

# Climbing in the Brecon Beacons National Park

A man with a beard and sunglasses is climbing a large, grey rock face. He is wearing a black t-shirt, dark blue trousers, and yellow and black climbing shoes. He is positioned on the right side of the frame, with his arms extended upwards, gripping a crack in the rock. The background shows a vast, hazy landscape of rolling hills and valleys under a clear blue sky. The foreground is filled with large, grey rocks and some dry, brown vegetation.

**Part 6: The Twrch Valley**

**Martin Crocker**

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## Part 6: The Twrch Valley

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Front Cover: Addicted to Twrch on *Budget Travel* (V1/2)

### Dedicated to Brian and Betty Vincent

Gower & SE Wales climbing began for me in 1972 with forays from Bristol to Llangattock, Taf Fechan, and Gower with the Exploration Group of North Somerset. My knowledge of the area and its climbing potential grew from 1974 while studying at Cardiff University. Ten years later it gained a new momentum after I met my wife-to-be, Beverley. Her parents, the late Brian and Betty Vincent, who lived in Newbridge, Gwent, showed extraordinary understanding of my extensive climbing explorations in Wales. It was not always the case that I'd slip away climbing while they looked after their grandchildren, but – at times when I was super-keen – it must have seemed that way. My heartfelt thanks, therefore, to them and my family.

### Free Guidebook

It's a pleasure to be in a position to make this guidebook available without my pocketing any of your cash. All I ask is that you make a donation to one of the regional Mountain Rescue Teams (MRTs). They are all volunteers and on call 24/7. You might need them one day (but hopefully not). The choice of which MRT(s) you support is up to you; here's how to do it:



#### Brecon Mountain Rescue Team

Donations for Brecon Mountain Rescue Team can be made online through localgiving; i.e.: <https://localgiving.org/brecon-mountain-rescue-team>



#### Longtown Mountain Rescue Team

Donations for Longtown Mountain Rescue Team can be made online through JustGiving i.e.: <https://www.justgiving.com/longtownmrt>  
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#### Central Beacons Mountain Rescue Team

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#### Western Beacons Mountain Rescue Team

Donations for Western Brecon Mountain Rescue Team can be made online through JustGiving i.e.: <https://www.justgiving.com/westernbeacons>

## Print at Will

Originally I built the BBNP guidebook as a single entity, but it became apparent it would be huge, and impracticable to print domestically. So I have split it into seven mini-guides based on their host mountain or upland area. The introduction is the same in each. They have been designed to be printed in A5 format on both sides of A4 paper. Good luck with that. And enjoy.

## Copyright

A significant voluntary effort has gone into preparing this guidebook and making it freely available for personal climbing use. The publication of any of its contents either as hard copy or via the internet without the author's consent is prohibited. However, I appreciate that much information is shared on the internet these days, and I have no objection to basic details being referenced in any not-for-personal-profit (non-commercial) website. If in any doubt, just ask me.

## *Climbing in the Brecon Beacons National Park Guidebook Series*

*The Twrch Valley* is one in a series of seven topo-based guidebooks to the climbs and boulder problems in the Brecon Beacons National Park. The crags in the BBNP essentially fit into two categories: limestone quarries (comprising mostly traditional climbs) and – the new kid on the bloc – Twrch Sandstone crags (comprising mostly bouldering). All the climbing sites are united by their stunning upland surrounds, and many are remote and rarely visited by walker or climber alike. If wilderness bouldering is your thing and you're not afraid of a good walk – eat four Weetabix, breathe deep, and take to the hills.

The aims of this series are to make available for public use details of some activists' explorations and to use this opportunity to raise money for a proven good cause. The guidebooks are *not* definitive records of the climbs since legitimate access to, and use of, sources of information outwith the public domain is not always available. I must express my apologies, therefore, for the inevitable omissions or errors, which could fill a guidebook. If nothing else, this project may well tease out more details of both past and present so a wider record of the climbing and – importantly – its correct history can evolve. As scotch mist Madge of the launderette in Tooting would tell me: 'It'll all come out in the wash, luv.'

There seems to be no universal convention regarding the publishing of first ascents of boulder problems. Originally I was going to publish the available known first ascent records (since boulder problems can sometimes be more significant than routes). Instead I've just summarised the years of development, allowing inferences to be made. Any first ascent details here should not be taken to heart. Many short or minor routes will not have been considered routes 'back in the day' and therefore left unrecorded. An effort has been made to estimate (+/- 5years) the date of any line so obvious that surely must have been led/soloed but where the first ascent is unknown.

In this guidebook series the climbing sites are generally described east to west.

## Grading

E grades coupled with UK technical grades are used for the trad routes. French grades are used for the few sport routes. V grades (in combination with UK tech grades) are used for the bouldering, but please feel free to convert to Font grades at your leisure, because I can't. No attempt has been made to V-grade anything less than 4c.

## Bouldering and first ascent style

Given the potential misery for a solo climber having to cart a mat uphill three, four, or five kilometres, the vast proportion of the bouldering has been achieved ground-up without a bouldering mat, but with the limited cushioning of a sleeping mat and a few old jumpers where necessary. In the absence of a mat some of the harder higher boulder problems will have first been inspected on a top rope (denoted **(H)**); a well organised team should find that spotters and mats more than compensate for top-rope inspection.

For solos of *routes* not indicated as ‘on sight’ or ‘above a mat’ assume they have been inspected and possibly even top-roped first. Routes indicated as ‘roped solo’ were led conventionally and safeguarded by a self-belay Soloist device instead of a flesh and blood climbing partner.

## Ethics

For each crag a brief statement on the usual style of ascent is given under ‘**Ethic**’; this is a matter of fact, and best considered as *de facto* acceptable practice proven by historical record. Where it is stated that bolts are or are not acceptable, this is based on long-established principles (e.g. no bolting at Morlais or Twynau Gwynion; bolting acceptable at Baltic Quarry) and should be found to be in accordance with any legitimate local drilled gear policy. ‘Bolting acceptable/permitted’ relates to establishing new routes only. Where routes were first climbed solo (as indicated in the first ascent details) a mat will not have been used unless stated otherwise.

## Stuff to Take

On the higher and more remote crags especially, equip yourself with robust all-weather gear as would a mountain walker; conditions can change quickly and a blue-sky day can become a mist-clad howling-gale in no time at all. A 1:25000 OS map and compass are invaluable when using this guidebook: the map references given are often the key data to get you to the crags. If you will be climbing on your own, also take a mobile phone (but don’t rely on it completely because of variable signal strengths), a head torch, and a whistle; and leave word of where you will be going.

The choice of what and how much padding to take is left to the individual boulderer. Certainly it is little hardship for an individual to take a lightweight sleeping mat to any of the crags, while a team might consider ferrying a bouldering mat or two. The use of bouldering mats will of course open up harder problems and unlock the remaining sit-start and bad-landing projects.

## Rescue

In the unfortunate event of an accident requiring assistance ring **999** or 112, ask for **Police**, and then state you need **Mountain Rescue**.

## Access

Access notes are included in each crag introduction. The vast majority of the crags are located on Access Land where visitors enjoy a right to climb. However that doesn’t mean you can do what you like on the crags: issues such as the presence of or potential for nesting birds of prey or protected scarce or rare plants take legal and moral precedence over your right to climb. Some sites are SSSIs, the citations attached to which denote the reasons for such declaration (e.g. rare plants, distinctive geology) and the management measures to maintain them including any necessary control over recreational activities (e.g. a direction that climbing is inappropriate).



A few of the crags within the boundary of the national park are *not* located on Access Land, but are approachable from RoWs without being forced to mount any fences or walls. **The inclusion of any climbing site in this guidebook does not assume or confer any right of access to it.**


You are best advised to do further reading by consulting the BMC's Regional Access Database ([www.thebmc.co.uk/rad](http://www.thebmc.co.uk/rad)). For access issues please contact the BMC's Wales Access and Conservation Officer or local volunteer access representative ([www.thebmc.co.uk](http://www.thebmc.co.uk)).

### Guidebook Disclaimer

You climb entirely at your own risk in line with the BMC Participation Statement (see below); this guidebook has been published strictly on that basis. The author and any other party connected with this guidebook cannot be held responsible for any errors or omissions or be held liable for any personal or third party injuries or damage, however caused. The inclusion of climbs in this guidebook does not assume any right of access to them; please refer any access queries to the BMC.

### BMC Participation Statement

Climbing, hillwalking, and mountaineering are activities with a danger of personal injury or death. Participants in these activities should be aware of and accept those risks and be responsible for their own actions and involvement.

		<b>CRAG CODE</b> <a href="http://www.thebmc.co.uk">www.thebmc.co.uk</a>	
<b>Access</b>	Check the Regional Access Database (RAD) on <a href="http://www.thebmc.co.uk">www.thebmc.co.uk</a> for the latest access information		
<b>Parking</b>	Park carefully – avoid gateways and driveways		
<b>Footpaths</b>	Keep to established paths – leave gates as you find them		
<b>Risk</b>	Climbing can be dangerous – accept the risks and be aware of other people around you		
<b>Respect</b>	Groups and individuals – respect the rock, local climbing ethics and other people		
<b>Wildlife</b>	Do not disturb livestock, wildlife or cliff vegetation; respect seasonal bird nesting restrictions		
<b>Dogs</b>	Keep dogs under control at all times; don't let your dog chase sheep or disturb wildlife		
<b>Litter</b>	'Leave no trace' – take all litter home with you		
<b>Toilets</b>	Don't make a mess – bury your waste		
<b>Economy</b>	Do everything you can to support the rural economy – shop locally		
<small><b>BMC Participation Statement</b> — Climbing, hill walking and mountaineering are activities with a danger of personal injury or death. Participants in these activities should be aware of and accept these risks and be responsible for their own actions and involvement.</small>			

### Abbreviations Used

BBNP	Brecon Beacons National Park		o-s	on sight
SSSI	Site of Special Scientific Interest		stal	calcite/flowstone
SWMC	South Wales Mountaineering Club		BB	Bolt belay
SWCW	South Wales Climbing Wiki		BR	Bolt runner
RoW	right of way		<b>Adjectival Grades</b>	
km	kilometre		M/D	Moderate/Difficult
N	north, northern, northerly,		VD	Very Difficult
E	east, eastern, easterly		S	Severe
S	south, southern, southerly		HS	Hard Severe
W	west, western, westerly		VS	Very Severe
FA	first ascent		HVS	Hard Very Severe
SS	sit start		E1 – E7	Extreme

## Part 6: The Twrch Valley

*In solitude, where we are least alone*

Byron

The Twrch Valley is a contender for the most beautiful and tranquil climbing site in the whole of inland South Wales. Its river, Afon Twrch, descends in a SSW direction from Fan Brycheiniog (802m) to Ystradowen ultimately joining the Afon Tawe in the Swansea Valley. Four km NNE of Ystradowen the Afon Twrch has cut a deep V-shaped valley through the Twrch Sandstone beds, 2 km long. This has revealed a series of long low cliffs at and below the edge of the plateau on its E side. It is these cliffs that provide most of the climbing, all set in a dazzling, remote, and unspoiled mountain environment where it is extremely rare to see let alone pass anyone. All the crags are located on Access Land. The walk-ins vary between 5 and 8 km – enjoy!



Much of the climbing is bouldering and soloing, all of which was conceived without use of a bouldering mat – for obvious reasons. Landings for the most part are surprisingly good on the harder problems; those that are not require great care, especially if you are climbing here on your own. There is a day's worth of roped (lead) climbing in the valley

The mountain sectors are described from E (South first) to W.

So far as the knee-shot author is concerned the crags here are well beyond bouldering mat range, though this might not be considered the case for a party where the effort can be shared. The area is not the ideal place for an accident since it is remote and rarely is anybody else within a handshake.

The climbing history of the area is enigmatic. Surely it was probed in the 60s or 70s? (Tyle Garw was known to some by the mid-1960s.) Visionary Joe Squire tweaked the quartz conglomerate in 2013/14, but some of his records were lost. Without knowledge of Joe's activity, Martin Crocker latched himself to the valley in 2015, taking pics as he purred and plundered. This is the outcome.

## Approach

The general approach is from Ystradowen in the S; there are variants, but that described is the best and driest. From the Swansea Valley drive to Ystradowen (on the A4068), and turn right (at a sharp left bend) into Pen-Y-Graig road. Park in a car-park on the right after 200 metres. (This car park is very lightly used; there is no need to park any further along the road in this residential area.) Walk E along Pen-Y-Graig Road descending to a bridge over the Afon Twrch. Cross the bridge and turn immediately left along a RoW which follows the E bank of the river. Follow this path for 1.5 km and after walking over a small bridge over a tributary coming in from the right, take the RoW on the right over a stile (this point is just before the Afon Twrch path crosses back left over the river). Follow the indistinct path N, above the Twrch, to the abandoned farmhouse of Pen-y-wern.



Continue NNE along a RoW, keeping parallel to the Twrch, to intercept a farm track just before Dorwen – an abandoned farmhouse (inhabited as late as the 1980s). Views will already have been had of the Twrch valley climbing area to the N. This is where you might find yourself amongst scary hairy minotaur-like beasts. They are Aberdeen Angus: ferocious looking but incongruously timid cattle. Go through the gate and – keeping left of the wall – go through another onto Access Land.



Carry on N (boggy ground) to cross the Llwynnewmstabl stream which falls in a lovely 12-metre high waterfall below. To the N is the ridge of Tyle Garw on which the Twrch Valley crags are seated facing WNW over the Afon Twrch. Walk up the ridge to the routes. For the Twrch Valley crags allow a good hour for the S crags, and 1 ½ hours for the N crags.





### Ridge East of Bwlch y Ddeuwynt

There is a fair amount of exposed rock on the ridge, but most is too short or easy-angled to be of interest. Approach at will and occasionally in bog from Tyle Garw. So far as is known, the problems as described were first climbed in August, 2015.

In the S at OS 7884 1662 is a long W-facing 4-metre high edge, alluring when viewed in the evening light from Tyle Garw to the W. Though not that interesting technically, it's probably worth a visit for some amenable scrambling on a summer's evening or sunny winter's afternoon. Nonetheless there are two hard(ish) problems towards the left side of the crag either side of a cave.

### Ethic: Bouldering



1 **\*Basket of Deplorables V4 (6a)** SS in the cave and take the hanging roof/pillar out left on flat fingerholds to a pull over on jugs at the end.

2 **\*Hit by a Thousand Borats V3 (6a)** Take the steep white wall right of the cave on sharp holds. (Avoid the large layaway on the left.)

To the N, along the same ridge and roughly in line with the summit trig point (471m) is a block and a buttress on the E side of the ridge (OS 792417394). On the former is:

RIDGE EAST OF BWLCH Y DDEUWYNT



3 **Lichenthrope V2 (5c)** The leaning arête.

The easy crack to the left is Diff while the groove on the right is about 5a.

And the buttress to the right is not without merit: lots of amenable jug-pulling and a traverse, best taken in the morning sunshine.



## TYLE GARW

The climbing sectors are described in two general sections: first, the crags on the edge of the ridge; and second, the crags at lower levels on the valley slope.

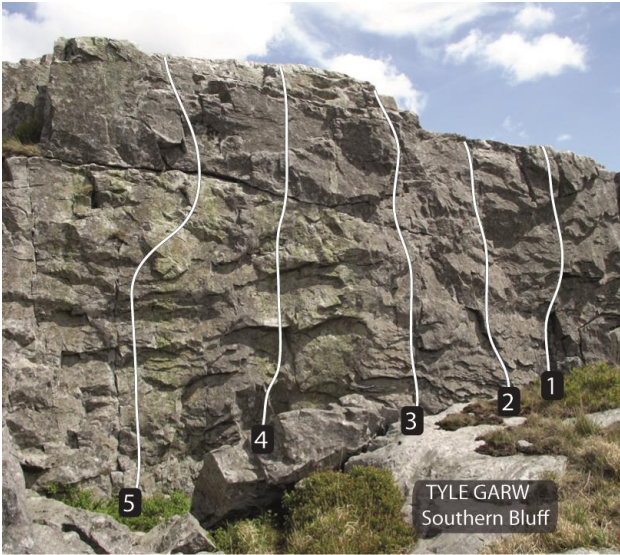
**Ethic:** Bouldering, soloing, trad

### SOUTHERN BLUFF OS 7750 1615

The southernmost climbable rock is an escarpment almost opposite a spring (Ffrydiau Twrch) in the hillside to the W. There is some good rock here, but the landings run amok with boulders: definitely no place to go gung ho. So far as is known, the problems as described were first climbed in November, 2013 and in 2015.

The problems are described from right to left.

On the front of the bluff is a fine sheer wall above a little rift created by a large sloping boulder.



**1 Happy Jack V0 (5a)** The crack near the right-hand side of wall.

**2 \*Join Together V1 (5c)** Use a big layaway for right hand; then take positive finger-holds straight to the top.

**3 Don't Stop V2 (6a)** Start in little rift; use a thin layaway in a vertical hairline crack with right hand and go for the horizontal crack. Exit on a large flake.

**4 \*Going Down V4 (6b)** Start in little rift with a crimp above a tiny roof and reach a slot in a horizontal break. (The stand-up from boulder is V1, 5b.)

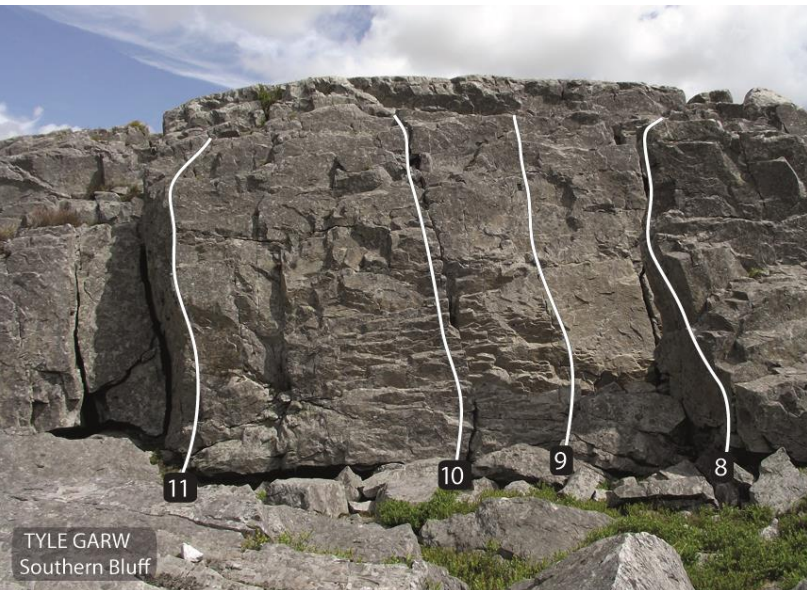
**5 Fiddling About V0 (5a)** Near the left hand end, trend right on positive holds into a short flake.

There is a narrow rift behind the wall, favoured with a soft green bottom. Two problems occupy the immaculate west-facing wall.

**6 \*Isolationist V1 (5b)** The centre of the wall, on surprising holds.

**7 Surreal Cake Implosion V2 (6a)** Use fingerholds in the left-hand side of the wall to make a long reach for the top.

The left-hand side of the bluff forms a slabby wall with a small pinnacle just right.



TYLE GARW  
Southern Bluff

**8 Long John's Stride 4b** Take the leaning arête of the pinnacle, balance onto the top; then spread 'em for the mainland.

**9 Long John Baldry VD** The slabby wall.

**10 Shiver me Timbers M** The crack.

**11 Stride's Long Johns 4a** The rounded left-hand arête.





## INITIATION BOULDER PILE OS 7760 1650

Two hundred and fifty metres further N is a rounded outcrop on the ridge that provides some pleasant ‘scramble anywhere’ rock, especially the 6-metre high face on the right. So far as is known, the problems as described were first climbed in February, 2015.

The problems are described from right to left.



1 D A shallow groove.

2 4a The right-hand of two arêtes, between heather clumps.

3 D The left-hand arête.

4 **Rock Around the Chock** 4a The crack with a big chockstone.

5 **Eat Humble Pie** V1 (5b) The N-facing wall just right of a wide crack which is used near the top.

## QUARTZITE CANYONLANDS OS 7764 1659 – 7771 1673

This is a principal sector 150 metres N of the Initiation Boulder Pile which extends along the edge of the ridge for a further 150 metres. An obvious identifying feature is a large solitary rowan tree growing out from the ravine behind the sheer crystalline white face climbed by *Stranger*. So far as is known, the problems as described were first climbed between 2013 and 2015.

The problems are described from right to left.

The following route-cluster is located on the southernmost wall with two cracks.

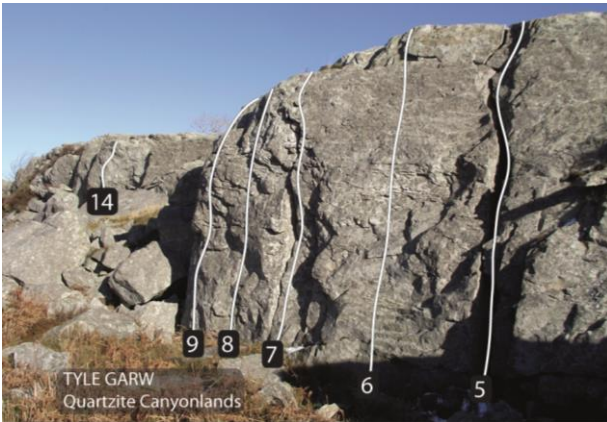
1 **Rock On** 4b Rock up onto the long flake ledge.

2 **Crack On** V0- (4c) The right-hand crack.

3 **Spoonful** V0 (5a) The rib just left of the right-hand crack.

4 **I'm Free** V2 (6a) The short wall on the left starting low – crimpy.





The next wall left is slabby and a hefty 5 metres tall.

5 **Hightime M** The wide crack.

6 **We Came from Nothing D** The beautiful slabby wall.

7 **Fan Club D** The narrow crack.

8 **Brycheiniog Boogie V0-** (4c) The steep wall just left of the narrow crack.

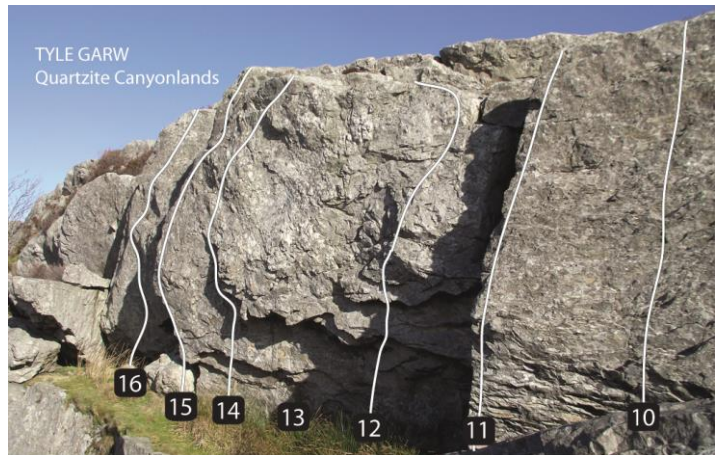
9 **Sir Gaer's Rib 4b** The rounded rib past a jug.

Left is a complex of boulders and rifts with a 5.5 metre-high white front face split by two chimneys.

10 **Tipple D** Starting from a huge inclined boulder, climb the undulating white face.

11 **Tilted Shame 4a** Left arête of the rippled face (i.e. the right-hand arête of the chimney).

Next left is the sheer white face. The routes here have the extra bite of a rock ledge beneath (add an extra metre fall should you miss it).



12 **The Teabag Explodes E2 6a (V2) (H)** Gain a big layaway in the right-hand side of the face and stretch for a fat sloper immediately left of the chimney; swing left and mantel over manically.

13 **Project (Ground Up Matless) E5 6c/V8?** A pitiful landing; therefore awaits either mat-free on-sight solo genius or a support team with mats and spotters. Either way a 6c rock-up onto the gnarly white face.

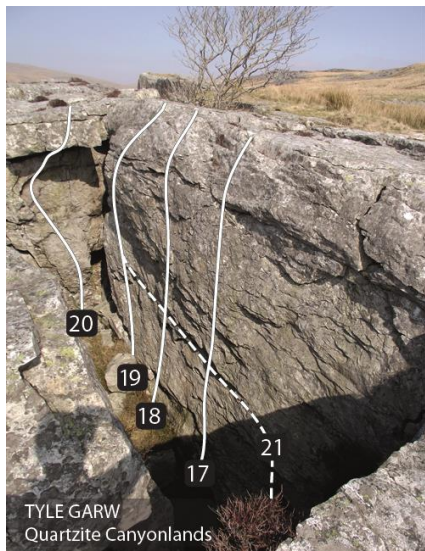
14 **\*\*Stranger E2 6a (V2) (H)** Superb; near the left-hand end of the face strenuously gain the projecting crimp from a layaway and carry on boldly direct to the top. (If you go left for the exit of *The Paradise* you are a **Sidewinder**, same grade.)

15 **\*Bad Landing E1 5a/b (V0+)** Highball. Step off a boulder and climb the right-hand side of the left-hand arête of the sheer white face. V1 without stepping off the boulder.



16 **Tough Cookie** V1 (5c) Left of the next chimney, climb a strenuous little groove onto a rounded ledge in the rib. A hardnut start.

Behind the white face is a rift harbouring a pristine orange-crystalline wall 4.5 metres high. It is *the* place to hang out in strong winds.



17 **\*The Way Out** V2 (5c) Start at an undercut at head height and make technical moves direct to the top on small holds.

18 **\*Don't Be a Stranger** V3 (6a) Reach the obvious right-facing layaway and make a very long move to a jug. Mantel out.

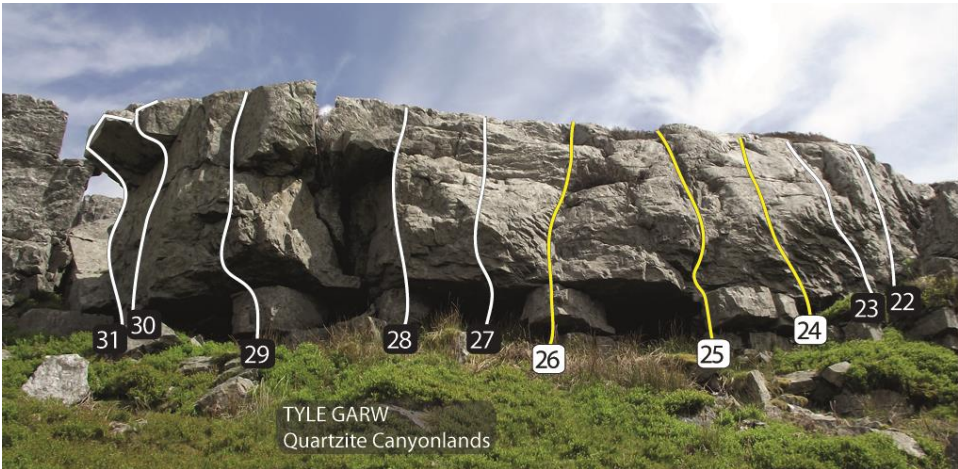
19 **Try Again** V0+ (5b) Leave a rounded boulder with a bewildering move to a jug.

20 **\*Soulcrusher** V3 (6a/b) The wall and roof at the northern end of the rift. Make a dynamic move to the break under the roof (no slab on left); then pull up right and mantel over.

21 **States of Mind** V2 (6a) A low-level traverse from right to left to finish up 19; passing and avoiding dabbing the round boulder is problematic.



Pic: Red Kite in the Twrch Valley



Just a little further left (of the sheer white face) is a long rippled white wall.

**22 Quickdraw Mc Graw** V0 (5a) Close to the right-hand end of the wall – and avoiding use of rock step on right – climb the bulging rib.

**23 El Kabong** V0+ (5b) Climb the crack (not the crack really; use flat finger-holds to its left).

**24 Comedown Country** 6m E3 5b (17.3.2015) Step up on a block, reach a shallow finger-rail in the smooth white slab; then rock straight up to the top. Big drop, stark landing.  
FA Martin Crocker (o-s solo)

**25 No Yapping** 4a The easy crack next left.

**26 No Yammering** 4b The groove above a block under the low roof.

**27 No Yattering** V2 (6a) With right hand on a jug left of the crack, power to holds high above (use of block on right to start is illegal).

**28 No Chattering** V0- (4c) The arête near the left-hand end of the ‘rippled wall’.

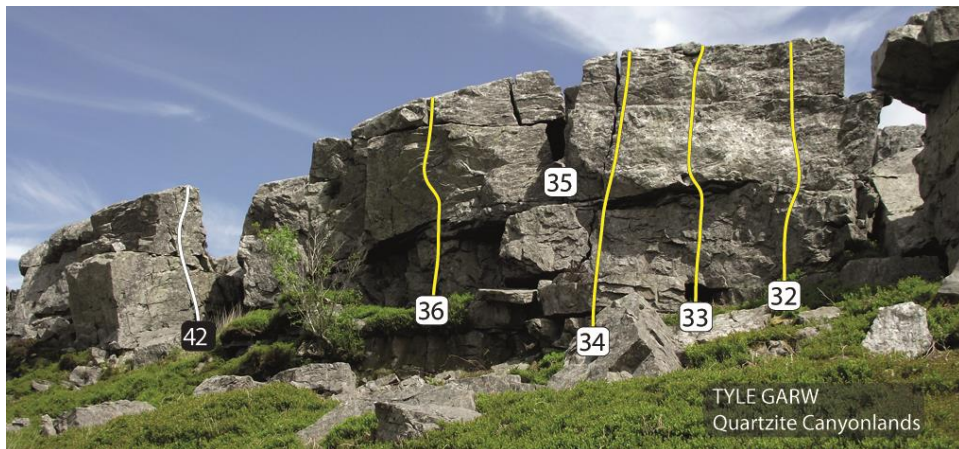
At the left-hand end of the ‘rippled wall’ is a thin flat projecting roof at the cliff-top and a gap in the cliff to its left.

**29 No Babbling** V0 (5a) Pull over a bulge and finish up the obvious short corner right of the roof.

**30 \*Cap it All City** V1 (5b) Climb the sheer white wall under the roof, reach up over to the lip; then swing right and pull over with a jam.

**31 Shaken Nation** V0 (5a) Use a jug on the left-hand arête to reach up over the left side of the roof. Make a frenzied hand traverse around the roof to exit up 30.

The next section rises to 6 metres in height and holds a prominent crack in its centre.



**32 First among Equals** 6m VS 4a (23.5.2015)

The white crystalline wall a metre left of the right-hand arête.

FA Martin Crocker (o-s solo)

**33 Last among Losers** 6m E1 5a (23.5.2015)

Take the white crystalline wall a metre right of the crack.

FA Martin Crocker (o-s solo)

**34 Won among Winners** 6m VD (23.5.2015)

The prominent crack right of a corner.

FA Martin Crocker (o-s solo)

35 Next is an easy corner (D), which can be used as a descent.

Right of a gap in the cliff is a short-lived grass terrace under a blunt hanging arête ('death project').

**36 Merciless Arachnid** 5m E3 5b (23.5.2015)

Start a metre right of the arête. With layaway for right hand pull up to finger-holds on the leaning wall (don't pull on the weak-looking flake); and finish through a break. The drop into rocks below you is to be avoided at all costs.

FA Martin Crocker (solo)

Fifty metres left of the sheer white face is a 'door' in the cliff which leads into a wide rift behind.

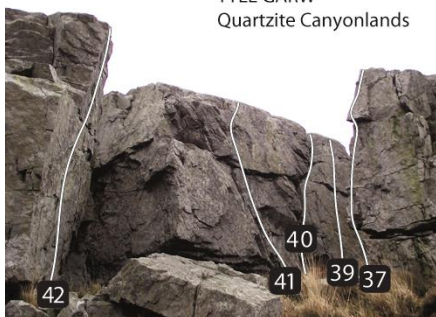
**37 Gates of Babylon** 4b The arête right of the door into a wide rift.

**38 Ishtar** D The 5-metre high green slabby wall left of the sharp arête.

There are two nice face problems with rocky landings in the W-facing wall of the rift.



TYLE GARW  
Quartzite Canyonlands



39 **Pispronunciation** V1 (5b) The right-hand orange crystalline face, between cracks, with a long reach.

40 **Diddled by Doddy** V0 (5a) Start just left of left-hand crack and climb the wall from a full-stretch jug leftwards via a bucket near the top.

41 **Benny's Hill** D The left-hand crack.

42 **Gag Master** V1 (5b) The S-facing wall of the tower left of the door into the rift. Killer boulders below, Bob above.

The crags runs left above a narrow grassy and oozing terrace.

43 **The Ooze** D The crack left of a very easy crack.

44 **Krigsgaldr** V1 (5b) The rib over two small overhangs finishing all shaky on rounded holds.

45 **Gorm the Old** V0+ (5b) The rib 5 metres to the left (just right of an easy corner).

46 **Skuldelev** V1 (5c) A sketchy mantel on the left wall of the corner.

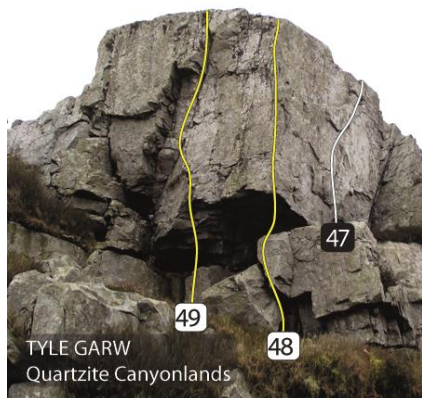


There follows a long section with nice holds: the Wander at Will Wall which can be climbed anywhere at about VD. The wall is terminated by a taller square block, prominent from the N.

47 **\*Wilderness Walks** V0 (5a) Start from the terrace and climb steeply on good holds, left of the chimney.

48 **\*Wacky Walks** 6m HVS 4c (10.2.2015)  
The square-cut arête of the block; exit direct unless courage evaporates. Nasty boulder below.  
FA Martin Crocker (o-s solo)

49 **\*Think Mwah** 6m E2 5c (8.4.2015)  
A thrilling solo up the N face of the block above a fairly level landing. Pull over the guarding roof, reaching up left into a groove. Make a long move for good holds at the top, and swing right to mantel over. May need a pre-brush. FA Martin Crocker (solo)



TYLE GARW  
Quartzite Canyonlands



## THE DISSECTION OS 7794 1708 - 7800 1721

The Dissection is the sector directly opposite Nant y Llyn stream, 300 metres N of the prominent block arête of *Wacky Walks*. It is a dissected plateau of labyrinthine ravines and blocks, offering the full gamut of glitz, esoteria, and even an escape from the wind. So far as is known, the problems as described were first climbed in 2015.

At the S end is a W-facing wall in a ravine above a soft landing.



**1 Password?** V0- (4c) A slight crack and tiny overhang right of the obvious finger crack.

**2 \*Ripley's Believe It or Not** 4b The finger-crack.

**3 Your Sidepull** V1 (5c) An eliminate up the bare wall left of the crack started by a sidepull for left hand.

**4 My Mega-Jug** V0- (4c) The wall just left finishing on a mega-jug.

**5 Dyer's Lookout Condensed** V2 (6a)  
Unmistakeable. Start from crouch on the right and take open slots leftwards to finish on the arête. Boulder beneath.

Next left is a wall with a dogleg crack above rocky landings.

**6 Twrch Rim Roamer** 4b The face just left of a crack.

**7 On the Rocks** V0- (4c) The right-hand side of the left-hand arête.



Just left is a superb 3.5-metre high leaning wall above a soft landing.

8 **Girls Feint** V0- (4c) The flakes right of centre.

9 **\*Ligament Strain** V1 (5b) Start from a black undercut and climb strenuously to a glacial top.

10 **That's its Heart** V0- (4c) From the left-hand end of a square block in the grass climb up on good holds just left of an orange patch. (Avoid the loose flake above head-height.)

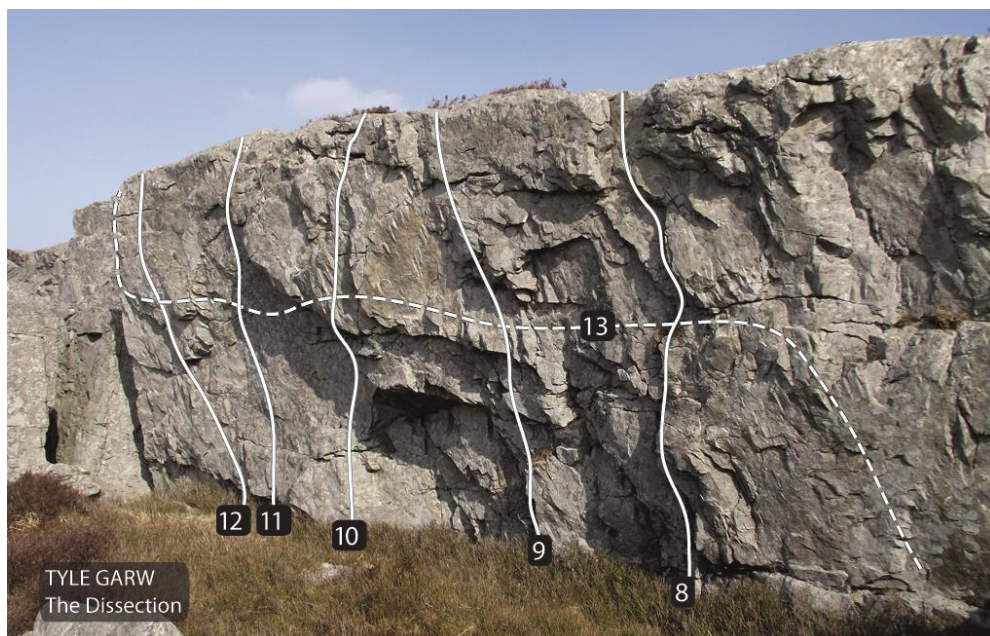
11 **\*Scalpal!** V3 (6a) Start on a sharp fingerhold, use the layaway up left; then crimp to the top.

12 **\*In Love with that Worm** V1 (5c) From low right, trend leftwards up the right-hand side of the arête.

13 **\*\* For God's Sake Someone Else Dissect the Frog!** V5 (6b) A sustained right-to-left low-level traverse; crux above the boulder (so pad it). Finish around the arête.

14 **Meat Slicer** V0- (4c) The right-hand side of the NE arête.

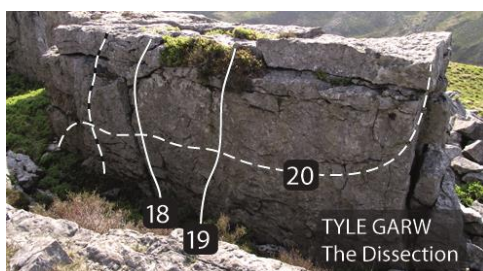
15 D The left-hand side of the NE arête.



There is miscellaneous potential in a ravine behind the main blocks; several obvious easy arêtes have been climbed.



The next problems are on the E-facing wall in the rift: worthwhile despite its lichenous persona.



16 **Eat Your Words** V3 (6a) SS 3 metres left of the right-hand (E to W) window, gain a sharp sidehold for right hand and go for the top.

17 **Tough Ask** V2 (5c) SS 1.5 metres left and go up via the obvious thin undercut for left hand.

On the N section of the wall are:

18 **Liberté** V1 (5b) SS the jam-crack. (The rib on the left is a grotty V1.)

19 **Égalité** V2 (5c) The tallest part of the slabby face – cool.

20 **Fraternité** V3 (5c/6a) Tech traversing moves using a thin undercut line. No high jug-break.





In the N part of this sector are a small orange face and a white face above a welcoming soft landing.

**21 The Paradise V1 (5c)** The orange face after a croucher. Beautiful rock, but all too short.

**22 \*Double Act with a Mushroom V2 (6a)** The brill right-to-left traverse line. At the end keep feet low and on the lip of the roof for the V2 grade. (Pic)



The following is a very minor sub-sector just N of the rifts; the problems are located on the W-facing wall under the cliff-top path.



**23 151 Fleeing Billionaires V1 (5b)** SS under the roof, make a long reach to the lip and then mantel.

On the short leaning wall to the left (with deep crack on the right) are:

**24 A Poem for the People V1 (5b)** SS the awkward wide crack.

**25 Verse of Fire V3 (6a)** SS, ignition; then blast for the top from a flexing finger flake.





**UPSIDEDOWNLANDS OS 7807 1732 – 7816 1742**

A further 300 metres N is a collection of fine boulders, named after the eponymous route. There is, at 11 o'clock, a view of the blocks of The Twrchish Jumble in the valley floor. So far as is known, the problems as described were first climbed between 2013 and 2015.

**1 The Teabag Explodes** 4a The line up the centre of the slabby face.

**2 Teardrops in the Rain** V0- (4c) The grooved arête.

On an isolated undercut boulder is:

**3 \*\*Upsidedownlands** V3 (6a) Take a handrail rightwards and awkwardly reach the first of two flakes under the roof. Power out on these; and reach a pocket and pinch on the right arête, and throw one for the top before strength ebbs. Keep your feet on the cliff! Could feel V4 if weak or/and old.



The landings of the next bunch of routes are pretty nasty pasty.

4 **Anyway** V1 (5b) The line on the right.

5 **Anyhow** V1 (5c) A dyno for a high hold just right of the arête.

6 **Anywhere** V0 (5a) The arête.

7 **Crockpit** V0 (5a) Climb diagonally left along the fracture seam.

8 **\*Budget Travel** V2 (6a) Mini-classic. Start from low, gain a slope and then the top. Much easier if started from standing (V1, 5b).

9 **Chief Executive Getaways** V3 (6a) SS under the left-hand side of the arête, and jug-pull before gaining smaller holds on the narrow white wall.

10 **First Class, Naturally** V0 (5a) The lichenous groove just left of the arête.

And on Cairn Boulder is:

11 **Anonymous Cairn** 4a The rather nice arête right of the cairn.



Fifty metres to the N is a minor area of SSs.

12 **America Great Again** V0 (5a) The block on the right: SS from the right and yank over the roof.



13 **Back Off Buzzkill** V2 (5c/6a) SS the block set back on the left a bit, and pivot over using the left arête.

14 **Baa Necessities** V0 (5a) SS and connect jugs from the back of the sheep shelter.





Fifteen metres to the left is a slabby wall below the cliff-top path.

15 V0 (5a) A finger-flake layaway for left hand, and so to the top.

16 V1 (5c) The left-hand arête without using blocks – one stiff pull.

17 V2 (5c) A left-to-right traverse without using the top.

#### THE PINNACLE OS 7818 1750

One hundred metres further N, across a grassy interlude, are several blocks, including a 4-metre high pinnacle. So far as is known, the problems as described were first climbed in April, 2015.

On the right is an expansive but slabby wall, sportingly undercut.

1 **\*Beginning of the Rest of My Life** V4 (6a) An 8-metre traverse using the break a metre or so above the roof – mostly heel-hooking. SS far right, finish over the roof far left.

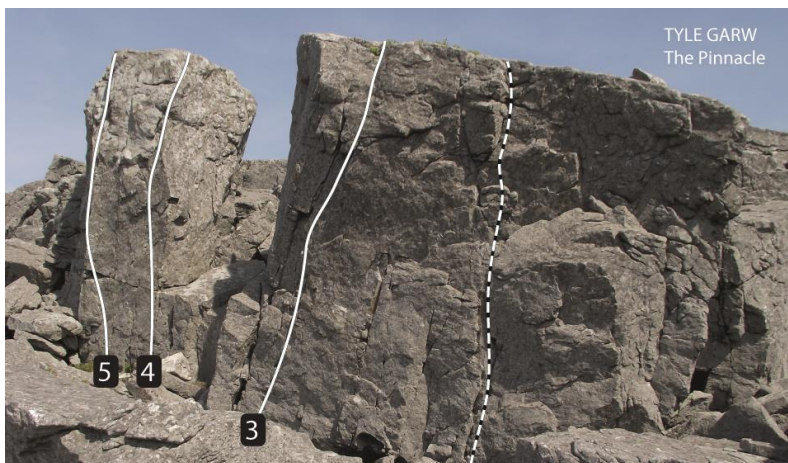
The next problem is on a slabby wall 8 metres right of and set back a little from the pinnacle.

2 **Nick, the Naughty** V1 (5c) Start low at a slight groove and climb the broad rib on opposing layaways; fairly scary in view of the jagged boulders below.

3 **The Gap** V0 (5a) Climb the crack in the block right of the pinnacle. (The line to the right is 4a.)

4 **\*Fossicking in the Clitter** V3 (6a) Splendid, if eliminate. Climb the right-hand arête of the pinnacle on its left side avoiding use of the ledge on the right and any holds in the next route.

5 **\*Dave, of Dartmoor** V0+ (5b) Take the line of layaways up the centre of the pinnacle, starting low right; rocks below.





The following batch directly overlies Carreg Tyle Garw, at OS 7814 1765. There is a 4.5-metre high wall here, which is much more lichenous and friable than the rest. And with poor landings the problems feel bold: so why bother with names? So far as is known, the problems as described were first climbed in 2015.



1 D The rounded rib on the right-hand wall.

Left of a break and a slab of rock tilted against the crag is the main wall.

2 V0 (5a) The flakes and jugs up the right-hand side of the main wall.

3 V0 (5a) Take flakes to the left, the highest of which is eminently snappable.

4 V0 (4c/5a) Climb left of a crack and above rocks – terrifying.

#### WORLD'S END OS 7839 1802

A minor 3.5-metre wall that tragically escaped being sucked into the huge sink hole below. This is the most N of the Tyle Garw crags. So far as is known, the problems as described were first climbed in April, 2015. The grades may be out courtesy of the post-deluge slime experienced on the FAs.



1 **Closure D** The slabby face right of an easy crack.

2 **Denouement V0 (5a)** The rib just left of the easy crack.

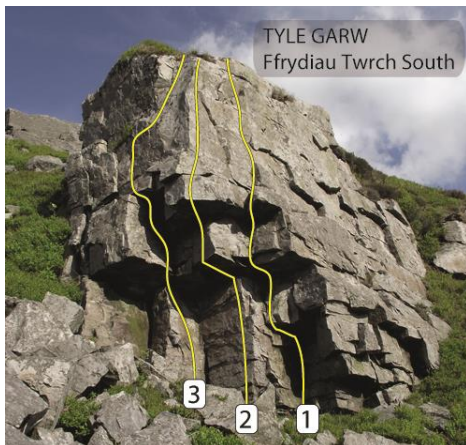
3 **End of the World as we Know It V0 (5a)** The centre of the bulging wall.

## VALLEY-SIDE CRAGS

These are the intermittent crags about half way up the E valley slope (set between 60 to 80 metres below the ridge). They are described from S to N. All can be approached either by well-aimed descents from the ridge above or by walking N along the river (you can see where you are going). This is where most of the lead-routes are so are bring a rope and some kit if you want to do them.

### FFRYDIAU TWRCH SOUTH BUTTRESS OS7741 1617

The first crag is opposite the unmistakable spring of Ffrydiau Twrch on the hillside to the W. It is a grey undercut buttress with an arête and a rocky landing.



#### 1 **Sea in the Sky** 7m HS 4a (25.3.2015)

Pull steeply onto a projecting nose right of the arête. An exposed step leads to good holds. FA Martin Crocker (o-s solo)

#### 2 \***Little Ships** 7m E3 6a (25.3.2015)

Pull up to a horizontal crack over the roof under the arête. Rock straight up the arête onto a sloping foothold and stretch for crimps. Finish easily. (The pedestal to the left is not used.) FA Martin Crocker (solo)

#### 3 **I Crave the Ocean** 7m Severe 4a (25.3.2015)

Take a small corner onto a pedestal on the left wall of the arête; step right and finish up the arête. FA Martin Crocker (o-s solo)

On the small pillar 12 metres left of the buttress are a crack on left (4b) and the crappy right arête (V1, 5c).

### FFRWD LAS LOWER BUTTRESSES OS 7750 1639

Several hundred metres NNW a tier of mostly broken and vegetated rock emerges. The following two buttresses here are worth a visit.

On the right-hand buttress, which has an easy hand-crack in its right-hand side (D), are:

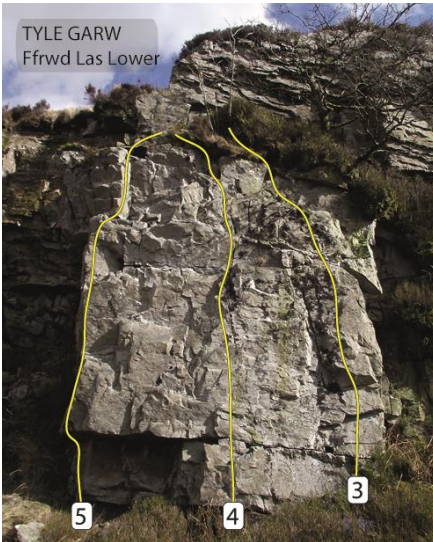
#### 1 **Doom Monger** 7m E2 5a/b (25.3.2015)

Climb the centre of the wall to a small overhang. Reach around to jugs and make a committing pull up and slightly left. Swing right over a balanced wafer to top out. Bad landing, but gear possible. FA Martin Crocker (solo)

#### 2 **Too Busy to Die** 7m HVS 4c (25.3.2015)

Climb the left-hand arête. No gear; bad landing. FA Martin Crocker (o-s solo)





Twenty-five metres to the left is the second buttress which has a tree above and right of it (useful abseil facility).

### 3 **Dido's Lament** 8m E1 5a (25.3.2015)

The right-hand arête climbed on its left side; above half-height bear left and use small rows to emerge on the grass ledge.

FA Martin Crocker (solo)

### 4 **Il Maestro di Capella** 8m Severe 4a (25.3.2015)

The thin crack in the centre stepping left at the top onto the exit of the next route.

FA Martin Crocker (o-s solo)

### 5 **Choir of Growlers** 8m VS 5a (25.3.2015)

A hard move starts the left-hand arête; then climb it to the grass ledge, swinging right near the top.

FA Martin Crocker (o-s solo)

Further left at the same level is a larger buttress with a dirty great overhang (no routes).





## FFRWD LAS UPPER BUTTRESSES OS 7750 1633

The remaining routes hereabouts take the next tier above. So far as is known, the problems as described were first climbed in 2015.



First up is a 5-metre high buttress with a flat and soft landing, which could come in useful.

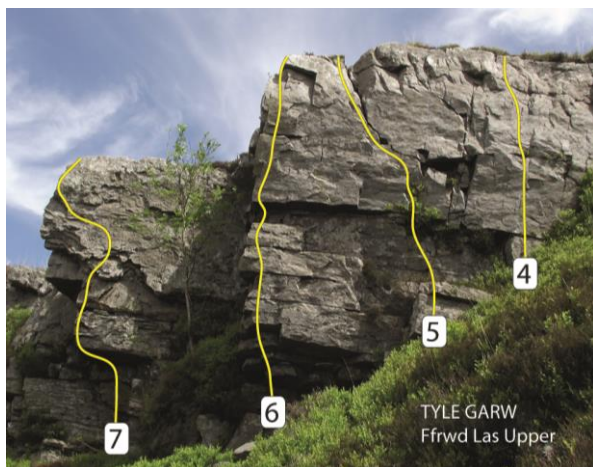
**1 Overcut V0+ (5b)** The wall, using the two undercuts.

**2 Disaster in HD V0 (5a)** The arête (avoid using the weak flake).

**3 Dead Can Dance V0- (4c)** The overhangs left of the arête on huge but hollow block holds.

Further left (under the N end of the Initiation Boulder Pile) are two arêtes and a short wall to their right.

**4 Jack in the Cliff V0 (5a)** Climb the short wall right of the finger-crack (best cut a finishing-jug in the cliff-top grass beforehand). Now go find the car jack (student geologists having fun?).



**5 Cyclogenesis 6m VS 5a**  
(25.3.2015)

Reach and climb the finger-crack.  
FA Martin Crocker (o-s solo)

**6 Trouble's Brewing 6m VS 4c**  
(25.3.2015)

The right-hand arête; protectable.  
FA Martin Crocker (o-s solo)

**7 \*Just a Rain Cloud in the Sky  
(and it's Above) 6m E3 6a/b**  
(25.3.2015)

Safe; the left-hand arête. Pull up on a jug and a hanging flake to reach a hairline crack (peg). Span left for the arête, and launch for the top.  
FA Martin Crocker (roped solo)

Left of the two arêtes, the tier continues as a discontinuous wall with overhangs.



### 8 \* **100,000 Pornos** 7m E2 5b (23.5.2015)

Climb up and stand on a projecting jammed block. Avoid using hollow flakes under the roof, and stretch over to good holds.

FA Martin Crocker (o-s solo)

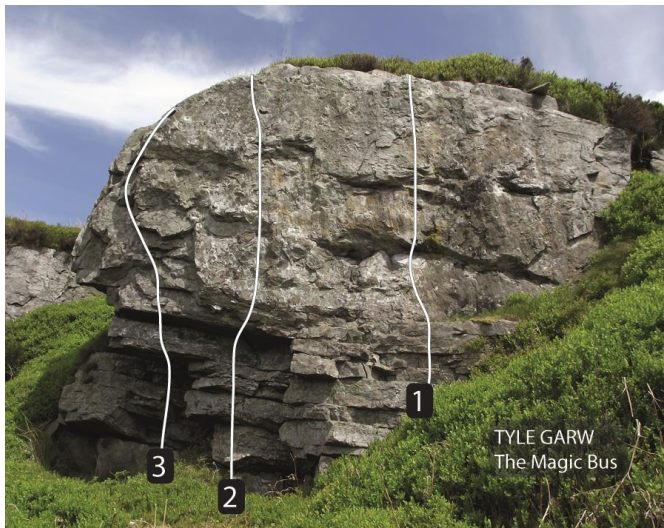
### 9 **Geopark Horror Story** 6m E3 5a (23.5.2015)

A trifle terrifying; the roof on the left. Climb up to it; reach a square block up to the left – hope it stays attached – and stretch round to the top. Now find you can't pull over, so hand traverse the lip right to survive.

FA Martin Crocker (o-s solo)

### THE MAGIC BUS OS 7752 1639

Twenty-five metres below the southernmost wall of Quartzite Canyonlands is an immaculate crystal-veneered orange wall 5 metres high. It comes fitted with a grassy landing and palatial views. So far as is known, the problems as described were first climbed in February, 2015.



#### 1 **Into the Wild** V0 (5a)

From ledges on the right, extend for a finger-jug just below the cliff-top.

#### 2 \*\*\***Alexander**

#### **Supertramp** V4 (6a/b) (H)

Start at the lowest point of the wall. Use a layaway for left and stretch for the obvious open pocket. Go for broke.

#### 3 \***Fairbanks Transit**

**System** V2 (6a) Gain a series of finger-holds above the roof on the left; then make a dynamic move to get onto the rib.

The next valley-side buttress is just north of the Nant y Llyn stream opposite but is almost impossible to see from above. (It is located more or less below The Dissection.)

### CARREG NANT Y LLYN OS 7788 1714

The routes here are nine metres high and just about worth bringing a rope and kit for. There are also some good boulders. So far as is known, the problems as described were first climbed between 2015 and 2016.

#### 1 **American Gris** 6m HVS 4c (17.2.2015)

Swing left on good fingerholds, and climb to the top (about a metre right of *Quartzite Quirk*).

Pleasant, albeit unprotected.

FA Martin Crocker (o-s solo)

There is a prominent thin vertical crack above half height that generously donates protection to the next two routes.

## 2 **Quartzite Quirk** 9m HVS (5a) (17.2.2015)

Start up the right-hand of two cracks to reach the vertical crack. Step right and take a narrow groove to a heather ledge and the top.

FA Martin Crocker (roped solo)

## 3 **Hercynian Heave** 9m E1 5b (17.2.2015)

Start up the right-hand of two cracks to reach the vertical crack. Awkwardly step left into the line of layaways and take them to a heather ledge and the top.

FA Martin Crocker (roped solo)

## 4 **\*Twrchish Delight** 9m E3 5c (17.2.2015)

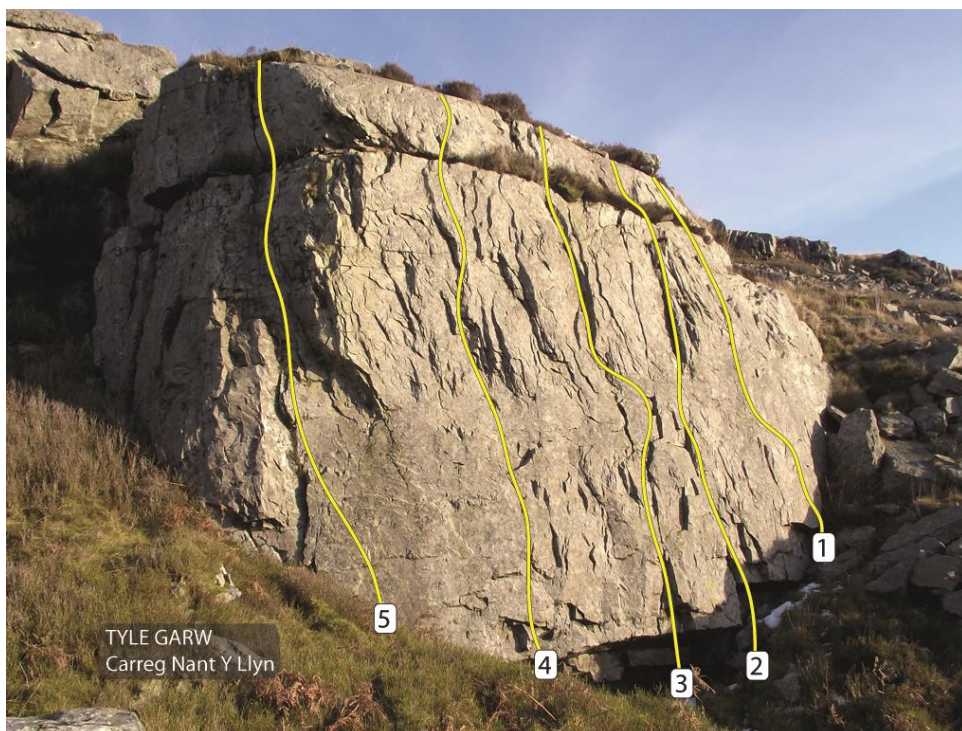
A difficult route up the left-most line of layaways. Climb boldly to a (short!) peg at 6 metres. Stretch to the break above (chockstone/cam protection) and mantel onto a rounded nose to exit.

FA Martin Crocker (roped solo)

## 5 **Suisse Roche** 7m VS 4c (17.2.2015)

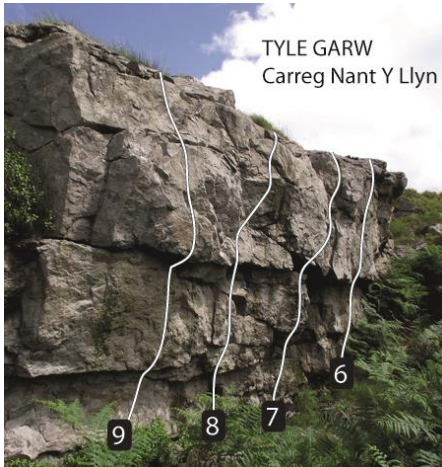
Climb the crack around the left-hand arête of the face.

FA Martin Crocker (o-s solo)





A line of minor crags extends left from the main buttress. The first is an odd bulging affair above a flat green landing. Two of the problems are made longer by climbing diagonally (hhmm.....).



6 V0- (4c) A quick pull and mantel at the right-hand end.

7 V1 (5b) Two metres right of the rib, SS good holds and trend right over the bulge

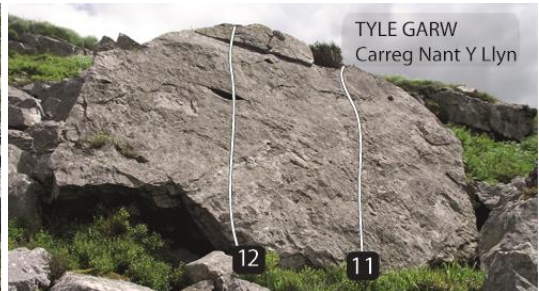
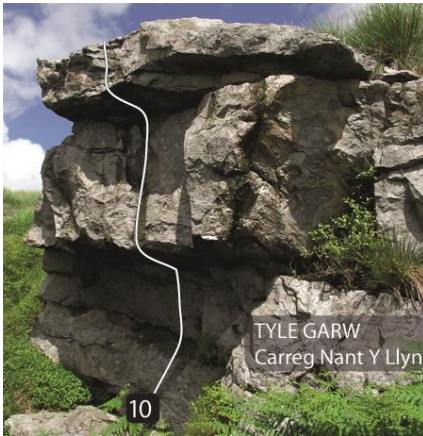
8 V1 (5b) Start at a large spike, finger-jam the short crack; then trend diagonally right over the bulge.

9 V0 (5a) SS the left-hand rib to jugs.

Next left is a block with a capping overhang.

10 **Mental Mantel** V0 (5a) SS and then take jugs through the overhang to a mantel exit.

Thirty metres left of the main buttress is a minor leaning wall useful for warming up (if little else) on three lines (4c, 4c, 4b, from right to left respectively).



Five metres down and left of the main buttress is a slab: shame it isn't 20 degrees steeper. It can be climbed anywhere, but there are two neat VD lines: **Stressed Eric** (11), a right-slanting vein on the right; and **Mr Feeble** (12), a line left of centre.

Down to the right of the slab (and about 40 metres down from the main buttress) is a cluster of boulders.

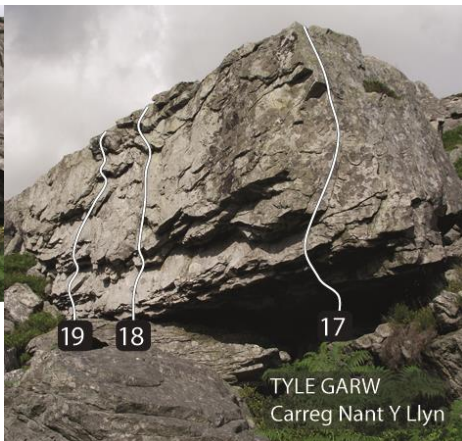
13 **Poised Boulder** V0+ (5b) Without using the blocks on the right, climb the rippled face of the boulder.

And on the lower boulder:

14 **Borisconi Baloney** V4 (6b) SS the front of the boulder and layback the arête to pull over.

15 **Project** – link 14 with *Exit-Brexit* (V6/V7?).

16 **\*Exit Brexit** V4 (6a/b) Superb. Traverse the leaning N face of the boulder using crimps and an unaccommodating rising crack.

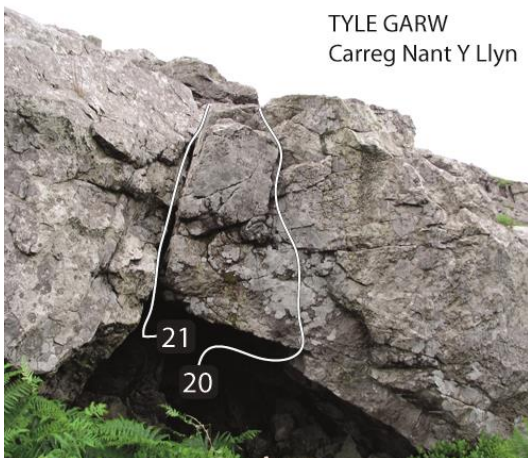


Forty metres left, and at a lower level, is the Confucius Boulder – a big block with an undercut face wisely overlooking the river. There are boulders underfoot so it's no place for heroics!

17 **\*Climbs were Made for Journeys not Destinations** V2 (5c) The right-hand arête from SS – great lock-off moves.

18 A **'Confucius Says' Moment** V0+ (5b) The obvious central line from a good layaway for left.

19 **Silence is a True Friend** 4a A momentary mantel on the left.



Below and slightly left of the block is an insignificant wall but with a cave – the home for a classic.

20 **\*\*Fly a Red Kite** V4 (6a) Perfect. SS 1.5 metres in the cave at a vertical sidehold/undercut. Span right across the right wall of the cave; then battle around to finish on the wall immediately right of the cave.

21 **Drubbery in the Shrubbery** V1 (5c) From the back of the cave, climb the shabby dusty crack on the left, using the left wall. Alternatively don't bother.

## CARREG TYLE GARW OS 7811 1769

Four hundred metres further N, and opposite The Jumble, is a NW-facing crag about halfway up the valley slope. A 'proper', if rather scrappy, cliff but with a few worthwhile lines (which required very little or no cleaning).

### 1 **Hedgemaster** 8m VS 4b (17.3.2015)

Climb the slab near the right-hand end of the wall (right of a big veg patch on the cliff), and finish by bearing left and up a little headwall.

FA Martin Crocker (o-s solo)

### 2 **Precious Earthtones** 8m E2 5c (17.3.2015)

Technical. Climb easily into a broad scoop (left of the veg patch). With gear and the odd hold in a thin vertical crack on the left, make a long move up the convex headwall. Harder for the less tall?

FA Martin Crocker (roped solo)

The next two climbs take the wall right of a deep crack in the centre of the cliff.

### 3 **Mellifluous Hues** 9m E1 5a 17.3.2015

Climb the textured face just left of a rightward-slanting crack and finish more easily up a slight groove; no gear before the last 2 metres.

FA Martin Crocker (solo)

### 4 **Front and Centre with a Fistful of Singles** 9m E4 5c (17.3.2015)

The unprotected and tenuous arête right of the crack. Start from an upward-pointing flake (not to be your nemesis). Reach an undercut and then barn door up the arête to a small ledge just below the top.

FA Martin Crocker (solo)

Twelve metres left of the crack is a clean area of rock.

### 5 **\*Hoover up the Stars** 9m E3 6a (17.3.2015)

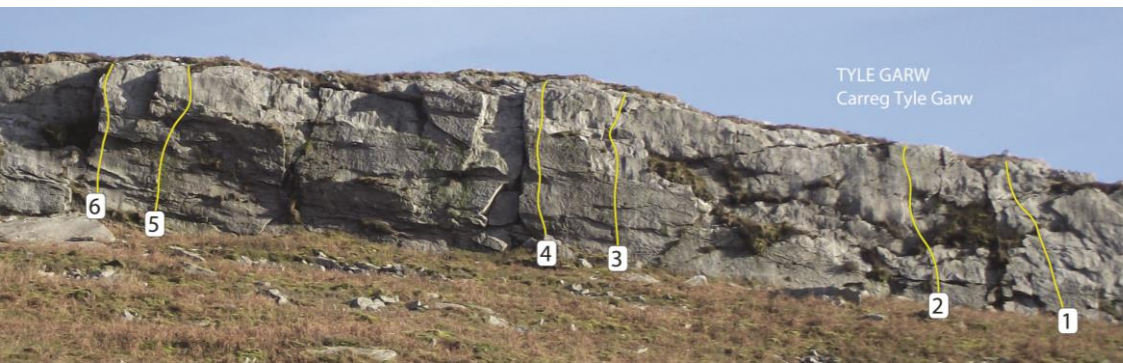
Very good; microwires/RPs are essential for the hairline crack. Climb a thin flake to its top. Above is a bulge (ignore the veggd left-facing groove up to the left): bear right through it on jugs; then swing right and make a very hard move up a hairline crack to the top.

FA Martin Crocker (roped solo)

### 6 **Goon Squad** 9m E1 5c (17.3.2015)

The arête right of a vegetated crack/groove. There's gear at half height. Step off a bilberry ledge and make a hard move to reach a chockstone in a crack under the arête. Layback the arête to the top.

FA Martin Crocker (solo)

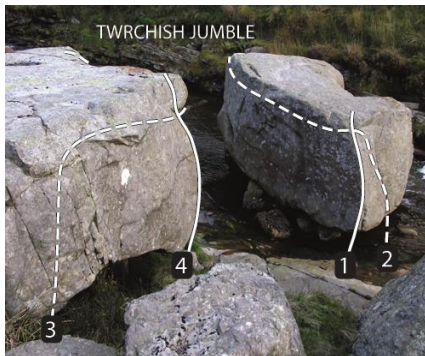




## TWRCHISH JUMBLE OS 7796 1785

A jumble of big boulders in a truly idyllic setting right next to the Afon Twrch, possibly the outcome of an ancient cliff collapse from the slopes behind. It's a perfect winter sunshine venue, but in the summer taking a splash in the Twrch between smears would be a good plan too. The Jumble provides a very pleasant collection of amenable problems on mostly perfect rock – and with room for more SSs and traverses. So far as is known, the problems as described were first climbed between February 2015 and October 2016.

It is good fortune that despite the abundance of rock most of the landings are soft. A cag or tarpaulin will be found useful to keep your feet dry. The routes are described from right (N) to left (S).



Bobbing around in the river (depending on conditions) are two smooth boulders. On the Island Boulder are two problems.

1 **Denny** V0 (5a) The all-too-tiny SW arête.

2 **\*Highway to Haparanda** V3 (6a) Step onto a foothold on the S face and hand traverse left past the SW arête to finish up the NW arête. The full circuit awaits a draught or a slip into the rapids.

And on the inland riverside boulder:

3 **Coffee in Repvag** V1 (5b) Hand traverse the boulder from left to right to finish up 5.

4 **Den Sorte Diamant** V1 – V4 (5b – 6b!) The bald SE arête.

5 **Nordmannset** V0 (5a) The NE arête.

Staying near the riverside, there is a low sloping-topped boulder with a steep N face (opposite *Handsome Kirk Douglas Slab*).

6 **Seeking the Sami** V1 (5b) Start low left and hand traverse right.

And left of problem 6 is a round boulder on a rock platform above the river.

7 **\*Danish Pastry** V2 (5c) SS the rounded arête – *fantastisk!*

Nine metres or so from the river is a series of E-facing slabs; on the first (the Bran-flake Boulder) are the following.

8 **Shredded Feet** 4a The right-hand arête.

9 **Rustbucket** V1 (5b) Smear up the flaky slab 1.5 metres left of the arête.

10 **No Bran Flakes!** 4a The centre of the slab (left of the exfoliating bran).

11 **4-Weetabix Man** 4a The constrained leftward-rising finger-crack.



The next three problems are on the superb pinnacle (The Isosceles Boulder) 6 metres to the left.

12 \***Nose Cone** V1 (5c) Reach a jug then crimp the ‘tips crack’ to the apex.

13 \*\*\***Isosceles Arête** V1 (5b) Palm up the right-hand side of the left-hand arête to the apex.  
Variation: V2 (6a). Use shallow tips pockets to slap up left for the arête.

14 \***Incident in Alta** V5 (6b/c) Way hard. Make a move up the arête; then traverse right on the shallow tips pockets to the jug on *Nose Cone* – continue with ease.

15 **Junkers JU88** D The slab on the left-hand side of the arête.

To the left is a large slab with a leaning N face above a rising grass ramp (how fortunate).

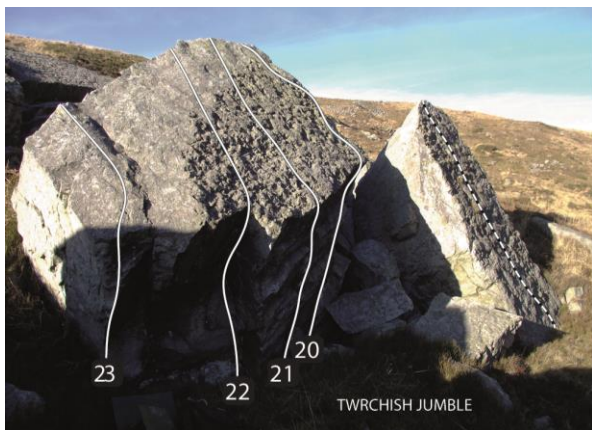
16 \*\*\***Cunning Michael Douglas Arête** V4 (6a) One of BBNP’s best. Starting low left hand traverse right along to the apex rocking up onto the slab at the very end.

17 **Apex Twin** V1 (5b) At the top of the grass ramp launch boldly left under the apex of the boulder and rock over.

18 **Handsome Kirk Douglas Slab** VS 7m V0+ (5c)

Mantel desperately onto the centre of the slab. Take the dimpled slab straight to the top – pretty much a walk after the start.

19 **Passage to Porsangerfjord** V2 (5c) Above the grass ramp, traverse the brown slab from left to right to reach the top at a slight nick.



**23 Jumble Fever V0+ (5b)** The left-hand arête.

Scrambling through boulders you'll find a recessed area under a couple of S- and W-facing blocks split by a chimney.

**24 \*Not for Sale V0+ (5b)** The S face, using the left arête to begin with, past a half-height ledge. Feels high – it is.

**25 \*\*Mumble in the Jumble V0+ (5a/b)** The trim arête taken on its left (west side) – but above boulders: be careful.

**26 \*Mumbo Jumbo V0- (4c)** The arête left of the chimney. Rocks below.

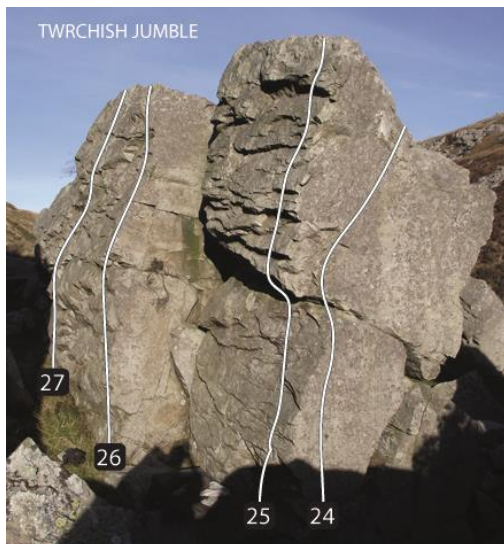


Ten metres up to the left is an undercut boulder supporting a pitted slab, and to the right of this a quaint pinnacle (There's a VD up the pitted front face of the pinnacle).

**20 \*Jumble Drums V0 (5a)**  
The right-hand arête onto the slab.

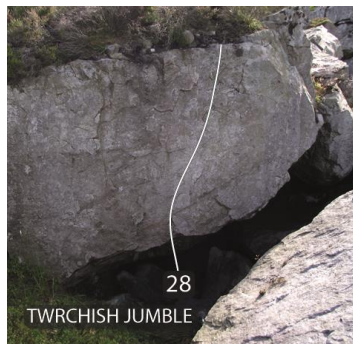
**21 \*Jumble Formula V1 (5b)**  
Search for crimps above the centre of the overlap; finish up the slab.

**22 \*A Tumble in the Jumble V1 (5c)** Use a short leaning groove to gain the slab.



**27 \*Dumbo D** The face past a juggy block (pic).

**28 Ta-ra Chuck V1 (5b)** A little further up is a through-cave; climb out of the N end of the cave with a sharp pull. (A hard SS looks possible.)







At the back (E side) of the boulders is a grassy arena with a leaning black back wall – very tasty. However it will be necessary to warm up; you can do so on various minor scraps: on the left is a 5a over a little roof and a 4a mantel over a pile of blocks; and on the right is the S-facing ‘warm-up wall’ with a contrived 5b traverse, and there is also a 4a up the N face of a grotty square block further right.

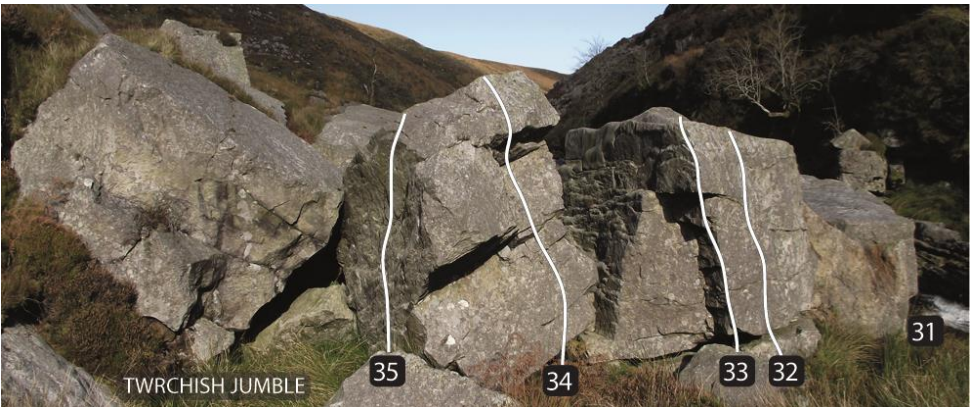
29 \*\*\***Midday Lightning** V6 (6b/c) Starting a metre left of the keel arête, use the large hold for right hand and gnarlies above to grasp the hanging flake (it trembles too, so don’t pull too hard). Gain the deep break above and hand-traverse around right to safety.

30 \*\*\* **Helvegen** V4 (6a) Start in the grooved arête; and – without using the slabby boulder on the right – gain a fingerhold above the roof and power up the keel to the break; escape right.

The remaining problems are back down by the riverside on the S boulders.

31 **A Wish in a Whirlpool** V0+ (5b) The front (E face) of the low square block without using the jammed block, starting close to the water’s edge.

32 \***Vortex of Hyperbolae** V2 (5c/6a) Without using the small boulder on the left, take crimps up the front face of the S-facing block.



33 **Straight Man Talking Bent** V0- (4c) The arête starting from the small underlying boulder.

Across a rift on the left are:

34 **Maelstrom** V0 (5a) The tricky rounded arête left of the rift.

35 \***SAS** V1 (5b) Around the corner is a W-facing rippled face; take its centre.