

Great Wolfrey Bouldering 2020



Ollie Parkinson on the FA of Howling at the Moon (Font 8A)

Climbs – Lots – Easy to Font 8A

Altitude 450m

Faces South and West

Other condition info:

Superb situation and fantastic rock.

There are many good problems on the blocks as well as a growing tendency to highball the routes and

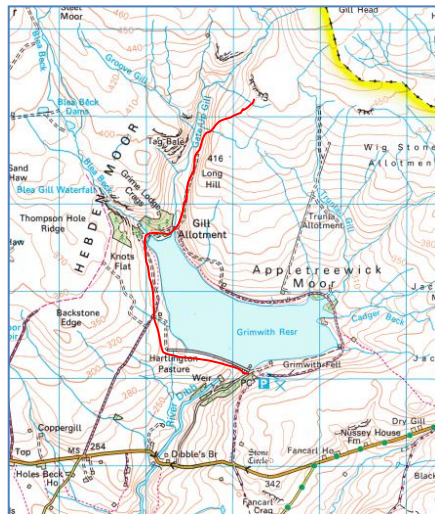
new problems found on the main walls. This approach works pretty well as many of the routes don't really run to gear and are possibly easier if climbed this way. However, you may wish to bring your bold mindset, plenty of mats, best psyche and robust ankles! You won't need to queue.

WARNING – it is not known if some of the highballs have had a ground-up ascent (esp those with E grades). Therefore a rope may also be helpful.

Parking and approach info:

There is a big car park and toilets at Yorkshire Water's Grimwith Reservoir. This is approached from the B6256 Grassington to Pateley Bridge road just to the east of Hebden. From the car park go back down the road and cross the long, grassy dam. Follow a track around the lake until just across the second bridge. Climb the gate and follow the obvious track to old mine workings. Continue through the gap in the grouse pens and zigzag up the green track to pass through a narrow gate in a stone wall. Just ahead, leave paths behind and cross the little stream to climb steeply out of the valley up a slope keeping left of the heather (a path follows the valley but quickly becomes awkward to follow). Once the angle eases, cross the moor northwards until the crag comes into view. The approach takes around an hour.

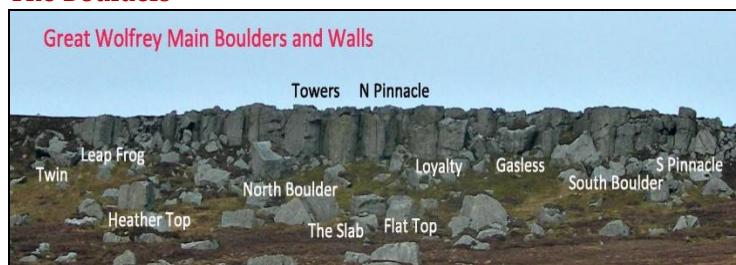
The nearest cafés are just up the B6256 at Stump Cross Cavern or the Old School Tearoom in Hebden. The two pubs in Appletreewick are well worth a visit.



Development

The early history is unknown though John McKenzie, Glen Gerner and the Leeds based Well Oiled Machine of Berzins, Sowden, Burnell, Spreadborough, Desroy et al. climbed many of the crag's major features. Paul Clough and friends documented developments in 2005 and many problems were recorded during guidebook work by Paul Clarke in 2006. These included Mike Grey's Millionaire and Jim Purchon's Jumping Jack Flash. Since publication of the YG1 guide the main protagonists have been Dave Sutcliffe, Neil McCallum, Ollie Parkinson, John Hunt, Paul and Ben Clarke, Jack Colbeck and Ben Grounsell. Details of early ascents are in YG1 so just some FA details are included. Apologies to those we've missed.

The Boulders



On a first visit a good **Base Camp** is by the right side of North Boulder.

Forward Boulders – Warm-Up Circuit

First described is the line of blocks a short way in front of the main crag and its adjacent boulders. These provide; either a good Easy up to Font 6b circuit or warm-up problems, depending on preference.

The circuit is described from **left to right**.

Heather Top

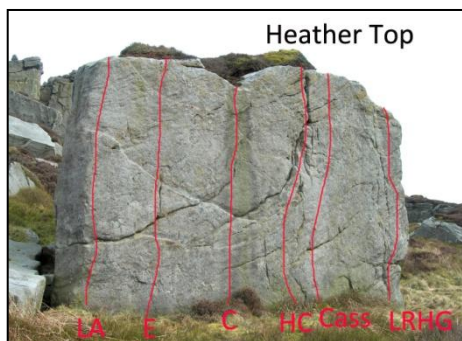
This heater topped boulder has a fine S Face. Altogether there are around ten problems and variations here with excellent soft landings.

Ling Arête Font 4+ *

The nice arête on the left of the main face.

Erica Font 4 *

Wall just to the right.



Calluna Font 5

Just right again and left of the crack.

Heather Crack Font 3+

The crack.

Cassiope Font 6b

Only just to the right – no using the crack!

Little Red-Haired Girl Font 5 *

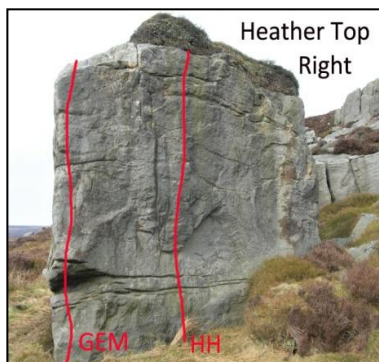
Thin crack and the right arête.

Green-Eyed Monster Font 5 *

Right side of the same arête.

Hurricane Heather Font 5

The wall right of the arête.



The Slab

Thirty metres right of Heather Boulder is this large, slabby boulder with two cracks. The cracks and the right edge are fun and easy. Squeezed-in problems but all are pleasant.



John Hunt on Slab Edge

Through the gap to the left of the main slab problems is:

What Sharp Crimps You Have 6c

From the small crimp in the wall and a big undercut down and left make a leap for the top of the boulder.

Sam Abbey Jul 2020

Slab Edge Font 2

The left edge.

Cracking Left Font 2+

Ladders Font 5+

The ladders right of the left crack and an interesting finish.

Steps Font 6a

The squeezed in slab between Ladders and Cracking Right.

Cracking Right Font 2+

So Tough Font 1

Flat Top

A small, flat-topped and rippled boulder just right of The Slab.

Flattened Font 5

Use the right edge of the scoop.

Flaky Font 5 *

The thin flake.

Flat Top Font 5+ *

The middle arête of the boulder. A sit is 6a+



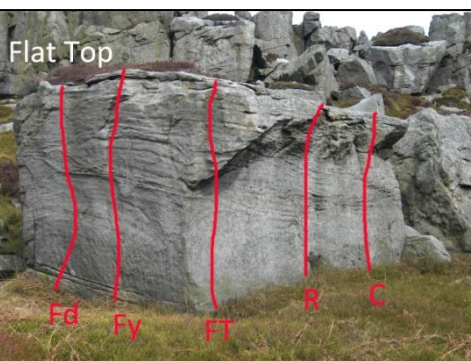
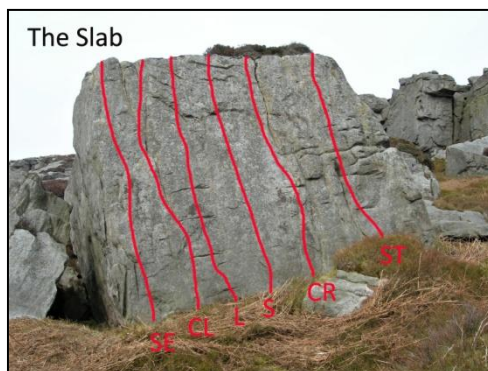
Ripples Font 5+

Just to the right with a semi sit-start. A full sit is 6a+.

Calm Font 6a

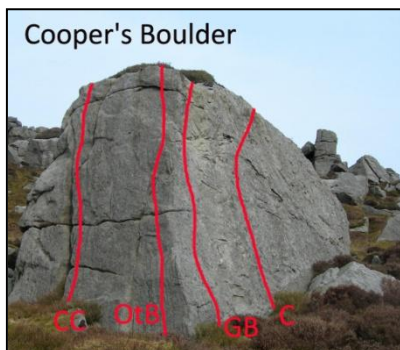
Similar to the right again

Flat Top



Cooper's Boulder

Right of the previous boulder and slightly further down the hill, this boulder has a nice big slab with a good landing.



Cooper's Crack Font 3 *

Crack on left

Over the Barrel Font 4+ *

The left side of the arête.

Gun Barrel Font 3 *

The front arête and slab

Cask Font 4+

The slab just right again.

On the reverse side is:

Dab Sabotage Font 5

SDS from the good hold on the arête and a mini jug below the lip to the left. Move up using the vertical cracks and a sloper with a slight mantle to get feet onto the hanging slab. Hands as far as the top lip and then traverse off right to avoid the heather on the top.

Philip Holt Aug 2020



To the right are smaller boulders that can provide amusement but the next sizable block lies below South Pinnacle. It can be seen on the diagram above and sports a big flake, hence:

Flake Boulder There are three lines; the left **Edge**, the **Flake** and the **Slab** All are Font 3ish **but have become dangerous as the flake is detaching**



Pinnacle Boulder

About twenty metres right of the Flake Boulder is this small boulder. There is one worthwhile problem here.

Pinnacle Arête Font 5+

The arête, using the flakes on the right

The Crag and Crag Boulders

The boulders close to the crag and problems on the main edge.

Twin Boulders

At the far left. Two crinkly boulders – see diagram page 2.



John Hunt Running with the Pack

Romulus Font 5+ *

SDS. Left arête rocking right to a jug.

Slap Ya Crack Roof 7c *

The jutting roof climbed rightwards from near Romulus to finish as for Running with the Pack. May have lost a hold.

Dave Sutcliffe 2017

Running with the Pack Font 6b+ **

SDS deep in the cave to the right at low rail and big foothold. Follow the block top left to round the arête and finish as for Romulus

Paul and Ben Clarke, John Hunt

Remus Font 5 *

Right arête, also from a sit-start.

Lupa Font 6b **

SDS. Follow the arête and move round to its right side to finish rocking right again.

Paul and Ben Clarke, John Hunt

There are also numerous variations on these blocks.

Leapfrog Buttress

Above the Twin Boulders. The main feature of the buttress is the striking layback crack on its front face. This is taken by Autumn Gold. All the problems feel high-ish.

Bluster Arse

Vessel Font 6c+ *

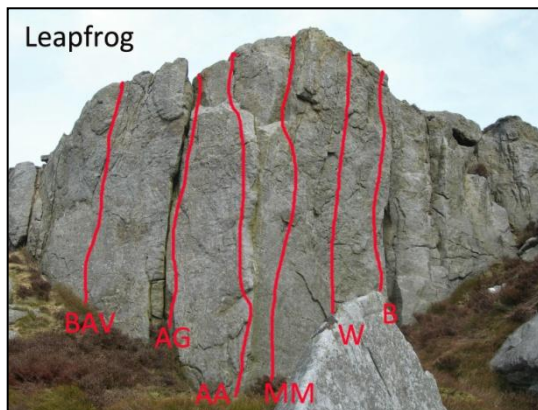
The obstinate wall left of Autumn Gold by a series of technical and then bold moves to the top.

Rob Weston,
Stuart Lancaster

Autumn Gold

Font 4 *

The delicious and highly enjoyable crack.



Auternative Arête Font 5 **

Climb the lovely arête on its left side by some subtle moves.

Moon Madness Font 6b+/c ***

For a change, you can climb the same arête but on its right side and using thin flakes on the wall. Finish up the short groove. Perfect movement.

Paul Clarke

Wepwawet Font 7b+ **

The line of opposing side-pull/gastons just right of Moon Madness is very sustained.

Neil Mc Callum

Bob Font 6b+/c *

The left rib of the chimney is harder than it looks.

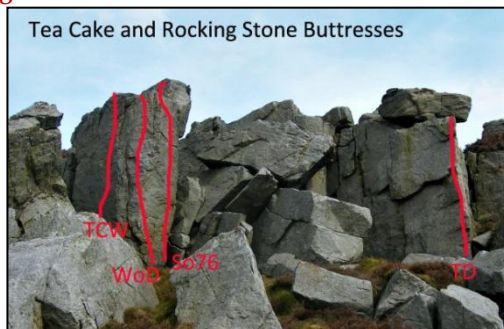
Jack Colbeck

Tea Cake and Rocking Stone Buttresses

A steep block in the jumble to the right provides three lines.

Tea-Cake Wall Font 4+
The left wall.

Winter of Discontent Font 4+ *
Climb the steep arête utilising flakes on its left side.



Summer of 76 Font 5+
The wall immediately right. Start on the right and trend left to finish just left of the arête on a thin flake. *Malcolm Townsley*

The next problem is below the obvious **Rocking Stone**.

The Duke Font 5+ *
The arête directly below the rocking stone. *Dave Musgrove Jnr*

Pedestal Block

5 metres right of the Rocking Stone is a wall with an obvious pedestal at two metres.



Pedestal Arête Font 4+ *
Step onto the pedestal and then climb up and left to the arête before reaching the top.

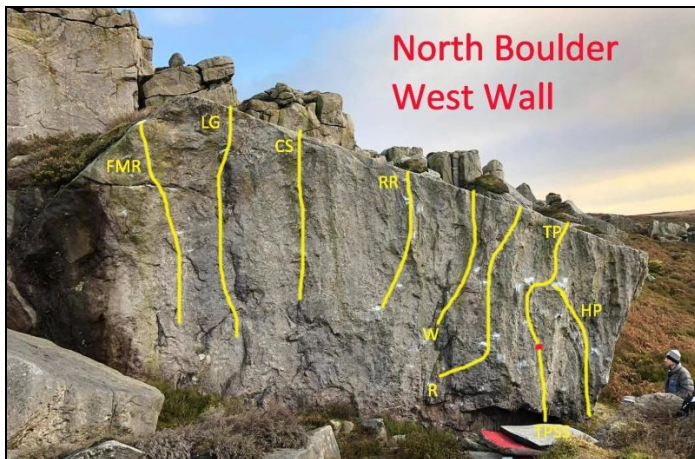
Alternative Arête Font 4 **
Climb the right arête of the Pedestal Buttress.

There are routes on the two big blocks to the right. They are best treated as such.

Well over to the right is a huge boulder below the crag and a tower with a distinct arête and a fine left wall.

These are the **North Boulder** and **Left Tower**.

North Boulder



The huge boulder is home to a number of fine, fingery problems.

West Wall.

Full Moon Rising 7b *

Left side of the Wall above block.

Reachy – easier for the tall.

Dave Sutcliffe

Lichen Grope Font 6c+ *

The wall and creaky flake.

Mike Grey

Citizen Smith Font 7a **

The crimpy wall

Neil McCallum

Runt's Rib 7a *

Eliminate based around the obvious rib. Avoid holds in the groove; start on a crimp at arm's reach.

Neil McCallum 03/Dec/2019

Wolfsbane 6a *

Shallow cracked groove.

Paul Clough

Rewilding Font 7b **

Sit start at the bottom of Wolfsbane, stretch up right to 2 crimps then do a

big move to an obvious good crimp and finish direct. Eliminate but great moves.

Neil McCallum 2019

The Pack Font 7b **

The fine crimpy wall right of Wolfsbane.

Dave Sutcliffe

The Pack SDS 7c+ **

The Pack from sitting.

Dave Sutcliffe 2019

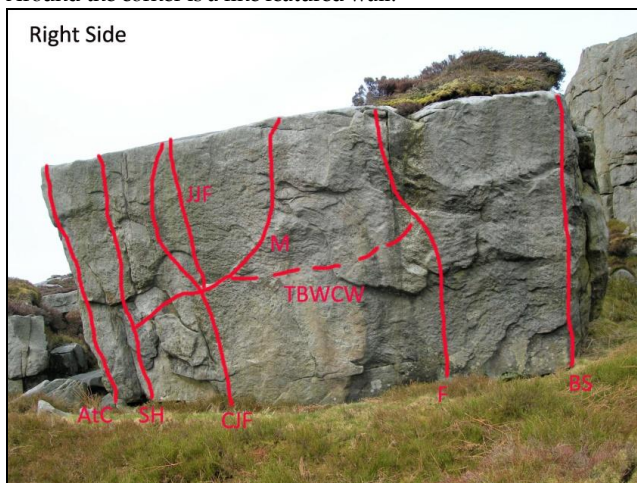
Handerson Pack 7c+ **

SDS right of The Pack and climb to the finish of that problem.

Dave Sutcliffe 2019

Right side.

Around the corner is a fine featured wall.



Around the Corner Font 5+ *

The left arête making good use of the holds around each side of the corner. Awkward finish.

Shallow Hal Font 6b+ *

SDS Almost the same problem but no crack around the corner. Shallow side pulls assist. A good combo of these two is to start on Around the Corner and finish on Shallow Hal, **Shallow Corner** Font 6a+ *

The Boy Who Cried Wolf 7a **

A very worthwhile L-R traverse starting on the left and finishing as for The Flakes
Dave Sutcliffe

Crimpin' Jack Flash Font 6c+ **

Rock up using the jumping Jack Flash rail but reach up for a crimp side-pull and stretch for the top.
Paul Clarke

Jumpin' Jack Flash Font 7a+ **

Rail to top. Harder for the short ;)
Jim Purchon

Millionaire Font 7c **

Start right of the arête and go up rightwards via the rail and unhelpful crimps. Excellent.
Mike Grey

The Flakes Font 6a **

Climb flakes just right of the centre of the face from a sit start.
Paul Clough

Baby Sitter Font 6b+

The right arête from a sit start
Paul Clarke

Left Tower

Big, bold and beautiful. Wall climbing at its best!

Wolfschmidt Font 6b (E3 6a) *

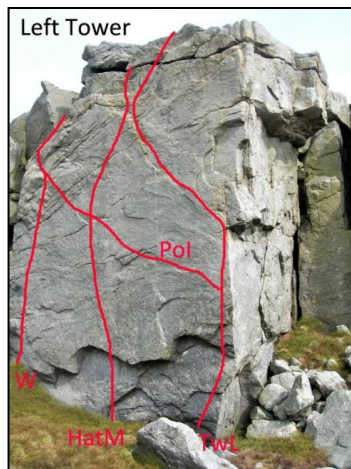
Start below the steps forming the edge. Leave the ground with difficulty and move up and right to gain poor breaks. Continue up to a very shallow 'V' feature and then move rightwards to the top.

Chris Sowden

Howling at the Moon 8a ***

High. The wall direct on marginal crimps. A fine solution to a long-standing problem.

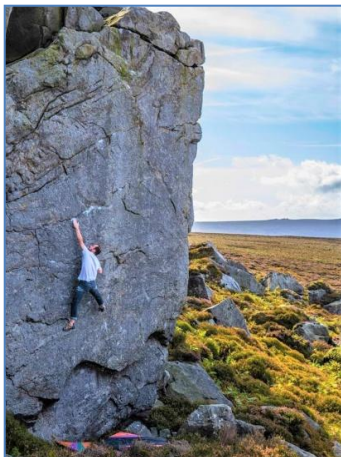
Ollie Parkinson 2019



Path of Intrigue Font 7c+ (E6 7a) ***

An intriguing rising leftwards line across the wall starting up Troubled with Lycans.

Dave Sutcliffe



To the Moon 8a **

Link Path of Intrigue into Howling.

Dan Turner 2021

Troubled with Lycans Font 6c (E5 6b) **

The direct arête start to Werewolf leads intrepidly to the roof. Move up a short way and launch left across the obvious line until better flakes are gained. Go easily rightwards to finish.

Paul Clarke

Ollie Parkinson on FA of Howling at the Moon

The arête coming in from the right is the superb **Werewolf** E4 6a *** whilst the hanging groove is taken by **Wolf at the Door** E5 6a **

Central Tower.

More highball action.



Central Tower Left

Shades of Green Font 6a E2 5c

Use the crack on the left side of the wall and often dirty holds to reach the ledge.

A Wolf in the Wild Direct Font 6c+ *

Use small crimps and side-pulls to gain the start of the flake line on A Wolf in the Wild. Follow this more easily to the top.

A Wolf in the Wild Font 6b+/c *

Directly up the left side of Walter's Rib until a hungry move left gains the obvious flake on the wall. A stiff pull gains the better holds on Shades of Green and the break. Paul Clarke

Walter's Rib Font 6a (E2 5c) ***

The superb rib does take a runner but is also a fine solo. Start by using holds and the groove on the right and then climb the arête stepping right at the top. Also known as Brown's Rib.

Ken Wood



Central Tower Right



Angua Font

6b+/c (E3 6a) *

The desperate and vicious mutated continuation of the starting groove.

Neil Herbert, Robin Ellis

In Memoriam Font 6b (E4/5 6a) **

A fine and memorable highball. Start about two metres right of the plaque. Climb the centre of the wall using edges and layaways to gain the wide horizontal break at six metres. Finish up the crack on the left.

Martin Berzins



Paul Clarke Crimpin' Jack Flash



Dave Warburton Wolf in the Wild Direct

North Pinnacle

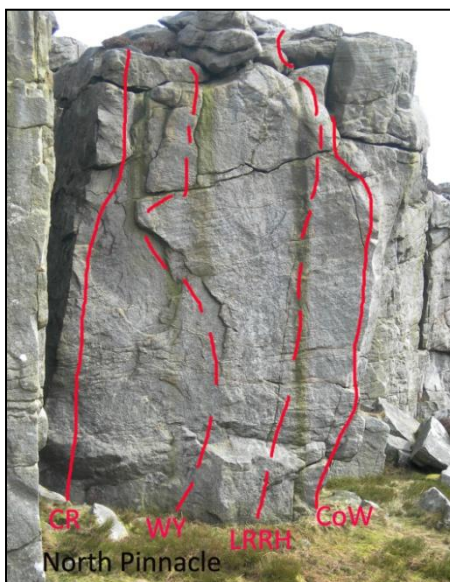
To the right is a huge detached block and yet more highball action.

Cowell's Rib Font 6a+ (E3 5c) **

The left arête of the front face of the pinnacle.

Ashley Cowell

To the right are two potential highballs - **The Wilderness Years** E4/5 (6a/b) ** Undercuts and step right to the thin crack. **Little Red Riding Hood** E6 6b *** the ever so thin wall and crack.



A Company of Wolves Font 7a+/b (E6 6b) ***

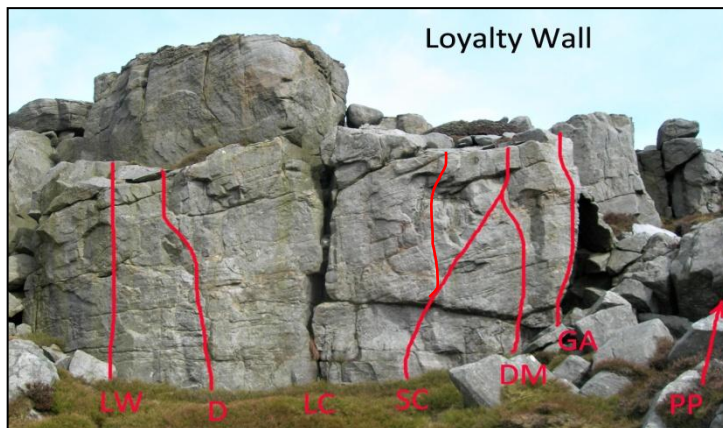
The compelling and overhanging rib. Progress is with increasing technical difficult until the move to the break provides a test of strength and nerve.

Martin Berzins

The shallow groove is taken by **The Wolf of Wall Street** E6 6c *** and the rib to the right by **Good Company** E3 6a. **Bad Company** E1 5b ** climbs up the right side of the arête using thin edges and knobbles to gain the horizontal break and swings around left in a fine position.

Loyalty Wall

The broad wall to the right, split by the wide and very obvious Loyalty Crack



Lipstick Wall Font 5 *

The wall via a friendly stone 'mouth' to the ledge.

Deception Font 4+

Climb the flake and wall to the ledge.

Loyalty Crack Font 3 The wide crack

Cloud Surfing 6c *

Start up Sheep's Clothing and finish direct, using an obvious right-facing layback to reach the high break.

Will Hunt and Dave Warburton

18/Dec/2021

Sheep's Clothing Font 6c *

Levitate the wall right of Loyalty Crack on mediocre holds to somehow gain a small recess at four metres. Move up and right to a blind crack and mantelshelf to finish.

Tony Burnell



Ollie Parkinson on Deliberate Mutation

Deliberate Mutation 7b+ **

SDS on obvious jug. Up to side-pulls and slap for the sloper on Sheep's Clothing.

Ollie Parkinson 2019

Grasshopper Arête 6b+ **

The arête just right. SDS using two opposing side pulls, follow positive edges to tackle the arête direct and try not to think about the landing!

Ben Grounsell, Callum Smith 2017

The Pitt/Recess Area

Boulder to the right (see previous topo).

Pitt Problem Font 7a **

Climbing out of a pit hugging the fridge-like feature and onto the slab.

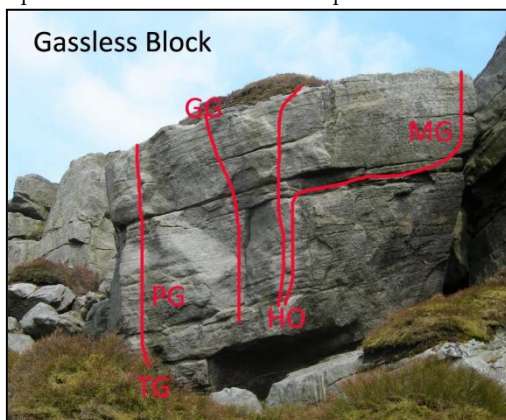
Dave Sutcliffe 2017

The Fang Font 5

The front of the block to an obvious fang. From sitting it is Font 5+ *

Gasless Block

Just right again is a heather topped block – undercut on the right – and the home to some powerful yet subtle problems. They feel high and the sloping top is best brushed before an attempt.



Perfectly Gasless

Font 6b *

The left edge of the block. A slap to a flat hold leads to the crux and eventually a wobbly top-out onto a glacis.

John Hunt, Paul Clarke

Totally Gasless Font 7a **

SDS to Perfectly Gasless.

Dave Sutcliffe

High Octane Font 7c **

SDS and up past wide part of the break.

Dave Sutcliffe 2017

Gas, Gas Font 7a+ **

From jug into scoop feature right of Perfectly Gasless. Reach right for break and a big reach for the top.

Dave Sutcliffe 2017

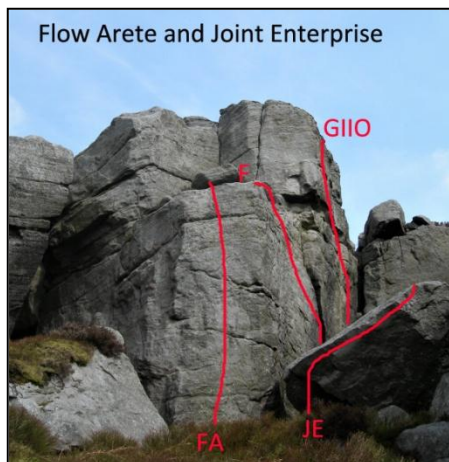
Mean Gasoline Font 7c+ ***

Start as for High Octane then climb round the arête along break to finish up the right arête.

Dave Sutcliffe 2017

Flow Arête

The next problems are on the left wall of the large bay just to the right.



Flow Arête Font 5+ *

Start using 2 poor side-pulls (no standing on the boulder) and follow the arête to the niche. Escape is possible by several lines.

Malcolm Townsley

Foxy Font 4+ VS 4c *

Climb the thin crack then step right to a ledge to finish.

Bob Larkin

Got It in One Font 5 E1 5b

Climb the wall awkwardly using a poor horizontal to gain a good break. Continue up blind vertical cracks to finish.

Joint Enterprise Block

The block on the right.

Joint Enterprise 6a + **

A diagonal lip traverse. Start sitting on left and trend right with toe and heel hooks to the apex where the line tops out.

Olly Russell, Callum Smith, Ben Grounsell 2017

Great Wolfrey Buttress

Lies to the right and holds some great routes (grades from Mod to E6), some of which can be bouldered but are better with a rope. See YG1 and UKC for details

Just below is a slabby boulder with some good problems:



Great Wolfrey Buttress

South Boulder

On the **Downhill Side** is an obvious scoop

Mantel Font 5+

A mantel to the left.

Scoopy Doo Font 4+ *

The scoop.

Around the corner is the

Slabby Side.

Silver Machine Font 5 *

Diagonally from left to finish as for Silver Surfer

Bob Larkin

Slapstick Slab Font 5+ **

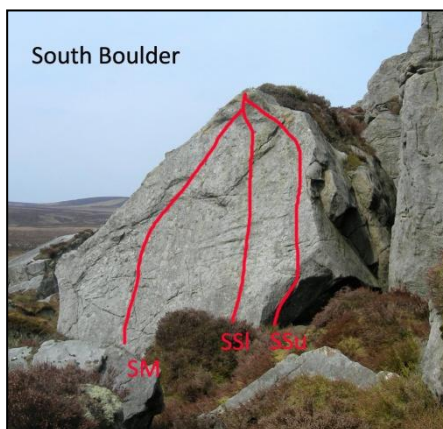
Climb the slab direct to the highest point.

Rik Weld

Sliver Surfer Font 4 *

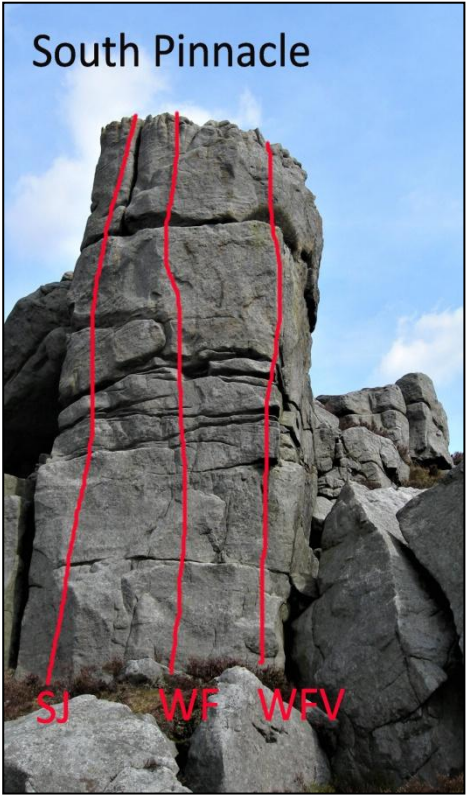
The right arête

Paul Clarke



South Pinnacle

The South Pinnacle is attached to the main crag by a jammed boulder forming an arch. It provides some great little highballs.



Somnolent Jack Font 5 *

The arête is climbed direct on breaks.
Neil Herbert, Robin Ellis

West Face Font 4 **

Climb the attractive west face of the buttress.
Brian Evans

West Face Variant Font 4+*

Climbing the right arête throughout
Brian Evans

Corner and Traverse

Font 2+
Climb the eastern arête of the pinnacle for a few feet. Move left and climb the groove to the top.

Arête Direct Font 3

Start as for Corner and Traverse but instead of moving left, continue up the right side of the arête.

Little Wolfrey

A small outcrop a few hundred metres left (west) of the main edge. There are several easy walls and arêtes here and one described problem - **Loup Garou** Font 5+ *. It takes the centre of a smooth wall in a bay in the middle of the edge. Highball.

Older Boulder First Ascents

The problems were first documented by Paul Clough in 2005 and Paul Clarke in 2006 though many will have been done before. The list below gives some idea of who may have done what.

Around the Corner Paul Clough, 2005
Baby Sitter
Calluna
Calm
Cask
Cassiope
Cooper's Crack
Edge
Erica
Fang
Flake
Flakes
Flaky

Paul Clarke, 2007
Paul Clough, 2005
Not known
Paul Clough, 2005
Paul Clarke, 2006
Not known
Paul Clough, 2005
Paul Clarke 2006
Not known
Paul Clough, 2005
Not known

Flat Top
Flattened
Green-Eyed Monster
Gun Barrel
Heather Crack
Hurricane Heather
Ladders
Ling Arête
Little Red-Haired Girl
Loup Garou
Mantel
Over the Barrel
Pinnacle Arête

Paul Clough, 2005
Not known
Paul Clough, 2005
Not known
Paul Clough, 2005
Paul Clough, 2005
Paul Clough, 2005
Paul Clough, 2005
Paul Clough, 2005
Paul Clough, 2005
Paul Clough, 2005
Paul Clough, 2005
Paul Clough, 2005

Romulus
Ripples

Paul Clough, 2005
Not known

Romulus
Scoopy Doo

Paul Clough, 2005
Paul Clarke, 2007



Ollie Parkinson on the FA Howling at the Moon.



Ben Clarke on Romulus