

Great Western Rock - Lost Sport Crag

The Holcombe Quarries

Gordon A Jenkin ©
November 2023

(Many thanks to Don Sargeant for the use of his black & white topos)

ACCESS BANNED

Bector Wood and Cooks Wood are two large limestone quarries in the south-eastern part of the Mendip Hills. Both of these were developed in the late '90s and introduced into the climbers' world as The Holcombe Quarries (though the pedant will immediately note that they are actually much closer to the village of Stoke St Michael).

Although positioned as they were out of the mainstream, The Holcombe Quarries were to take on significance as the Bristol area's first full form 'sport crags'. The routes, at all grades, were conceived from the outset to be equipped in a friendly manner (for that period) and eschewed the standard minimalistic bolt mindset of the time.

The extensive mineral lake in Cooks Wood (a.k.a Holcombe 'Wet') once attracted many young visitors to swim, cliff jump and party on. Bector Wood (a.k.a Holcombe 'Dry') saw few callers other than perennial local dog walkers and sport climbing enthusiasts. Sadly the popularity of the quarries also attracted unwanted car thieves, so leaving anything valuable (like windows or wheels) became inadvisable, so much so that the regular climbers opted for a discreet walk-in from the village.

To members of the caving community, this area is better known as the location of Stoke Lane Slocker, one of The Mendips more distinctive wet caves and which can be found along the valley bottom at the rear of Bector Wood, close to the approach route described.

Access

ACCESS BANNED

Climbing in both Holcombe Quarries was stopped circa 2016 / 2017.

The landowner has plans to develop Bector Wood and Cooks Wood with indulgent premium homes envisioned as part of a private 250-acre gated estate with 24-hour security. Abundant luxury facilities to apparently include lake water sports, a restaurant, pool, fitness suite, spa, nature trails, gardens, bar, stables, farm shop, play areas and "endless outdoor pursuits".

Whether the developer actually fulfills the totality of this concept or the area just remains only partially developed remains to be seen. Certainly works of a kind are indeed happening and climbing is currently not permitted. It has been "suggested that climbing may be possible in the future after the work has finished".

At the time of publication there are ongoing large-scale earth works around the lake in Cooks Wood and any access is unfeasible. There are considerable earth workings going on in the top part of Bector Wood, though the climbing areas have remained untouched and secluded ... so far.

Please do **not** attempt to climb here while building works are happening and do not do anything that could aggravate the owner and risk losing what slim hopes of future access there may be.

Location And Approach

Bector Wood - (ST 66904 47818) ///downsize.reader.darting
Cooks Wood - (ST 67160 47856) ///snowballs.motivator.deprives

Bector Wood Quarry and its immediate neighbour Cooks Wood Quarry both lay five miles to the south of Radstock and one mile north-east of the village of Stoke St. Michael.

Follow the A37 south from Bristol until you come to where the B3135 heads off to Cheddar. You are now outside The Old Mendip Inn. Continue along the A37 a mile further and take a hairpin left turn, signposted Radstock A367. Drive along this road for 0.7 miles to the Oakhill Inn (in the village of Oakhill) and turn right and continue along Fosse Road for two miles to reach the Knatchbull Arms in Stoke St. Michael.

Driving approach:

Fifty metres past the Knatchbull Arms turn left (signposted Leigh-Upon-Mendip 2m /Frome 7³/₄) and then after a third of a mile turn left into Bector Lane (signposted Edford 1½ m / Holcombe 2m). Travel this lane for 0.7mile to the quarry entrances – Bector Wood being down on the your left and Cooks Wood down on your right. **Do not park** at the quarry entrances as they are in constant use. It is possible to park a small vehicle some ways back but make sure not to obstruct any of the working lorries that will need to pass. Better to keep a low profile and take the recommended walking approach.

Recommended walking approach from the Knatchbull Arms:

Walk 75m along Church Street to St Michael's Church and turn right into the narrow Mill Lane. After 300m take a left turn at the T-junction and start following this country track. After a further 300m a sizable quarry (Stoke Lane Quarry) opens out down to your left. Ignore this and continue straight on through woodland until finally it opens out into the west side of Bector Wood Quarry.

To reach the neighboring Cooks Wood Quarry; carry on a bit further and take the roadway uphill to its main entrance. The entrance road into Cooks Wood lies directly opposite.

All routes in both quarries are described from left to right.

Bector Wood History

Spurred on by a chance conversation when driving mid-summer in 1995 Francis Haden went to investigate the likely improbable tales of unclimbed rock that lay south of the village of Holcombe. Excited reports the very next day said all was true!

Haden had a Riobi drill, boundless energy and ample free time so immediately set about getting new lines drilled. Partnered up with Gordon Jenkin the pair got stuck into the meat of the crag. The first lines climbed being *Killer Instinct* from Jenkin and *Closed Conspiracy* from Haden.

Amused to keep the place a "Crocker-free zone" the pair was soon joined by Ed Heslam as several months of frenetic development then ensued. Heslam's *Minstel In The Gallery* and *Old Codger* were standout contributions, as were Jenkin's *Confetti Train* and the classy *Never Mind The Width*. However it was Haden who was *On A Mission*; *Peck Deck* and *Take The Bull By The Horns* were his openers for the main business of the day, a *Fistful Of Steel* and the superlative regional classic *Head Intrinsic*.

Ken Wilkinson joined in with the select group adding *Not Flocking* but matters were to rest until the next year. Jenkin climbed the obvious *Vicious Eyes* and the unexpected *Taste For Disorder* but it was Haden again who grabbed the bulk of the hard climbing with *Execution* and *The Jester* and ensured *It's Got To Be Funky*.

The new route focus shifted away from Bector Wood and across the road to Cooks Wood in the summer of 1996. Tony Penning's typically bold ascent of *A Family Affair* in 1999 was studiously ignored but *Long Time Coming* a welcome low-grade sport line nearby from Cathal Connern soon attracted visitors. Finally Haden returned to Bector Wood one last time in 2000 to collect the overlooked *Rustic Flux*.

Being hidden an hour drive away from the Avon Gorge the creation of Bristol's first proper sport crag evoked little response at first. Interest slowly increased over time mostly thanks to UKC publicity after 2001 then the full glare of publication in the 2004 area guidebook.

But what about the *Chimney Of Doom*? The wide cleft still demanded an ascent and it was left to Jenkin to climb it (both inside and out) in 2019.

Cooks Wood History

With all the 'goings on' in the neighbouring Bector Wood during 1995 and 1996 bizarrely nobody had the gumption to wander across the road to see what Cooks Wood Quarry was like! It was Francis Haden who eventually sussed the place out and announced the windfall after spending a whole day abseiling down multiple prospective lines. Interestingly the very best wall had signs of being climbed before.

The first forays had in fact been from Guy Percival, Alison Percival and Crispin Waddy. *The Incredible Holcombe*, *The Fantastic Four* (both subsequently retrobolted) and *The Thing (HVS)* were plumb lines, as was the crack-line of *Flame On (E1/2)* located on the quarry's Back Wall.

The extensive Back Wall looked the place to start for new climbs. With Keith Marsden along to share the fun Haden opened account in 1996 with *Smear No Fear*, *Crack Attack (E1)* and the rather good *Haven't Got A Clue* while Jenkin was also rewarded with a *Smoking Gun*. Another half dozen lines were added that year mostly from Haden but his revisit in 1999 for *Old School Reunion* took the form prize.

Martin Crocker eventually arrived on the scene in 2000 and was quick to add the quarry's hardest climb *Stick To Liquid*. He was back the next year to ascend a whole a run of harrowing serious lines most notably *Cool Pool Jump Rave (E6)*, *Artless Pair (E5)* and *Hip Joint Man (E5)*. None have ever been repeated.

Yet further lines from Haden on the Back Wall followed that year, the best being *Science Friction*, as well as a couple of extra low-grade slab offerings from D Rundle. The final contributions came from Jenkin when revisiting an old haunt. *Canadian Girls Kick Ass* was a good find on the main wall but perhaps the more memorable was the quarry's very last new climb *Wide-Eyed In Seattle* climbed next to nearly 350 other fun-loving people!

Bector Wood Quarry

NO CLIMBING is allowed at Bector Wood Quarry.

Vital Statistics

Aspect: North- west

Approach: 15 mins (from Stoke St. Michael)

F4	■ ■ 2
F4+	■ ■ 2
F5	■ 1
F5+	■ ■ ■ ■ 4
F6a	■ ■ ■ ■ 4
F6a+	■ ■ ■ 3
F6b	■ ■ 2
F6b+	
F6c	■ ■ ■ ■ 4
F6c+	■ ■ ■ 3
F7a	■ 1
F7a+	■ 1
F7b	
F7b+	■ ■ ■ ■ ■ 5



Bector Wood Quarry - The Ugly Buttress / The Chill-Out Zone / The Intrinsic Walls

Bector Wood - The Ugly Buttress

An intimidating and steep buttress offering some power-packed climbing interspersed with ample no-hands rests. The routes prove more attractive than its demeanor suggests.

“Tough for the grade like every other route today in Bector Wood”.

1. Professor Smith's Warning E4 6a

8m Short, leaning arête with a sloping ledge to finish. Thread runner.

T Randall 3.02

2. Barefoot In The Park At Night F4+

15m [5B] A popular pitch due to its accessible grade but the climbing has little to recommend it (even in shoes).

Francis Haden, Gordon A Jenkin (both led), S Sayah 5.9.95

3. Crocker Free Zone F5+

17m [3B] A straightforward, though somewhat unsatisfying pitch, featuring a single hard (and insecure) move to surmount the first overlap.

Francis Haden, Gordon A Jenkin 5.9.95

4. Retroactive F5+

17m [4B] A bit of a filler-in yet ... popular nonetheless.

Francis Haden, Dave Pickford 20.6.00

The following two routes are worth particular note as they provide a useful way of putting up a top-rope in this otherwise rather aggressive neighbourhood.

5. A Taste For Disorder F6a+ *

35m [lots B] An amenable sight-seeing tour of the crag, offering mostly straightforward climbing but with just a single hard move. Double ropes recommended for ease of travel. Kinda fun.

Climb *Retroactive* to its fourth bolt. Step across the yawning gap to join the ramp of *Outside, It's America* (optional wires) and follow this until possible to swing down rightwards to some good holds. Traverse easily across to visit the *Old Codger*, whereupon a somewhat disconcerting crux brings the belay ledge on *Killer Instinct* to hand. A perfect belay position, if required. Step right, move up to a break of sorts, and continue on rightwards, to finish pulling vigorously up the final moves of *Confetti Train*.

Gordon A Jenkin, Ken Wilkinson 25.7.96

Outside, It's America F6a+

12m [5B] A striking line following the appealing, diagonal ramp that slashes across the left face of The Ugly Buttress. Sadly, the climbing is unbalanced; the initial crux roof is really hard but is then followed by entertaining, easy slab climbing thereafter.

Gordon A Jenkin, Francis Haden (both led), Sam Cook 28.8.95

The following four routes all start behind the large block situated just left of centre.

Take The Bull By The Horns F6c

20m [5B] The least demanding way of breaking through the line of roofs. Needs a good, firm grip!

Francis Haden 20.8.95

6. Old Codger F7a *

12m [7B] An uncompromising line through the largest section of roof. Abundant protection (plus an *in situ* sling on its fifth bolt) might encourage the old stagers to re-visit and display their moves.

Ed Heslam, Gordon A Jenkin, Francis Haden (all led) 3.9.95

7. Killer Instinct F6c+ *

20m [7B] Compelling climbing that proves both delicate and strenuous, technical and thuggy. Good rests and overhead clips will surely entice some interest?

Gordon A Jenkin, Francis Haden (both led) 11.7.95

Confetti Train F6c *

27m [8B] A varied and engrossing romp that takes a sweeping line across the main bulk of the buttress. Well bolted to give steel appeal.

Gordon A Jenkin, Francis Haden (both led) 24.7.95

Closed Conspiracy F7b+ *

21m [6B] Sustained, intense climbing up the steepest part of the cliff, starting with a burly opening move and culminating in a desperate crux.

Francis Haden, Gordon A Jenkin 13.7.95. Line climbed direct through the top roof by Haden in 9.96

8. Execution F7b+

21m [6B] A powerful and vicious testpiece, “mean and slappy”, that forces a direct line up the leaning wall to join the upper section of *Confetti Train*.

Francis Haden 10.96

9. Not Flocking F6b

21m [4B] Cheesy and not easy! The initial, dubious seam of “gunge and rubble” is perhaps a perverse pleasure these days but those who persevere reach more appetizing rock thereafter and will probably enjoy themselves.

Ken Wilkinson, Francis Haden, Gordon A Jenkin (all led) 25.7.95

Bector Wood - The Chill-Out Zone

The easier-angled middle sector. Although not sparkling in the quality department its arêtes and slabby walls make a welcome respite from the tough stuff next door.

10. Easy And Slow F6a

18m [5B] Pleasant, delicate climbing slab climbing up the prominent arête. Exposed and a tad run-out near the top though, so take your time.

Gordon A Jenkin, Francis Haden 24.7.95

11. Koto Globo F6a

18m [5B] Fills the gap. A testing start gains a thin crack (optional wires) but “loses interest after half-way”.

Gordon A Jenkin, Francis Haden 22.7.95

12. Powder Monkey (F6b)

18m [5B, 1T] A better addition but with a challenging start. Pull round the bulge to a crack, climb the slab and pull steeply onto a good ledge. Finish up the short wall above.

Francis Haden, Gordon A Jenkin 13.7.95

13. Hard And Fast F5+/F6a

12m [3B] The slabby, rounded arête is a tasty tit-bit for the technically inclined.

Gordon A Jenkin 5.9.95

14. Mistress Of Measurement F6a+

15m [3B] A “disconcertingly soft” pitch and (for most) no soft option either. Requires sympathetic handling as you find your way.

Francis Haden, Gordon A Jenkin 20.1.96

Bector Wood - The Intrinsic Walls

The Intrinsic Walls comprise two leaning walls separated by a vertical cleft.

The left-hand wall is heavily stratified and has a pock-marked surface. The angle is deceptive, thereby ensuring that, on most routes, the crux is located near the top.

The right-hand wall is the showpiece of the quarry; a seemingly bare sheet offering sustained, technical outings all topped with a jug-ridden leaning headwall.

“Shame about the fly-tipping. It appeared someone had even fly-tipped a sheep” (UKC May 2014).

15. Vicious Eyes F5/F5+ *

15m [3B] A compulsive pitch up the left-hand side of the attractive arête. (A direct start up to the mid-way bolt has been climbed at F6c).

Gordon A Jenkin, Francis Haden 20.1.96. Direct start G McDonald, B Umney 8.96

On A Mission F6c

15m [6B] An enjoyable route that gradually builds in both difficulty and interest.

Francis Haden, Gordon A Jenkin (both led) 22.7.95

16. Peck Deck F6c+ *

15m [6B] Another good pitch, escalating in difficulty, and with a tricky crux.

Francis Haden, Ed Heslam (both led), Gordon A Jenkin, Ken Wilkinson 23.7.95

It's Got To Be Funky F6c *

18m [6B] The route is centred on strata that are bounded on their right by a wide, vertical break that runs the full height of the cliff. A very enjoyable, if somewhat unusual pitch.

Francis Haden 10.96

17. Minstrel In The Gallery F7a+ *

12m [4B] Technical, balancy and insecure climbing that sings a sweet tune.

Ed Heslam, Francis Haden (both led) 16.7.95

The Jester F7b+

20m [8B] The natural extension to *Minstrel In The Gallery* proves to be no laughing matter.

Francis Haden 11.9.96

18. Head Intrinsic (The Awakening) F7b+ ***

20m [8B] A great Mendip classic. This, the premier line on the wall, provides a technical, fingery and captivating pitch that blasts directly up the middle of the bare face.

Francis Haden, Gordon A Jenkin 3.9.95

Fistful Of Steel F7b+ *

20m [8B] The blank-looking space to the right of *Head Intrinsic* is the scene for some intense 'finger-work' on 'soft-ish' rock. Splendid stuff.

Francis Haden, Gordon A Jenkin 28.8.95

19. Never Mind The Width F6a **/***

24m [5B] The best route of its grade on Mendip! Ascend the daunting-looking off-width (much easier than it looks; thankfully) then swing left to good holds before launching up joyfully for buckets, a run of jugs and ... glory.

Gordon A Jenkin, Ed Heslam, Francis Haden (all led) 16.7.95



Bector Wood Quarry – The Red Walls (Left)



Bector Wood Quarry – The Red Walls (Right)

Bector Wood - The Red Walls

Follow the base level of the quarry beneath The Intrinsic Walls to a distinctive (and deceptively steep) reddish wall.

20. Rustic Flux F6c+ *

17m [6B] A super-charged pitch tackling the centre of the leaning, red wall.

Francis Haden, Dave Pickford (both led) 20.6.00

The Red Walls terminate where a narrow slab, punctured by several boreholes projects at right-angles and presents a broken arête. This is home to:

21. Esotrinsic (F6a)

15m [5B, 1P] A handy further outing, worth including, but a touch snappy low down.

Ed Heslam, Dave Viggers (both led), Frank Thompson 16.7.95. Retrobolted.



Bector Wood Quarry – Green Sector

Bector Wood - Green Sector

As one continues rightwards past The Red Walls for 50m, towards the far corner of the quarry, a lone slab comes into view on the left, obscured by trees.

22. Moderately Green F4

17m [6B] Some suspect and brittle rock in the lower half warrants a cautious approach. Nonetheless a welcome little extra at this grade.

Francis Haden, Ron Barraclough 23.6.00



Bector Wood Quarry – The Slab With No Name (Right)

Bector Wood - The Slab With No Name

On the left side of the recessed section of the quarry lies a prominent, uniform slab that seems to offer bountiful promise. On closer inspection however the rock's unpleasant true nature is revealed and it is currently only ascended by a lone, disheartening and scabulous affair.

A Family Affair E4 5c

22m Ascend the middle of the large, distinctive slab. Not a route for your loved ones. Two bolts and a fixed abseil station ... kinda.

Tony Penning 23.5.99

Set at right-angles though are some much more tempting propositions.

23. Second Time Around F4

12m [4B] A straightforward, elemental slab; perfect for taking ones first steps into climbing. Low in its grade.

Gordon A Jenkin, Yvonne Jones (both led) 18.10.09

24. Long Time Coming F4+ **

15m [5B] An ideal introduction to the quarry giving sustained, likeable climbing on a clean sweep of good rock. Is popular, as you would expect.

Cathal Connern, Richard D Jenkin, Daniel P Jenkin 17.9.00

25. Does Size Matter? F5+ **

20m [9B] Amusing climbing up what is arguably the best line on the Mendips! The outside edge of the commanding, wide cleft provides an unusual and rather funky outing. Keep to the face at the top for the best climbing.

Gordon A Jenkin, Yvonne Jones 4.9.09

Chimney Of Doom F5+ ☹

20m [top rope] Climb to the double bolt abseil station on *Does Size Matter?* ... then lower back to the base ... and now re-ascend the route this time climbing up the inside of the wide cleft. Simple at first until the floor steepens up. Those who eat lots of pies might find it a close fit.

Gordon A Jenkin 4.9.09

Cooks Wood Quarry

NO CLIMBING is allowed at Cooks Wood Quarry.

Vital Statistics

Aspect: North-west, north & east

Approach: 22 mins (from Stoke St. Michael via Mill Lane/Bector Lane)

F3+	■ 1
F4	■ ■ ■ 3
F4+	■ ■ 2
F5	■ ■ 2
F5+	
F6a	■ ■ 2
F6a+	■ ■ ■ 3
F6b	■ ■ ■ 3
F6b+	
F6c	■ ■ ■ 3
F6c+	
F7a	
F7a+	■ 1



Cooks Wood Quarry - Left Half

Cooks Wood - The Left-Hand Side

The first (solid) feature encountered is a steep and dusty slab. Although not encouraging to view it has nonetheless produced the most demanding climb in the quarry.

Stick To Liquid F7a+

17m [6B] Techy, insecure and fingery climbing on an unusually sculptured piece of rock.

Martin J Crocker 12.6.00

Stick To The Right F6c

17m [6B] A right-hand variant to *Stick To Liquid*, avoiding its hard and precarious start and rejoining it at the earliest moment (by its second bolt).

Francis Haden 12.6.00

Seventeen metres further along, a much broader and cleaner sweep of slabby walls grab your attention. These slabby walls are Cooks Wood's best asset!

The first pair of sport climbs share a common start and common first bolt, while its leftmost line lets you know in no uncertain terms that ...

1. Canadian Girls Kick Ass F6a+ *

17m [6B] An absorbing and fairly sustained pitch offering some technical play interspersed with decent rests.

Gordon A Jenkin, Yvonne Jones 1.7.02 (originally climbed direct). The much better right-hand start described added by Jenkin, Francis Haden on 29.7.01

2. The Incredible Holcombe F6c *

17m [6B] Some excellent technical climbing that assails the compelling central section of slab.

Guy Percival, Alison Percival, Crispin Waddy 6/7.94. Retrobolted.

3. The Fantastic Four F6b **

17m [6B] Beautiful, sustained and challenging climbing up the thin, vertical crack.

Guy Percival, Alison Percival, Crispin Waddy 6/7.94. Retrobolted.

The Thing HVS 5b

17m The obvious wide crack to the top of the crag. Bolt belay in a large block above.

Guy Percival, Alison Percival, Crispin Waddy 6/7.94

4. Old School Reunion F6a+ *

17m [7B] The right-hand arête of the slabby wall. A commendable pitch with some nicely positioned moves but with an insecure crux.

Francis Haden, Kevin Simmons, J lacey 3.11.99

Cooks Wood - The Back Wall

This is the impressive-looking face situated on the left-hand side of the back wall of the quarry. When close up The Back Wall proves to be much less steep and indeed offers some very nice slab pitches.

There are three distinct and narrow strips of decent rock hereabouts.

Firstly:

Water Babies F6a

12m [3B] A short, rather odd little climb.

Francis Haden, Gordon A Jenkin 4.9.96

5. Standby, Standby F6b *

12m [3B] Captivating slab climbing that forces a direct line up the blank strip.

Francis Haden, Gordon A Jenkin 4.9.96

Secondly:

6. Farewell To Old Times F5/F5+ *

20m [7B] Appealing, interesting and fairly sustained.

Francis Haden, Martin J Crocker (both led) 20.6.00

Thirdly:

Smear No Fear E2 5c *

18m The less distinct left-hand crackline is well protected by wires and three bolts.

Francis Haden, Keith Marsden, Gordon A Jenkin (all led) 14.7.96

Flame On E1/2 5b *

18m The middle, and most conspicuous, crackline. Cams galore.

Guy Percival, Alison Percival, Crispin Waddy 6/7.94

7. Smoking Gun F6a+/F6b *

18m [5B] Choice, open slab-climbing up the centre and barest part of the slab. The original trade route of the quarry.

Gordon A Jenkin, Francis Haden, Keith Marsden (all led) 14.7.96

Crack Attack E1 5b *

18m The right-hand crackline with good protection throughout.

Francis Haden, Keith Marsden (both led), Gordon A Jenkin 14.7.96



Cooks Wood Quarry - Right Half

Cooks Wood - Shothole City

Continuing the clockwise crag tour; the next reliable area of rock one encounters is on the right-hand side of the back wall of the quarry. It stretches across to the right-angled corner where the quarry walls change direction. This sector is riddled with quarrymens' shothole cuts. These vertical boreholes provide a choice of climbing options; however the best of breed are probably the following routes.

Drill And Blast, Drill And Bolt F4+

15m [4B] Worthwhile and on compact rock.

Francis Haden, Ron Barraclough 23.6.00

Holebore HVS 4c

15m This tall borehole is unprotected as a lead but is relatively well used as a top-rope option.

Martin J Crocker (solo) 24.4.01

8. Fit For The Future F5 *

15m [4B] Excellent, sustained and popular.

Gordon A Jenkin, Francis Haden (both led) 4.9.96

9. Bomb The Base F4+

15m [4B] An affable, fun pitch.

Francis Haden, Yvonne Jones, Paul Wherlock (all led) 8.9.00

10. Lego Man F3+/F4 *

15m [5B] Straightforward climbing that fits together easily. Solid rock and fair value.

Francis Haden, Gordon A Jenkin (both led) 4.9.96

The next route was first climbed on a hot summer's day (at the turn of the century) with a massive crowd of other fun loving people gathered around the lake.

11. Wide-eyed In Seattle F4

20m [6B] Varied climbing up a broad rib on the outside (!) of a long shothole. An agreeable finish compensates for some poorish rock low down.

Gordon A Jenkin, Francis Haden (both led) 29.7.01

Science Friction F6b

12m [5B] Unusually delicate and tricky climbing on the smooth, corner slab.

Francis Haden, Yvonne Jones, Paul Wherlock (all led) 8.9.00

Cooks Wood - The Right-Hand Side

Continue the quarry circular walk until you are back alongside the lake. Look for a steep bed of very compact, black rock (with several near vertical seams); it might just be the place to be if you ...

12. Haven't Got A Clue F6c *

12m [5B] A recommended pitch on good rock offering some technical and thoughtful climbing with a blind crux. Handy if your mate chucks up the holds first.

Francis Haden, Keith Marsden, Gordon A Jenkin (all led) 14.7.96

13. Fracture Science F6a

12m [5B] A well-frequented yet undistinguished pitch with some indifferent and brittle climbing.

Francis Haden, Gordon A Jenkin (both led) 18.11.99

14. Swinging In The Breeze (F4)

20m [4B] Worth doing and can be made more relaxing if wires are placed to mitigate the run-out above the ledge to the third bolt.

D Rundle, Francis Haden (both led) 2.9.00

15. Bolting Blues F4

12m [4B] Fairly pleasant but with some suspect rock. Crux at the top.

D Rundle, Francis Haden (both led) 2.9.00