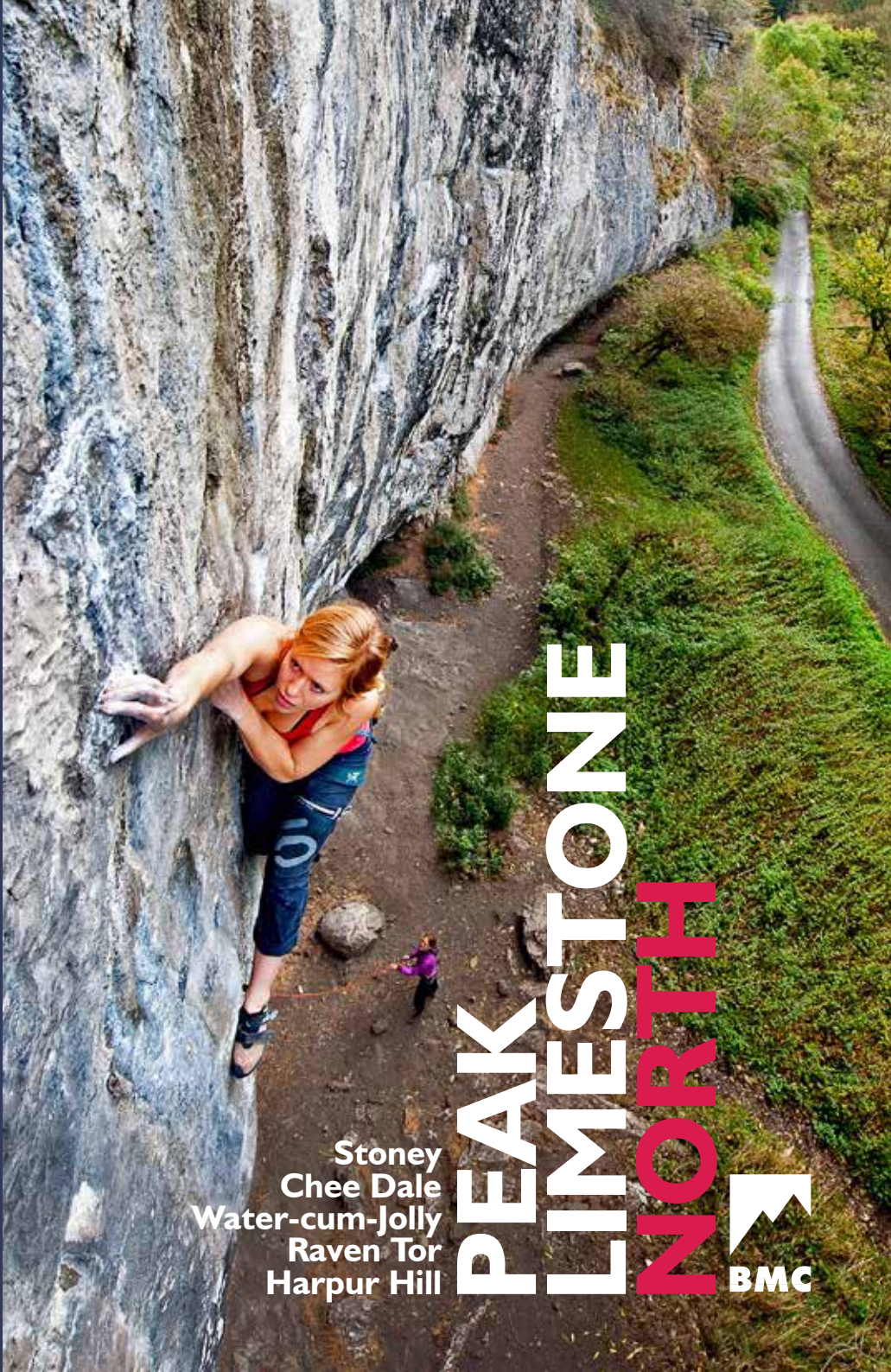




PEAK LIMESTONE NORTH



Stoney
Chee Dale
Water-cum-Jolly
Raven Tor
Harpur Hill

PEAK LIMESTONE NORTH



Steve McClure on Windhover, E2 5c (page 121). Photo: Ian Parnell.

THE STONEY AREA

STONEY MIDDLETON / STONEY WEST / HORSESHOE QUARRY +++

21 Transmaiacon MC E5 6a †

1988

22m A bold and intimidating pitch up the bald-looking wall just to the right of the arête. Cross the bulge rightwards to finish up the wall of *Choss*. Some dreadful rock.

22 Choss E1 5b

1964

23m A poor pitch. Climb the groove 6m right of the arête and at the bulge (peg) traverse left before climbing the wall to finish via the upper groove of *Windhover*.

23 Dross E5 6b

2001

23m A very tough bulge. From the top of the corner on *Choss*, step right and climb the overlap by extending moves leftwards to reach a short crack. A long pull here gains better holds leading onto the wall. Finish straight up to a tree taking care with the finishing holds.

24 Scoop Wall E3 5c ★★★

1955/1967

23m One of the great Stoney pitches. Heave up the initial bulges into a sentry box and hence to the main bulge. Make long moves on good holds (old peg), rightwards through this to where a steep crack (thread) leads to a rest below the upper bulge. Crux pulls (peg) gain a short crack on the left and the top.

25 In Corpus E5 6a

2001

18m A strange concoction. From 5m up *Scoop Wall*, step right, thread, and climb up to the bulge, thread. Step right and pull through it into a shallow scoop (peg) and climb this exiting right and up to the *Our Father* belay.

26 Our Father E4 6a, 5a ★★★

1967

One of the iconic pitches of Stoney Middleton made famous by the antics of its Sixties and Seventies hero, Tom Proctor. Well-protected after the bouldery start but not to be underestimated.

1. 14m Athletic manoeuvres onto the lip of the roof (Font 6C) gain the hanging flake (small wires before a good peg). At its top, step right along the break (peg and threaded wire) and make an undercut stretch (long thread) to jams in the overlap above – the crux for shorties. Pull leftwards through this with conviction and up to the cave.

2. 10m Step right to finish up a pleasant groove.

27 Menopause E5 6a, 6b ★★

1960s/1971/1980

A fantastic top pitch, much the stuff of legend until tamed by Chris Hamper. Incredibly, it has been soloed on-sight by Simon Nadin. Start at the right-hand side of the overhangs.

1. 15m Make difficult moves through the right-hand side of the bulges and follow a thin crack to join *Our Father* below the overlap. Continue as for this to the cave belay.

2. 9m Step left and make a series of difficult moves up the bulging wall to enter the slim hanging groove. Climb this to a bolt belay.

28 Hysterectomy E5 6c

1981

9m Desperate. Pull out of the right-hand side of the cave and make hard moves past a peg runner into a thin crack and groove-line leading to the top.

29 Adios Tango E4 6a ★★

traditional/2012

21m A surprising discovery giving excellent, open, wall climbing. From the far end of the ledge, pull through the initial bulge (peg), to good holds leading to the bulge, two pegs. Long moves through this gives better holds at a break (peg on left). Continue boldly up the wall, thread on left to reach another break where a step right gains a small ledge. Climb the thin crack in the headwall, onto a small ledge on the left, thread, from where a final difficult section gains good holds leading to the top.

30 Tiger Trot VD

pre-1960

9m A short pleasant traverse linking the end of Windy Ledge to a large ledge on the arête.

The Lower Corner

The next group of routes are found at road level 20m to the left of the chimney and descent route dividing Windy and Garage Buttresses.

31 You Are Only Mortal E4 6b

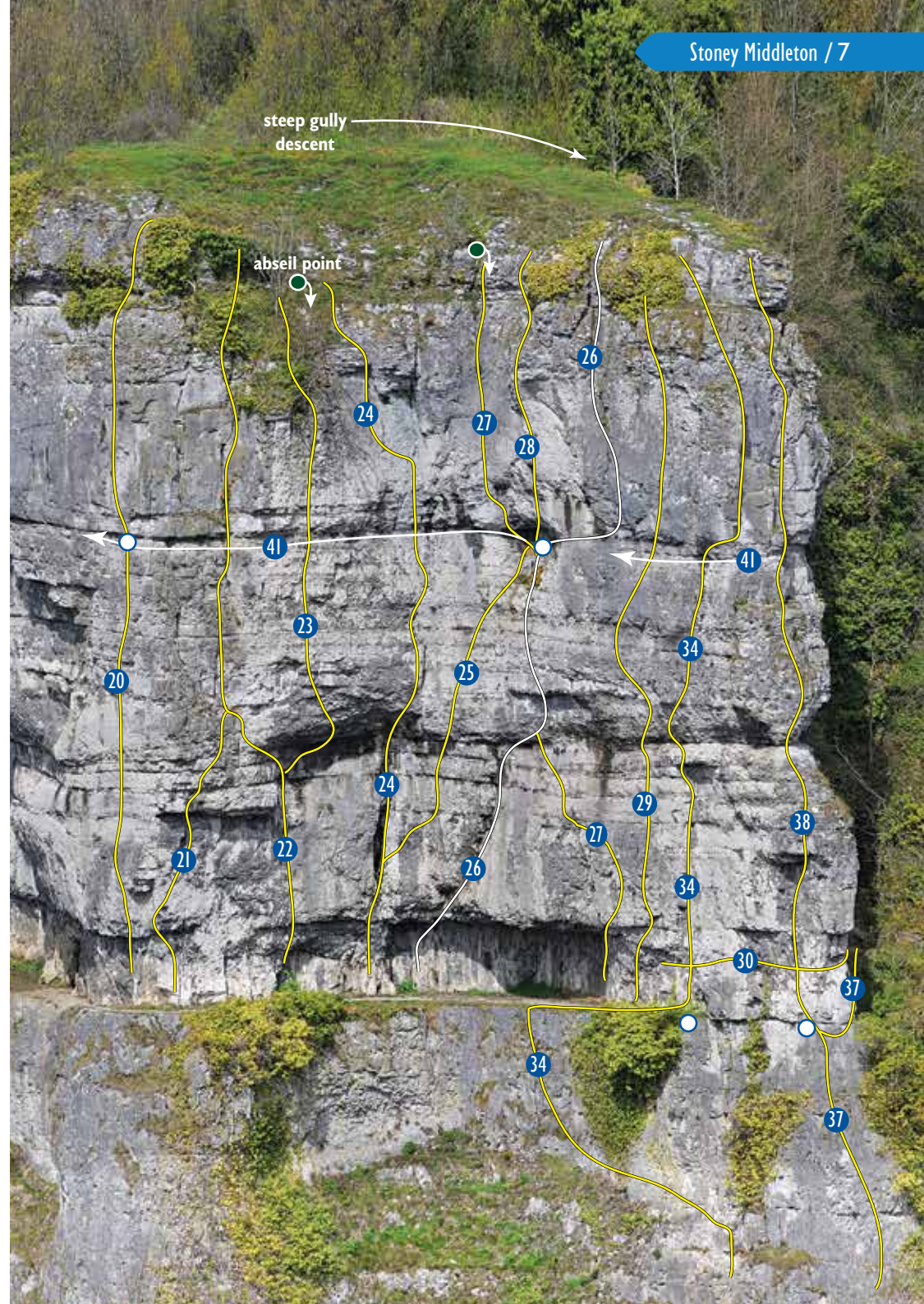
1984

33m The centre of the wall. Amble up the grass above.

32 Immortal Combat F6b+

2012

11m The problematic wall.



**8 Hare** E3 5c 1970s

12m A wandering line past two overlaps, the first taken on the right and the second direct to finish up a loose corner. Some ivy will have to be cleaned off before an ascent can be made.

9 Changing Fortunes E4 6b 1988

12m A better challenge taking the wall just to the right past a solitary peg to finish via a flaky overhang above a ledge.

10 Chairs Missing E3 6b ★ 1981

12m Classic bouldering moves over the lower bulge to the right (peg) moving right to the ledge and a finish as for the previous route.

11 A Tall Story E5 6c ★ 1983

12m An absolutely desperate climb requiring a monster reach over the bulge 5m to the left of the flake of *Dragonflight*. A few easier moves above lead to the ledge and finish.

12 Dragonflight E3 5c ★★ 1976

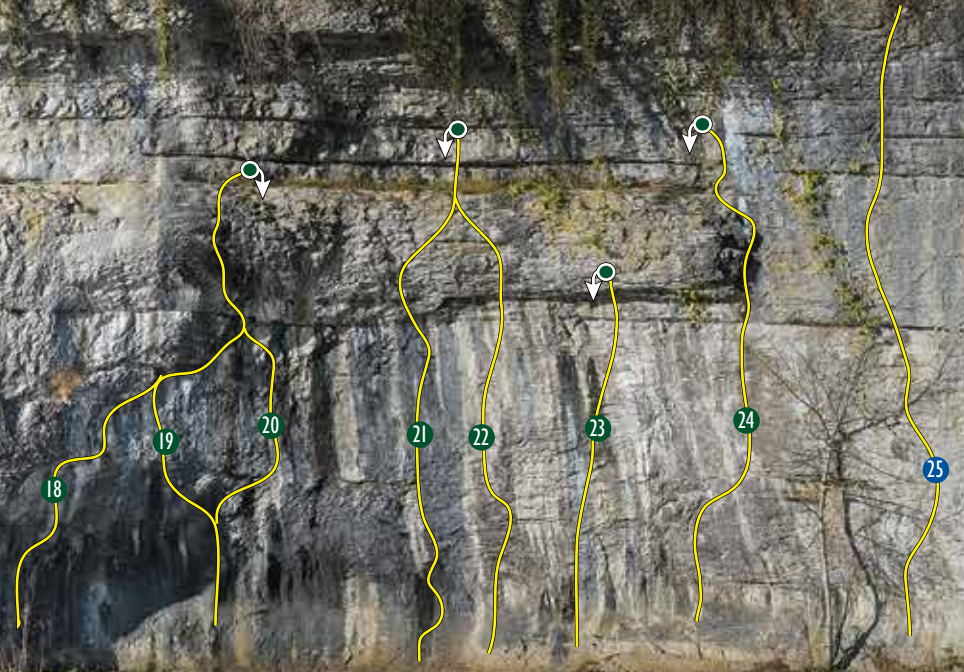
13m The classic mid-grade Rubicon testpiece is a quick and rousing little thing. Climb the flake to get stood in the break. Step up and commit to the delicate slab (harder for the short) to reach easier ground and the ledge. Finish via the flaky bulge on the left.

13 Dragonflight Traverse Font 6B

A great, long slabby traverse with a few tricky sections. A nice way to enjoy the scene. Start just right of *Dragonflight* and finish on ledges on the left of the wall.

14 Jezebel E5 6a ★★ 1981

13m A sumptuous pitch requiring very strong fingers. The thin wall leads past a bolt slightly leftwards to a thin break. Traverse this rightwards to a tiny flake and follow it to a ledge. Finish up the wall above past two pegs.

**15 Kingfisher** E5 6c ★★ 1985

13m Very much the mantra of the crag, giving a full-on fingery nightmare. Having pre-clipped the bolt on *Jezebel*, climb the wall to its right to a pair of pegs. An outrageous move leftwards gains the finish of *Jezebel*.

16 Jaws E5 6b ★★ 1981

13m Beautiful wall-climbing but beware of sharks. The wall behind the tree to the right leads to a peg. Gaining a standing position provides the crux whilst the moves to gain the ledge are best done quickly. Finish via an unsound corner.

To the right lies the central alcove of the wall, the scene of some of its most fingery testpieces. On its left edge lies one of the cliff's more serious propositions.

17 Plectrum Maxilla Direct E7 6c ★ 1986/1991

13m Rubicon's hardest trad lead. Climb the wall to gain

a conspicuously protruding peg in the bulging wall. Continue directly with some urgency but slightly less difficulty. From the ledge finish up the upper wall of *Jaws*.

18 Barracuda F8b 2008

14m A desperate sequence of moves diagonally rightwards across the wall. Painful holds heighten its difficulty.

19 Caviar F8a+ ★★ 1986

12m A big addition from the early days of Peak sport climbing, this intense sequence still doesn't get any easier. Boulder up the scoop to gain small holds by the second bolt (crux) and swing left and back right to gain the break. Pull over the bulge to complete the session. The start is sometimes highballed at Font 7B.

20 Beluga F8a+ ★ 2008

12m After the first few moves of *Caviar*, tackle the fierce wall to its right.

14 Body Builder F8a+ ★

2005

25m A short excursion leaving *Body Machine* at the girdle break and rejoining it above. Powerful, cruxy moves.

15 The Prow F8a ★★★

1963/1982/2003

35m Fawcett's masterpiece. Formerly climbed with two hanging belays but now bolted so it can be led in a single pitch on one rope with long slings. Follow *Body Machine* to the first break where a low traverse along a break leads past the *Revelations* belay. Above is a small flake gained and exited with difficulty to a hole in the break (Pitch 1, F7b+ to here). Climb the tufa fin until a hard exit out right then back left leads into the large hanging groove and the *Body Machine* belay (Pitch 2, F7c+ to here). Climb the groove and make gymnastic moves in a wild position then trend up and right to a hanging belay.

Variations to The Prow:**16 The Crucifixion** F8a ★★★

2006

35m A sensational endurance pitch despite some dubious rock. Follow *The Prow* to the shakeout at the base of the hanging groove. Step slightly right then pull over a small (possibly hollow) roof and plough up the awkward rib and wall. A crucifying move up left leads to better flaky holds above. Move left again to gain a hanging belay.

17 Proud Whore F7c+ ★★★

2003

36m One of the best routes of its grade in the country giving a long sustained route with a superbly-positioned finish. Follow *The Prow* to the top of the tufa fin. A difficult swing right leads to some hard pulls on pockets to reach a hanging groove. This leads to a belay on the ledge.

18 Brazen Strumpet F8a ★★

2006

42m Follow *The Prow* to the top of *Revelations*. A difficult traverse right leads to a fingery sequence to gain the girdle break. Go right to the top of *Mecca Extension* then pull up and left (crux) to meet *Proud Whore*. Move right up a tiny gangway then straight up the bulging wall to an awkward mantel to gain a large ledge and belay.

Back on ground level, just right of the tree stump:

19 Jehovahkill F8b+ ★

1993

10m Short, intense and 'ard! A selection of non-holds leads to the obvious single hold on the right and then still-tricky ground to gain the break and lower-off.

20 Revelations F8b ★★★

1965/1984

10m Iconic. Jerry Moffatt's freeing of the true start to *The Prow* gave the first 8 in the Peak. A desperate move gains the hanging groove where laybacking, kneebars, toe hooks – not to mention a no hands rest – lead up and right to a nasty little slab finish. The grade arithmetic is Font 7C-ish for the start followed by a F7c route = soft F8b. Maybe.

21 Rage F8b ★★

1992

27m Climb *Revelations* and continue up *The Prow* to the hole in the break. Pull over the bulge to gain and climb a thin flake. Continue up the wall to the pocketed break (almost joining *The Prow* below the groove) and then move left. A final hard move gains the *Body Machine* belay.

Variation to Rage:**22 Anger Management** F8a+ ★★

2008

30m The superb final wall of *Rage* can be gained either via *The Prow* pitch 1 or via *Body Machine*, with an independent move right after the rockover to gain the flake near the top of *The Prow* pitch 1.

23 Rage into Crucifixion F8b ★★

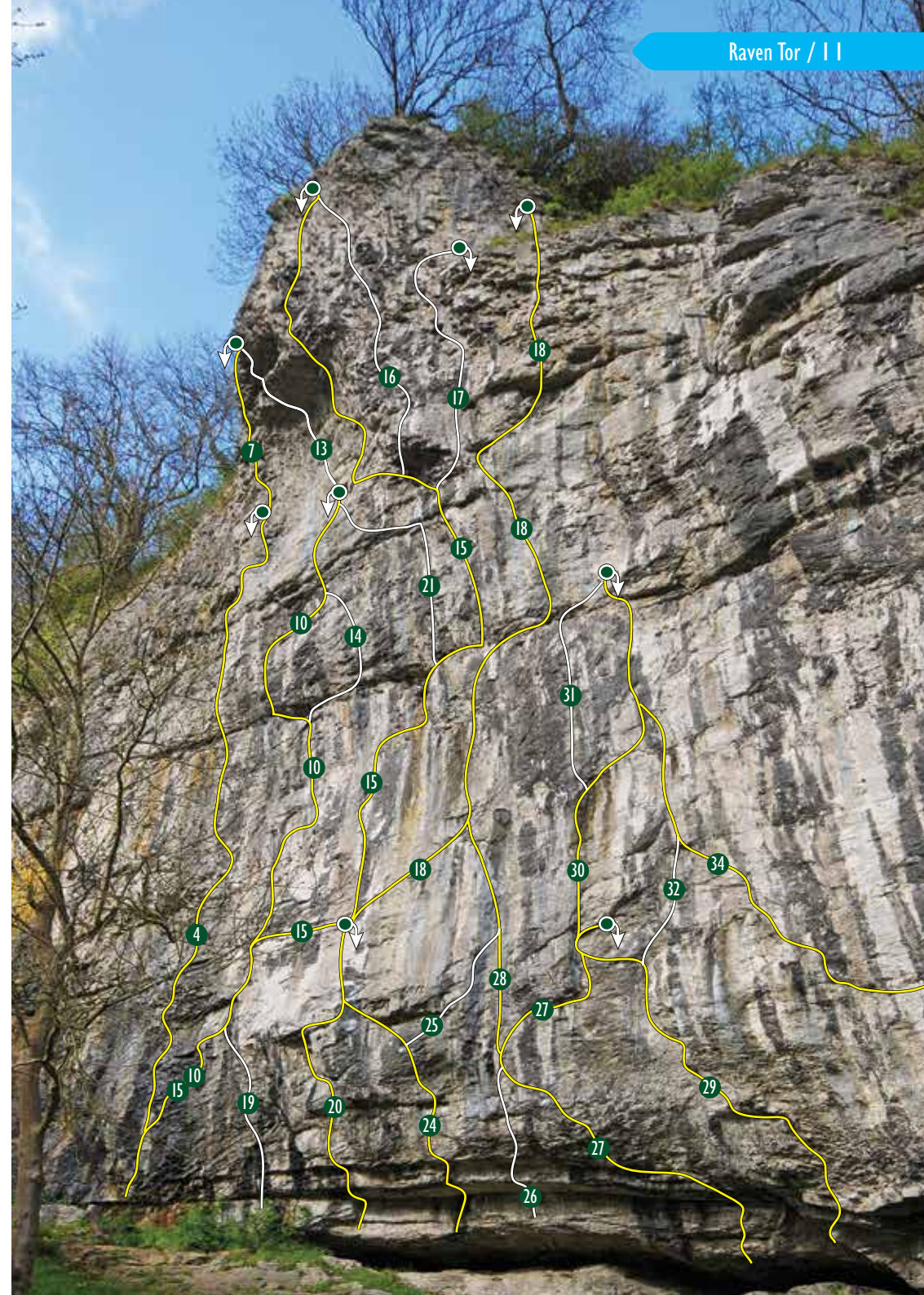
2013

35m A hard, direct way up the cliff with lots of hard climbing. A slightly easier version, **Cross 'n Angry**, F8a+ (2013), climbs *Anger Management* into *The Crucifixion*.

24 Hubble F9a ★★

1966/1987/1990

10m THE hard route of the crag, and one of the most famous hard routes in the world. Massive in status and diminutive in stature, and considered to be Font 8B+. After 25 years repeats still make the news. No sneaky use of rope drag – the crag police are watching! A long stretch left to a blocky pinch leads back right to match undercuts



45 Weedkiller F7c+ ★

1984/1990

7m Pull over the low bulge just left of the corner then make some very taxing moves over the larger roof to reach a small flake. Up this more easily to reach the small ledge on the left. Distinctly harder for the short.

46 The Killer Strumpet F8a ★

2013

35m A long exciting link route. Up *Weedkiller* to the little ledge then continue up *Right to Roam* until about 5m above the *Cream Team Special* break. Move up and left into the groove of *Mecca's* second pitch then pull out left to finish up *Brazen Strumpet*.

47 Rooster Booster pitch 2 F7c

1982

25m The second pitch of the old testpiece is mostly climbed as part of many link-ups. Follow the groove, then follow sidepulls and crimps to arrive at the *Cream Team Special* break. Continue to a belay. There is some worthwhile climbing above on undercuts to the top of the crag but the original belay is very poor.

There are a variety of finishes leading off the small ledge where *Weedkiller* ends. All were originally started up *Weedkiller* but *The Green Alternative* is another option.

48 The Green Rooster F7c+ ★

25m Link *The Green Alternative* into *Rooster Booster* pitch 2.

49 Fowl Play F8a ★

2004

27m Well worth the journey. The ability to recover before the hard finish is key. Follow *Weedkiller* or *The Green Alternative* then continue up *Rooster Booster* pitch 2 to the top break. Move 2m left then pull over the bulge via a tiny overhung corner using very small crimps to reach better holds leading to the *Waddage* belay.

50 The Missing Link F8a

2007

22m A good direct route with a surprisingly sustained upper wall. Follow *Weedkiller* to the ledge then take the right-hand of the two grooves to a slight break. Steam straight up the wall above until a nasty traverse left leads to the break of *Rooster Booster* pitch 2, up which the route finishes.

51 Let's Get Naked! F8a

1987

25m Forgotten for many years but worthwhile. As for *The Missing Link* to the faint break then traverse right for a few metres. Pull into the slight depression above until a difficult last move to the break:

Let's Get Naked was originally climbed via an aided start to give **Jive Turkey**, F7b+. It can be started via *The Green Alternative* to give **Let's Get Green**, F8a.

52 The Exterminator F8a+ ★

2007

25m This mean wall is best climbed quickly. From the top of *Weedkiller*, swing out right and make some very thin moves up the wall above to a junction with *Let's Get Naked!* Follow this to the top.

53 Rooster Crossing F8c ★

2007

25m Straightens out *The Exterminator* to give a very direct line up the wall with a desperate bouldery start. Use an assortment of upside down holds and polished footholds on *Rooster Booster* to eventually hit the traverse line of that route at a good jug. Move straight up above that to join *The Exterminator* at its crux which is followed to the top.

54 Rooster Booster pitch 1 F7c+ ★★

1964/1982

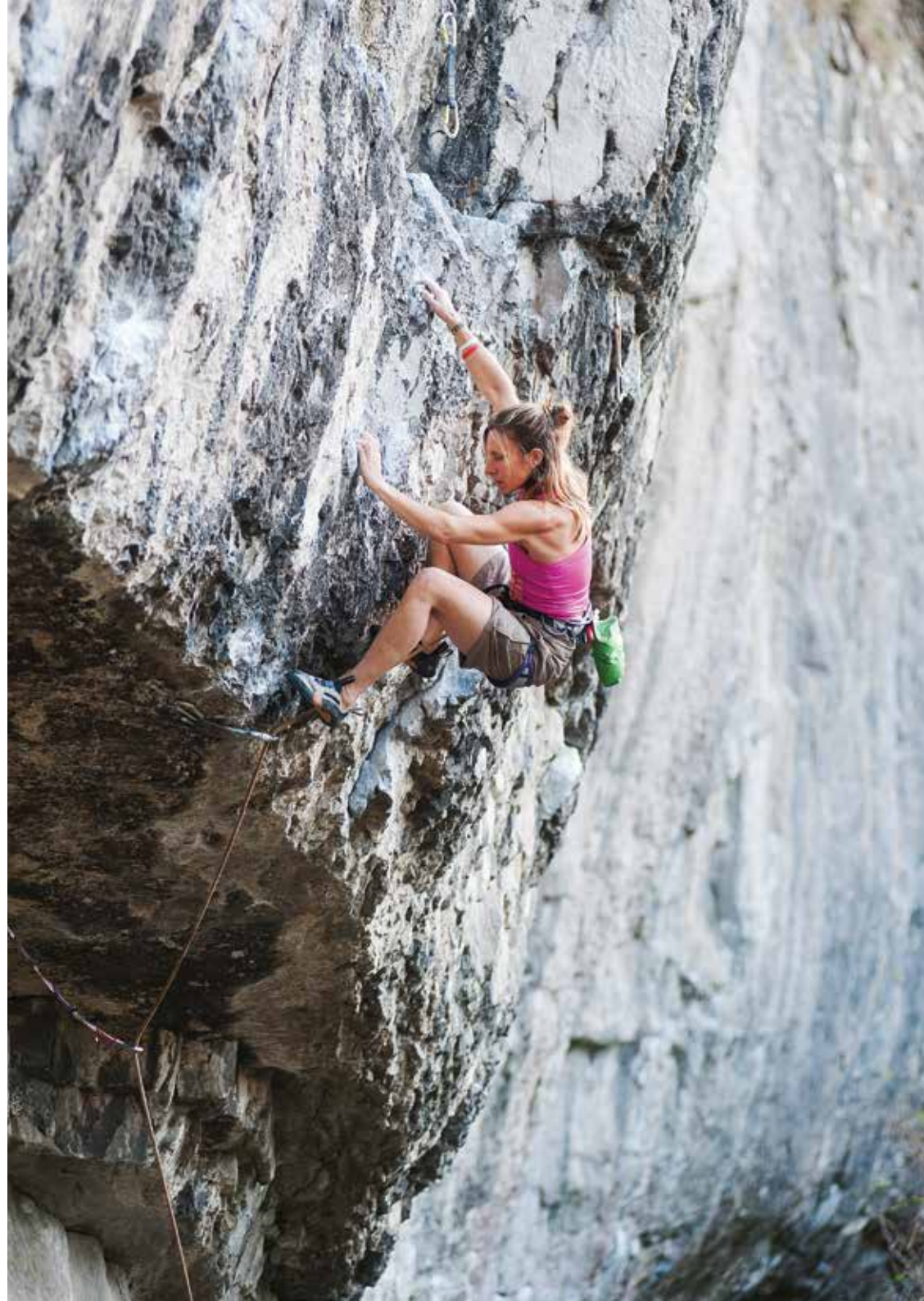
15m An early free-climbing testpiece. Two pitches, although the first is now popular in its own right. Steeply gain the obvious traverse line along the break (as for *Sardine* etc.) and follow it leftwards with difficulty to slightly better holds and finally the *Weedkiller* belay. Reverse aid the route to clean it.

It is possible to take a second rope and continue up the top pitch, without weighting the belay, at F8a.

55 Tin Of F7b+ ★★

1988

20m The left-hand of the two easier classics at the Tor. Good sustained and fingery climbing. Do the juggy, thuggy start of *Sardine* then make some hard moves up a shallow groove to better holds. Continue weaving up the tricky wall to the girdle break.



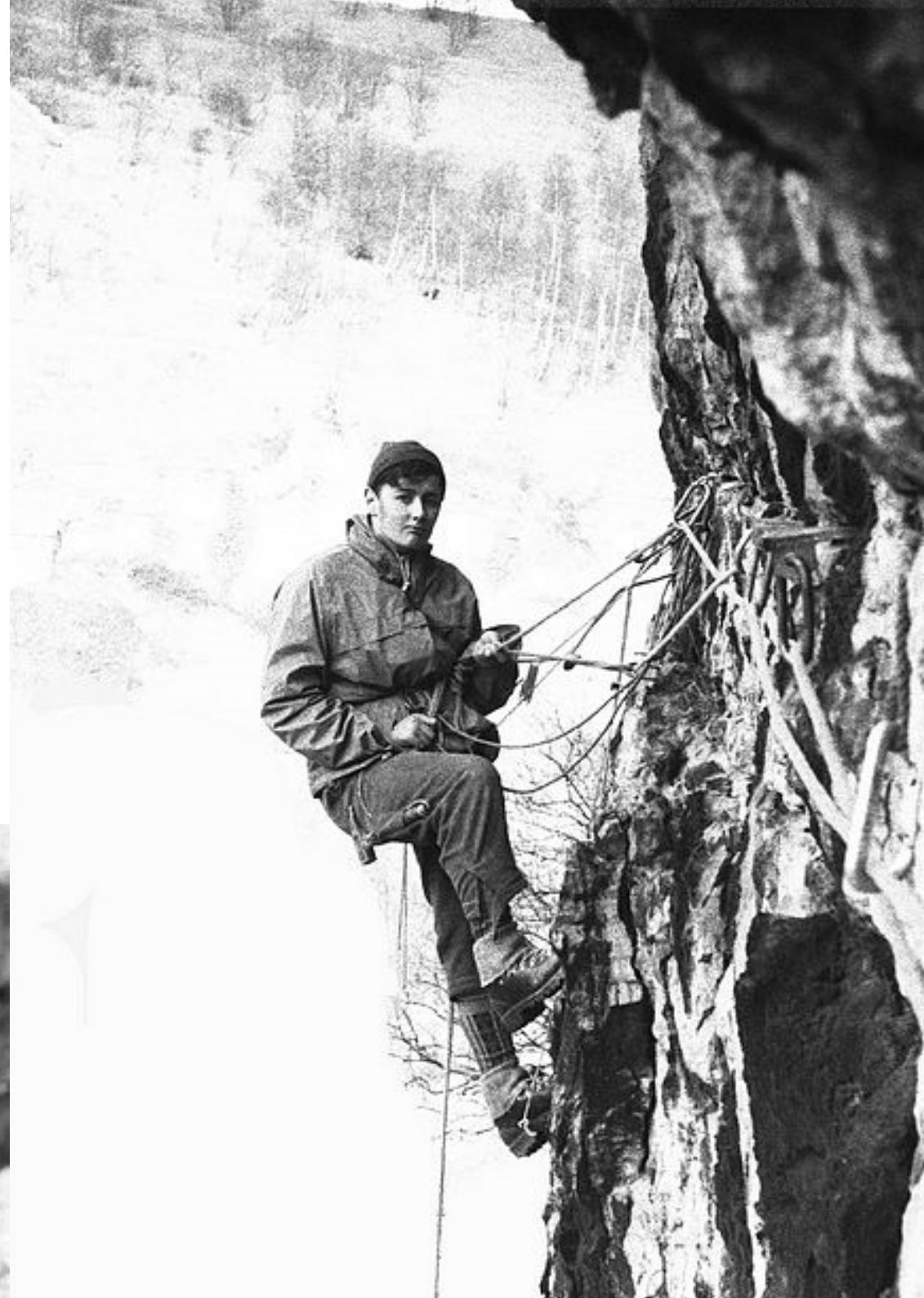
Water-cum-Jolly History

The first recorded climbs in Water-cum-Jolly appeared in 1933 courtesy of Eric Byne and Clifford Moyer. *The Gully* 1933 and *Crystalline* were modest little affairs, but for their time were a rare excursion onto the serious medium of limestone which few pioneers were willing to explore. And it was Byne who, some twenty four years later, was indirectly responsible for the next phase of development in the valley when he mentioned its potential to Graham West, the leading light of the Manchester Gritstone Climbing Club (MGCC). After succeeding on the limited free-climbing possibilities available to them, the club enthusiastically took on the audacious aid-climbing challenges present in the dale. From 1958 till 1970 Water-cum-Jolly became largely the preserve of the aid climber with the MGCC soon being joined by members of the Rimmon Mountaineering Club and the Cioch Club. Stand out routes from this period include West's *Nemesis*, Bob Dearman's *Convulsion*, Brian Moore's *Titon*, James Curtis's *Rubicon* and Bruce Andrew's *Basilisk*. All these routes were graded A3 and, given the equipment available, were extremely difficult and serious propositions.

By 1970 attitudes to free-climbing on limestone had changed. Al Evans and Keith Myhill showed the way with free ascents of *Sermon Wall* and *Ribcrusher Crack* (Evans) and *Ping*, *Ping-Pong* and *Knuckle Knocker* (Myhill). Their visionary approach was initially ignored however and it wasn't until 1975, with the arrival of Tom Proctor, that the ball really got rolling. Proctor initially stole a march with free ascents of *The Bellringer*, *Hemingway's Horror*, *Vicar's Vertigo*, *Hairy Legs* and an almost free ascent (one aid-point) of the imposing *Behemoth*, a phenomenal effort made during a snowfall! However, competition was not far behind: Ron Fawcett and Pete Livesey, who had been previously working *Behemoth*, turned up only minutes behind Proctor and had to settle for a 'tidying up' the following week. By the end of 1976 over 50 routes had been added to the valley, some result-

ing from free ascents of old aid routes and others taking completely new lines. As well as Proctor and Fawcett, the main protagonists were Jim Cambell, Brian Cropper, Jim Reading, Con Carey and Pete O'Donovan. Although by no means the hardest new route, Chris Jackson's *Dragonflight* at Rubicon Wall was significant for showing that the seemingly blank rock here could be climbed free and hinted at the vast potential of the wall. Jackson also went on to highlight the possibilities of the loose Moat Buttress opposite with his ascents of the serious *Triton* and *Pirhana Wall*. On this occasion however, Jackson's bold approach was not followed here until the arrival of bolt protection many years later.

Proctor's final significant contribution came in 1979, with his free ascent of *Rubicon*, one of the biggest limestone roofs to be free-climbed in Britain at the time. His cleaning of the route was described as somewhat overzealous but considering the fact that many of the holds Proctor left have subsequently dropped off, perhaps he can be forgiven! 1979 also saw Jim Moran and Geoff Milburn start their determined attempt to rid Central Buttress of its remaining aid points. After just a few months they opened





Power Trip Wall: The leftmost end of the crag sports a bunch of bouldery routes. However, it is rare to find dry conditions. **Ophelia's Lob-elia**, F7b+ (1989), climbs the shallow groove above the left side of the stepping stones.

1 Forehead Trombones F7b+ 1989

12m The flake-groove gives relatively straightforward climbing to a hard long lurch over its capping bulge.

2 Sharp Practice F8a+ ★ 1995

12m Start as the stepping stones run out. The desperate leaning wall leads to sloping holds at the lip of the bulge. Pulling onto the face is easier said than done. A link-up, **Trombone Practice**, F8a (2014), requires a big span left at the bulge to join *Forehead Trombones*.

3 Masculine Power Trip F8a+ ★ 1989/1994

15m One of the first routes to breach this section of cliff and a testament to Ben Moon's bouldering ability. Very powerful and fingery moves lead up the seam to a rest below the upper bulge. This ain't easy either.

4 Mescaline Power Trip F8a ★ 1989

15m Another desperate exercise, requiring a pile of boulders to reach the first holds. Hard, fingery moves give way to a teetering rockover onto the face. The bulge above is marginally easier than its masculine neighbour.

5 Wright On F8a ★ 1994

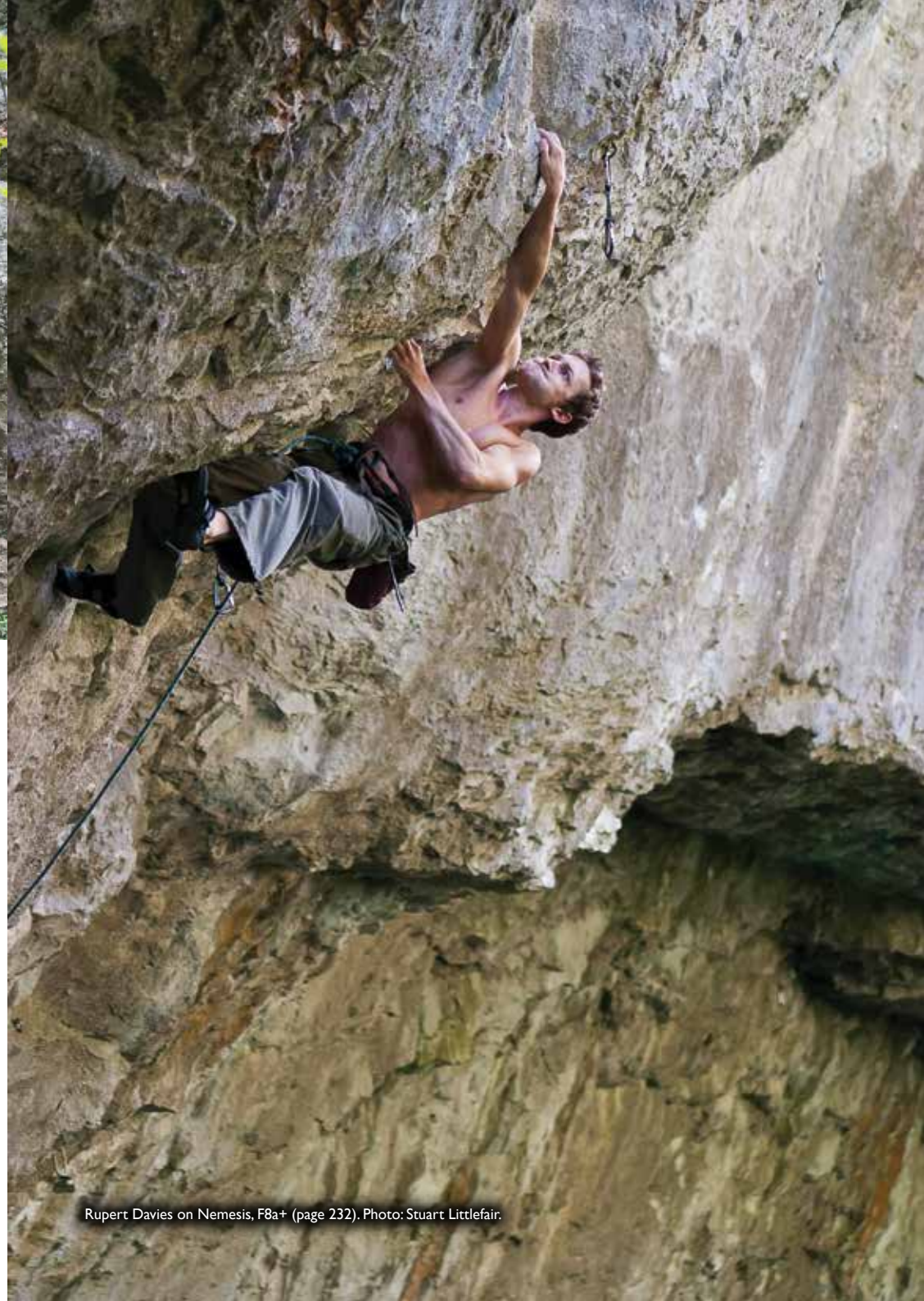
14m Hard bouldery moves straight from the ground. Crossing the roof needs a fair degree of improvisation before the belay of *Taylor Made* is gained.

6 Wright to Left F7c ★ 1995

18m Gain the groove as for *Taylor Made*. From here, traverse leftwards across the sandwiched slab, mainly with hands in the roof, crossing the existing routes, with the occasional resting spot, until a lower-off can be gained at the left-hand side of the roof.

7 Taylor Made F7c ★★ 1989

14m Hard moves to leave the ground below the hanging groove followed by better holds to enter it. After taking a



Rupert Davies on Nemesis, F8a+ (page 232). Photo: Stuart Littlefair.



22 A Widespread Lack of Imagination E3 6a 1985

15m From the bolt belay at the terrace, climb the faint groove (thread) by some technical moves and finish from the break via a bulge.

23 Nostradamus E1 5b ★ 1970

22m A nice introduction and customary warm-up. Climb the lower wall making a tricky move into the groove (peg). Follow a shallow groove stepping right to a final steep pull to a bolt belay at the break.

24 Rave On E3 5c ★★ 1976

22m The rightwards-trending flake gives a strenuous, but well-protected, pitch with the crux at the top. **a** A direct start provides scary entertainment at E4 5c.

To the right lies the most impressive section of wall on the crag and one of the foremost climbing venues in the Peak District. Revered for many years until the first breakthrough of free climbing was made by Tom Proctor in the late-Seventies, this wall now plays host to a hatful of impressive pitches and is the home of one of the most significant achievements of the early-Eighties: Tequila Mockingbird.

25 Boobs F8a ★★ 1988/1996

20m The first of a series of impressively thin routes on the huge flat wall. The route features a continual sequence of very hard moves for almost its entire length, eventually joining the next route for its finish.

26 Boo F7c+ ★★ 1985

21m Fine technical climbing, although a little unbalanced with just one particularly hard section. Climb relatively easily to just above the second bolt. An intense sequence, trending slightly leftwards, leads to a better series of holds.

27 Tequila Mockingbird E6 6c ★★★ 1982

25m A truly significant route which epitomizes the era of its creation and which to-date, remains the first ascensionist's favourite route on limestone. The wall has changed a little since the route's inception: some holds have come off

the start, but it still remains a true milestone in the history of Peak limestone climbing. The limited in-situ gear of just two bolts and two pegs provides a mind-numbing and fingery experience. F7c if the first bolt is pre-clipped (but you'll need a very long stick).

28 Basic Channel F8a ★ 1998

23m Another very fingery route on the fragile walls to the right. Desperate for those of limited stature. Lower off from twin bolts at three-quarters-height or continue via *Eyes of Fire* with a few small wires.

29 Eyes of Fire E6 6c ★★★ 1984

23m The final route of the quintet on this magnificent wall should not be underestimated. Start below the left-hand of two cracks on the rounded arête to the right, the right-hand being *Mortlock's Arête*. Climb the left-hand crack to join that route. Traverse strenuously leftwards onto the face and just before you meet *Tequila Mockingbird* (bolt), climb straight up via a series of short-lived but very fingery moves past limited small-wire protection.

30 Mortlock's Arête E4 6a, 6a ★★★ 1962/1976

A must-do classic of Peak Limestone. The striking line up the prominent arête gives sustained climbing with two cruxes. One low on the first pitch and a boulder problem on the second.

1. 25m Climb the very thin crack. At its top, make a difficult pull leftwards into the main line. Follow this with particular difficulties where it bulges to gain easier ground and a tree belay.

2. 15m The groove above is gained by a trying move over the bulge and eases rapidly. There is sometimes an abseil point on a tree to the right.

The next group of routes lie on the walls to the left of the upper pitch of Mortlock's Arête. These can be gained either from the first pitch of either that route or Rave On, or by abseiling in from above - not easy to locate.

31 The Freeman Trap F6c+ 2009

12m The bouldery wall.

13 The Stalk VS 4c ★★★

1955

27m A classic of the dale. The imposing corner provides a superb introduction to limestone climbing in the lower grades. Gain the corner by climbing leftwards via grassy ledges. Blast up it, escaping left at the top to a belay. Continue up left to an abseil tree. **Photo on page XXX**

14 Sparta in His Eyes E1 5b

1979

32m A pleasant face-climb. Climb leftwards over vegetated rock to a grassy ledge. Continue slightly rightwards via a scoop heading straight for the break. Exit left.

15 Giants F6c ★★

2012

30m A fine addition. The lower wall is technical with fine climbing and the upper roofs are littered with jugs and jams.

16 Gigantic F6c+ ★

2013

35m A right-hand variation on *Giants*. From the large break pull up onto the hanging wall and then right into *Victoria*. Swing right as for *Victoria* and then finish up the short upper arête of *Mrs. Brown*. Very exposed!

17 Victoria E3 5a, 5c ★

1964/1971

Long ignored due to rotting gear, a recent repegging has rejuvenated the climb.

1. 23m Climb leftwards via a series of grassy ledges until a V-shaped groove leads to a belay.

2. 25m Move up and gain the hanging recess above the break by an unnerving swing left, then escape it rightwards onto the wall above. Finish up the wall slightly leftwards with relief.

18 Mrs. Brown F7c

2011

30m Climb the wall to the left of the central groove to reach the break (F6c to here). Step left and pull over the initial bulge as for *Victoria* but swing immediately out right and up with difficulty until easier ground is reached and a bolt belay. Out there!

19 Damson in Distress F7c ★

2011/2014

40m The sport version of *The Big Plum* misses out the

VS sections in favour of harder, bolted climbing. Start up *Mrs. Brown* then drift up right to the roof. Battle up this then finish rightwards into the final section of *The Spider*. Take care on the upper section – some loose rock.

20 Raisin Roof E5 6b ★

1982

48m The first clean breach of the main overhangs is an intimidating prospect. Climb *The Big Plum*, passing a possible belay, to the main break. Move left for 4m to a break in the bulge. Tackle this head-on to reach a resting ledge. Step right to finish up *The Big Plum*.

21 The Big Plum F7c / VS / A1 ★

1960/1983

48m The main break in the left-hand side of the roofs was, for many years, a much sought-after free line but once achieved its popularity has waned. Still, it remains a significant problem. The F7c bit is the short roof section with a VS bit above and below. Climb the central groove (VS 4c), passing a possible belay, to gain the main break. Confront the obvious weakness through the stepped roof on unhelpful holds (very reachy). Belay immediately above the roof. Continue up the VS groove to a tree belay on the penultimate terrace. A finish can be had up the arête above in a fine position.

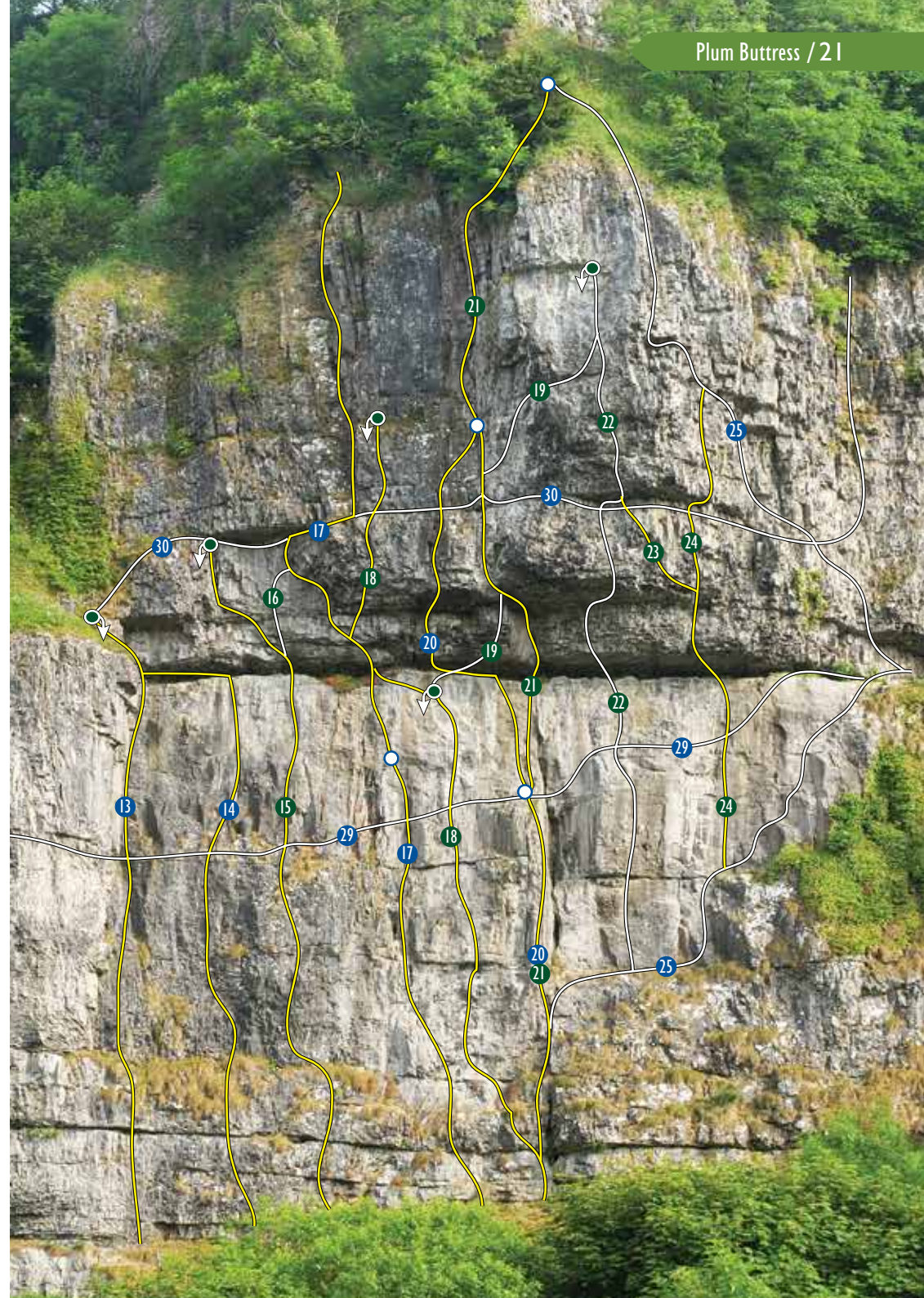
Mid-grade adventurists could fill their boots with exposure by doing *The Big Plum* and aiding the roof section at a hearty VS/A1.

The next two routes start from a grassy ledge a third of the way up the first pitch of Sirplum. Although the climbing to get there is relatively easy, it might be wise to bring some trad gear and lead this section.

22 The Spider F8a ★★★

1968/1987/2004

35m An awesome route finally free-climbing the central line through the great prow of the buttriss which had attracted the eyes of many over the years. Cruxy, wild and with some good rests. The modern all-free version skirts around the aid move from 1986's nearly-free version. From the grass ledge, move left and up via the blackened streak to gain the first overlap. Pull over this and continue over the centre of the great overhang to its lip and some



Chee Dale Sport Climbing History

Gibson continued to add routes throughout the dale but the main focus in the latter part of the Nineties came from the extremely talented Steve McClure who breached the huge roof on the Cornice to give the dale its first F8c, *Dreadnought*, the hardest route in the dale. He also added *Asian Shadow Player* to the right-hand side of the same wall. This complemented Seb Grieve's earlier technical masterpiece, *Love Amongst the Butterflies*. McClure also came up with *Malcolm X* alongside *Monumental Armblaster*. This flurry of development brought the 1990s to a close.

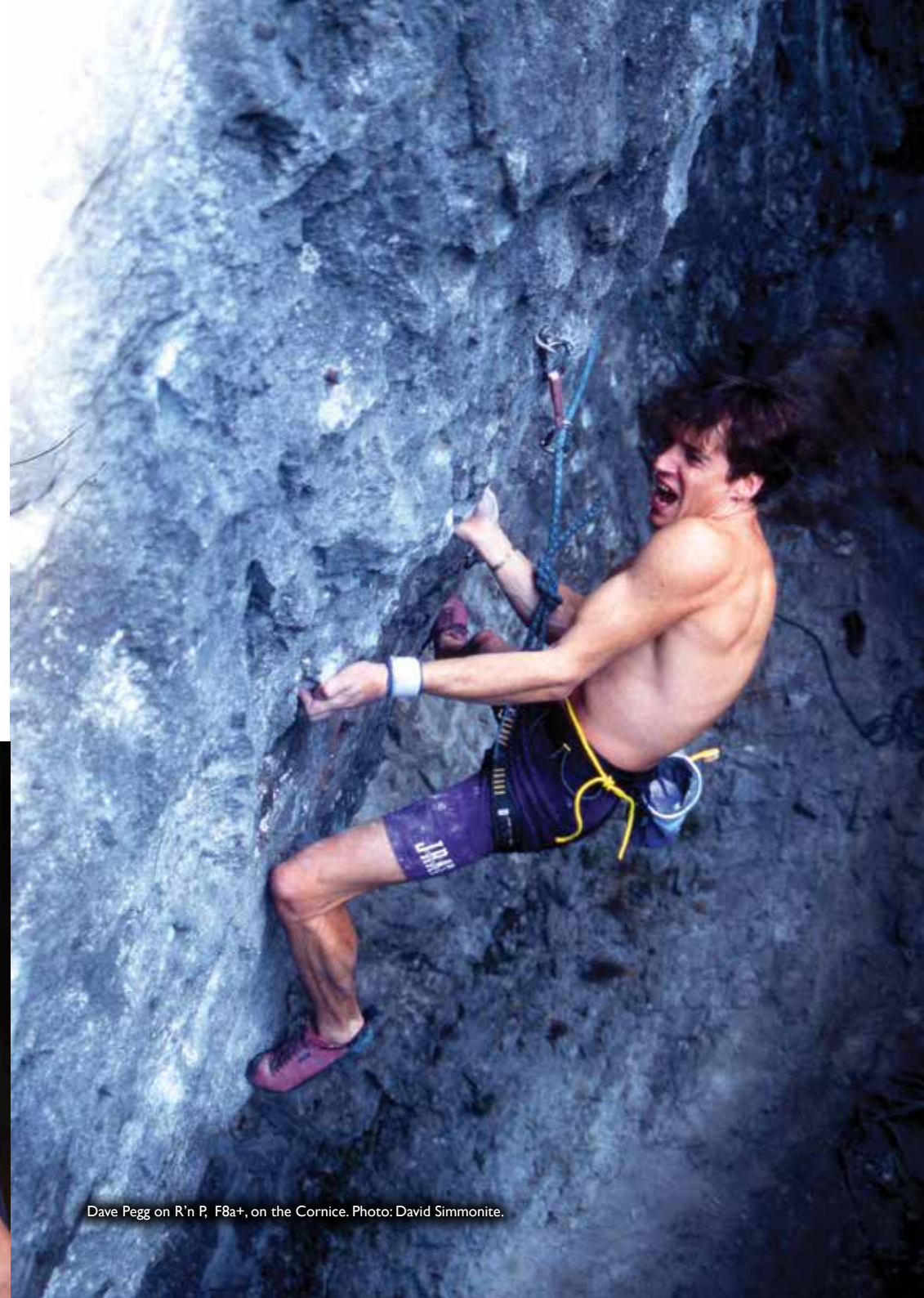
Following all this activity, development in the new century was slow. The top climbers refocused their attentions on Hard Grit, with bouldering taking centre stage. However, what little development that occurred did involve some extremely difficult climbing. Two Tier Butress received attention, initially from Alistair Hannah who in 2002 discovered the worthwhile F8b *Hardcorejunkie*. Rupert Davies took up the challenge of the walls to the left of *Countdown* to give *Kali Yuga*, also F8b in 2003 followed

ten years later with *Flow* as a neighbouring twin. Both of these had been abandoned projects.

The main event of 2004 was when Kristian Clemmow finally freed the *Spider* on Plum Butress. The last aid point of aid only being eliminated 17 years after Andy Pollitt's nearly free effort, albeit using a slight variation in line.

The Cornice was at the centre of attention as some last great problems awaited an ascent, perhaps due as much to the wet summer conditions as to the limited number of climbers who wanted to do them. Clemmow continued his interests on The Cornice with *Snatch*, F8b in 2003 and *32*, (Clemmow's age at the time), F8b+ in 2007. Then in 2005, Steve McClure crimped the desperately thin F8c of *Somehow Super*, essentially bringing the decade to a close.

Good dry conditions arrived in 2010 and Kristian Clemmow reappeared on the Cornice scene to deliver an F8b in the form of *Bricktop*. This was followed by the extremely



Mark Pretty. Photo: Richie Brooks.



Seam Myles. Photo: Richie Brooks.



Dave Pegg on R'n P. F8a+, on the Cornice. Photo: David Simmonite.