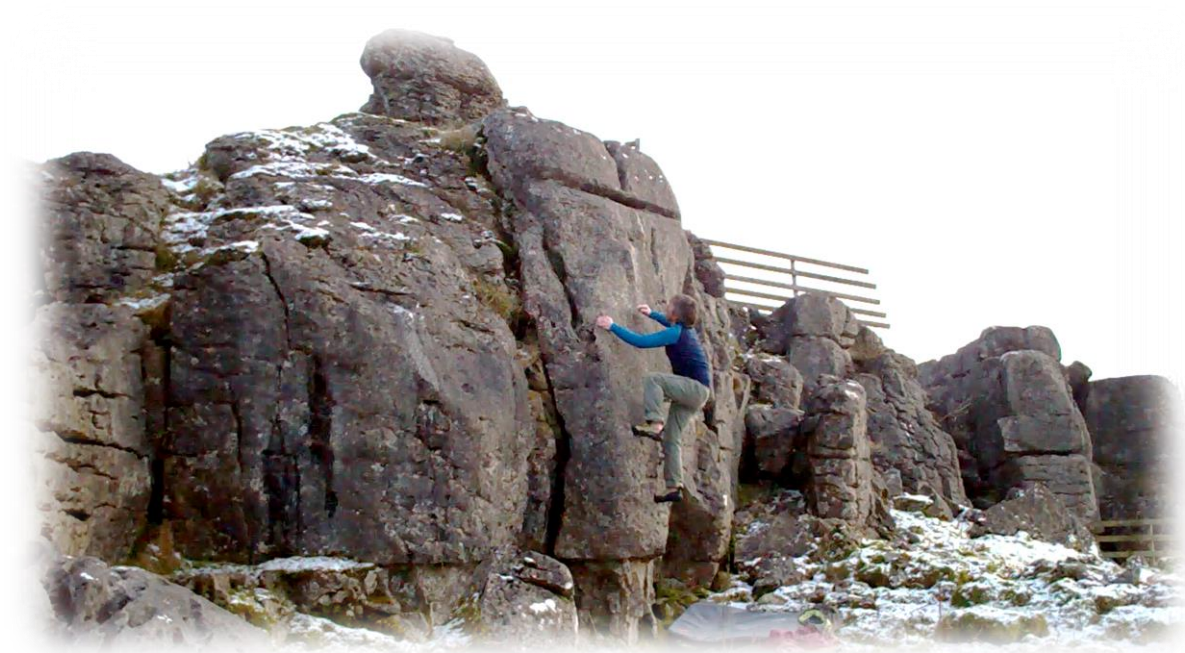


OVER GROUND

HIGH BIRKWITH



Grid ref. SD 804 768 (What3Words ///already.warp.gift).

Some classic limestone bouldering – lovely features and mostly flat field landings. Amazing views of the Three Peaks in all directions.

Approach: The map shows the road going all the way to High Birkwith, but all of the land is private and driving up would surely cause conflict.

The walk in is about two kilometres. Park in Selside and walk the well defined path; it goes east under the railway, then is walled past a farm. After the walled bit, cross a field to twin bridges then follow Copsy Gill up to Low Birkwith Farm; pass this to the left (not well signed in this direction). After the farm strike diagonally rightwards up hill to a stile, then another in the next plantation. Join the good track at High Birkwith Farm. Take the first right off this track to reach 'Over Ground'.

Access: This is very close to a footpath but is **not** on Access Land.

The first little fenced off bit – just off the 3 Peaks path. There is loads more to do here.



1 Over Ground Arête 6a A hard sit start brings the left arete into reach. Step up for an easier finish using the big flake hold.

2 Over Ground Wall 5 Sit start. The glorious wall using everything (except for the lower block to the right).

Just right of the fence is a small bay. Right beside the fence and not on the topo is:

1 Fade 3+ Sit start with feet up. Good jamming, just don't fall onto the fence.

2 The Shade 5+ A hard sitter to reach crozzely holds. A bulging wall follows.

Around onto a well feature face.

3 Bolt Arête 6a+ SDS. Climb the arête with the ancient bolt to a tricky committing step near the top.

4 Birkwith Direct 4 Sit start off the jug. Eliminate the big flake on the right (just left of the central crack).

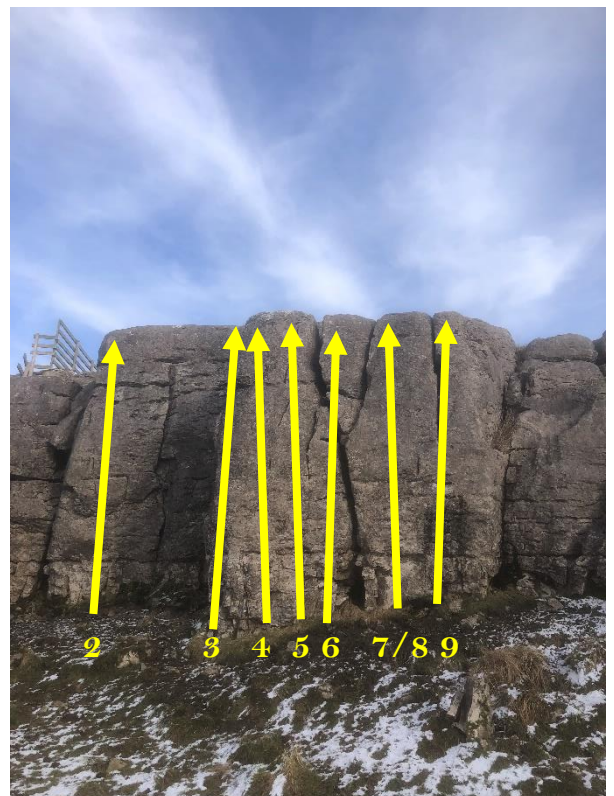
5 High Birkwith 3 Sit off the jug. Plough up using everything.

6 Electrified Photographer 4 Jam the centre crack from a sitter.

7 Fief of Firth 5 SDS. Smear up the fine slab using the cracks either side of it.

8 Firth of Fief 6b+ Sit start. The middle of the same slab without the cracks but using a good high pocket and two good flake side pulls.

9 All Bar Crack 6a Sit start using the hold at the bottom of the crack, then using everything except the crack.



GRASS SHELF BLOC

The next buttress has a grass shelf in the middle.



1 Token Arête 4+ Sit start the left arête. Take care with the rock at the top.

2 Amazing Buckets 2 Sit start right of the shelf on amazing buckets.

Right of Grass Shelf Bloc – two climbs have been recorded (exact location is unclear):

Tiny Dancer 3 SDS. Just left of Opposition Cleft off a single pocket for the left hand.

Opposition Cleft 3 SDS. Up using the obvious little cleft for both hands.

BIG MOUTH BLOC



A Cheek 5+ Sit start. The arête left of the 'big mouth'.

B Mouth Direct 4+ Trend slightly left from the mouth. Sit start.

C Mouth Right 4 Sit start. Throw right to another whopper jug.

D Flaker 3 Sit start. Surge the big flake.

E Funnel 3 Sit start. Sculpted holds lead to a funnel hold.

PLAQUE WALL

A magnificent piece of rock. The empty plaque space is obvious.



1 Plaque Wall sans Crack Left 6c Sit start as for Plaque Wall sans Crack but match the smile break and slap left.

2 Plaque Wall sans Crack 6c Year of the Fire Horse without the crack utilising the two finger solution pocket. The first ascensionist mentions 'a crafty heel'.

3 Year of the Fire Horse 6b Sit start with use of the crack for the right hand. Span to holds on the face and make hard moves to top out.

4 Plaque Wall Crack 5 Sit and jam the crack.

5 Plaque Wall sans Crack Right 6a Sit start right of the crack. Use a fantastic hidden high pinch.

6 Plaque Wall Traverse 6a+ Sit start as for

Plaque Wall sans Crack Right. Attain the break and traverse this left to finish up Plaque Wall sans Crack Left.

Just right of the Plaque Bloc (not on the topo):

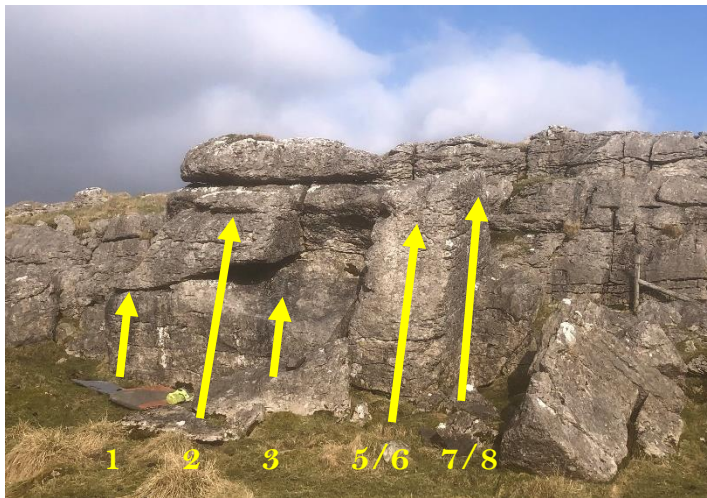
7 Karst Arête 6a Sit start and contort up the arête by itself.

8 A Fistful of Karst 5 Sit start and use everything in reach – pinch the left arête and a great heel hook.

9 Buckets of Karst 3 Sit start before bucket romping.

OVER GROUND TANK BOULDER

Standing proud of the main edge. Some mega low balls, a good traverse and some 'ups'. It looks a bit like a tank.



The first three are low ball, mantel practise:

1 **Tank Skirt** 6a+ Sit start with hands on the lower wall. Stay on and throw for the overlapping lump.

2 **Tracks Up** 6a+ Sit with hands in the break and pocket below the shelf. Slap up and attain the roof above.

3 **Tracks Right** 6a+ As for

Tracks Up but mantel right without using the capping roof.

4 **Tank Tracks Traverse** 6b Sit at the right end of the wall. Ride the edge to slap up left to finish. R-L.

The well featured pinnacle to the right is nice.

5 **All Natural** 4+ Sit start of the front of the pinnacle. Use everything.

6 **Fragile Ring** 5+ As for All Natural but stay off the edges to go straight up the middle.

7 **Bovington** 6a A hard sit start but the arête and cracks are in.

8 **Bovington Eliminate** 6a+ As for Bovington but cut out the cracks and arête.

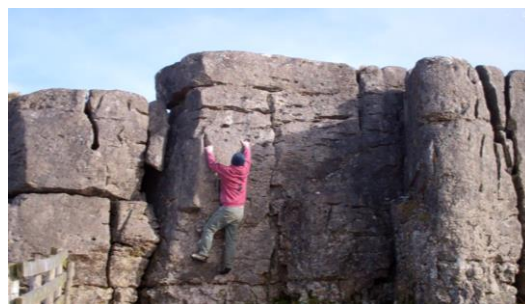
Recorded problems (full details on UK Climbing):

John Hunt 17th February 2026.

Dom H 2nd March 2026 The harder Plaque Wall ones, A Fistful of Karst, Firth of Fief.

John Hunt 7th March 2026 Fade ☺ all of the Overground Tank Block ones,

Venue suggested by Alan Firth.



The Shade 5+