge to the same stance.)

First ascent: 5 Feb 1972 A. Venzo, D. Peters and S. Spottiswoode.

FANTASIA

15 **

Left of FIONA'S FOLLY, this route takes the prominent corner which goes right up the crag on the downstream side of the white buttress taken by FIRST CHOICE.

1. 35m 15 Climb the recess to a ledge. Continue up the recess via a steep bulging face to the large ledge below that overhang.

2. 15m 11 Climb out right under the overhang. Straight up to a small chimney and out left to the top.

First ascent: Jun 1979 R. and E. Druschke and H. Vogl.

FIONA'S FOLLY

19 *****

The climb starts about 35m downstream of the point where water flows out of the pipe on the first solid buttress downstream of a long stretch of broken krantz.

Start just right of a beacon at the base of a recess sloping diagonally up leftwards (FIRST CHOICE) and below a prominent buttress spilt by a shallow recess in the upper half of the cliff.

1. 25m 19 Climb up on the left-hand side of the buttress for 5m. Traverse right across a steep face and then up on to the buttress. Climb diagonally right to the base of an undercut chimney. Climb this (crux) and at the top step left to a small stance in a recess below some steep rock.

2. 30m 17 Climb steeply diagonally up left onto a block. Continue diagonally left until it is possible to swing left into the base of the shallow recess in the front of the buttress. Climb this to a small overhang, surmount this on the left and then step right and move up to another small overhang. Step right on to easier rock and climb to the top.

Variation:

An alternative start is found 8m further downstream

1. 25m 19 Climb up the wall to a semi-layback crack. Continue up until the wall eases off at an off-width crack. Climb this (awkward), then move diagonally left to a prominent nose (bent right). Continue up to a small stance.
(Nov 1980 A. Wood, D. Hunter and C. Ward)

First ascent: Aug 1979 P. Fatti and Ms F. Richardson.

PETFATARS

19,A1 **

The route starts about 5m downstream of the direct start of FIONA'S FOLLY. The route goes up a groove line for 25m to a large ledge and then up a black water-stained face for 15m to a large ledge. It finally finishes up the overhanging face with the cubbyhole directly above.

1. 25m 15 Climb the groove (awkward start) which lies 5m to the right of the direct start to FIONA'S FOLLY. At 10m traverse a few metres right and continue up the groove via some balancing moves to a large ledge with a tree belay.

2. 10m 10 Climb the black water-stained face above to the large ledge.

3. 20m 19,A1 From the left side of the ledge step down and traverse 5m left to the first of two obvious corners about 2m apart. Climb the corner for a few metres then use aid to overcome the overhang. Make some obvious moves to gain the cubbyhole, then aid to move right out of cubbyhole and up. Make some strenuous moves to gain the top of the face.

First ascent: 16 Dec 1982 L.P. Fatti, D. Peters and M. Arsenjevic.

MONEY FOR NOTHING

16

Climbs the corner 5m to the left of THAT LITTLE FAGGOT.

1. 15m 16 Climb the corner.

First ascent: Nov 1988 S. Middlemiss.

THAT LITTLE FAGGOT

19

Climbs the steep wall 10-15m upstream of RAMBO / LIKE A CHIMPANZEE / MADISONS MISTAKE.

1. 24m 19 Boulder problem to start and then straight up the steep crack above to a ledge.

First ascent: Nov 1988 S. Middlemiss and G. Murray.

MADISONS MISTAKE

18 ***

This climb starts downstream of FIONA'S FOLLY and PETFATARS and ascends an obvious recess with a wide off-width crack in the upper section.

1. 25m 18 Ascend the recess with the crux at the top off-width section. Scramble to a large ledge.

2. 30m 12 Move down and leftward from the ledge to stand on a block. Climb the steep face on good grips to an open book with a slab on the right. Climb the slab to a good ledge.

3. 30m 12 Climb a series of open books up the arete to the top of the crag.

Note:

#4 Friends are useful on the 1st pitch.

First ascent: 18 Oct 1987 D. Margetts and A. Mercer.

THAT PEACEFUL EASY FEELING

25 *****

A line at the top of the gully behind THAT LITTLE FAGGOT.

1. 15m 25 Start at the bucket right of the bolt. Up to a bolt (RP2 and RP1). Left past the bolt and then follow the line to the top.

First ascent: 14 Aug 1988 R. Natrass.

RAMBO

17 **

This route takes the 90° overhanging open book about 30m upstream from FOETUS.

1. 10m 17 Scramble up to the start of the open book then climb it.

First ascent: Aug 1985 C. Curson.

HAWAIIAN NOISES

18 ***

This climb starts about 12m left of FOETUS at a squat 3m pillar in front of a blunt arete.

1. 25m 18 Climb up the front of the pillar. Using some holds on the left, ascend the thin crack on the right. Climb the shallow groove above. Step right onto the arete and pull up to a large ledge.

First ascent: 10 Nov 1985 C. Curson, C. Edelstein, K. Smith and H. Gill.

LIKE A CHIMPANZEE

18 ***

1. 25m 18 Starting at the tree 5m left of FOETUS, climb the crack to easier ground.

First ascent: 9 Nov 1985 C. Curson and H. Gill.

FOETUS

17 *****

Start 15m upstream of ASTERISK.

1. 20m 17 Climb a crack until it opens out into a recess below an overhang. Move over right to a corner. Climb this to a small stance below another overhang.

2. 10m 17 Move over left onto a wall. Climb up and left around an edge. Continue left for 2m and then up diagonally right. Continue straight up a wall to a good ledge.

3. 15m 11 Climb broken rock above to the top.

First ascent: Apr 1979 E. Haber, E. Nienaber and H. Zangerl.

CLIME OF THE CENTURY

20 *****

Starts 2m left of THE CRUISE on the edge of the ledge. A line of bolts will be seen on the arête to the right of the start.

1. 40m 20 The dihedral which FOETUS partially takes is climbed in its entirety to give a long, superb quality pitch. The crux is the first 5m. Moving initially slightly left, climb up to a ledge at the base of an upstream facing open book. Ascend this (initially shared with FOETUS) past one small overhang to belay on a small stance just past the second.

2. 20m 17 Continue up the dihedral (slightly right) to a ledge. Traverse right a few metres and climb up to another ledge. Traverse back left to the arete (above the stance) and climb to the top.

Notes:

1. On pitch 2, if you take off leftwards from the first ledge, it is 19 (scarce pro). The overhanging groove just left of the stance, and stepping right onto the face about 3m from the top, is 20.

2. The first direct start was in Aug 1985 by C. Curson and M. Haffner.

First ascent: Many dates Various parties

THE SANATARIUM

25

Climbs the arête between CLIMB OF THE CENTURY and THE CRUISE. Bolted.

First ascent: Unknown Party unknown

THE CRUISE

22 *****

Start as for ASTERISK.

1. 30m 22 Climb the crack running up the middle of the steep pink wall and continue straight up the face above, moving right onto ledges.

Note:

THE CRUISE follows the line of the aid route ASTERISK but finishes more directly.

First ascent: 12 May 1985 K.M. Smith, G. Mallory, M. Brunke and J.M. Brown.

ASTERISK

19,A2 *****

On the opposite side of the kloof to the PUNCHLINE buttress is a smooth pink slightly overhanging face, which faces downstream. The climb goes up the crack line in this face. Scramble 5m up to a large ledge with a deep chimney at the back of it.

1. 35m 19,A2 Climb the groove in the middle of the overhanging pink face on polished rock to a small overhang 8m up. Move right and climb the crack for 3m using one aid point to an off-balance stance. Continue up the crack for 8m using aid and climb the final 3m of the face to a small ledge. Traverse left along the ledge for 5m and move around the corner. Climb the face above for 8m before traversing right 5m and moving down to a good ledge.

2. 25m 15 Climb a series of steep corners above to a large ledge 10m up. Continue up the easy corner on the right to the top.

First ascent: 17 Aug 1981 P. Fatti and D. Peters.

PSYCHO THERAPY

27 *****

The direct version of SEA OF MADNESS

First ascent: Unknown Party Unknown.

SEA OF MADNESS

26 *****

The wall to the right of THE CRUISE.

1. 20m 26 Pull through a small overhang and climb straight up the face past a bolt, until able to move left to a friend rail. Continue up the right-trending break above.

First ascent: 1 Mar 1986 K.M. Smith.

POCKET HERCULES

25 ***

About 20m downstream of SEA OF MADNESS and THE CRUISE is a lower short buttress.

1. 12m 25 Climb up the middle of this short buttress.

Note:

Small friends and bolts.

First ascent: 1989 M. Seegers and D. Margetts.

THE ODYSSEY

18 *****

Start upstream of a small buttress angled 45° facing upstream and scramble 15m up to the back of a very deep chimney.

1. 22m 11 Climb the back of the chimney by straddling and chimneying and move out right to a large ledge.

2. 22m 18 Ascend the magnificent red smooth-sided corner to a large ledge.

3. 7m 6 Climb the crack at the back of the ledge.

First ascent: 3 Apr 1979 D. Cheesemond and D. Peters.

DEVIL-DODGER

13 *

The climb starts 30m upstream of the minor gully between THE SWARM and STOEP POLISH. The first pitch goes up the obvious 10m high crack in the corner with a flake on the top of it. The left side of the corner is formed by a smooth shiny white face which faces downstream.

1. 10m 10 Climb the crack in the corner and move left to a very large ledge beneath a large overhang (it is possible to scramble onto this ledge from the upstream side).

2. 20m 6 15m to the left there is a broken corner. Climb this for 15m and move onto a large ledge on the left (shared by THE ODYSSEY).

3. 30m 13 From the right-hand side of the ledge climb diagonally right past white roots and continue up the corner to the top.

First ascent: 3 Apr 1979 G. Moseley and B. de Villiers.

BY JOVE

9

Start in the easy corner 5m downstream of DEVIL-DODGER.

1. 35m 8 Climb the obvious corner and continue up to a tree belay at the point where the face steepens and the corner becomes more defined once again.

2. 15m 8 Climb the corner to a large ledge.

3. 15m 9 Climb the steep chimney above on good grips.

First ascent: 9 Aug 1981 D. Peters and P. Fatti.

ROVERS RETURN

19 ***

This climb starts on an elevated ledge 5 to 10m upstream of STOEP POLISH. The climb starts in an obvious crack system with a tree growing close to the face.

1. 25m 19 Climb the layback crack for 5m. Using the left face continue up the crack system to a small resting ledge. Continue up to a small overhang. Continue past the overhang to a good ledge with a tree belay.

2. 35m 10 Continue up the crack system behind the ledge to another ledge. Climb the corner with a crack in it and smooth sloping slab on the right to a large ledge.

3. 15m 12 Climb the left-hand crack system, using a tree root, to a good ledge.

First ascent: 10 Nov 1985 A. Mercer, D. Margetts and H. De Koningh.

STOEP POLISH

12 ***

The climb starts up a broken sloping white face 10m upstream of the narrow gully upstream of THE SWARM.

1. 21m 8 Climb the sloping white face to the prominent corner which leads up to the right. Continue a few metres up the corner to a large ledge level with a tree on the right.

2. 18m 12 Climb diagonally right over polished red rock, keeping to the corner, onto a comfortable stance below the point where the corner leads straight up the krantz.

3. 27m 10 Continue up the corner to the top.

Note:

This is a clean climb on top quality rock.

First ascent: 25 Apr 1981 D. Peters, C. Fatti and A. Fatti.

THE SWARM

18 ****

On the opposite side of the kloof to the GRASSY SLAB the river runs (occasionally) over some polished slabs right next to the krantz. RIGHT SLANT goes up the steep recess above the slabs. 5m upstream there is a corner capped by an overhang 20m up. A small tree grows at the foot of the corner. The climb goes up this corner.

1. 32m 18 Climb the corner to the overhang. Traverse left across the slab beneath the overhang. Traverse a few metres further left and climb up to the cubbyhole at the base of a steep face.

2. 22m 15 Climb diagonally right to the large tree on the face. Continue up to the overhang on the left. Turn the overhang by climbing up and right and continue up to another overhang. Bypass this on the left and continue to the ledge.

3. 27m 8 Scramble up to a face on the right and climb it.

Note:

Originally opened at 17,A1 using a nut in the overhang for aid.

Variation:

19 **** A more aesthetic finish is to be found by climbing the wall direct after the old aid move under the roof.

(A. Wood and D. Peters)

First ascent: 19 Apr 1980 G. Moseley and D. Peters.

RIGHT SLANT

15,A2 **

The climb is situated on the second rock face on the right as one enters the kloof. The first rock face is approximately 40m high and the second, moving up the kloof on the right, is approximately 50m high. Start on slanting rock slabs at the base of the main wall.

1. 13m 14 Climb the second main recess from the left (cairn). Climb up the crack and move diagonally right to a small tree growing out of a crack. Move over this and up, traversing diagonally left to slanting ledges. Belay on blocks (a good thread on jammed blocks).

2. 15m 15,A2 Continue straight up crack above the stance to a small tree also in a crack. Move diagonally up right across an overhanging wall (three points of aid) to an obvious shallow recess. Continue up (peg) to a metre wide ledge, then move left and up to a giant ledge. Small tree belay.

3. 36m 13 Continue up a short wall, with all the holds slanting towards you, to a ledge. Climb a crack system and flake on the left side of a buttress for about 25m to a tree. Move left to a wall which forms the highest rock point from the face below.

First ascent: 25 Mar 1979 G. Moseley and C. Ward.

THE JACKAL

18 **

The intention was to free the aid on RIGHT SLANT, but a completely new line was found 4m to the right.

1. 20m 17 Climb onto large block then ascend corner to tree noted on Pitch 1 of RIGHT SLANT. Belay just above.

2. 20m 18 Straight up into the corner capped by the overhang. Step out onto the right wall and up.

First ascent: 23 Jan 1983 A. Wood and D. Peters.

ARCH OF TIME

24 ****

Climbs the pinky-white corner and continuation crack which lie between RIGHT SLANT and RED HOT TOOTIE.

1. 25m 24 Climb the dihedral, continue up to the roof, pull through leftwards and follow the crack to a ledge.

Note:

A fixed piton protects the crux.

First ascent: 15 Jun 1985 K.M. Smith and G. Mallory.

TOOTIE ROOTIE

15

Start just right of RIGHT SLANT.

1. 30m 15 Move up the corner following the roots to a large tree. Gain height with the aid of the tree (this tree is now missing - use Pitch 1 of RED HOT TOOTIE) moving right with a hand jam in the crack then up the crack to good hand holds. Carry on up broken rock to a largish tree at the foot of an overhanging recess.

2. 20m 11 Move over the block via the corner then across a large flat rock to the next large block. Move over the block then belay at the tree. (Common stance with RIGHT SLANT.)

3. 30m 15 Move up the recess for 5m then move left around the corner (thin). Move up to the top.

First ascent: 20 Apr 1980 G. Langmore, R. Brown and N. Owen-Smith.

RED HOT TOOTIE

20 ***

Now that the tree that was used to overcome the difficulties on pitch 1 of TOOTIE ROOTIE has fallen down, one is faced with more severe problems. The 2nd and 3rd pitches of the route take the direct line instead of escaping to the left as the original route does.

1. 25m 17 Climb the obvious corner just downstream of RIGHT SLANT and THE SWARM until it runs out. Move slightly right and layback up a smooth corner to gain a large ledge. Move right to a nearby tree belay.

2. 25m 19 Climb directly up on polished rock to immediately beneath an overhanging nose. Move right onto the steep smooth convex face. Climb this to a stance at the foot of an overhanging chimney which is capped by a roof 10m up.

3. 20m 20 Climb the overhanging chimney to the roof. Traverse out left and continue to the top.

Note:

The first free ascent was by M. Arsenjevic, D. Peters and T. Lambrecht on 9 Sep 1984.

Variation:

This alternative which lies some distance downstream of the original start, makes the climb completely independent of TOOTIE ROOTIE.

1a. 20m 15 Start just left of an overhang at ground level which lies 10m upstream of the end of the buttress. Climb diagonally left for 10m passing beneath an inviting crack to the base of an open book which lies 5m to the right of the crack used by the original first pitch. Ascend the open book until it is possible to move out right onto the nose. Continue up to a good tree belay. (13 May 1984 D. Peters and M. Arsenjevic)

First ascent: 19 Jun 1983 M. Arsenjevic and D. Peters.

DRY ICE

20 ***

Start 8 to 10m downstream from RED HOT TOOTIE on a wall with two cracks in it, 2m apart.

1. **10m 20** Climb the right-hand crack to a large ledge.
2. **28m 19** Climb the crack, which becomes a downstream-facing corner/recess, up to a roof (loose block). Move left onto the nose and straight to the top.

Note:

A. Jardin, N. Vorster and A. Jack took part in opening pitch 1.

First ascent: 14 Jun 1987 S. Middlemiss and D. van Zyl.

RIPPLE MARK

12 *

Situated opposite grey grassy slabs on far side of kloof, downstream of a pinky-white recess.

1. **25m 12** Leaving prominent ripple-marked slabs about 10m to the left, climb up just right of a shallow chimney, onto face and up this to a large stance (tree).
2. **30m 10** Traverse diagonally up left, then up an open book to the top.

First ascent: Jun 1979 C. Fatti, P. Kaiser, S. Gans and I. Kelman.

SIDESHOT

15,A1 **

Starts 25m upstream of GUNSIGHT where an obvious looking weakness leads diagonally left.

1. **40m 15,A1** Climb diagonally left along the weakness. Continue leftwards on rounded holds for 5m to a block. Move up the black "waterchute" recess until 2m from a large ledge above. Make final hold-less moves with 2 pegs.

First ascent: 5 Feb 1972 D. Peters, S. Spottiswoode and A. Venzo.

THE DOGMOTHER

22 ****

Start 3m to the left of THE DOGFATHER directly below the overhanging jam crack.

1. 17m 22 A hard move from the left brings you onto good holds below the jam crack. Climb the crack to a belay ledge common with THE DOGFATHER.

2. 20m 21 Climb the crack in the right facing open book to a ledge and continue up the centre of the narrow orange face above, exiting to the left just before reaching the tree.

First ascent: 9 Feb 1986 C. Edelstein.

THE DOGFATHER

22 ****

This takes the deep pink recess 3m to the left of GUNSIGHT.

1. 20m 22 Pull up through the overhang and diagonally left into the recess. Up the recess to the overhangs and step right. Continue straight up to a ledge and belay.

2. 20m 22 Directly above is an open book with a crack in its rear and a crack 2m to the right. Climb the right-hand crack to a large ledge, and then continue up the open book at the back of the ledge.

First ascent: 10 Nov 1985 C. Edelstein and M. Haffner.

GUNSIGHT

17

The climb is on the first rock face, approximately 40m high, on the right side facing upstream. A rock formation at the top of the highest rock looks like a gunsight.

1. 10m 6 Scramble up a stepped ramp which bears diagonally left to a sloping ledge and shallow cave directly below the gunsight.

2. 22m 17 From the right-hand end of the ledge, pull up onto a small ledge on a steep wall to the right of a large nose 3m above. Continue up a groove and flakes into a shallow recess. Step over left onto the top of the nose. Climb a V-groove directly above the nose. Move up as high as possible and swing right to a smooth sloping ledge. Move diagonally up left to a large smooth sloping ledge. Traverse 2m right of this crack to a good jamming crack. Move up slightly right of this crack to a good ledge. Continue bearing left toward the gunsight onto a comfortable sloping ledge on the left below the gunsight. Belay.

3. 12m 13 Climb a short wall just to the right of the gunsight. Continue up past the right rock projection of the gunsight and over through a cleft to the top.

First ascent: 22 Jul 1979 A. Lambert, D. Peters and C. Ward.

THE DOG-BRAT

23 ****

Climb the crack 1m to the right of GUNSIGHT.

1. 20m 20 Climb the crack 1m to the right of GUNSIGHT to below the overhang level with the top of the prominent prow (where GUNSIGHT steps left). Move slightly left and climb the steep crack above easily to a point where you can traverse right to a ledge and belay.

2. 12m 23 Above is an overhanging face with a short bottomless "friend" crack 3m up. Use the face up and slightly right of the "friend" crack, and then move up on small holds directly above the "friend" crack, and climb to a ledge and tree belay.

First ascent: 26 Feb 1986 C. Edelstein and N. Margetts (Pitch 1); 2 Mar 1986 C. Edelstein and G. Mallory (pitch 2)

CHARACTER ASSASSINATIONS

21 ***

A short distance upstream of the lunch spot is a steep crag on the true left. This route is between PISTOL and GUNSIGHT.

1. 30m 21 Start ½ m left of PISTOL and continue up the independent line until a ledge is gained. Traverse easily left 4m and climb the break in the face up to a sloping ledge at the top. Sustained climbing after a tricky take-off.

First ascent: 15 Jun 1985 G. Mallory, K. Smith, M. Brunke and S. Mallory.

PISTOL

18 ****

Start approximately 8m downstream of GUNSIGHT, in the triangular cave about 10m up.

1. 30m 18 Climb to apex of cave and exit via crack above. Climb up narrow chimney past overhang to the top.

First ascent: 1981 M. Brunke and D. Cheesmond.

PUPPY DOG

20 *

This climb starts about 2m downstream of PISTOL.

1. 15m 20 Climb the steep overhanging wall on good grips tending rightwards 4m to a prominent pointed block. Continue up the cracks above to a good ledge.

Notes:

1. A short pleasant route well protected. Abseil off good tree.

2. TARGET PRACTICE takes the same line and is thus excluded from the guide.

First ascent: Mar 1986 N. Margetts and C. Edelstein.

CASTLE GORGE: List of Climbs

Climb Name	Grade	Stars	Pg
TARZAN	25/26		165
OF THE HANGERMANGLER	23	*****	149
THE JOY	23		148
SINKING THE PINK	22/23		165
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CASTLE GORGE

This is a small area with a limited number of good short climbs. It is rugged and scenic.

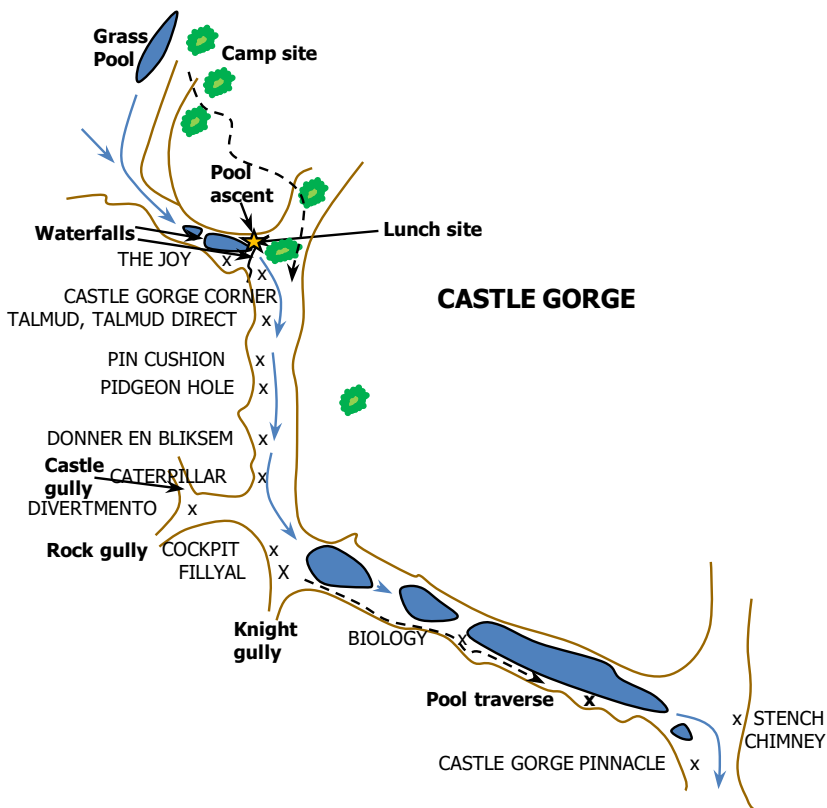
The meet point is at the large waterfall below CASTLE GORGE CORNER. When entering from the lower kloof, the area is best approached from the right-hand side of the main kloof, which is crossed higher up and beyond its confluence with the climbing kloof. On crossing the main kloof, it is advisable to continue to bear right above the kloof and to descend at the waterfall.

The climbs are from 30 to 45m long. Descent gullies present no problem (see map).

The area above the waterfall is slippery and dangerous and accidents have occurred involving gapers.

First Aid Dump

The dump is now located at the extreme TRUE RIGHT end of the base of the bottom (dangerous) waterfall. The dump is located some 6m above the stream bed, hidden in a clump of trees.



Climbs on the true right

THE JOY

23

The route is situated on the overhanging face immediately right of the lower swimming pool above the last waterfall. i.e. about 10m upstream of CASTLE GORGE CORNER and starts at a recess with a small tree growing in it about 15m up. It follows a line through the two lower overhangs to the top. The route was pre-practiced on top rope.

1. 40m 23 Start at the base of the recess and climb up to the tree and then diagonally left to the roof (last resting place). Climb through the roof using the flake immediately above, and move immediately right to a mantleshelf move (crux). Climb up to the roof above and through on thin holds. Climb up to the final roof and traverse left to easier rock directly below the roof.

Note:

The crux move can be protected by a Hex no 11 about a meter below the bottom roof in the recess and a Hex no 6 directly under the roof at the resting point mentioned. These protections are both bomb-proof and protect the leader from cratering from the crux. A friend no 2.5 can also be placed above the roof immediately below the crux (with difficulty). No runner should be placed behind the flake, as this would not reduce the fall factor markedly, and break the flake. The rest of the route can be protected easily.

First ascent: 24 Nov 1985 D. van Eeden and S. Isabeck.

OF THE HANGERMANGLER

23 *****

This route shares the start of THE JOY but takes a vertical line above the flake.

1. 35m 23 Take off as for THE JOY, continue straight up left of the lichen and top out through the roof.

Notes:

1. Don't place any protection behind the flake or sling it, as it won't take a lead fall.

2. The pitch was done once on top rope before being led.

First ascent: 13 Dec 1985 S. Isebeck, D. Neethling and E. Tania.

CASTLE GORGE CORNER

11 **

The climb lies up the corner on the right overlooking the deep lunch pool, opposite POOL ASCENT.

1. 12m 7 Climb the small gully just downstream of the corner to a large earth ledge and tree halfway up the corner.

2. 11m 11 From the tree climb up a small crack for 3m then traverse right around a nose In an exposed position to a ledge overlooking the pool.

3. 15m 6 Climb the easy face to the top of the kloof.

First ascent: 1942 J. Botha.

BERTHA'S BACK AT BASE

19 ****

The climb starts at the base of the first pitch of TALMUD, on the tree roots described in that route. Instead of climbing TALMUD to the left, take the obvious line up and to the right up the sloping ramp to at pinnacle at about 15m. From the pinnacle the climb follows a line up t the left of the prominent overhang in the headwall.

1. 18m 17 Climb ramp for 8m, moving right where angle steepens. Climb up red rock to pinnacle on good lay-away holds. Belay on small ledge to right of the 1.5m high pinnacle.

2. 12m 19 Start from top of pinnacle. Move left and up to small ledge. Move up and left using good undercut and incut holds. Climb up and left on good but small holds to left of overhang. Ascend on easy rock to top. Being off-balance, there is no good resting spot on this pitch.

Note:

A sustained and clean route. Protection on the whole climb is good. Spectator value is good. Wear clean underpants.

First ascent: 25 Aug 2002 Terry White and Chris Ziranek.

TALMUD

15 **

The climb is situated about 30m downstream of the last waterfall and CASTLE GORGE CORNER. It finishes up a prominent open book which is more closed than open - hence the climb's name. Clamber up to a tree (with many exposed roots) about 6m to the right of a point beneath the right-hand containing wall of the open book.

1. 12m 15 Traverse left for 6m over a delicate slab. A tree growing at the base of the slab can be reached from this slab and used as a sling placement. At the end of the slab ascend steep rock with good holds to a narrow ledge where a small bush serves as a belay point.

2. 12m 10 Traverse about 2.5m left and then ascend a steep face until a small overhang is reached. Traverse right under this overhang and then ascend to a large ledge which is below the open book.

3. 18m 11 Ascend the open book and climb out to the right at the top (or to the left which is more difficult).

First ascent: 1953
and D. Williamson.

R. Davies, T. Bright, D. Gilham

TALMUD DIRECT

19 ***

On the left of the open book of TALMUD is a prominent vertical ridge which starts about 30m above the bed of the stream.

1. 12m 15 As for first pitch of TALMUD.

2. 12m 10 Start as for second pitch of TALMUD and before reaching the small overhang. Climb out left onto a small stance on the ridge 6m above the start of the ridge.

3. 11m 19 Ascend the ridge by means of a slightly overhanging slit, into which one cannot get one's whole body. A small platform is reached a few metres above the slit.

4. 11m 15 Continue directly upwards through a cleft on the ridge (strenuous) and then ascend easy rock to the top. The cleft can be avoided by climbing the greenish face to the right (easier).

First ascent: 1954

R. Davies and R. Kinsley.

PIN CUSHION

17A2 **

The route takes a near vertical line midway between the crack of PIDGEON HOLE and the ridge of TALMUD DIRECT. The start is below a pronounced overhanging recess which appears at first glance to offer little chance of a route. A crack runs up this recess.

1. 6m 15,A1 Take off from a shoulder. Then by means of one piton and an etrier ascend within reach of the handgrips. Strenuously pull-up into a small recess at the bottom of the overhanging crack. Piton belay.

2. 12m 13,A2 Traverse right and ascend 2.5m up a narrow chimney closed at the top. By means of a sling in the roof, lean out and climb past the overhang, then diagonally left of an eyehole sling point in the crack which runs up from the previous stance (approximately four pitons). Free climb from this point to a small stance with a piton belay below the overhangs.

3. 30m 17 Ascend the cracked recess until forced left by the closure of the crack. The short traverse left is followed by a quick move up onto a sloping ledge (crux). Continue up to beneath a small square-cut overhang. Turn this to the left and continue more easily to the top.

Note:

Strenuous climbing and small stances.

First ascent: Jul 1969 R. Davies and J.H. Graafland.

PIDGEON HOLE

19 ***

The climb is situated 20m downstream of TALMUD. It starts in a crack/chimney in which are some chockstones.

1. 12m 8 Ascend the crack behind the chockstones to the roof of a large overhang. Eye belay.

2. 8m 19 Traverse left onto the face by means of a stirrup placed on a fixed piton about 1 m away from the stance and at the same level and ascend using the stirrup, or climb up strenuously without the aid of the sling. Climb a few metres of steep rock to a good stance at the base of the chimney.

3. 12m 11 Climb the chimney until the chockstones at the roof are reached.

4. 9m 16 Continue to the top of the chimney and step right onto the ledge. The chimney actually becomes a shallow recess about 5m up and this is strenuous and exposed.

Note:

The first free ascent was in 1974 by L.P. Fatti and Party.

First ascent: 22 Nov 1953 D. Crabtree, R. Charlton, E. Adcock and H. Rolfes.

IGNORANCE

13

Situated 5m downstream of PIDGEON HOLE.

1. 30m 13 Start in the recess. Climb 15m on a slightly overhanging section with the help of the roots. Then continue up the recess. finally moving right and up to a large sloping ledge.

2. 5m 11 Squeeze through an impossible looking opening between two chockstones in the cave-like recess above and at the right-hand end of the sloping ledge. Belay from immediately above to prevent the rope snagging.

3. 30m 8 Proceed upwards and then out right and up to the top.

Variation:

2. ?m 15 Ascend the face on the right and traverse left into the recess above the chockstone move.

First ascent: Apr 1974 S. van Rensburg and sons.

DONNER EN BLIKSEM

20 ***

Starts just to the left of the very steep recess with roots coming down it, to the left of PIGEON HOLE recess. There is some thick tree cover around the start.

1. 25m 20 Climb a small steep recess for 5m to a rusty fixed piton. Traverse left for 1.5m and then diagonally up steep rock for 5m to a small block above which there is another fixed piton. Move up the steep shallow recess above for 1,5m and then move strenuously up right onto some blocks. Step back left into the shallow recess and move up to 1,5m below an aloe where there is a fixed piton. Traverse right for 1,5m and then climb steep rock to where the angle eases. Then diagonally right to a stance in the main recess.

2. 21m 13 Climb the recess for 9m and then traverse left onto a large ledge. Move up from the left-hand side of the ledge onto an open face and the up easier rock to a large ledge with a tree belay.

3. 18m 6 Continue to top.

Note:

The first free ascent was in 1982 by J. Holding and party.

Variation:

2. 25m 19 Step back down left from the stance and traverse delicately left into the corner. Move up strenuously on good holds and continue up the steep corner to the large ledge. Climb the crack above for 3m and then step left on to the easier angled face which is climbed to the large ledge and tree belay.

(1982 C. Edelstein and party)

First ascent: Feb 1971 P. Fatti and M. Prior.

NEEDLES EYE

19 *

Start 6m to the left of the pink-white face, right of CATERPILLAR.

- 1. 12m 15** Up the crack using the roots then up the tree trunk to a ledge. Belay on the same tree.
- 2. 9m 19** Traverse right 3m around a corner to the bottom of a narrow chimney and ascend the chimney. The crux is at the start. The difficulty is due to the narrowness of the chimney at the bottom and the paucity of grips. The pitch ends at a narrow ledge just past a large overhang on the right. Piton belay.
- 3. 8m 19** Up the right-angled corner. At the overhang, move left by a layback move to a good ledge.
- 4. 8m 17** Up the recess through the final overhang.

Note:

Initially opened with 2 pieces of aid on pitch 3. The first free ascent was on 21 Sep 1986 by S. Middlemiss and A. Margetts.

First ascent: 9 Oct 1966 M. Prior and R.F. Davies.

CATERPILLAR

11 ***

The climb is on the face immediately upstream of Castle Gully. It starts about 15m upstream of Castle Gully and about 10m left of a prominent white-pink patch at the base of the krantz.

- 1. 3m 8** Climb up the little buttress to a ledge with a block belay. Scramble to the left for 8m.
- 2. 15m 7** Climb (straddle) the recess and ascend easier rock to a ledge with a tree belay.
- 3. 12m 10** Up a 3m thin crack, then over easy rock to a large ledge below an overhang. Belay on a tree.
- 4. 20m 11** Up into obvious chimney through the overhang and out to the right when upward progress is blocked by a tree growing in the face. Up to a second overhang and then right across a thin face to a ledge, then up a thin slab to the top.

Variations:

- 1. 17** Instead of first pitch as described, ascend the diverging overhanging recess 5m to the left.
- 2. 15** From the block at the top of pitch 1, go up an angled overhanging recess (difficult) 3m high to a small cubby hole in the left-hand wall of the recess. Then move diagonally on easier rock to join pitch 3 at the bottom of the 3m crack.
- 4. 19** (Direct finish). On reaching the second overhang in pitch 4, climb directly through the overhang and on to the summit (15m).

First ascent: Unknown T.J. Louw.

THEME AND VARIATIONS

18 *

Three-quarters of the way up Castle Gully there is a prominent buttress, which in fact separates Castle Gully from Rock Gully. On the buttress, on the Castle Gully side, there is a prominent wedge-shaped ridge on top of which there is a small pinnacle. The climb is situated on the downstream face of this ridge.

1. 18m 17 Climb the face, starting near the outer edge, for about 5m on small flat holds. Then move diagonally left into the recess at the junction of the ridge with the buttress. Ascend the recess to a tree belay.

2. 15m 18 Traverse right across the face on small grips to a narrow crack near the right-hand edge. Ascend the crack, (mainly on arms) as far as the base of the pinnacle. Thence traverse to the right and up the back of the pinnacle to the top.

Variations:

One of the variations for this route is worth noting as a route in its own right. The variation in question is the route straight up the recess.

1. 40m 13 Start left of the start of THEME AND VARIATIONS in recess. Climb the recess to the top. The pitch may be split half-way.

First ascent: 1949
Chadwick.

R. Davies, D. Reid and Miss E.

DIVERTIMENTO

11 **

This climb is situated on the buttress referred to under THEME AND VARIATIONS. It starts about 12m down and to the left of THEME AND VARIATIONS and follows a ridge on the buttress.

1. 18m 11 Commence on the steep face to the left of the ridge, and work upwards and to the right, reaching the crest of the ridge at a tree.

2. 18m 8 From the tree ascend the ridge immediately above (steep but with good holds) and work out on to an easy face on the right.

First ascent: Unknown date R. Davies, I. Keith and Miss J. Slinger.

K.BOOM

8

Start in the same gully as DIVERTIMENTO, directly above a steep rock incline. To the left of DIVERTIMENTO is a sub-gully and the climb starts on the buttress to the left of this.

1. 21m 7 Take off and pull up to a ledge at 3m. Traverse left for 10m and then up 8m to a ledge below a smooth face.

2. 15m 8 Traverse left to a grass ledge.

3. 10m 8 Follow an open book, keeping to the left of a pinnacle.

Note:

Appropriate for a large party of beginners.

Editor's note: Route name changed as it was inappropriate in a modern political climate.

First ascent: 19 Aug 1973 R. Charlton and H. Tyass.

COCKPIT

17,A1 **

Start on the upstream side of a 10m buttress on the true right-hand side of the gorge, about 30m downstream from Rock and Castle gullies. This point approximately at the point where the stream makes a sharp turn to the left.

1. 8m 15 Starting just to the right of the buttress climb up and the traverse left with difficulty to a stance on top of the buttress.

2. 25m 17,A1 From the left hand end of the stance climb up into the steep recess above, using one point of aid to get started. Climb up steeply to the tree, where the angle eases. Continue up to a stance on the large ledge.

3. 20m 15 Traverse right and climb the shallow recess to the top.

Note:

Originally, the route was originally climbed by H. Vogl and party by using a now non-existent tree.

First ascent: 1977 L.P. Fatti and R. Smithers.

BEGINNERS' TRAVERSE

7

From the point at which Rock and Castle gullies join. traverse left(downstream) on to main kloof face. After traversing 45m, ascend 45m to top by any of several possibilities up a recess.

First ascent: Unknown F. Petousis.

FILLYAL

10

Starts to the left of BEGINNERS' TRAVERSE.

1. 10m 7 After a tricky take-off, ascend an easy face for 6m bearing slightly left. Traverse 3m left and then up 1,5m to a ledge. Tree belay.

2. 9m 10 Ascend the steep face for about 2m, move around the corner and diagonally left up a sloping face into a crack. Tree belay.

3. 9m 8 Ascend the crack for 5m and continue up an easy face to the top.

First ascent: 4 Oct 1970 M. Prior and J. Prior.

BIOLOGY

17

Starts at the shallow pool directly below the highest part of the face. Actual start is at a large boulder.

1. 25m 13 An awkward take-off with two mantleshelfs on to 1m wide ledge which slopes up to the right. Walk right for 11m and take a direct line to a wide ledge 15m higher.

2. 30m 17 Start at a stout tree. Up a shallow ill-defined crack bearing left past a small tree and up diagonally right to a narrow ledge resting place. Continue up the steep section on small grips to a large ledge. The final 5m red face completes the climb.

First ascent: 1952 M. Prior, R. Kinsley and P. Bloomfield.

POOL TRAVERSE

7

In the main kloof downstream of Knight Gully a long pool extends the whole width of the kloof, so that it is necessary to wade to cross it. This section of the kloof can be negotiated in either direction, and wading avoided, by ascending the right hand wall of the kloof to a ledge about 12m above the pool. ascent to the ledge at the downstream end is assisted by "monkey ropes" hanging to a rock step at bed level. A traverse along this ledge for the whole length of the pool is possible.

First ascent: Unknown Party unknown.

CASTLE GORGE PINNACLE

10 or 15

This is a 15m high pinnacle on the right-hand side, reached by following the stream past Castle and Knight gullies and wading through pools for about 100m. The pinnacle may be climbed by a difficult route on the stream side (15) or by a route (10) on the upstream side starting where the pinnacle joins the wall on the kloof.

First ascent: Unknown Party unknown.

Climbs on the true left

ARPEGGIO

17

Start in front of the big rectangular the ledge 12m upstream from the ascent to the swimming pool on the true left-hand side of the stream. (Opposite the start of CASTLE GORGE CORNER)

1. 20m 17 Ascend the front of the block or scramble onto it from the left. Step over the gap onto the face which is marked by vertical white streaks. Continue up bearing very slightly to the left. Surmount the slightly overhanging bulge (crux) at about 17m then climb straight up past a piton to a good ledge and belay.

2. 15m 10 Climb the recess to the top.

First ascent: 15 Mar 1981 J. van Eeden and D. Neetling.

POOL ASCENT

8 ***

The climb lies on the short but clean face on the left between the last two waterfalls and above the deep pool. Scramble 9m to the base of the face at the point directly above the outlet from the pool.

1. 12m 8 Start at the centre of the face and ascend past a small tree and then bear diagonally right to a stance behind the large block which has a tree growing against its outer side. Very exposed climbing.

2. 15m 7 At least three routes exist from here: diagonally right, straight up or diagonally left.

First ascent: Unknown Party unknown

STENCH CHIMNEY

7

50m downstream on a face opposite the pinnacle is a large and obvious 30m chimney which provides an easy climb.

First ascent: Unknown Party unknown

Still to place

These 2 routes need a home. Please help if you find them.

SINKING THE PINK

22/23

Climbs the overhanging pink corner to the left of ?

1. 20m 22/3 Climb the awkward corner. Move right at the top. Be careful of wasps.

First ascent: 1990 Stewart Middlemiss.

TARZAN

25/26

Climbs the very overhanging wall on the true right of the kloof downstream of the main climbing area. This is where the kloof makes a turn to the left, but is upstream of the pinnacle.

1. 15m 25/6 Climb the steep corner/ crack past a peg to the top.

First ascent: 1991 S. Middlemiss and M. Hislop.