

A Climbers guide to

# Malin Beg

By

Iain Miller & Warren Poots



## Malin Beg

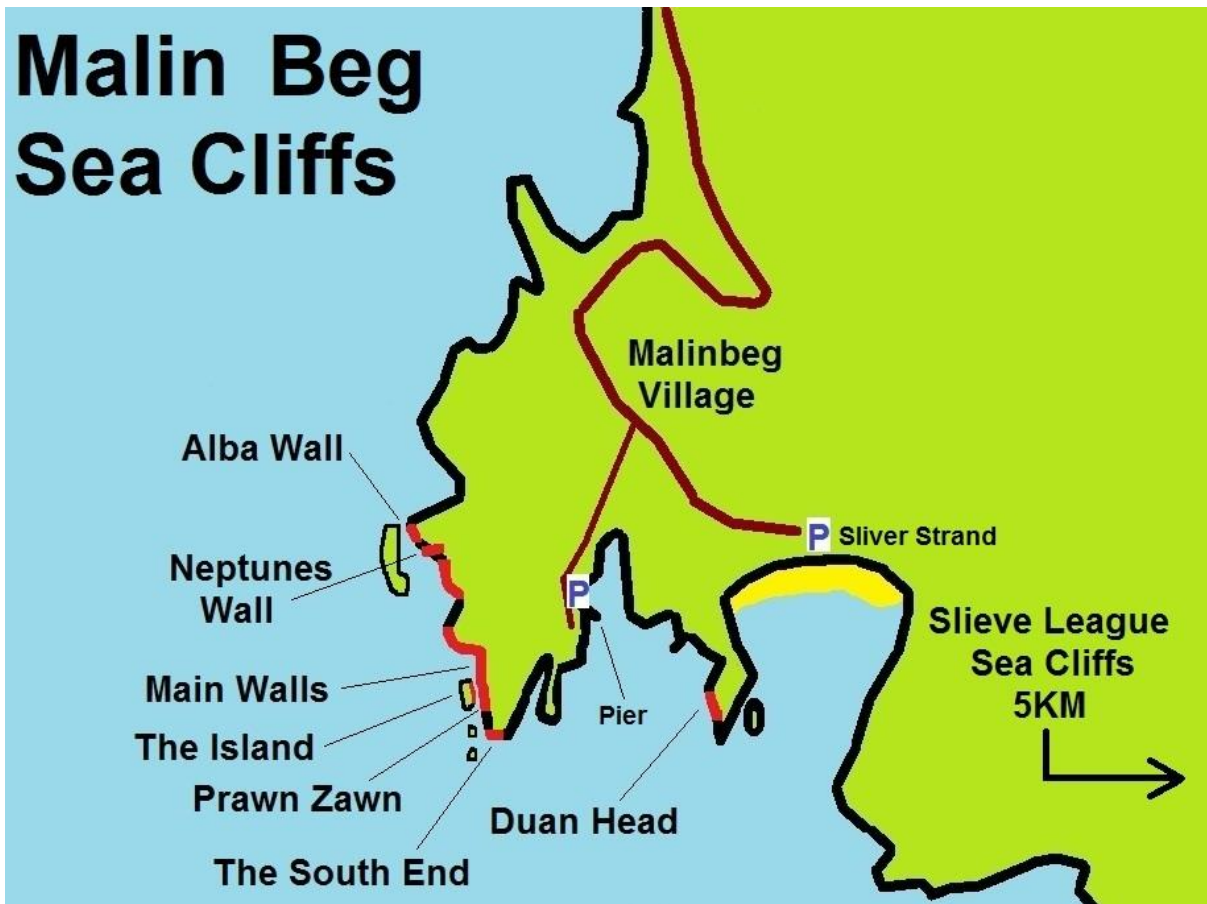
The sea cliffs at Malin Beg provide a very attractive combination of good clean rock, easy access and as this corner of the county sits far out into the rain shadow it sees a lot less rain than the uplands of Donegal. The routes are short, mainly in the lower grades and consequently a rather relaxed atmosphere prevails. Climbing is possible throughout the year and sea breezes ensure midges are rare. Care is needed with tides and in high southwest through west sea motion waves can break right over the crags.

From Donegal Town, follow the N56 to Killybegs and then the R263 through Carrick towards Glencolmcille. Approximately 5km from Carrick take the “Malainn Bhig” road left towards Malin More and Malin Beg. At the Malin More crossroads turn left and travel south to arrive at the tiny village of Malin Beg. Just after the hostel in Malin Beg turn right at the crossroads in the centre of the village and follow the road to small natural harbour. Park at the harbour and on foot continue up the track, passing the old watchtower on your left, to arrive at the top of the crags. You are now standing at the top of the Narrow Zawn, looking out to sea the main walls are below you on your left

[Malin Beg Google Map pin](#)

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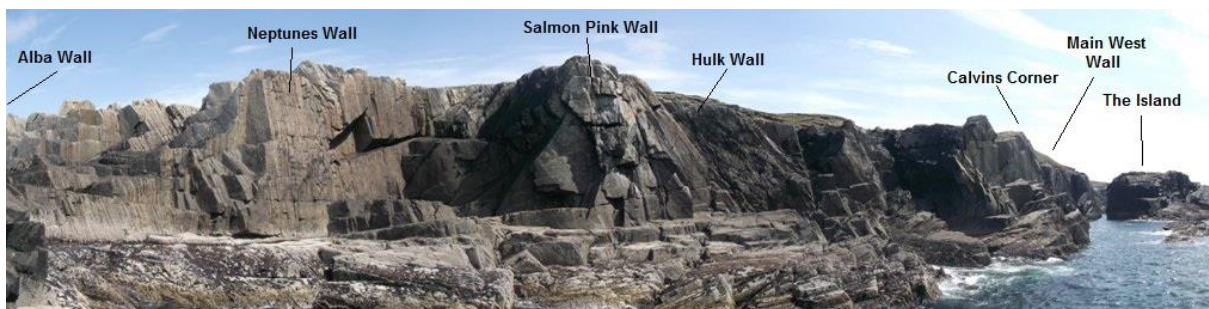
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#### NORTH END

The most northerly continuous section of the crag is the steep pocked wall lined with vertical grooves known as Neptune's Wall. The bottom of the wall is easily reached by scrambling down from the north side but the area is tidal. The first route described lies on a small island north of Neptune's Wall, reached by crossing a narrow channel at low tide.

Map ref: G490795



#### Alba Wall

Directions: 40 meters north of Neptune's Wall and facing out onto the Northern tip of the immediate offshore island. Access by abseil or low tide boulder hop to and from the island.

Map ref: 490795

Heidbanger HVS 4c 15m \*



Climb the prominent crack system left of centre to a ledge at 2/3rd height. Climb to top trending slightly right.

*C. McDaid, I. Miller 14/02/09*

**Numpty VS 4c 15m**

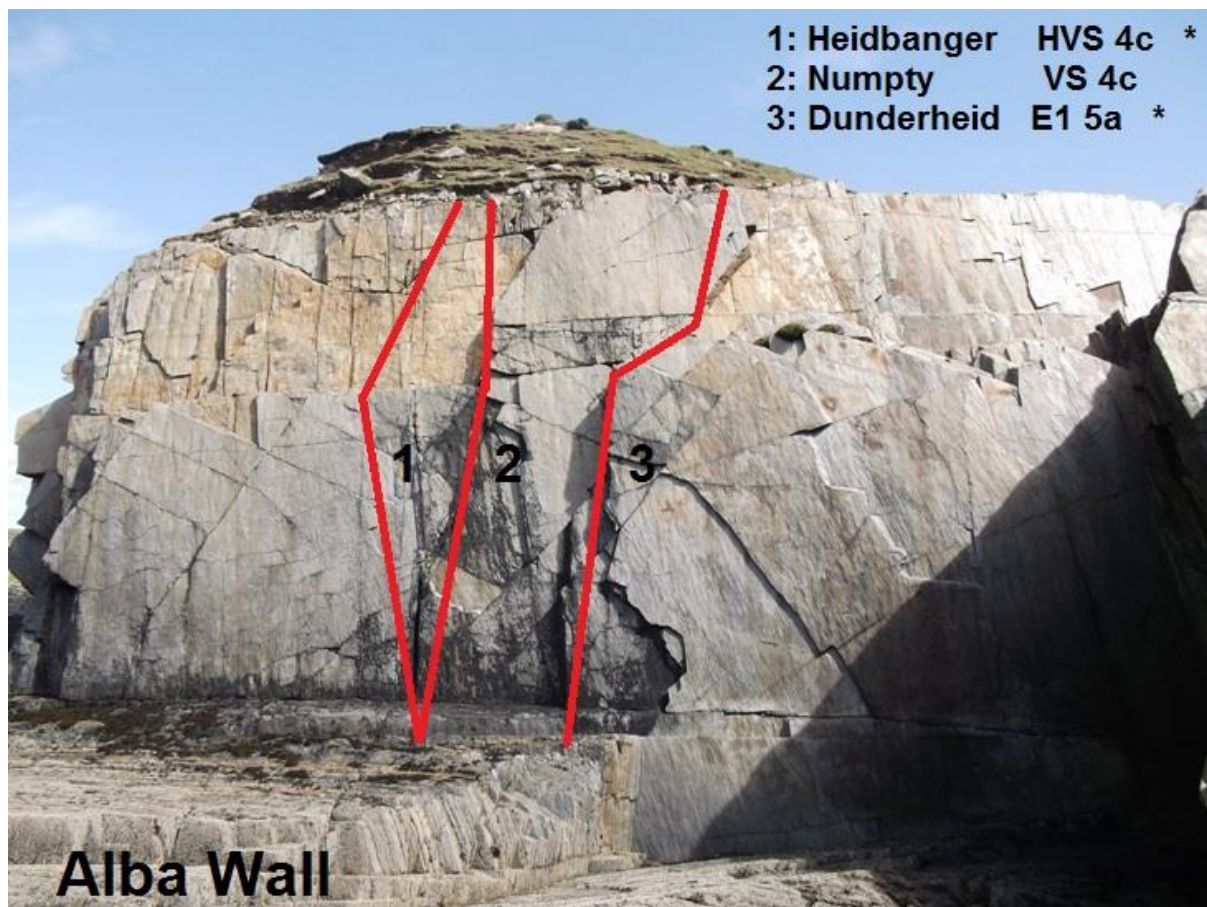
A better protected alternative to Heidbanger. Takes the broken crack system immediately right of Heidbanger to ledge. Finish as per Heidbanger.

*C. McDaid, J. Walls, J. Brown 11/4/09*

**Dunderheid E1 5a 15m \***

Climb the left facing corner in centre of crag to 2/3rd height. Follow left wall of right facing corner to summit.

*C. McDaid, I. Miller 14/02/09*



**Fliuch Baite S 4a 6m**

On the wall of the island facing the mainland are two obvious cracks, the route follows the left-hand crack, gained by an awkward mantleshelf from a boulder in the channel.

*D. Doyle, M. O'Shea, P. Norton 16/07/79*

Next climbs are around the corner, to the right, on Neptune's Wall. The wall is easily identified by the slot/cave in the wall's centre.

**Shaky Rigging HS 4b 15m \***

Start: At the extreme left-hand side of Neptune's Wall. Climb a 5m crack to the top of a block, then move onto a steeper section of wall to the right. Climb on small holds to the top.

*D. Byrne, P. O'Connor 13/04/79*

### The Jig HS 4c

A girdle of Neptune's Wall, starting as Shaky Rigging and finishing just left of the right-hand corner.  
*E. Cooper, T. Cooper, T. Ryan Feb 84*

### The Bosun's Ladder S 4a 15m \*\*\*

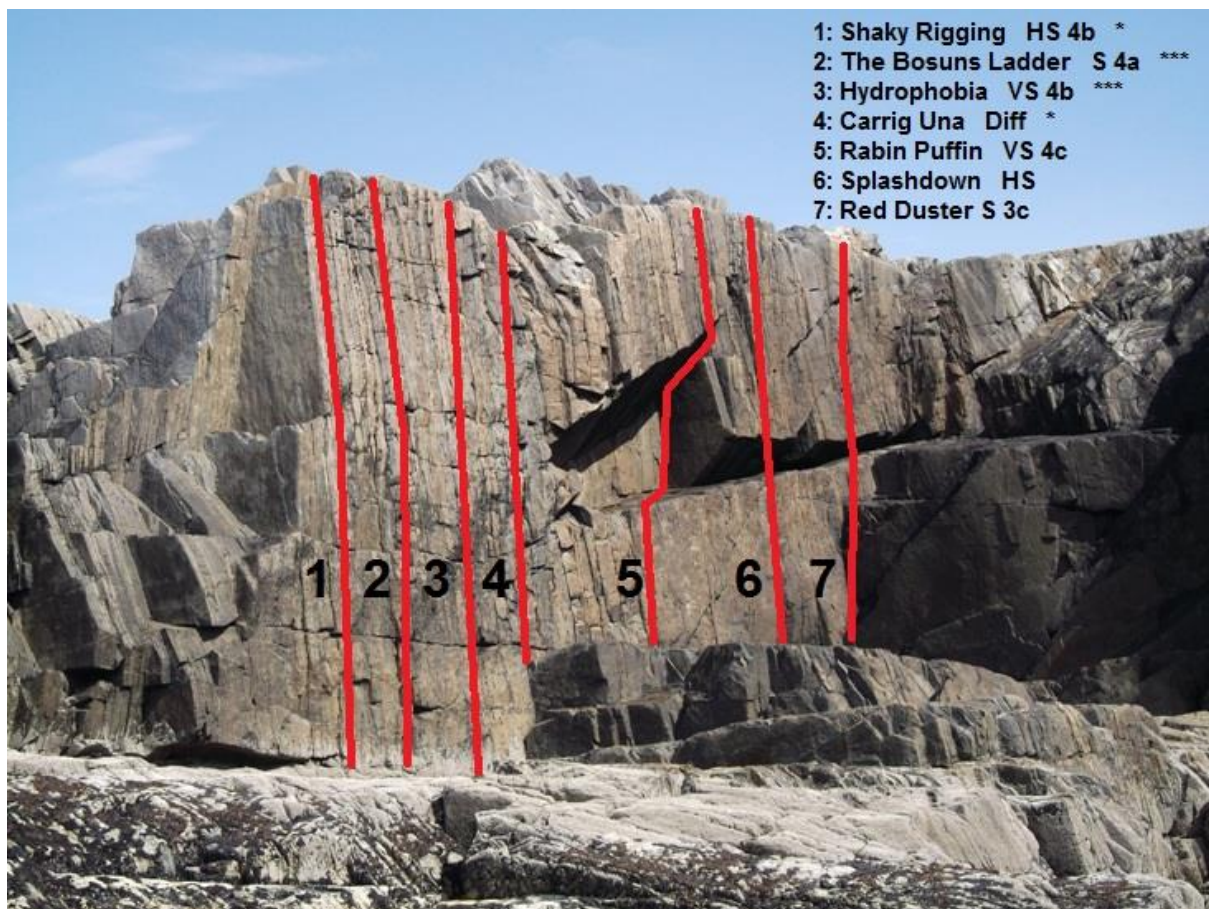
Start: 2m right of Shaky Rigging. Follow an obvious deep vertical crack and groove system with good holds. Crux is at about 10m, and excellent protection is available.

*P. Sloane, P. O'Connor, J. Leonard 01/08/77*

### Hydrophobia VS 4b 15m \*\*\*

Start: 2m right of The Bosun's Ladder. Follow a line directly up the centre of the wall on good holds and protection.

*D. Keena, S. Long 09/04/78*



### Carrig Una Diff 15m \*

The crackline 1M left of the slot. From the base of the wall move up to a small stance, then over a slight bulge to easier climbing before the top.

*J. Leonard, P. O'Connor, G. Barrett 09/04/78*

### Rabid Puffin VS 4c 12m \*

Climb out of the back of the rock cave by via the right hand corner and crack, once out onto the face step left to gain a crack and reach top.

*P. Cooper, E. Johnson 12/06/05*

### Splashdown HS 13m



The line 1M right of the the slot/cave's right hand end, with a small overhang at the ledge.  
*G. McGrath, P. Wynn 08/04/78*

**Red Duster S 3c 13m**

Start at the base of a waterlogged corner right of Splashdown with access via a downward curving ramp. Climb corner to horizontal ramp and then continue directly up the headwall, trending slightly right at the top.

*J. Butler, G. Barrett, J. Leonard 16/04/79*

8M to the right and almost opposite Red Duster there is a smooth black slab capped with overhangs.

**Keelhaul HS 14m**

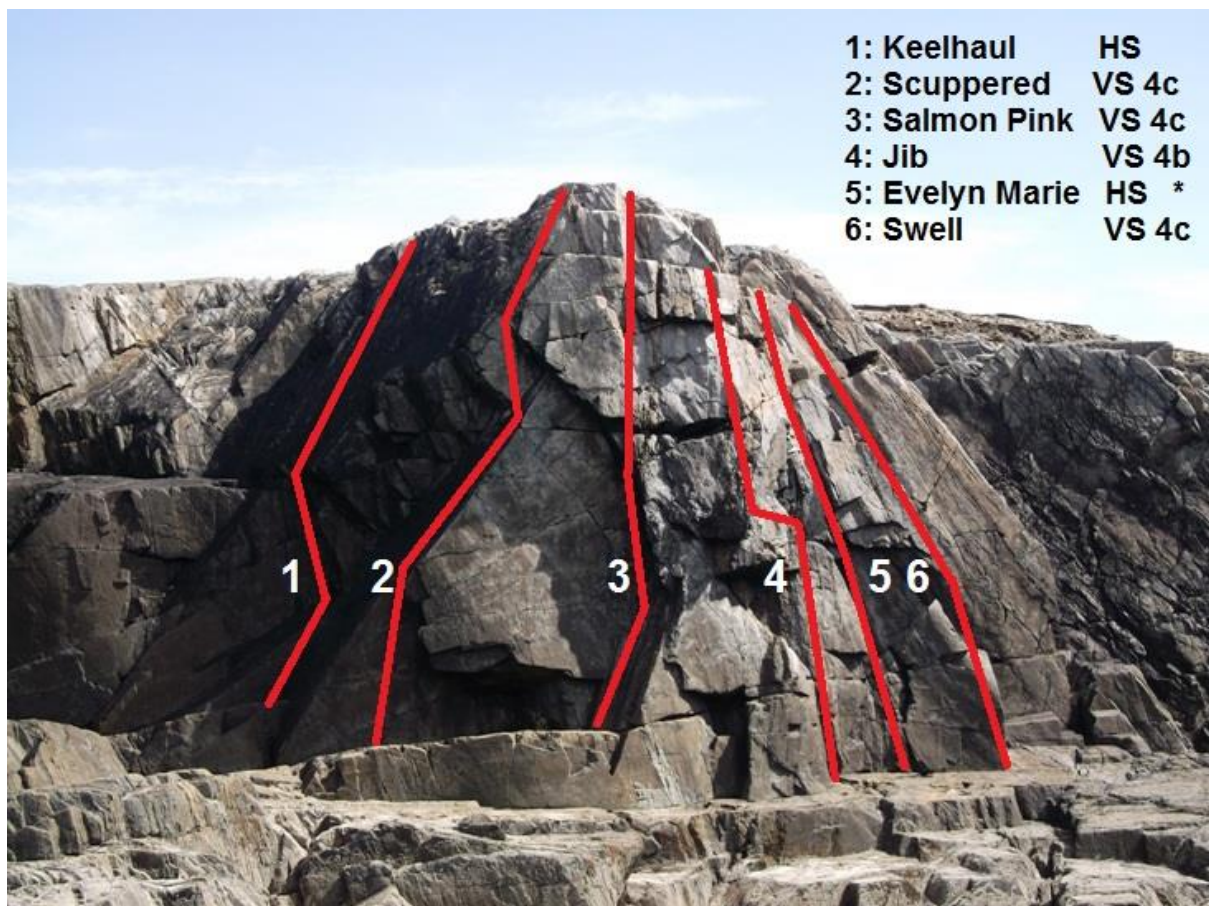
Move up slab into overhanging corner. Delicate move to gain an awkward ledge, then step around left onto the higher slab. Continue up on big pockets to the top, moving slightly right. Protection difficult to arrange.

*P. Coakley, J. Leonard, P. Sloan 16/04/79*

**Scuppered VS 4c 15m**

Start: Short overhanging corner right of Keelhaul. Climb corner and step out left onto Keelhaul slab. Climb crack up right edge of slab to farthest right overhang which is climbed on the left.

*M. Smith, P. Beattie, D. Hughes 20/06/81*



**Salmon Pink VS 4c 12m**

Start: A few metres right of Scuppered and 5m left of Evelyn Marie on a wall facing the sea, is a curving corner. Start slightly to the left and below this. Gain the base of the corner easily and climb it until a large handhold on the right wall can be reached. Using this move up and out right onto the wall

which is followed easily to the top.

*K. Murphy, M. Ni Chiosain 24/06/80*

Jib VS 4b 12m

Start 2m left of Evelyn Marie, below an overhang. Move up and over the overhang on good holds. Make a spectacular but straight forward step left around the arete and climb the steep wall above.

*A. McQuoid, D. Hughes 21/06/81*

Evelyn Marie HS 12m \*

This climb takes the obvious fault and crack running up a short dark corner about 10m south of Keelhaul. Climb the awkward wide crack until a move to the left enables the crack above to be gained. Follow this to easier rock and the top. Good protection.

*A. Irving, P. O Connor, J. Leonard 22/07/78*

Swell VS 5a 12m

The route follows the prominent arete left of Trident with only one awkward move past the overhang.

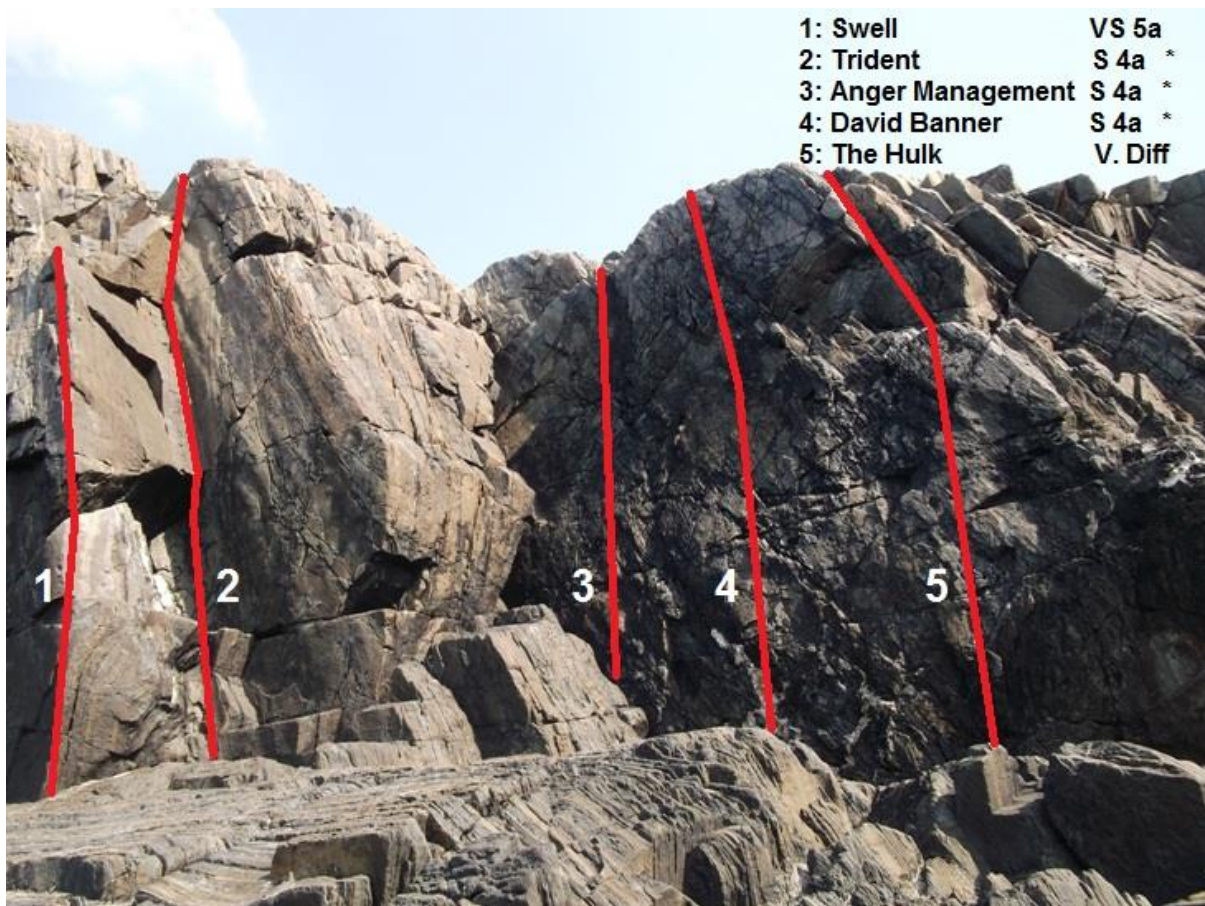
*K. Quinn, D. Stelfox May 83*

Trident S 4a 12m \*

Climb the very obvious full crag height groove Immediately to the right (south) of Swell. RP's Handy!

*D. Keena, C. McGrath, S. Long 08/04/78*

Moving south from 'Trident' there are some small slabs and grooves, followed by an easy chimney forming the next corner. The next three climbs take the pock-marked wall on the south side of the chimney's corner. Numerous variations are possible.





Anger Management S 4a 10m \*

Starting 2m to the left of "David Banner," and directly below a left facing corner high on the face. Climb direct to the corner of excellent holds and tiny gear, pull through the corner high above last gear.

*I. Miller, C. Gleeson 28/05/12*

David Banner S 4a 10m \*

David Banner starts at a white quartzy piece of rock left of the pockled wall. Climb directly upwards, parallel to 'The Hulk', moving out left on tiny holds with strenuous pull up to the top.

*P. McFarland, B. Galway 15/09/79*

The Hulk V.Diff 10m

From the middle of the pockled wall, follow the good holds to a stance at the half-height; then up a groove on the left to finish.

*J. Leonard, P. O'Connor 08/04/78*

About 15M south of 'The Hulk' and across a narrow inlet is a smooth twisting black slab.





#### Orca V Diff 18m

Depending on the tide start at the lowest ledge below the arete left of Big Jessie. Climb the arete directly, with protection to the right side. Finish with an exposed short fin at the top. Very pleasant.  
*W Poots, G Williams (15/07/23)*

#### Big Jessie V.Diff 12m

On the slabby wall opposite the "Torn Sole" corner, climb the vertical cracks up the left edge of the slab.

*C. McDaid, I. Miller 14/02/09*

#### Wee Jessie V.Diff 10m

Climb the right hand edge of the Slab.

*I. Miller, C. McDaid 14/02/09*

#### Pillar Squared

Start at on the flat ledge at the base of the obvious squared off pillar with vertical grooves. Steep to begin but with good holds and protection.

*G Williams, W Poots (15/07/23)*

#### Torn Sole HS 4b 12m

Opposite Pillar Squared. On the black slab below the slightly overhanging corner. Climb the corner (crux) and proceed directly up the slab above on good holds to the top.

*B. Galway, P. McFarland 15/09/79*

Moving further south there are a number of short slabs offering pleasant scrambling. The last of these finishes in an obvious corner, the right side of which has a very steep north facing wall.

#### Out of the Blue E1 5b 15m \*

Start at the corner between the slab and the wall. Climb up the corner to a ledge on the right. Step right and layback up to pinch grips and small flake. Swing left and up ledges to the top.

*E. Cooper April 81*

#### Shanghied HVS 5a 15m \*\*

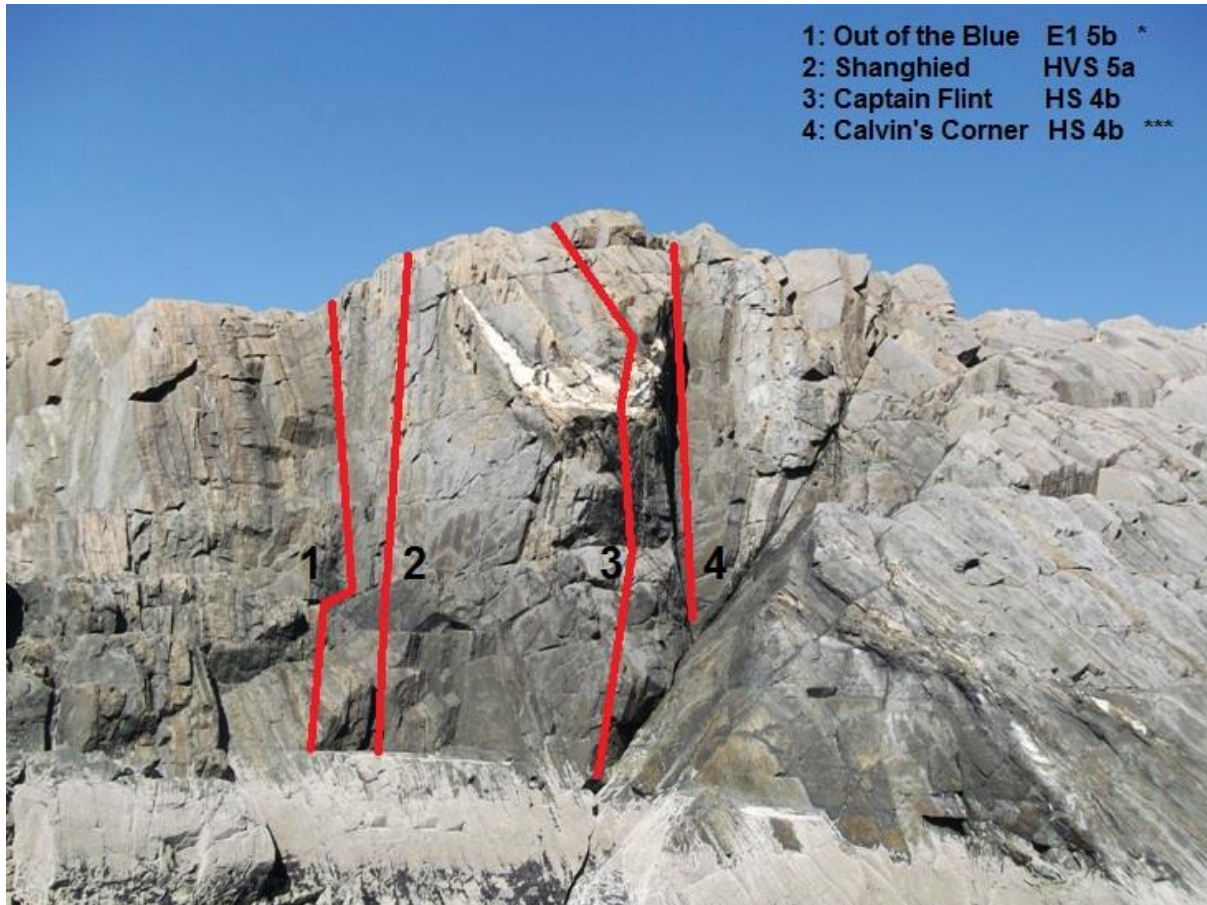
Start: Below the centre of the steep wall between Out of the Blue and Captain Flint. Climb crack for about 3m straight up centre of the wall on delicate holds and even more delicate protection and up over the bulge (crux) to finish.

*P. Clerkin, P. Clerkin 27/08/83*

#### Nautiroot/Captain Flint HS 4b 15m

The original route, Nautiroot, started on a high ledge left of the arete left of Calvin's corner. The harder Captain Flint up the wall. Starting about 2m left of Calvin's Corner. Climb the crack on the left edge of the wall to a small quartz nose. Turn this on the left and follow crack more easily to the top.

*T. Saunders, S. Alston 1979, K.Quinn, T Hawkins 1980*



Roller HVS 5a 15m \*

An eliminate line climbing the cracks in the left wall of Calvin' Corner.

*E. Cooper, N. McIlroy 1982*

Calvin's Corner HS 10m \*\*\*

Start: The obvious dark corner right of Nautiroot/Captain Flint, normally approached from the easy slabs to the south. Climb the corner directly to the top. Was VS in 79 & 85 guides.

*C. Torrans, S. Billane 24/05/75*

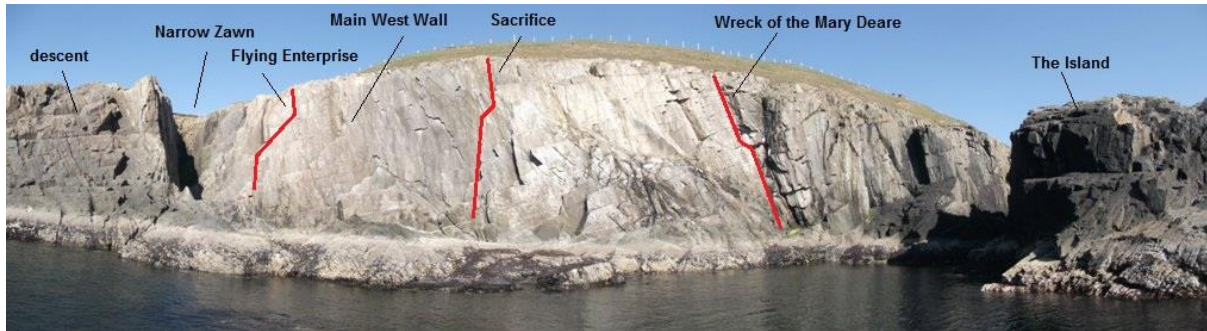
Harpoon V.Diff 9m

Start: A few metres to the right of Calvin's Corner and a little higher. Climb an awkward corner to a large ledge. Move left and across to top of corner crack to a second ledge and then by a corner above to the top.

*J. Leonard, P. O'Connor 26/10/78*

To the right of 'Calvin's Corner' is a large easy angled face, this is the normal scramble descent to the start of Narrow Zawn's climbs; opposite The Main West Wall.





### Narrow Zawn

Directions: The routes in this area surround the small sea inlet known as Narrow Zawn. The main approach track from the harbour leads one directly to the top of the zawn. The pavement at the top of the buttress to the right (north) of the zawn is a fine viewing platform for these routes and the Main West Wall. Descent is easily achieved by scrambling down the steep but very broken rocks immediately to the north of the buttress, to a broad, non-tidal ledge. The zawn itself is easily crossed except at high tide or in large south west motion.

Map ref: G490795

Albatross HVS 5c 20m \*

Start: The left-hand end of the buttress is characterised by an obvious prow of rock, with a crack running up its right-hand side. Climb this well protected crack to the upper slab and the top.

*E. Cooper Feb 81*

Mr Ben E1 5a 20m \*

Start below obvious Prow just right of Albatross, Climb easily to ledge at start of Albatross and then step out right on to the slab and climb upwards using a thin crack for hands and protection. Climb into obvious groove and then exit to top (crux) on poor holds and small pro, (size 0/0.5 friend useful here)

*P. McArthur, R. Young 28/05/93 (Climbed as McCall's Magic 11/88 W Poots, D Woodward)*

Captain Kerry McCall (aka Moby The Eunach) E2 5b 20m \*\*

This route climbs the obvious thin crackline up the centre of the steep wall. Start below the cracks and climb up easily until the wall steepens and the start of the crack proper. Climb crack to top using small ledges and lay-aways (crux protected by small wires).

*W Poots (03/04/88)*

The Wild Atlantic Way E3 5b/c

The fairly obvious open groove right of Moby the Eunach, starting in the same place. Not much in the way of gear and quite a spooky experience. It looked a lot easier than it turned out to be.

*M Kocsis 07/06/18*

Zimmerman Blues HVS 5a 30m

This route takes the right-hand side of the fallen wall, starting with a steep ramp leading to an obvious deep crack at mid-height. Gain the ramp and follow it to a small overhang. Climb this with difficulty and follow the crack above to the top.

*S. Billane, C. Torrains 24/05/75*

Hornpipe Slab HVS 5b 25m

The following routes are across the Zawn. The juggy crack to gain the slab has fallen, giving a 5b wall climb. Start near the back of the zawn opposite the main rockfall area. Climb the wall to gain obvious

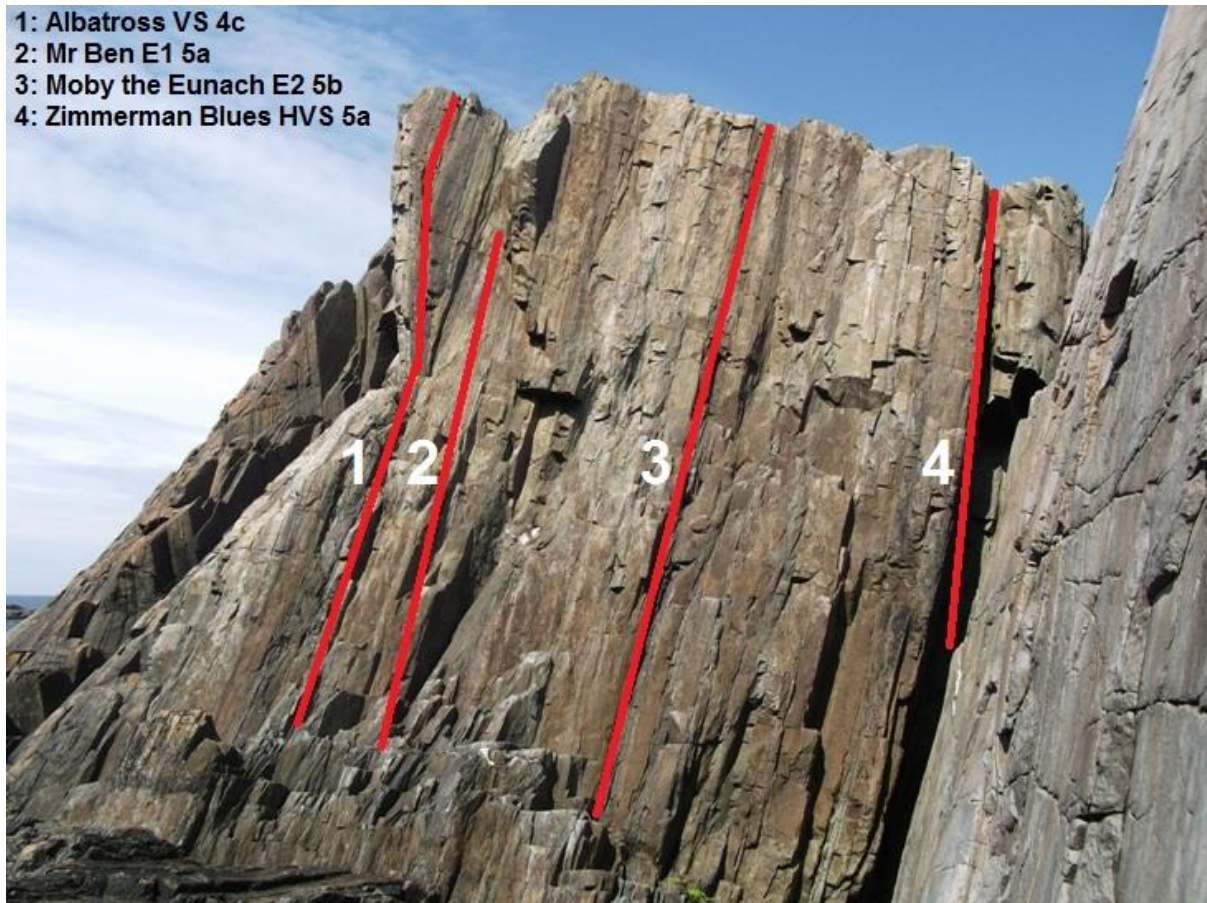
rightward trending slab.

*Original 'Vdiff' ascent J Leonard, J Flynn 25/05/75 5b start, W.Poots, D Ferguson 11/1988*

Hornpipe Variant E1 5b 22m

Start As for Hornpipe Slab for 2m. Climb the vertical left wall (unprotected) to the top.

*S. Long, P. Wynne 09/04/78*



Barnacle Bill V.Diff 20m

This route takes a series of blocks a few metres to the right of Hornpipe Slab to a black corner at the top. Climb a number of easy blocks to a corner below a black slightly overhanging corner which is sometimes wet. Gain height and climb up through the corner using good footholds on the left wall.

*J. Leonard, K. Byrne 31/03/75*

Heave Ho V.Diff 20m

A few metres to the right of Barnacle Bill. Climb some blocks and corners to a large ledge below a corner crack. Climb the outside of the corner on the right on good holds to the top.

*J. Leonard, K. Byrne 31/03/75*

Marine Express V.Diff 25m

The route follows a corner which starts on a quartz 'V' at the step of the upper of two obvious diagonal ramps a few metres to the right of Heave Ho. Follow the ramp to a layback block. From top of this step left and up steep wall on good holds, then up obvious rightward trending staircase on good but airy holds to the finish. Lack of protection on upper part of the route.

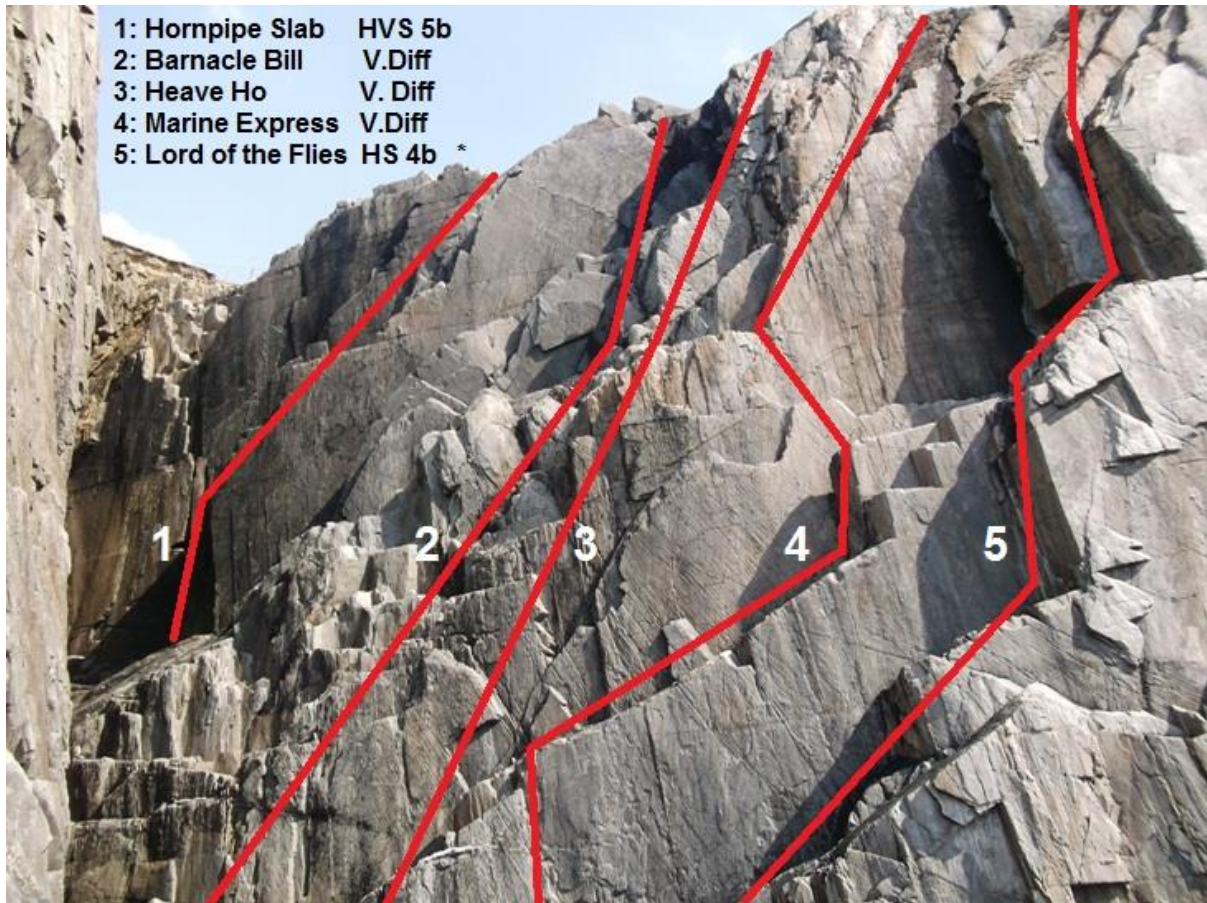
*P. Gargan, D. Walsh 30/03/75*



Lord of the Flies HS 4b 25m \*

The lower of the two diagonal ramps mentioned above leads, with one awkward mantleshelf to the foot of a black chimney. The same point is more directly reached by climbing the obvious weakness in the wall below the ramp, gaining the ramp at 5m, just below the awkward mantleshelf. It is possible to belay at the foot of the chimney. Just right of the chimney, climb the obvious layback crack which is a feature of the cliff (crux) and up steep ground to finish.

*D. Walsh, P. Gargan, C. Wray 31/03/75 direct start 20/05/78*



Dis Donc HVS 25m

This route takes the direct start of Lord of the Flies, to the base of the black chimney which is then laybacked to the top.

*E. O'Riordan, M. O'Shea, K. Coyle 16/06/79*

## Main West Wall

Directions: The long wall stretching from Narrow Zawn to the the north end of the Island. Descent as for Narrow Zawn, depending on tide level, for routes as far as La Cois Farraige, or abseil.

Map ref: G490795

Flying Enterprise VS 5a 27m \*\*\*

This route, the classic 'VS' of the crag follows the two rightward trending ramps on the smooth wall to the right of Lord of the Flies. Climb a thin groove onto a ledge at 5m. Move left and up a short smooth wall (crux) to gain the upper ramp. Follow the ramp up and right finishing by moving slightly left on steep rock.

*T. Ryan, J. McKenzie, J. Scott 31/03/75*

Fiddler's Green HVS 5a 27m \*\*\*

This route takes the wide ramp about 3m right of Flying Enterprise. Gain the ramp at 7m by some , strenuous moves and follow it easily right to the base of a short overhanging corner. Climb this (crux) to gain the sloping ledge on the right. Continue more easily to the top.

*D. Walsh, D. Webster 20/05/78*



Carrigeen E3 5c 27m \*\*

The route follows the quartz fault running through Fiddler's Green and Flying Enterprise. Start 2m right of the stepped black ramp of Fiddler's Green. Climb a shallow groove/scoop to gain ledge on Fiddler's Green. Step left and climb the quartz fault with the aid of this crack to a ledge on Flying Enterprise. Move left again following the quartz vein to a narrow ledge. From this step right and up narrow ledges to the top.

*E. Cooper, T. Cooper June 84*

Clipper E2 5c 27m

Start at the bottom of the stepped ledges right of Carrigeen. Climb directly up the wall to a ledge at the base of the steep groove on Fiddler's Green. Step down and left and follow an obvious line of weakness to gain the top of the ramp on Flying Enterprise. Step left and mantel-shelf onto a ledge and continue more easily to the top.

*E. Cooper, T. Cooper Sept 90*

Sacrifice E4 6a 27m \*

Right of Carrigeen is a series of 3-step ledges which leads to a corner. Start on the top ledge. Climb slightly leftwards past two horizontal breaks (good F0.5 in second one). Move up and right with difficulty on sloping holds and continue up to a narrow ledge. Climb straight up to the base of a



groove. Move right using side-pulls until it is possible to regain a groove which is followed to the top.  
*E. Cooper, T. Cooper Sept 90*

Curragh E3 5c 18m \*\*

Start as for Cutlass, up the ramp trending right. From the top, left side of this, step left onto the steep wall and make a series of delicate moves up and left finishing with an awkward mantelshelf. Up easily to the corner above and on to the top. Poorly protected.

*E. Cooper, T. Cooper June 84*

Cutlass HS 4b 18m

The deep corner chimney at the end of the initial smooth wall. The top section of the chimney has fallen, leaving a blocky ramp. Start as for Curragh following the ramp leading in from the left to join the route at about 1/2 height. Alternatively take the direct start up the black 'V' chimney from the bottom.

*D. Walsh, J. Muhall 28/04/74*

After the Fall S 18m

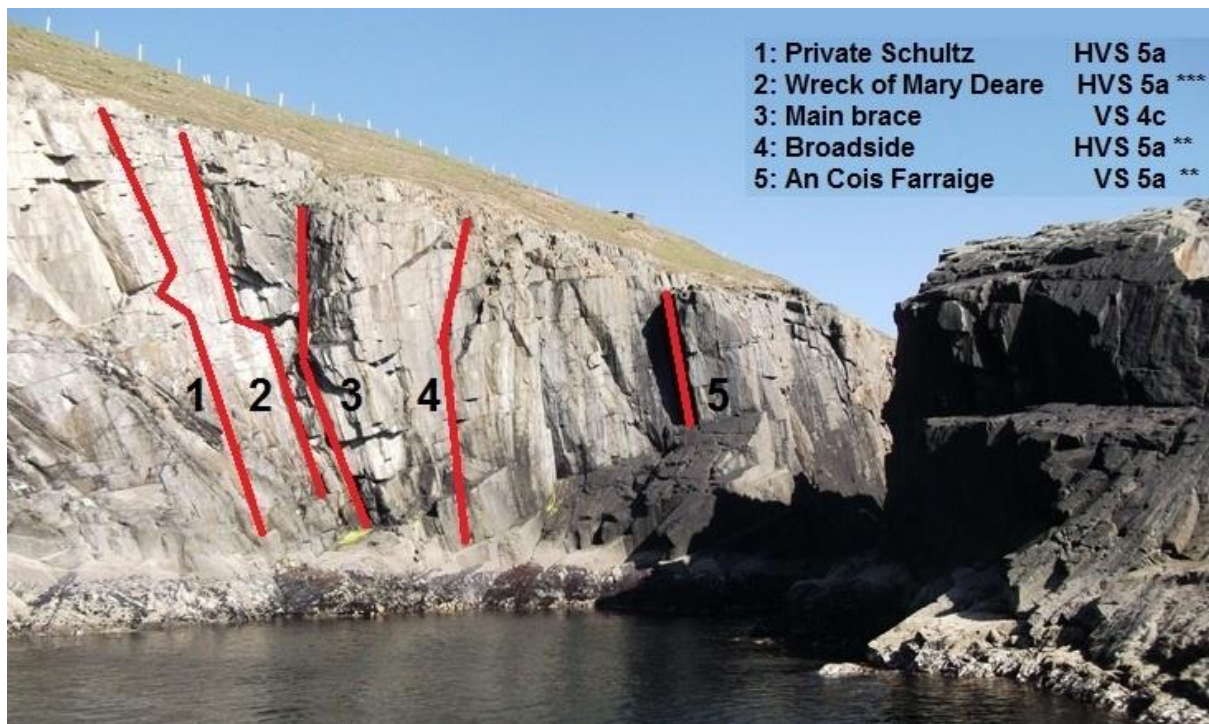
The area from 'Cutlass' to 'Wreck of the Mary Deare' has been badly affected by rockfall and how much of the original routes to survive is not clear. However, a new Severe following the line of 'Crabs Crawl' has been logged and a Diff in the same area. 'After the Fall' follows the 1974 line of 'Crabs Crawl' on the main west wall where again rockfall has occurred on the upper part of the route. Start a few metres left of 'The Wreck of the Mary Deare' and follow a rising leftward line easily, then climb directly up the steep ground above.

*M. Connolly; G. Evans 22/09/93*

The Waltz V.Diff 25m

Start: 15m left of Private Schultz at the left-hand end of a large slab beneath a huge ledge at half height. A small layback corner leads to an obvious fault line which starts on the ledge.

*W. Poots 11/88*



Private Schultz HVS 5a 28m

Right of Crabs Crawl is a steep wall which ends in the overhang and twin corners of The Wreck of the Mary Deare. This route follows a line up the middle of this wall, starting about 1 m left of the corner of

The Wreck of the Mary Deare. Climb easily up to a small overlap. Traverse left to a good foothold. Move up a few feet and then step back right and up to a flakey crack and on to the top.

*M. Manson, T. Ryan, M. Prendergast 02/06/81*

The Wreck of the Mary Deere HVS 5a 27m \*\*\*

Start: The obvious two stage corner split by an overhang, just left of the deep chimney of Main Brace. Climb the corner and traverse left under the overhang to gain the upper corner. Continue up the corner with increasing difficulty and poor protection.

*T. Ryan, J. McKenzie*

Main Brace HS 4a 20m \*

The obvious chimney narrowing at half-height, almost opposite the end of the island. 1) 10m Climb beside chimney until it is necessary to turn bulge at 7m (crux) on the left. Traverse 2m to a fault line on the left and ascent until it is possible to move right to top of chimney and belay at a quartz obtrusion.

*J. Mulhall, D. Walsh 28/04/74*

Broadside HVS 5a 15m \*\*

The route takes the obvious laybacking fault line about 8m to the right of Main Brace. Gain the laybacking flake crack and move onto the base of a steep shallow groove. Climb groove on small holds to ledge below short wall which is climbed to the top.

*J. McKenzie, J. Leonard 18/04/76*

La Cois Farraige VS 5a 10m \*\*

The steep dark corner about 20m right of Broadside. Climb the left-hand wall on small holds until a bridging stance is possible. Difficult bridging up the final 2m (crux) leads to the top. Surprisingly good protection.

*J. McKenzie, P. McHugh 22/04/76*

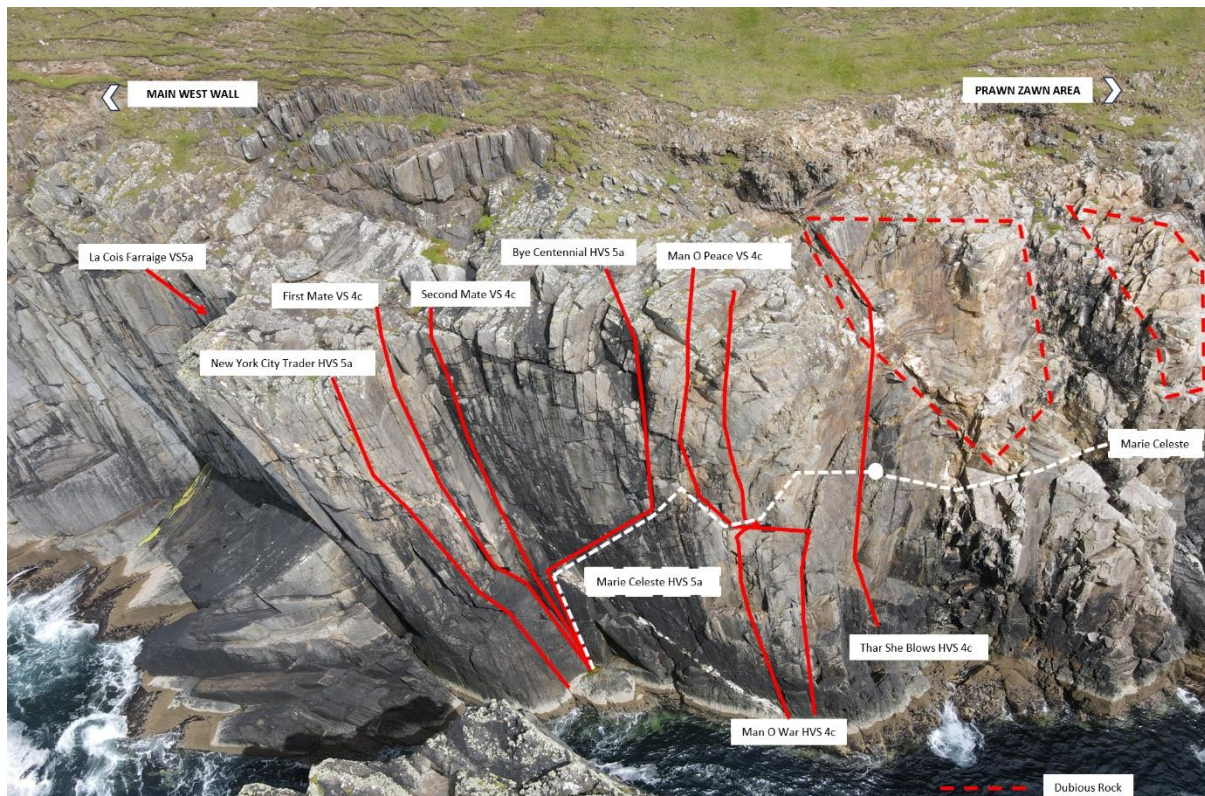
## **The Island Channel**

Directions: The narrow channel between the Island and the mainland has numerous quality climbs including a 3-4 pitch girdle traverse (Marie Celeste). Routes are accessed by Abseil.

The next routes start 1/4 of the way along and opposite 'the Island', by the handy belay boulders. The abseil is down a broad groove with two distinct corners (First Mate, Second Mate), to arrive at a large and horizontal quartz vein with a flat platform at the bottom.

Note: There are two areas of the channel wall where the rock remains less than 100% following storm damage. Care is necessary in places.





#### New York City Trader HVS 5a 21m

On the left end (north) of the ledge. Climb the extreme left of the initial slab and gain the bottom of the groove on its left edge. Follow this to underneath the overhang which is swarmed strenuously directly or airily turned on the left. Climb head wall to finish.

*J. McKenzie, D. Walts 1982*

#### First Mate VS 4c 22m \*\*

Looking from the sea level platform, this route finishes up the left-hand of the two corners. From the platform climb the short wall corner to beneath the overhang. Move left and then up steep rock on good holds to a ledge at the bottom of the corner. Climb this with steady nerve to the top.

*P.O. Brien, D. Walsh 17/04/76*

#### Bye Centennial HVS 5a 21m \*

This climb enters a prominent 'V' groove approx 6m right of the top of Second Mate, from below and left, via a steep black wall. Start as for First Mate etc Straight up easily for 6m. Step up and right to gain a \_traverse line. Delicately footsey right for 3m on undercuts. Strenuously up crux crack above to enter groove and more easily finish. Well protected

*D. Walsh, S. Barrett, M. McCormack 29/06/85*

#### Second Mate VS 4c 22m \*

Start as for First Mate. At the overhang swing right to gain a broad ramp. Climb ramp to the foot of the right hand corner. Climb the corner above with good technical jamming and bridging, the crux being at about half height.

*D. Walsh, P. O'Brien 17/04/76*

#### Man O'War HVS 4c 23m

From the same sea level platform as above, traverse to the base of a large groove system, right of a "zip fastener" line trending slightly left. Step down and then trend upwards in steps. From ledge step left into zip fastener line and layback 6m to large ledge. Back into crack and continue to the top. A



serious line, lacking protection.

*J. McKenzie, J. Kerr e 24/04/76*

Man O'Peace VS 21m

At the right end of the quartz vein, right (south) of Man O'War. Climb easily up to the right of Man O'War "Zip Fastener" and gain ledge below headwall. Turn the small overhang on the right and cross Man O'War to gain a small ledge below the obvious "V" groove (crux). Into V groove and up easily to top

*D. Walsh, S. Barrett 17/07/83*

Marie Celeste HVS 5a, 3c, 4b 85m \*

A relatively serious (for the grade) north to south traverse of the mainland wall opposite the island. A fall for lead or second would be unpleasant!

Start – Abseil in from the boulders at the top of First/Second Mate.

1.) 5a 30m. Start as for Bye Centennial. Follow the rising diagonal foot traverse to the bottom of the obvious groove then move right, step down and right and go below and around overhang to the right. Cross thin slab to less than great belay on small ledges.

2.) 3c 40m (could be split into two shorter pitches 3a/3c). Short traverse from belay to reach easier ground in the middle section of the wall. Continue at this level for 20m then cross the slab of Captain's Table, stepping up and right to reach a belay ledge 2/3 of the way up the corner of Devil's Kippers.

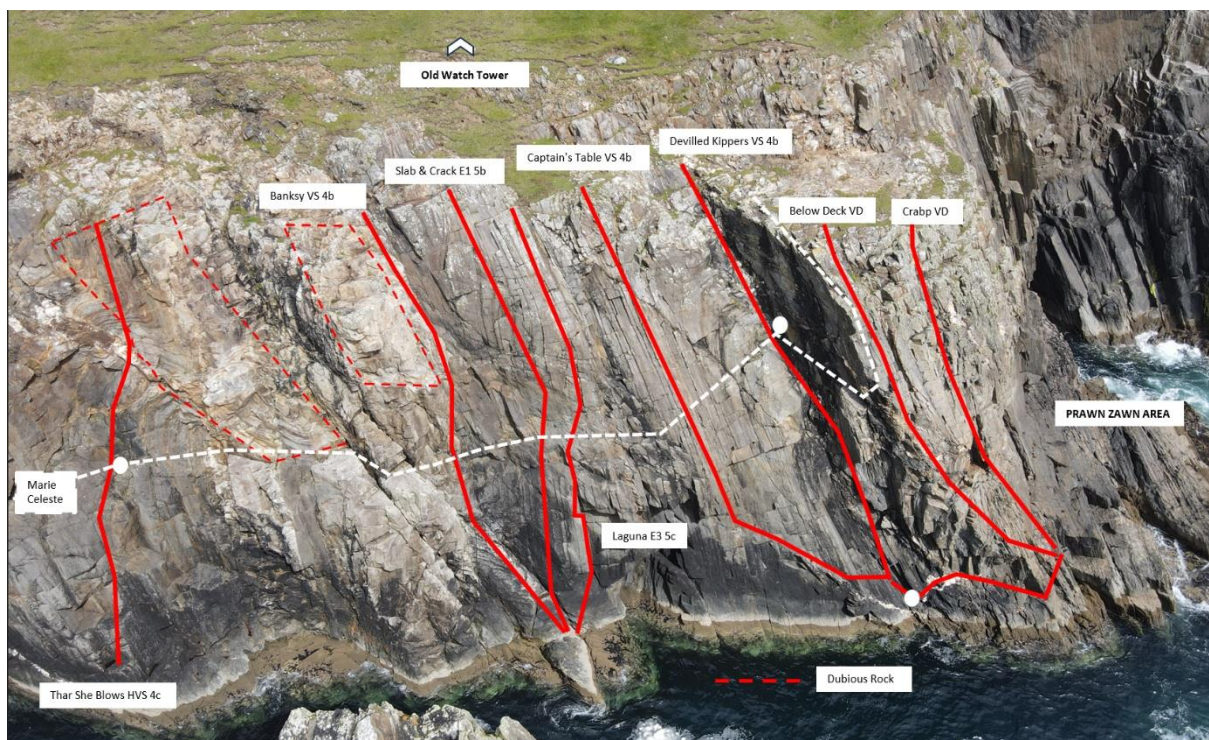
3.) 4b 15m. Step down 2m from belay and traverse out across the wall (no protection) to reach the arete. Go around this to the right with great exposure to gain the easier ground of Below Deck (VD). Follow to the top. There is no gear on the traverse so the leader can consider not placing any gear at all, giving their second a top rope on this pitch!

*Gavin Williams, W Poots 25/08/2023*

Thar She Blows HVS 4c 23m

From a platform to the south of Man O'Peace the route climbs directly up to half height, then moves right to surmount large quartz block. Place runner here and move up delicately on some fragile rock to reach the top.

*W Poots, G Williams (24/08/23)*



**Banksy VS 4b 22m**

Start on the large tidal platform half way down the channel. Climb up and left into small overhangs which can be turned on the right to exit via a groove above the overhangs.

*G Williams, W Poots 24/08/23*

**Slab & Crack E1 5b 23m**

From the ledge, directly climb the black slab to a ledge at 10m. From here directly up the centre of headwall above

*G Williams, W Poots 24/08/23*

**Laguna E3 5c**

From the tidal ledge climb to the base of a corner capped by an overhang (delicate, no protection).

Place gear in the corner and make strenuous moves to climb the corner. Pass the overhang using the left wall of the corner to reach ledge. From here, directly up the groove on right of head wall.

*G Williams 24/08/23*

The next two routes, although in the channel are most easily reached by traversing into the sound from the large platform at the side of Prawn Zawn - see that section for description of descent.

**Captain's Table VS 4b 32m \*\***

At the end of the platform, at the foot of Below Deck.

1: 4a 16m Traverse just above the high tide mark into the sound. At 7m step down onto the ramp ascending diagonally left to a good nut belay under the overhang in the corner.

2: 4b 16m Step left onto arete and climb the clean wall (crux) on small holds to the top.

*P. O'Brien, D. Walsh 18/04/76*

**Devilled Kippers VS 4b 32m \*\***

As for Captains Table.

1: 4a 16m As for Captains Table.

2: 4b 16m From belay step down ramp and then climb diagonally right across slab on small holds through the obvious break in the overhang in the top right-hand corner. Continue up slab to left of corner to the top. Small wires useful.

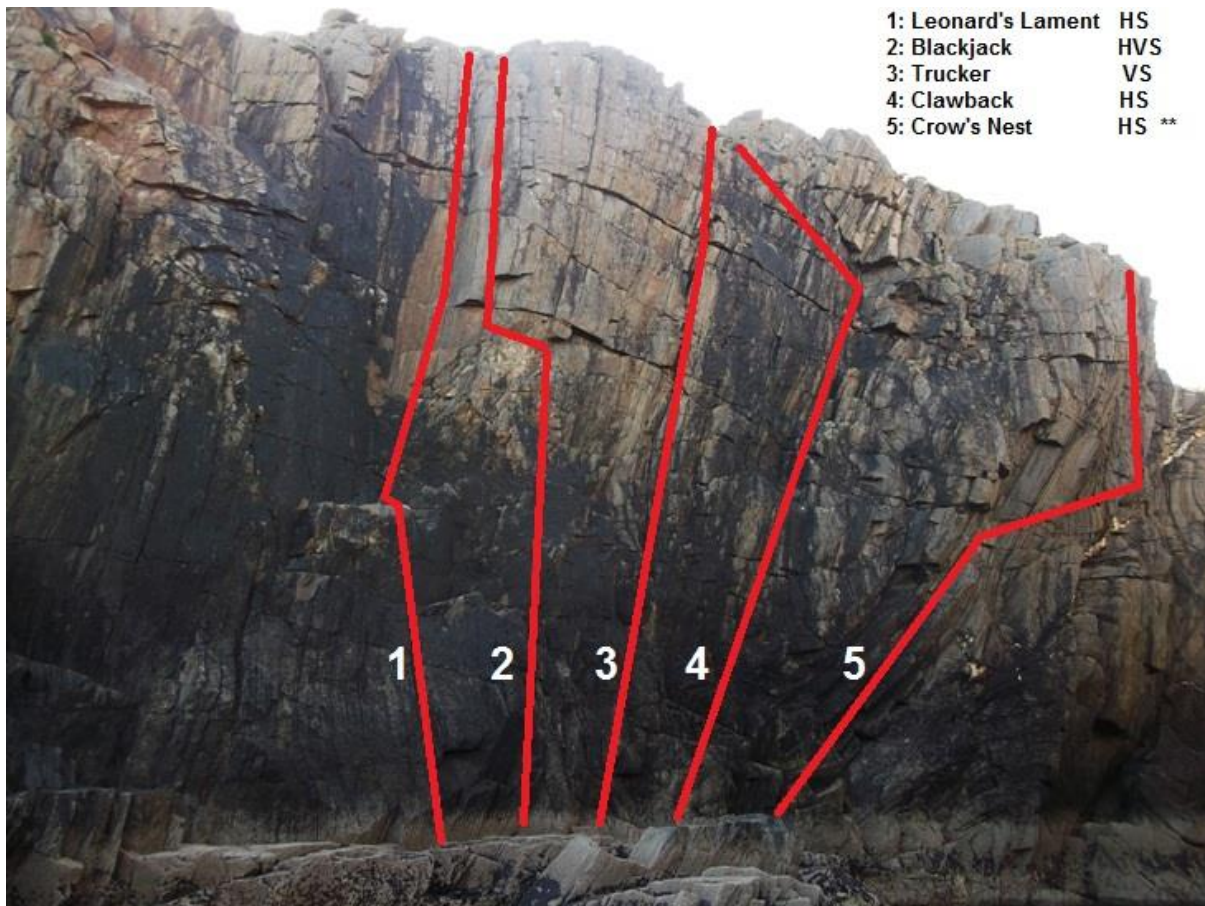
*D. Walsh, K. Byrne, P. O'Brien 16/04/76*

## **The Island**

Directions: The Island The eleven routes below are all on the small island directly west of the Tower. The routes are all on the east face of the island and are described from left to right (south to north) looking at the island from the tower. Awkwardness of access precludes the climbs popularity though there are some good routes. The most practical method is for the climbers to swim across to the southern end, and for gear to be roped across. It is unnecessary to point out the need for calm weather conditions. The routes are described in relation to two platforms, one at the south end. nearly opposite Prawn Zawn, the other about half way along the face

Map ref: G490795





Leonard's Lament HS 23m

At the left-hand edge of the south platform opposite Prawn Zawn. Gain a small obvious platform at 6m by means of a 6m fluted crack. Climb the obvious corner directly above, exiting slightly right.

*D. Walsh, D. Keena 30/07/77*

Blackjack HVS 23m

2m right of Leonard's Lament. Climb directly up the broken rock to the foot of a thin crack in the steep wall at 10m. Step left onto arete and surmount overhang above by means of strenuous mantleshelf. Ascend arete above, finishing just right of Leonard's Lament.

*T. Irving, D. Keena 30/07/77*

Trucker VS 23m

2m right of Blackjack. Climb the broken rock directly to the foot of an obvious fat crack in the steep wall. Climb crack, surmounting bulge with hand jams and exit directly above top of crack.

*T. Irving 30/07/77*

Clawback HS 25m

Just right of Trucker. Follow the stepped diagonal and only right weakness in the steep wall above for 17m until it is possible to traverse diagonally left over the steep wall itself, finishing as for Trucker.

*D. Walsh, T. Irving 01/08/77*

Crows Nest HS 30m \*\*

Above the high-water mark, on the extreme right edge of the same platform, at the foot of twin grooves traversing, diagonally right to the foot of some overhangs. Follow these grooves to the foot of the overhangs where it is possible to traverse right 10m directly underneath the overhangs until this traverse emerges at the foot of a steep wall after 6m. The wall above forms the first of four prominent

corners rising vertically from the second platform at the middle of the island. Ascent the slightly overhanging wall in exceptionally airy position on enormous holds for 12m to the top.

*D. Keena, D. Walsh 30/07/77*

Cannonball Corner HVS 23m \*\*

At the extreme left of the middle platform directly underneath a violently overhanging corner. The route follows the prominent corner which is the second of the four prominent corners directly above. Ascend the initial overhang awkwardly and strenuously to an off-balance stance. Climb the continuously vertical - corner above by the obvious line. A serious line as protection is only satisfactory.

*T. Irvine, D. Walsh 01/08/77*

Privateer VS 23m

In the middle of the platform to the right of Cannonball Corner, underneath and to the right of the third corner above. Ascend the broken rock easily for 4m, where it is possible to step down and left above an overhang below to a position at the bottom of the third corner. Ascend the foot of the corner very delicately without protection. Follow the corner strenuously to a point 2m below the top where it is necessary to step out of the corner right on very small holds to finish directly above.

*T. Irvine, D. Walsh 01/08/77*

Splash Gordon S 23m

Climb the easy broken rock and ascend the steep rock to the foot of the fourth corner. Ascent the fourth corner above delicately and airily to exit on top.

*D. Walsh, G. Barrett 31/07/77*

H.M.S. Tyrolean S 14m

Extreme right of the middle platform. The climb follows the obvious wide crack on the left of the slab on the right-hand side of the platform. Start at the foot of the crack. Climb the crack on doubtful rock to the crux at 12m and exit on easy ground.

*D. Walsh, G. Barrett 31/07/77*

In Uisce Le Long S 14m

At the corner at the north end of the sound, at the foot of obvious clear cut corner. Climb the corner strenuously, escaping left when the going becomes too tough.

*D. Walsh, M. Caulfield, S. Long June 81*

Nautical Myles HS 14m

Climb the short wall on the right-hand side and mantleshelf awkwardly onto ledge. Chimney and bridge up the shallow depression above and stretch to hold over top (crux).

*D. Walsh, M. Caulfield, S. Long June 81*

## **Prawn Zawn**

Living just to the south of the tower, the Prawn Zawn is the deep inlet ending in a cave. The next twelve routes lie on the promontory that runs from the island sound along the north side of the zawn. Descent is by abseil down the non-tidal platform at the foot of the promontory from where all the routes are easily reached.

Abseil stakes are usually in place on the headland above the Platform at the top of the zawn. A number of anchors points are also in-situ on this platform. As always, any existing anchors should always be checked before use.

Map ref: G490795



## Below Deck V.Diff 22m

This route takes the arete on the left-hand side (looking inland from the sea) of the promontory, opposite the island. Follow the line of the rather broken arete to the top.

*D. Walsh, K. Byrne 16/04/76*

## Crabp V.Diff 22m

Start: Left of the smooth blank wall is a shallow gully. Start to the left of this. Climb the initial compact rock to broken rock above. Exit through the gap in the steeper rock above. Loose rock towards the top.

*D. Mitchell, D. Bruce, M. Torrans 10/05/75*

## In Memorium Arete VS 4c 20m

Start: The Arete at the left side of the featureless slab (looking in from the sea) is gained by an awkward layback up a short flake/fin. A long reach around the corner (crux) gives a good hold. Follow the edge to the top surmounting a small overhang to the left of the arete.

*W. Poots, D. Ferguson 05/08/88*

## Day by the Sea E2 6a 20m

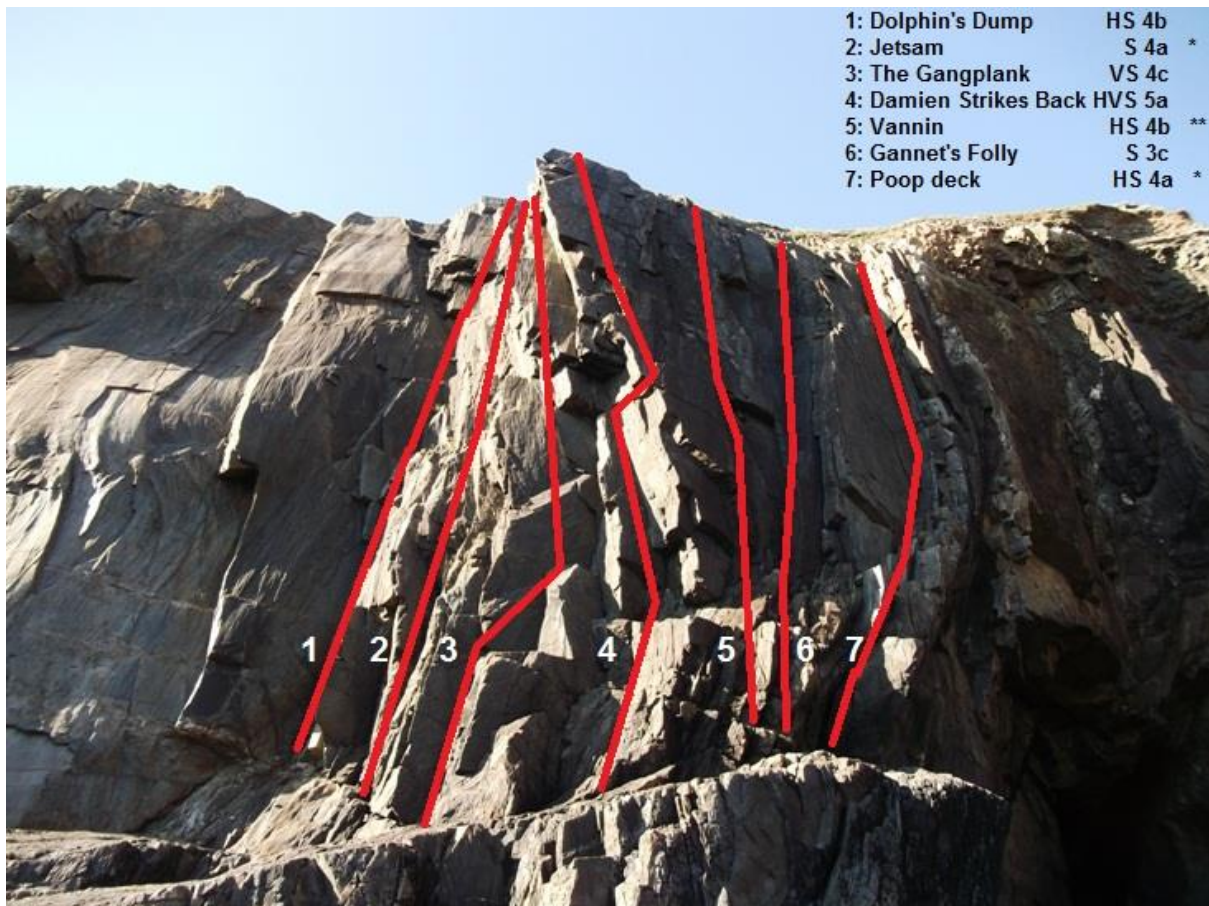
This takes the arete immediately right of where Pieces of Eight used to be. Climb the arete on small holds. Using the pod on the right gain a small ledge and resting position. From the ledge continue up the slab to the top. Protection is good but small.

*N. Harkness 25/05/88*

## Dolphin's Dump HS 4b 22m

At the bottom of the descent gully into Prawn Zawn there is a prominent corner. This is climbed for 3m, then move up to the right staying parallel with Jetsam. Continue up on long reaches and finish up a small corner at the top using small holds.

*W. Poots, D. Ferguson 05/04/88*



#### Dolphins Do, Climbers Don't VS 4b 24m

Start as for Dolphin's Dump until a ledge is reached at half height. Using a downward pointing flake in the middle of the face on the left, step down slightly and stretch across to a small foothold. Place protection before continuing up the left on small ledges. Poorly protected.

*W. Poots, D. Ferguson 05/04/88*

#### Jetsam S 4 22m \*

Start: at the foot of the wide crack on the right-hand side of the central depression. Climb the wide crack and into the groove with the overhanging right wall at the top. Bridge between good holds on the right wall and friction on the left (crux) to the top. Well protected.

*D. Walsh, J. Leonard 10/05/75*

#### The Gangplank VS 4c 22m

Start: To the right and above Jetsam is an obvious wide groove leading up to an overhang. Climb the groove to reach a small ledge below the overhang. Pull out right through the overhang and into the corner above (crux). Bridge up the corner to a sloping ledge and on easily to the top.

*P. Sloane, P. Coakley 15/04/79*

#### Damien Strikes Back HVS 5a 24m

At the left-hand edge of the wall between Gangplank and Vannin is a corner capped by a cracked overhang at 5m. Climb up to the overhang and swing onto the wall on the right. Climb up left of the wall on thin holds.

*D. Woodward, W. Poots Nov 88*



Vannin VS 4b 22m \*\*

The next two routes start in the obvious corner above and to the right of Gangplank. Vannin Takes the steep slab/wall on the left of the corner. Climb up groove trending left to the overlap. Pull up with difficulty using a foothold on the left of the overlap to reach good holds above. Continue up the fault above to the top with one difficult step to the right about half way.

*J. McKenzie, J. Leonard 16/04/76*

Gannet's Folly S 3c 16m

This route takes the steep ramp on the right of the corner and Vannin. Gain some height on the ramp and then using the crack on the right-hand side continue up on good jugs to the top.

*J. Leonard, D. Walsh 10/05/75*

Poop Deck HS 4a 18m \*

This route takes the narrow right trending ramp right of Gannet's Folly and above the cave at the back of the zawn. Move up the ramp 4m to where it steepens towards a vertical groove. Up this with difficulty until a good handhold on the right edge can be reached. Continue up groove and easy wall to the top. Protection is available but care is needed as a leader or second fall could result in hanging free over the cave below.

*J. McKenzie, J. Kerr 23/04/76*

The next two routes are on the opposite side of the zawn from Poop Deck. They are reached by descending easy rock about 75m south of the tower to sea level and traversing into the zawn.

Red Weed V.Diff 15m

Starts about 10m right of the back of the cave is a shattered wall/buttress. The route reaches this by a stab from sea level and finishes up a groove on the right. A poor route on doubtful rock.

*P. Coakley, M. McCormick April 81*

Seaweed HS 4b 15m

To the right of the slab start of Red Weed is a rib split by a groove. Climb this groove to a black ledge. Move right into overhanging corner containing big spike. Follow this to the top, treating the spike and rock with care.

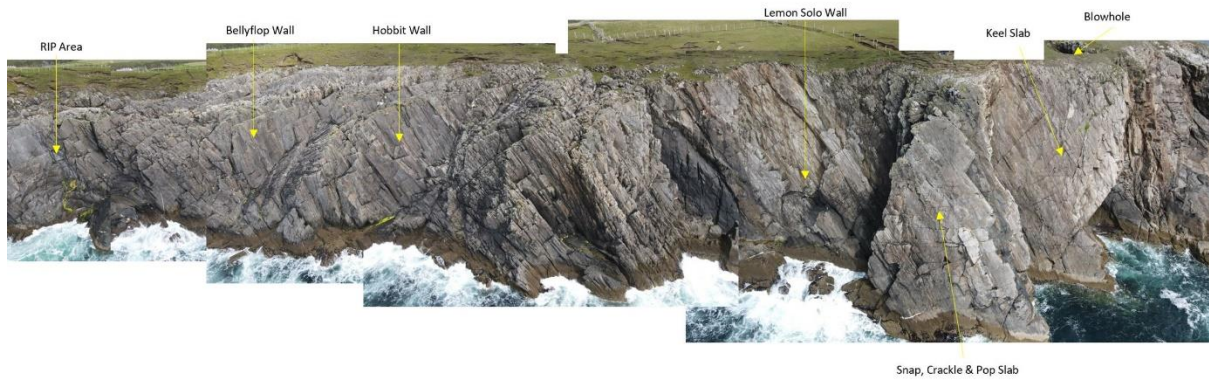
*M. McCormick, P. Coakley April 81*

## The South End

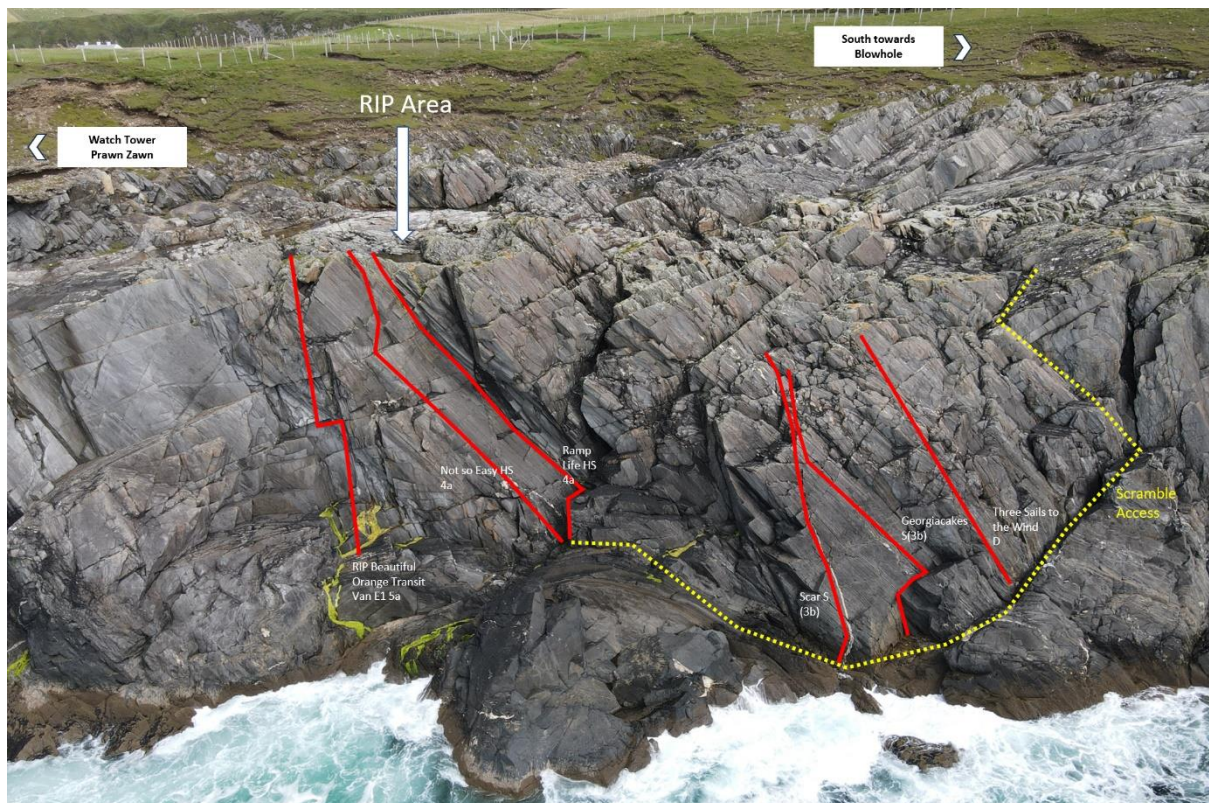
From the Tower, and the top of Prawn Zawn, the cliff runs south for about 150m to a large blowhole about 5m back from the cliff edge, and opposite the largest of three rock islands just offshore. The first 100m is made up of small walls and faces which offer short routes around 15-20m in height on excellent rock. Beyond this, there is an obvious promontory just north of the Blowhole (Snap, Crackle & Pop Slab).

The south end cliffs are described in seven sections. RIP Area, Bellyflop Wall, Hobbit Wall, Lemon Solo Wall, Snap, Crackle & Pop Slab, Keel Slab and the Blowhole area. Routes are described Left to Right looking inland from the Sea. Many of these walls are well above high tide and offer sheltered options when desired.

Map ref: G490795



## RIP Area



RIP beautiful orange transit van E1 5a 15m

Start on the left hand side under the overhang at a group of unprotected blocky mantel self's. Climb these to the start of a steep leftwards trending and a slightly overhanging corner, continue up here on small gear and delicate feet to the top use a big flake to pull through the crux.

G. Conlon, W. Briton 10/07/2020

Not so Easy HS 4a

Takes the seemingly easy looking left/outer edge of the 'Ramp Life' ramp above the quartz vein.

W Poots, G Poots 04/07/22

Ramp life HS 4a 20m

Start at the base of the large obvious ramp. Easy start up the ramp steepening as it goes to exit through a steep and awkward last 3 moves.

D. Aherne, W Poots 03/06/2022

Scar S(3b) 20m

Boulder start and then follows the obvious quartz dyke to the top.



*D. Aherne, W Poots 03/06/2022*

Georgiacakes S(3b) 22m

Strenuous start move to gain the ledge on the right then follows the thinnish groove left of the corner to the top

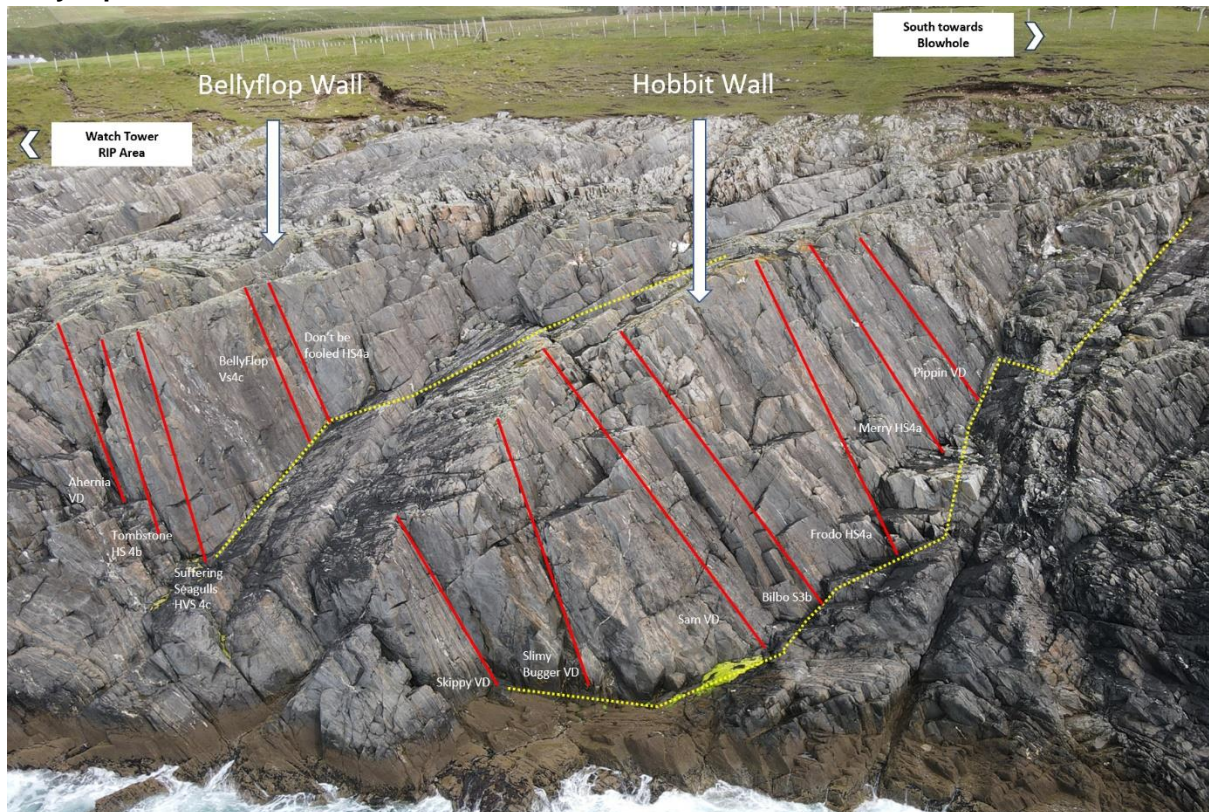
*W Poots, D Aherne 03/06/2022*

Three Sails to the Wind D 22m

At the lowest point of the scramble descent, just to the right of Georgiacakes is a long slabby wall. Start at the lowest point and climb directly to the top.

*C Coles, W Poots (19/03/23)*

### Bellyflop & Hobbit Wall



Ahernia – VD 15m

Start: At the bottom left end of BellyFlop wall there is a deep groove with a pillar to the left. Climb the left side of the groove to the top.

*W Poots & D Aherne 03/06/2022*

Tombstone HS 4b 12m

Start on the first rock step right of Ahernia (left of Bellyflop wall). Follow the leftwards trending cracks up the wall, make use of a sloping block to reach a big jug and mantle the tombstone

*C Coles, W Poots (19/03/23)*

Suffering Seagulls HVS 4c 16m

8m down and left of Bellyflop is an obvious small overhang at about 4m. Start below this and climb directly up and over into a shallow groove feature, follow to the top. There is protection but none of it is much good.

*G Williams, W Poots (25/08/23)*

BellyFlop VS 4c 13m



Start just left of the large open book corner of 'Don't be Fooled'. Thin technical start up through an overlap to reach good holds. Layback up the thin crack in the big flake above.

*W Poots, Aaron Coyle 12/07/2022*

Don't Be Fooled HS 4a 11m

Climbs the deep and easy looking open book corner at the top of the descent ramp, not as easy as it looks.

*W Poots & Derek Aherne 03/06/2022*

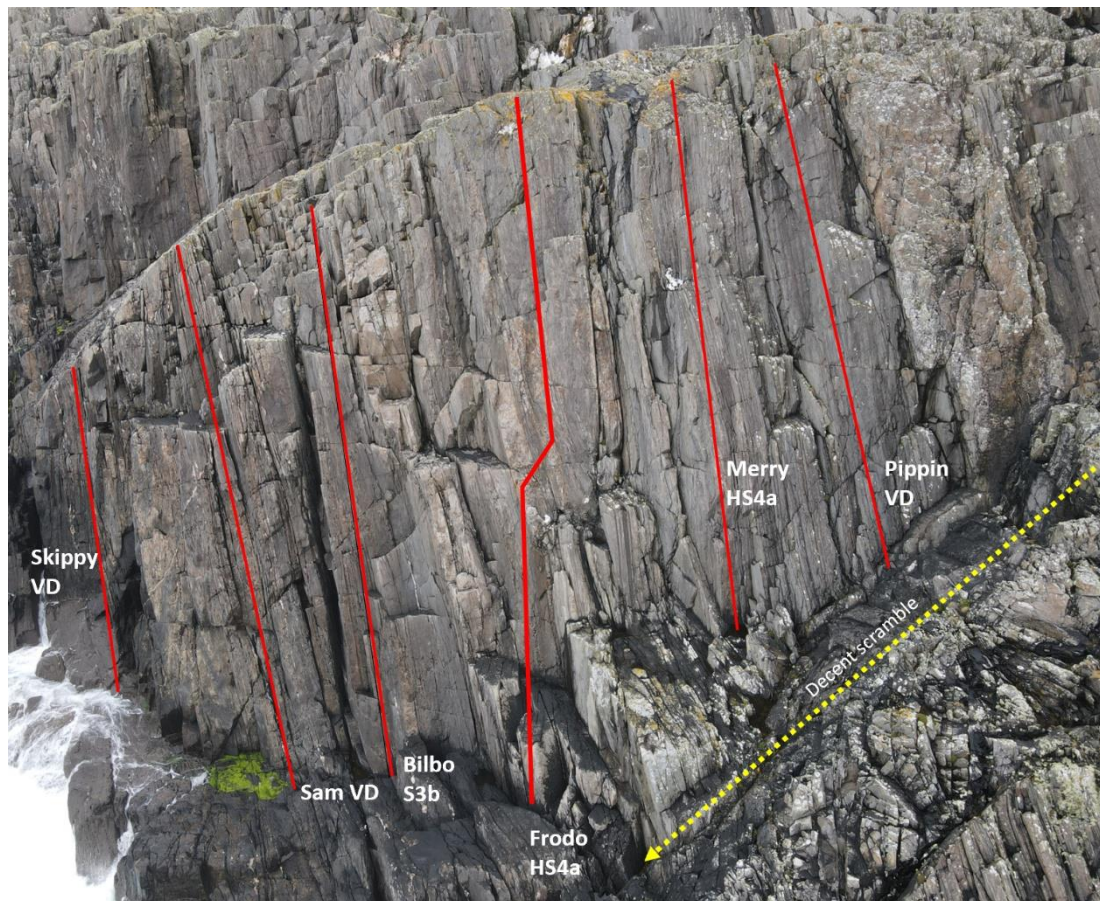
Skippy VD 12m – at the bottom of Hobbit wall there is a wonderful open book corner with immaculate rock, good protection and a lovely wave level start.

*G Giesman, W Poots 30/07/2022*

Slimy Bugger 20m VD

Start in the obvious corner a few metres right of Skippy. Climb up a slimy block and onto the ledge. Bridge up into the corner and then ascend the ramp above to a good ledge. Climb the short wall ahead on good holds to belay.

*C Coles & G. Giesman 01/08/2022*



Sam 12m D

Straight up the wall between two obvious cracklines at the left side of Hobbit Wall.

*W Poots, G Poots 09/04/22*

Bilbo 13m S 3b

Easy start up to ledge at 4m then thinly up the arete/face to the right of the obvious deep gash.

*W Poots, G Poots 09/04/22*



**Frodo HS 4a**

Up the centre of the wall with a move right at half height. Very small gear.

*W Poots, G Poots 09/04/22*

**Merry 12m HS 4a**

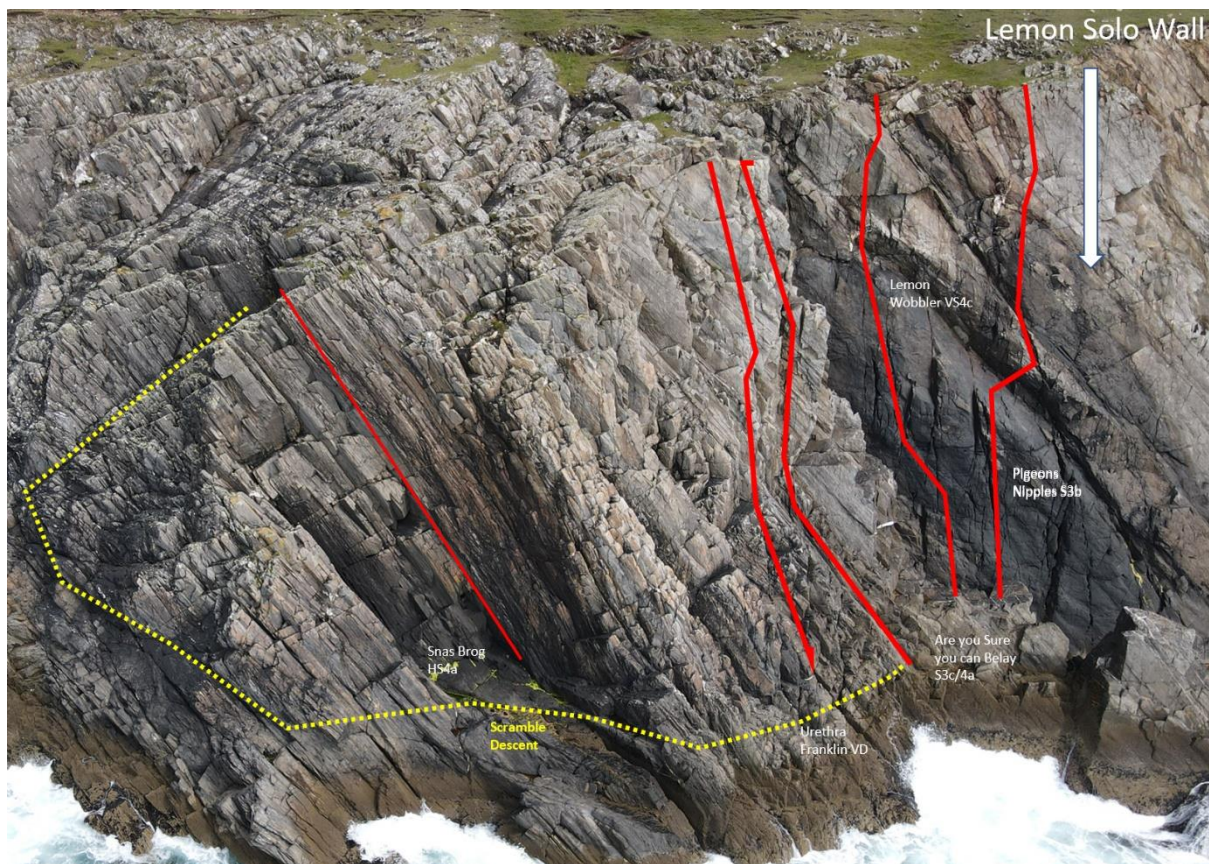
Start above little pool and straight up to Quartz, then to top. Thin but excellent rock.

*W Poots, G Poots 09/04/22*

**Pippin 10m VD**

The wall between the two easier lines at the right end of the wall towards the top of the decent ramp.

*W Poots, G Poots 09/04/22*

**Lemon Solo Wall****Snas Brog 22m HS**

Start in the corner between the rough 'wood' textured wall on the right and the blocky ramp on the left. Climb up and over the first overhanging block (crux) and smear carefully up to the first ledge. Using the deep crack on the right hand side, climb awkwardly up a series of tilted blocks with small ledges between, turn right at the prominent finger above and finish easily to belay.

*A Coyle, C Coles 30/07/22*

**Urethra Franklin 20m VD**

Start on a small ledge just left of the smooth gully a few metres before the black wall. Scramble easily up the rough blocks until you reach a narrow corner. Step right around the sharp edge into the corner and climb up with care (some loose rock). Pass the dubious looking square block on your right and climb the short wall above

*C. Coles, A. Coyle 30/07/2022*



Are you Sure you can Belay? S 3c/4a 20m.

Start 3m right of Uretha Franklin up an obvious easy ramp leading to the steep open groove corner (might look damp but doesn't hinder climbing). At the top of the groove make your way directly up to the top via sharp ledges. Extended gear may be helpful near the top to avoid the rope going over sharp edges whilst bringing up your second.

*A O'Conghaile, P McKinney 30/07/22*

Lemon Wobbler VS 4c 25m

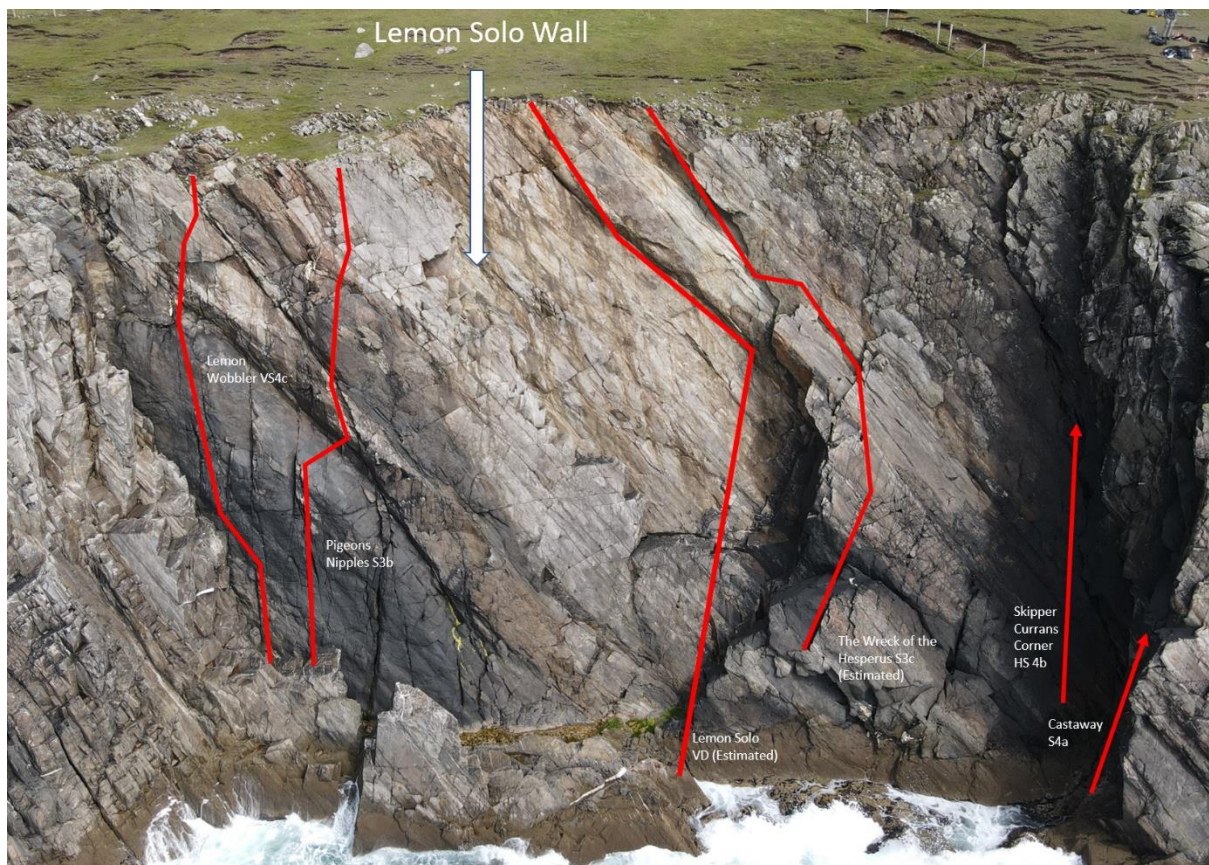
Start at the bottom of the large ledge facing the black wall, taking a line between the corner and the first main crack, trending leftwards until you're aiming directly for the broken sharp edged groove at the top. The large pointed block above the ledge is loose, can be wobbled by a nut-key so could do with a crowbar (permission granted), so continue above if you wish or move right to escape on a short slab; either way is bold.

*A. O'Conghaile, P. McKinney 30/07/22*

Pigeons Nipples S 3b 22m

Start on the right side of the platform that sits at the foot of the black wall. Climb the black wall just to the right of a narrow crack line on small crimps and pockets until you reach the long sloping ramp. Cross this diagonally right and go up and over the bulge. Move up the slab and short wall to a ledge, and then move right slightly to finish straight up the face.

*C. Coles, A. Coyle 30/07/22*



Lemon Solo V.Diff 30m

At the right-hand end of the ledge above the long narrow pool. Climb the steep slab veering slightly left at first on small but good holds until just beside the top left-hand corner of the obvious bay (surrounded by overhangs on the right) and traverse left to climb the top wall at its obvious weakness



on the left. Poor protection, small wires useful. (The grade here seems likely to be low for the potential "experience")

*J. Leonard, D. Walsh 11/05/76*

**The Wreck of the Hesperus S 3c 25m**

Above and to the right of lemon Solo at the bottom of the bay surrounded by overhangs. Climb the obvious line of weakness on the right-hand side of the slab beneath the first overhang on the right. Continue up until a step (sometimes wet) left and down leads to the bottom of an obvious overhanging corner which is climbed by a block and a high jug handle and bridging to the top.

*D. Walsh, J. Leonard 11/05/75*

**Skipper Curran's Corner HS 4a 18m**

The dark and obvious corner below the top overhang above and to the right of The Wreck of the Hesperus. From good ledge belay climb directly up corner groove which arcs at 5m. Make a delicate step to good handholds and continue left to top and belay.

*J. McKenzie, D. Blake 05/06/76*

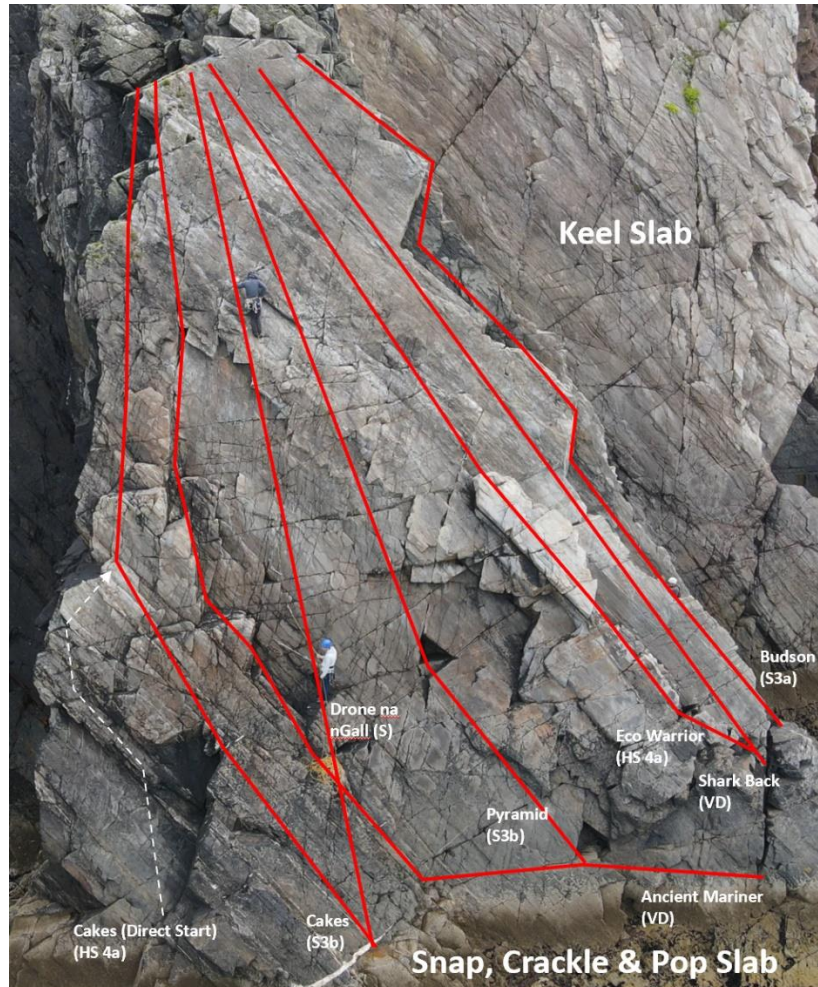
**Castaway S 4a 24m**

About 15m to the right of Skipper Curran's Corner the obvious cleft on the dark side (north) of the next promontory which can be reached at low water from the bay area. Belay at the foot of the cleft and climb the steep cleft above, bridging between good holds on the right and friction on the left. Excellent protection throughout. Small amount of dubious rock near the top.

*D. Walsh, J. Leonard 10/05/7*

## Snap, Crackle & Pop Slab

This is the main slab on the promontory just north of Keel slab and the Blowhole. Walking south from the Watch Tower until a fence has to be crossed. This is the top of the slab. Abseil stakes are usually in place. As always, any in-situ anchors must always be checked before use. Routes start from ledges (higher tides can mean starting on higher ledges) accessed by abseil.



Cakes S 3b 30m

Climbs the extreme left arete (looking inland from the sea) of the "Snap Crackle Pop" slab. Abseil descent to ledges just below the high tide mark from mid to low tide but a higher ledge start is possible if climbing in higher tides or bouncy seas. Route follows the left hand edge of the face. A HS Direct start is possible at low tide, dropping on to a low ledge and climbing the corner below the arete to gain it via a strenuous pull.

*W Poots, D Aherne 03/06/2022*

Drone na nGall S 3b 15m

Start as for 'Cakes'. The line is about 5m from the left hand arete of the wall, aim for jagged overlap and pass this at the square cut-out heading straight to the top. Pleasant climbing, small gear in slanting cracks.

*O'Conghaile, D. McBride 12/07/2022*

Pyramid S 3b 27m.



Starts at the lower of two distinctive Pyramid shaped recesses. Climb to the second and then directly to top

*W Poots, G Poots Jul/2021*

**Ancient Mariner V.Diff 30m**

Ancient Mariner starts with Traverse left across the bottom of the promontory slabs for about 10m to reach a higher ledge below the slab above. The route takes a line from here to finish on the north side of the promontory a few metres from Castaway, by following a small corner crack on the left side.

*J. Leonard, G. Barrett 08/05/79*

**Shark Back V.Diff 23m**

This route follows a line up the slabs on the south side of the promontory.

*B. Proctor, S.R. Young 31/03/75*

**Eco-Warrior HS 4a 23m**

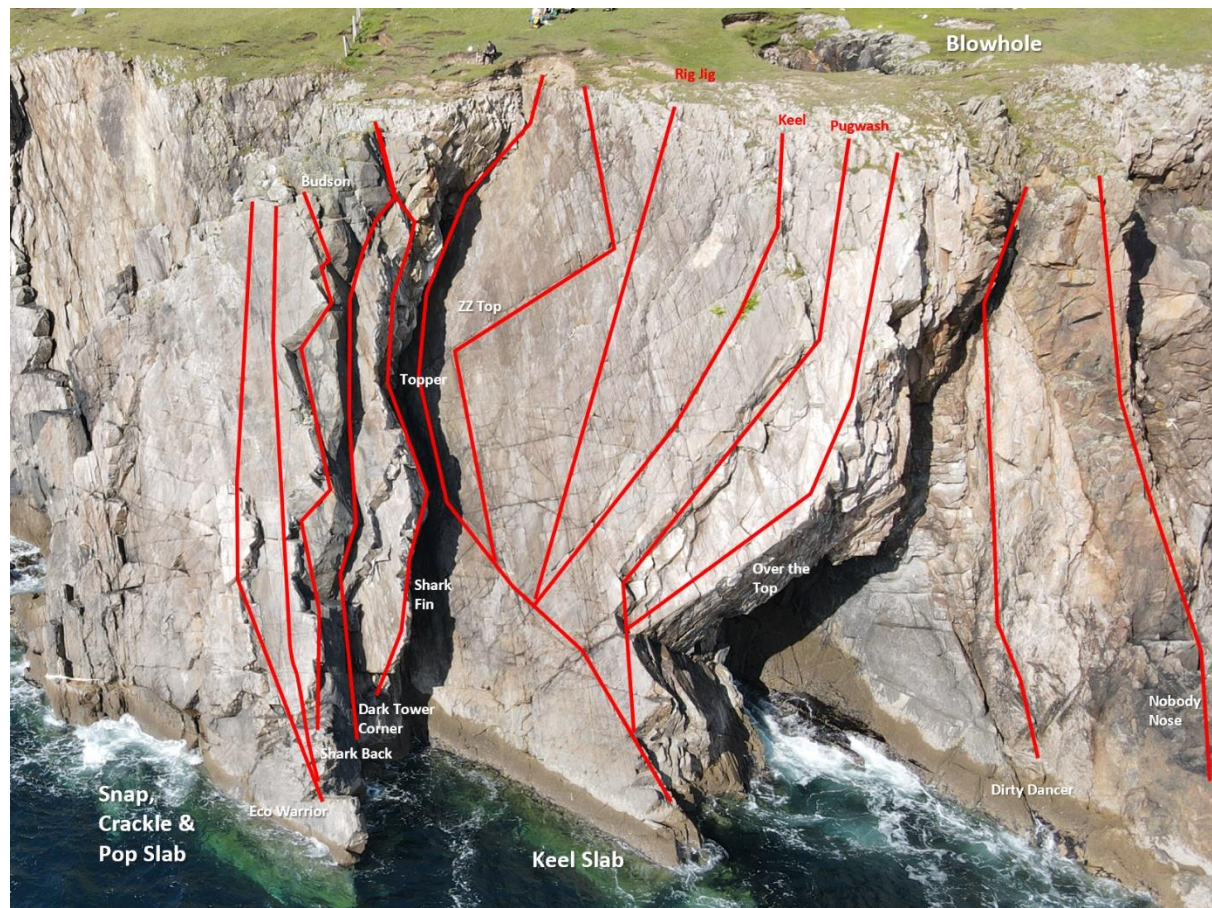
Abseil directly down to obvious ledge above the high -water mark. A short traverse 3m left to reach a small vertical corner/overlap. Up to the top of this and ledge. Climb the slab directly and slightly right on thin holds and thin gear (micro cams useful).

*W. Poots, G Poots 10/07/21*

**Budson S 3a 23m**

Abseil directly down to obvious ledge above the high -water mark. Climb directly up the edge of the rib above and follow to an obvious left to right overhang. Pass this on the right and then follow the zig-zag rib to the top.

*W. Poots, G Poots, C Shiels 10/07/21*





### Dark Tower Corner V.Diff 23m \*

Abseil directly down to obvious ledge above the high -water mark. Climb 2m up from belay, then right to gain the large Black open book corner. Climb this with great holds and gear to the top and exit via a groove shared by Sharks fin, or for more entertainment, around into the groove to the right.

*W. Poots, C Shiels 10/07/21*

### Shark's Fin S 23m \*

Traverse slightly right round the corner and belay at the black band. Descend and cross below the black band overhang and onto the smooth slab. Step onto the right edge and follow this to finish up some dark rock.

*S.R. Young, B. Proctor 31/03/75*

## Keel Slab

The following seven routes all start from the ledge above the high tide mark at the far right of the slab which is reached by abseil. Abseil down to good ledge just above high water at the right-hand side of the slab. Abseil stakes of a "vintage" are usually available. As always, any in-situ anchors should be checked before use.

### Topper HS 4b 40m

Traverse left from Rig Jig to the base of a chimney. Bridge up the chimney to 4m before an overhang, climb rightwards and up onto the slab for 3m. Swing right onto obvious overhanging block on good holds. Pull round left and climb left on rust-coloured rock to the top.

*J. Hume, D. Hanna 06/04/86*

### ZZ Top S 4a 40m

Climb down slightly onto a fault line. Follow this up and left for 15m to where it ends. Climb the overlap veering right for 10m to a good stance. Follow a leftward trending crack to complete. Finish at loose rock at the left-hand corner of the slab.

*D. Hanna, B. Mallon, M. McRoberts 07/04/86*

### Rig Jig S 23m

From the belay ledge traverse left to the centre of the slab. Climb directly to the top via the bulging smooth section at mid-height.

*S.R. Young, B. Proctor 31/03/75*

### Lazy, Hazy, Crazy Sunshine Days V.Diff 35m

Climb up as for Keel. Where the crack widens, trend right, follow the slab up left for 5m. Exit easily straight up.

*B. Mallon, D. Hanna, M. McRoberts 07/04/86*

### Keel V.Diff 23m

From the belay follow the obvious crack line near the right-hand edge of the slab.

*B. Proctor, S.R. Young 31/03/75*

### Pugwash V. Diff 24m

Climb the tilted groove to the right of the belay to the right edge of the slab. Follow this edge, which overhangs the cave and gives fine positions, to the top.

*M. Curran, D. Loughrey 27/05/75*

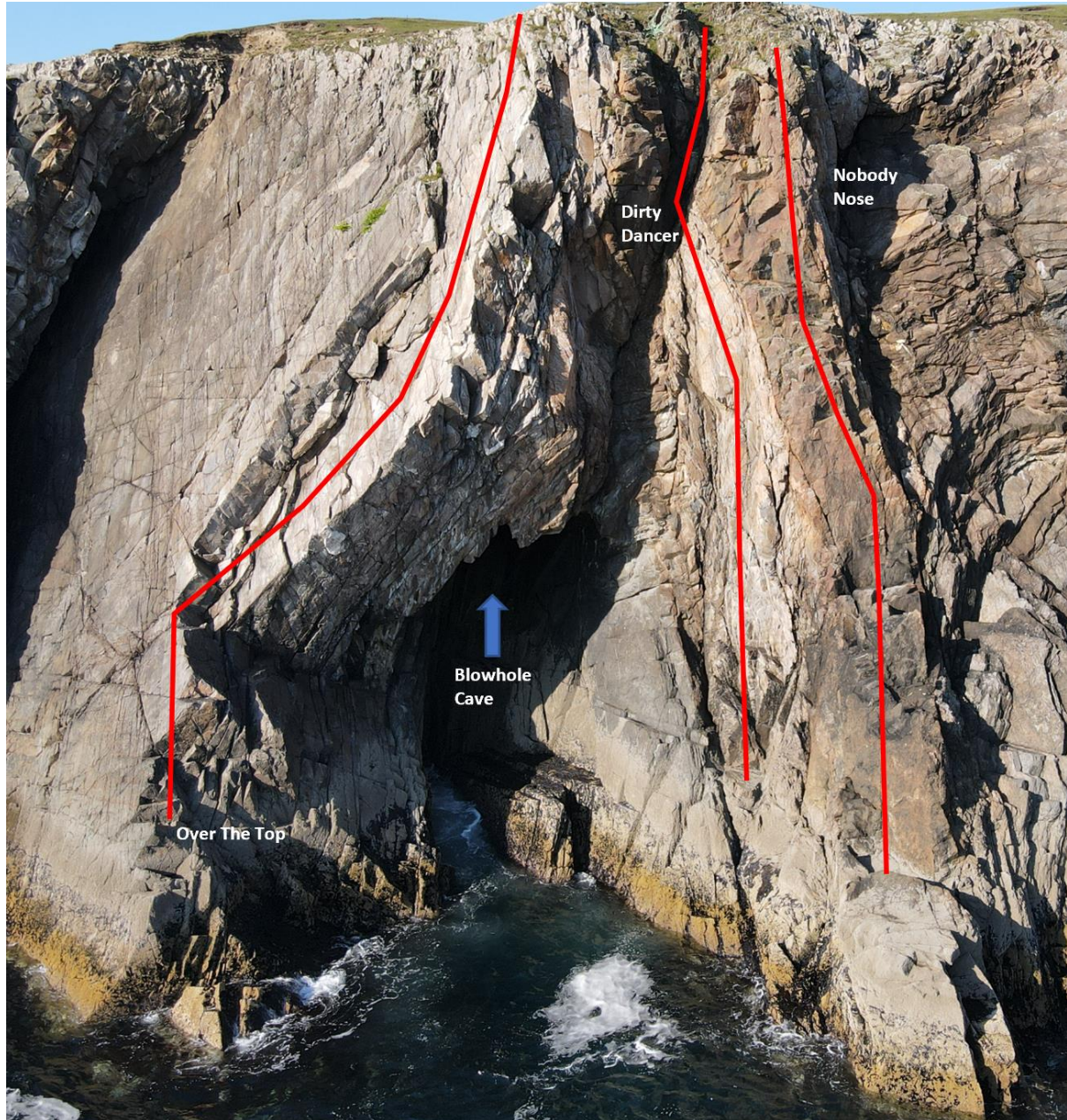
### Over the Top VS 35m

Climb the outside edge of the ramp. From the right-hand corner of the ramp step back right onto a ledge above a cave. Step right and surmount overhangs on good holds. Go into small recesses and step right awkwardly and climb the bulge with difficulty (crux). Continue up and exit left.

*B. Mallon, D. Hanna 07/04/86*

## Blowhole

Just beyond Keel slab, to the south are two lines that form the end of the south end. Reached by Abseil into ledges at the base. There are usually some fixed anchors in the slab to the rear and south side of the blowhole. As always, any fixed anchors should always be checked before use.



Dirty Dancer HS 4a/b 23m \*

Abseil directly down the route to enjoy the situation. Great belay ledge just above high water beside the cave. Climb directly up fantastic white steep rock, passing a small overhang and then into the groove above. Steep and all about footwork. Gear is all there.

*W. Poots, C Shiels 16/07/21*

Nobody Nose HS 4a 25m

Abseil into a great ledge just at high water at the foot of a short reddish wall. Easily climb the crack in the wall to a set of ledges at 7m and then up to the base of a blunt arete. Climb the arete directly with



less than ideal gear at the top but great rock (despite how it looks).

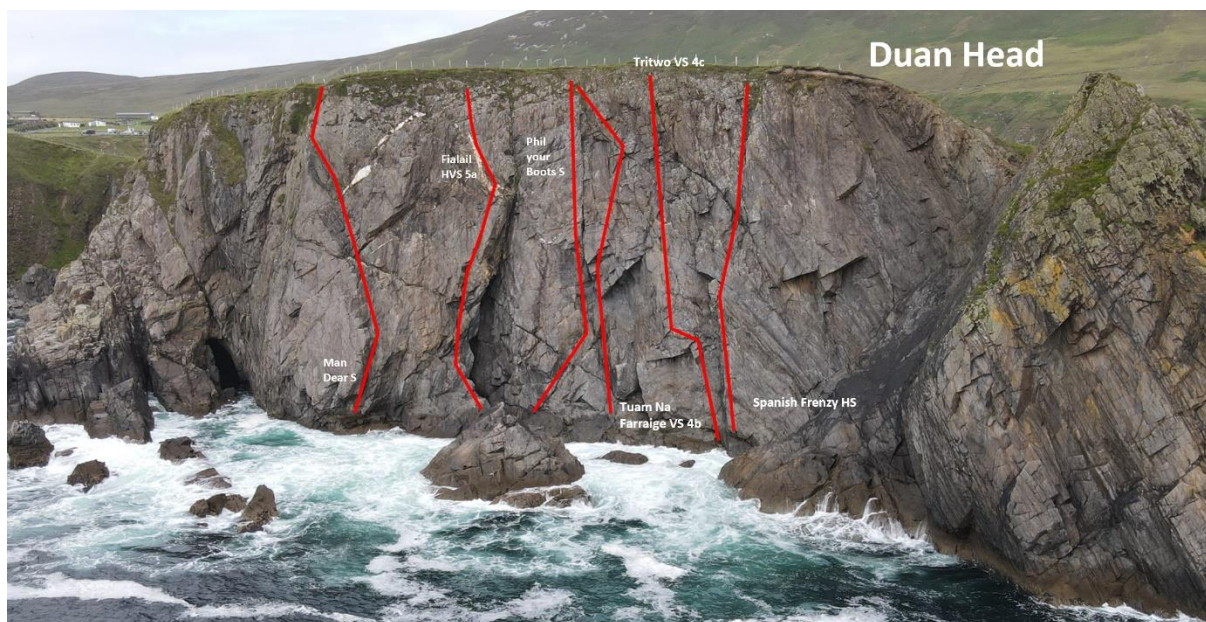
*W. Poots, C Shiels 16/07/21*

If the cliff is followed from the South End in the direction of the harbour, there is a long finger of land pointing south and forming a long narrow inlet. There are a number of possibilities for long easy routes on the walls and crest of this rib.

## Duan Head

Directions: Looking out to sea from the harbour there is a long rocky coastline culminating in Duan Head - the promontory separating the harbour and the Silver Strand. The initial rocky coastline is generally low, broken and in general quite loose. Many short routes have been done but it is not thought worth recording exact details. The best potential of this section lies in sea level traverses, and bouldering here on a hot summers day can be very enjoyable. On Duan Head, the climbing is much more serious. The routes are the longest to be found in the Malin Beg area but unfortunately marred by an area of poor rock at the top of the crag. Descent is made by an abseil from stakes (not insitu) to a large platform during low to mid tide. The easiest access to Duan Head is to follow the cliff tops from the Silver Strand beach car park.

Map ref: G496795



Man Dear S 55m

Start: At the first obvious corner at far left of the wave cut platform next to the big overhang at high water mark.

- 1) 10m Climb the corner and exit to belay on the left.
- 2) 45m Up and trend left to the bottom of a very steep corner. Left again to a ramp corner and up to very bad mud and rock to the top.

*P. Hall, T. Fogg 21/06/81*

Fialail HVS 5a 50m

Start: Route takes the obvious hanging ramp on the left wall of the zawn on the left-hand side of the crag.

- 1) 30m (5a) Up some blocks and make some awkward moves to gain the ramp. Climb this ramp until a few exposed layback moves lead to a belay ledge.



2) 20m Up the ledges for 3m. Traverse right and up on quartz holds. Straight up to the top on increasingly doubtful rock.

*P. Holmes, T. Fogg 1982*

Phil Your Boots S 50m

Start: At the obvious delta groove with overhangs above.

1) 42m Climb the ramp on the left edge of the delta, i.e., trending right. Move left up steeper ground to gain bigger ledges and belay after 15m.

2) 8m Straight up to the top on loosening ground.

*T. Fogg, P. Hall 21/06/81*

Tuam Na Farraige VS 4b 50m

Start: On the right edge of the delta groove mentioned above.

1) 40m Trend right, then left to gain the overhang at the foot of the delta. Climb this and two more to gain a groove. Move right to an easier groove and belay.

2) 10m Up left to join Phil Your Boots and finish.

*T. Fogg, P. Hall 21/06/81*

Tritwo VS 4c 55m

Start: 6m right of Tuam Na Farraige.

1) 25m Up a thin crack in left of a corner. Climb to the overhangs and turn them to the left by a worrying move or two to gain a ledge. Rising traverse left to belay ledge.

2) 30m Up to a scoop then slightly left of a grass filled groove on friable rock to the top.

*K. Quinn, T. Fogg 29/07/81*

Spanish Frenzy HS 50m

Start: At the right-hand side of the crag at the corner.

1) 40m Climb the corner finger crack, bridging at the steepest section (crux). Easier to belay on a ledge with a big spike.

2) 10m Rightish to the top on easy but loose ground.

*K. Quinn, T. Fogg 1981*

## Rathlin O'Byrne

Directions: Rathlin O'Byrne SW3 This is an island situated about 2.5km off the coast from Malin Beg, and is a familiar sight to most who climb there (it is the one with the lighthouse). From Malin Beg it appears to be a large mound of grass and rock rising out of the sea about 2.5km away. It is, but surprisingly is not completely uninteresting from the rock-climber's point of view. The island is divided by two chasms, plus another sizeable zawn, all with virgin rock similar to that on Malin Beg. The following routes were done on the east-facing side of the second chasm. Approach from Malin Beg harbour by sea kayak. There is a considerable number of unclimbed lines here of all grades. , Descent is by abseil from a rocky pinnacle left of the finish of Footsteps In the Sand (see below)

Map ref: 490795

Footsteps in the Sand VS 4c 21m \*

Left of Robinson Crusoe (see below) is an obvious corner leading to the top of the crag. The route follows the obvious slab and corner. Small wires can be placed in the corner, and the crux is at two-thirds height. A good route.

*G. Walker, J. Sheilds 13/07/90*

The Bluffer Diff 12m

Climb the obvious deep chimney three metres to the left of the previous route.

*C. Shannon, G. Henry 25/07/00*

Robinson Crusoe V. Diff 20m

Start just right of an undercut arete. Move up on good holds to a small ledge. Step up and trend right to a short wall. Finish up this to a belay boulder about 6m back.

*J. Shields, G. Walker 13/07/90*

Swiss Family Robinson S 4A

Start a few metres right of Robinson Crusoe at the edge of cleaner rock. Easily up-flat holds to the ledge on Robinson Crusoe. Step up and left to a shallow groove. Continue at a shallower angle to the top.

*G. Walker*

Man Friday VS 4C 15m \*

This route takes the obvious corner and slab to the right with a small overhang on one-third height. Go up the corner with good protection, surmount the overhang (crux) using a small hold on the left, and onto easier ground up the bulging wall. From here make an exposed but enjoyable hand traverse left to a possible hanging belay below a short wall which is climbed to finish. Belay at the boulder 6m back. A good route.

*G. Walker, J. Shields 13/07/90*

Spot the Dog HVS 5a 17m

The route starts 6m right of Man Friday up an obvious groove. Climb a rough line steeply to a horizontal break at half height. Enter the groove using small holds on the left wall (crux) and continue more easily above this to a ledge. A belay is best taken on the ledge just below the top. (Poorly protected).

*G. Walker, J. Shields 13/07/90*

D A Fruits HS 15m

The next five routes listed are all north of the lighthouse, just below the high wall. Abseil onto good ledges using the wall as an anchor. Climb the arete at the end of the inlet, below the corner of the wall. Climb left side of arete until it is possible to gain the arete proper. Climb to ledge beneath THE steep head wall. Make airy moves (crux) to the top.

*G. Henry, C. Shannon 25/07/00*

First of Many HS 15m

3m to the left of the arete, looking up. Climb up black wall into alcove. Surmount overhang using good holds above.

*C. Shannon, G. Henry 25/07/00*

Thanks to Pintail HS 15m

5m to the left of arete. First right gaining corner with overhang at half height. Climb corner to overhang and ascend ramp above

*G. Henry, C. Shannon 25/07/00*

One Before Dinner V.Diff 12m

Next right gaining corner split by two overhangs. climb corner.

*G. Henry, C. Shannon 25/07/00*



## Disclaimer

This guidebook is intended for information purposes only, it is not an instruction manual. This free guidebook is for the use of experienced outdoor climbers to make their own judgement calls as to what is and where is safe to climb on any given day.

Whilst every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the information contained within this guidebook at the time of writing, it alas cannot be guaranteed to be completely accurate. Many of the routes, locations and even some of the islands in these guidebooks are seldom visited, with a considerable amount of the routes having only ever been climbed once before.

The west coast and islands of Donegal are very exposed to the Atlantic Ocean swells brought by the ever present trade winds. A good working knowledge of such nautical matters is essential to ensure safe practice whilst visiting and climbing on remote and very exposed sea cliffs and stacks.

Rock climbing is an activity with a very real danger of personal injury or death. Participants in these activities must employ appropriate levels of mountaineering / rock climbing guile and common sense. Participants must take personal responsibilities for their actions and involvement in these activities at all times.

In Ireland all land is owned by someone, the inclusion of a location in this book does not mean we have the right of access or the right to climb there. Please respect the rights of the landowner and we can continue to visit these beautiful places.