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EDEN VALLEY

Jackdaw Scar - King's Meaburn

King's Meaburn will be included in the next FRCC Eastern Crags guide (due 2008)

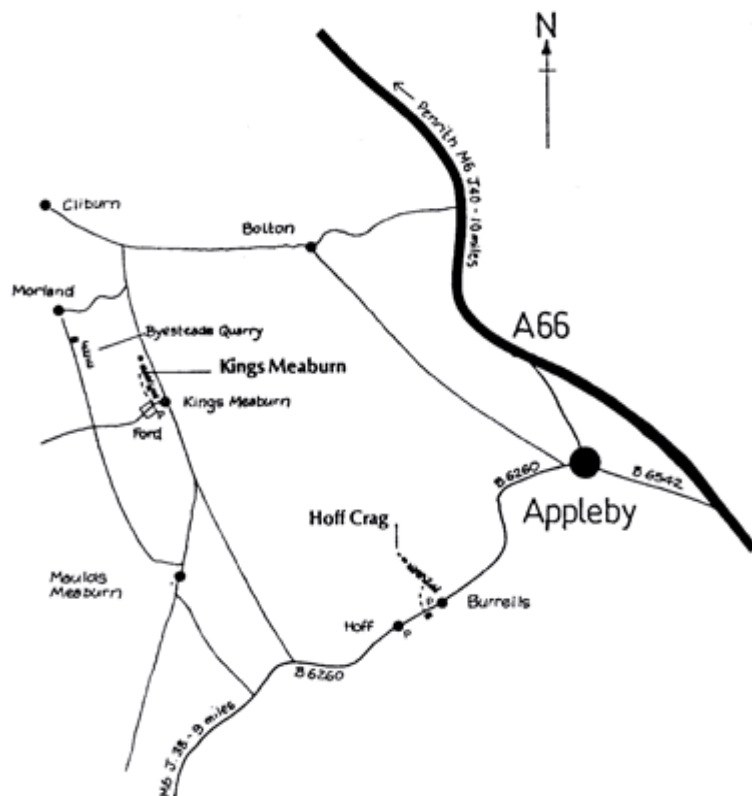
Interim Guide
by Ron Kenyon



FELL and ROCK
CLIMBING CLUB
of the
English Lake District

This outcrop of variable quality carboniferous limestone atop a band of soft sandstone is situated just west of the village of King's Meaburn. It has an idyllic location facing west above the River Lyvennet.

The crag comprises of a series of bays forming a continuous wall of limestone. It is sheltered by a number of trees, and, with its sunny location, often enables good climbing during the winter. The rock is generally good, however care should be taken with the brittle edges and sometimes lichenous nature of parts of the crag.



Descents can be made by either abseil from the many trees on the top, with use of a sling on the tree to abseil from, or else by descending a path at the left of the crag.

Care should taken with the fence at the top of the crag and the field behind the crag should not be used.

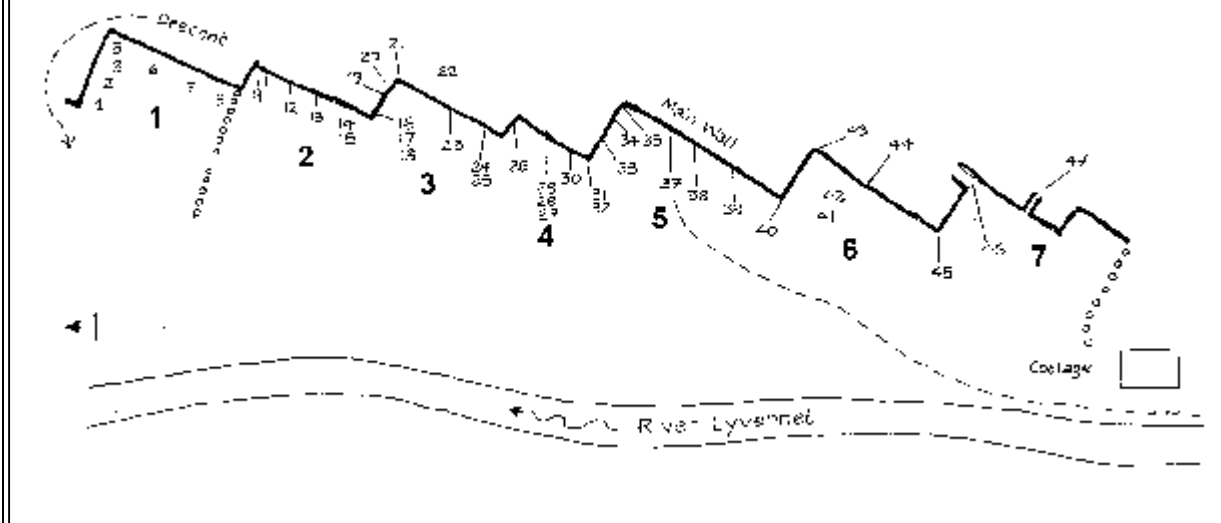
Kings Meaburn is in the middle of the Penrith, Appleby and Shap triangle and can be approached by the various country roads weaving around here. In the village, just to the south of the White Horse Inn, a road drops down westwards to a ford, with a footbridge, over the River Lyvennet. The crag is visible to the right above and left of cottages. Park here on the roadside. Follow a path in front of the cottages and then up to the crag to arrive at the Fifth Bay at a massive beech tree.

Restrictions

- No educational groups, except army groups, are allowed to climb at the crag.
- Parking is not allowed in front of the cottages or obstructing the road to the cottages.
- Approaches for toilets, water or other facilities to the inhabitants of the cottages should not be made.
- Climbing is not allowed to the right of the drystone wall, above the cottages.
- No excessive noise.

The routes are described from left to right starting at the *First Bay*, which is reached by walking along the base of the crag and passing through an old gateway in a stone wall.

It is hoped to add photo topos to this page soon - meanwhile these diagrams are courtesy of Stew Wilson.



Left of the First Bay

Thirty eight metres left of the *First Bay*, past several corners, a crack springs from the apex of a scooped cave. This is **Scoop Crack** (HVS 5a, 2007); a pumpy little number, with a step left to reach the top!

Six metres right of *Scoop Crack* is an obvious corner, **Near Tree Corner** (S), which is climbed to a rightwards exit at the top.

Scoota 6m HS 2007

3 metres right of *Near Tree Corner* is an attractive shallow groove.

(4b). Climb it; with more difficulty than is apparent!

BJ Clarke (solo), 17th Nov 2007

Huggable 6m VS 2007

(4c). Takes the fine arete one metre right of *Scoota* to a thought-provoking finish.

BJ Clarke (solo), 25th Nov 2007

A further 4 metres right is an easier corner, **Falling Leafs** (VD). The off-width cleft 3 metres right is mercifully short, **Wriggletto** (VD), limb it, (the Butterfly stroke seems best), although two internal holds help.

All BJ Clarke (solo), 4th Nov 2007

Twenty metres left of the *First Bay*, and at the far side of the descent path, a fortuitous tree fall has exposed a 6 metre high wall. The first and most prominent arete is **D'apple Arete** (S, 2007).

Both BJ Clarke (solo), 2nd August 2007

3 metres right of *D'apple Arete*, the niche and thin crack above give an awkward little climb, **Shrinking Crack** (5m, S 4a, 2008).

BJ Clarke (solo) 9th March 2008

First Bay

This consists of two walls at right angles. The right wall, after the demise of a large tree in its centre, gives some clean and interesting routes.

1 **Tree Chimney** 6m D

Climb the chimney, on the left wall, behind a tree.

2 * **First Wall Eliminate** 6m HVS

(5c). Start below a narrow pillar, just right of the chimney, and climb the pillar without resorting to holds on the adjoining cracks.

3 **Owl Crack** 6m M

Climb the obvious crack in the centre of the left wall.

4 **Twist and Shout** 6m MVS

(4b). Start immediately left of the corner and climb the thin crack, which slants up left.

5 * **TD Corner** 8m M (Tim Dale, 1973)

The corner of the bay is climbed on good hold. Beware of loose rock at the top.

Puss in Boots 20m HVS 2008

An exceedingly fine rising traverse across the *Ivy Crack* wall. Mainly straightforward climbing, but with two bold, serious sections. Start at the foot of *TD Corner*.

(5a). Climb the corner for 3 metres, then foot traverse the obvious ledge rightwards, past an awkward section, until an ascent up and right leads to the ledge below the finishing crack of *Smiling Through*. With hands on the rounded, but dimpley break, traverse horizontally right to within 2 metres of the right arete of the wall. Climb the wall above, finishing rightwards.

BJ Clarke, Tanya Coates, 1st March 2008

Ten Years After 8m E2 (Karl Lunt, Mick King, 26th October 1997)

(5a). Start one metre right of *TD Corner*. Climb the wall past a horizontal slot (gear) to better holds, on the right, then finish just left of the huge tree at the top.

This climb was also claimed as *Treebeard* by Paul Simpson in 2003.

Phallacy 8m E2 (Andy Margerison, Ian Lewis, May 1993)

A variation on *Phal* - seems like *Ten Years After*. Start directly below the finish line at a slight break in the overhang.

(5b/5c). Climb on to the first ledge and using a small two finger pull-up, climb round the overhang using the ledge at 2m. Climb onto the ledge and follow *Phal* to the top.

6 ** **Phall** 8m E1 (Phil Rigby, 1974)

(5b). A delicate wall climb without any protection. Start 3 metres right of *TD Corner* and climb gymnastically to a small ledge. Continue up and rightwards to finish on the right of the huge tree.

Phall Direct 8m E2

Start 4 metres right of *TD Corner* and climb to gain *Phall* and finish up this.

Smiling Through 10m E1 (Barry Clarke, Jane Metcalfe, Mick Bromley, 9th September 2004)

Fine wall climbing between *Phall* and *Ivy Crack*, but with a serious start. Start one metre right of *Phall* at a short-lived crack.

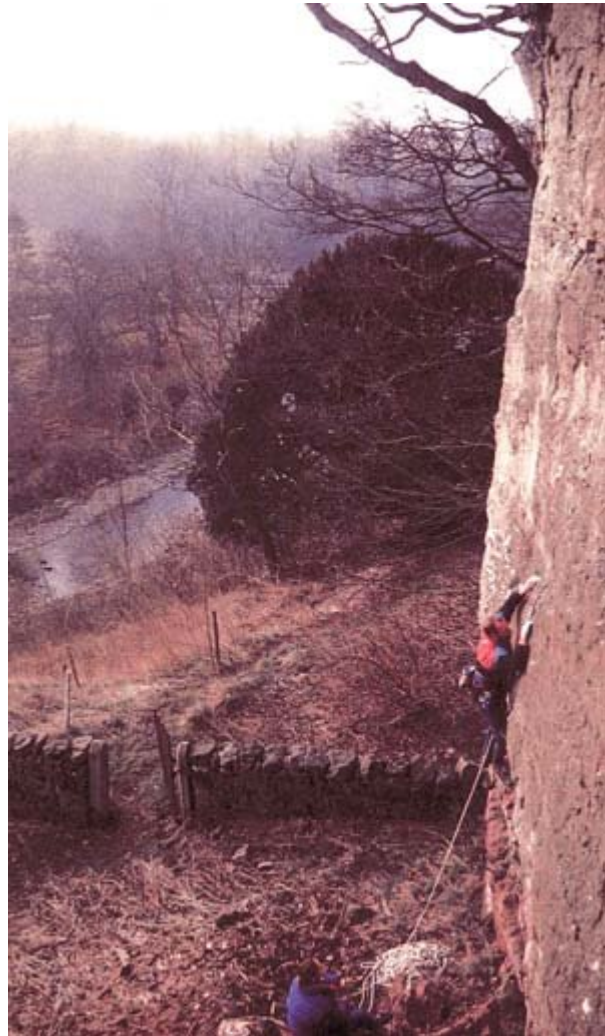
(5a). Follow the crack, then traverse right and up to a ledge. Step right and finish up the loosish but well-protected crack.

7 ** **Ivy Crack** 8m E1

Crack 3 metres left of drystone wall.

(5b). Now transformed enormously since the demise of a large tree at the base of the crack. Hard moves gain and overcome the crack. Continue awkwardly, slightly leftwards, to maintain interest to the top.

8 * **Maid Marian's Way** 8m E3 (Pete Whillance, 1975)
(5b). A very bold route starting just right of *Ivy Crack* climbing the wall direct, passing just left of the patch of rippled calcite, to gain better holds at the top.



Dave Wilson on **Ivy Crack** (E1)

** **Raindance** 8m E3 (Chris King, Ron Kenyon, 5th October 2002)
(5c). This takes the apparently blank wall right of *Maid Marian's Way*, but contains some surprisingly good gear placements. Layback the initial overlap to gain the wall. Move up and slightly rightwards.

Second Bay

This is to the right of the drystone wall, where a huge, three-stemmed sycamore grows out of a ledge 2 metres up the right wall.

9 * **Trilogy** 9m E3 (Jeff Lamb 1975 (with runner in tree). Without tree runner, but with side runners in Liang Shan Po, Karl Lunt, Andy Williamson, 8th April 1989)
(5c). A sustained climb with runners in *Liang Shan Po*. Start just right of where the drystone wall meets the crag. Climb bulging rock, to reach a rightward-slanting crack. Pull onto the wall immediately left of this, then climb directly to an overlap. Move left with difficulty into a short corner, just right of the arete, and finish up this.

10 **Liang Shan Po** 9m HVS (Ron Kenyon, Alan Stark, 1975)
Start as for *Trilogy* then follow the rightward-slanting crack, without straying into *Slipway*. The overhang at the top is the crux !

11 * **Slipway** 9m HS (Ron Kenyon, Ray Parker, Al Stark, 19th October 1975)
Start at the gnarled boss of roots below a fine, steep corner. Climb up the sandstone band and follow the corner moving right at the top to finish up a short wall

12 ** **Bay Rum** 9m VD (Ron Kenyon, 1974)

A good climb for its grade. Gain the ledge behind the three-stemmed sycamore and climb the easy-angled corner leftwards to a steep finish

Shining Through 11m E1 (Barry Clarke, Ben Ledsom, 16th August 2005)

A fine, fingery exercise directly up the *Nightride Wall*, with an unprotected crux at 4 metres. (5c). Climb the centre of the wall to reach the finishing flake.

13 **Nightride** 9m VS (Ron Kenyon, 1974)

(4c). Climb the wall, just right of the corner of *Bay Rum*. Move right to a small tree then leftwards on doubtful flakes to finish

14 * **Ged** 9m MVS (Ron Kenyon, 1974)

(4c). Start 3 metres right of the three-stemmed sycamore. Overcome the sandstone base and continue up the cracked wall above.

15 **Double Jeopardy** 9m HVS (Karl Lunt (solo), 26th November 1988)

(5a). Start as for *Ged* then climb, carefully, up and rightwards over two, big jammed blocks. Finish directly up the wall above.

Third Bay

This is behind a huge yew tree.

16 * **Steph** 9m MVS (Al Hewison, Ron Kenyon, 1974)

(4b). A one move crux, but nevertheless a good climb. Start on the ledge 2 metres right of the arete. A short, undercut groove provides a difficult start, then move up easily and follow the crack in the arete.

17 **Crabstack** 9m VS

(4b). Start as for *Steph* up the crucial groove, then move right and finish up the steep crack above.

18 **Tove Wall** 9m MVS (FA Ray Parker, Ron Kenyon, 19.6.1975)

Start on the ledge by a large thorn bush, right of *Steph*. Climb the steep crack to the right of the thorn passing a small ledge.

* **Borderliner** 9m E3 (Chris King, Michael Kenyon, Ron Kenyon, 19th October 2003)

(5c). This route takes the pillar between *Tove Wall* and *Rune Wall* - without using the cracks of these routes. Thin moves above the initial overlap gain a horizontal crack - opeg on the right. Move up left then right to gain a good flake crack. Continue past a tree to an awkward finish.

19 **Rune Wall** 9m HS (Ron Kenyon, Ray Parker, 19th June 1975)

(4a). A small thorn bush grows out of the base of a wide crack. Pass the bush and continue up the crack, past a wedged block and a tree.

20 * **Headmaster Ritual** 9m E3 (Karl Lunt (unseconded), 7th June 1988)

(6a). A bold, fingery climb needing small wires. Between *Rune Wall* and the corner of the bay is a tapering pillar. Starting up a very thin crack climb the pillar to reach better holds near the top.

21 * **Percy Throwup** 9m S (A Stark, D Bowen, 19th June 1975)

Start at the corner of the bay and climb the steep, twin cracks finishing either left or right.

22 **The Ring of Confidence** 9m E1 (Karl Lunt, Tom Phillips, 28th December 1988)

(5b). 6 metres right of *Percy Throwup* the sandstone base is undercut. Start just to the left of this and move rightwards above the overlap to gain the edge of the wall. Pass a thread, trending slightly leftwards, to finish up the wall above.

23 **Fast and Hideous** 9m HVS

(4c). Start 6 metres right of *Percy Throwup* and climb a steep crack, past a tree, to the bulge, Pull round this awkwardly to the right.

24 **Fickle Flake** 9m HVS

(4c). A steep and serious route starting 1.5 metres left of the right arete of the bay. Climb the sandstone base and surmount a bulge to gain the thin flake. Layback awkwardly, on doubtful holds, to the top

25 The Bulge 9m E1

Health warning with suspect rock! Poor protection and not recommended.

(4c). Start as for *Fickle Flake*, but move right below the bulge and onto the arete. Ascend this on good holds.

Fourth Bay

This is the small bay with the prominent rightward slanting flake crack of *The Flake*.

26 The Small Assassin 9m VS (Karl Lunt (solo), 26th November 1988)

(5b). On the left wall of the bay is a prominent crack with a tree at three quarters height. Overcome the sandstone band to gain the crack, which is followed by passing the tree on its left or climbing the wall on the right.

27 Bulging Crack 9m HS

(4b). Climb the crack at the back of the bay, just left of *The Flake* and finish up the corner at the top.

28 The Flange 9m VS (Karl Lunt (solo), 26th November 1988)

(4c). Start as for *Bulging Crack*, however at the first bulge, move right and climb the right edge of the large flake to the top.

29 ** The Flake 11m HS (Stew Miller, January 1974)

(4b). A popular route taking the obvious line of the great flake seen when arriving at the crag. Gain the base of the flake and move up rightwards awkwardly and continue with decreasing difficulty up the groove above.

30 Scarlet Lyvennet 11m MVS (Ron Kenyon, 1974)

(4b). Somewhat suspect rock on this route. Start right of *The Flake* and climb the wall over an arch-shaped overlap to a ledge. Move right and finish at the top of the arete.

31 * Babel Towers 12m HS (Ron Kenyon, Ray Parker, 19th June 1975)

(4c). Start at the base of the arete right of *The Flake* and climb this to gain a cracked groove. Continue up this then move left to finish as *The Flake*.

Just for Shirl 12m HS (Andy Margerison, May 1993)

(5a) Follow *Babel Towers* to the ledge (9 - 10m), but instead of moving left, go directly up the slight bulge using the corner of the bay wall to finish.

32 Bogey Arete 12m VS

(4c). Start as for *Babel Towers*, however instead of moving left at the top, finish up the arete on the right.

Fifth Bay

This is the main bay below which one arrives. The right wall is the most continuous stretch of rock.

*** Teenage Kicks** 12m HVS (Peter Simpson, 2003)

(5a). This take the righthand side of *Bogey Arete*. Start just left of *Kirsten Wall* or at the left arete. Ascend using a mixture of the wall, left of the crack on *Kirsten Wall*, and the arete to finish steeply up the arete.

Variation Finish E1 (Chris King, Michael Kenyon, Ron Kenyon, 19th October 2003)

(5b). A more difficult finish is to move right at the horizontal crack, just below the top, and climb the wall on widely spaced holds to finish.

33 ** Kirsten Wall 12m HS (Alan Stark, S Ely, 19 June 1975)

An impressive looking wall is not as hard as it look though it has a little sting in its tail.

(4b). Start 2 metres right of the left arete and climb an awkward corner. Ascend the fine crack above

then move rightwards to finish at a tree.

Blinkered Vision 11m HVS (Ron Kenyon, Alex Heron, 10th March 1996)

An eliminate taking the rock between *Kirsten Wall* and *Trundle Crack*. The cracks adjoining should not be used apart from a runner at the start on *Trundle Crack*.

(5b). Start at the base of *Trundle Crack* from where fingery climbing leads to a rest at mid-height, Continue to the top with interest.

34 **Trundle Crack** 11m HS (Ron Kenyon, R Parker, M Sheldon, 19th June 1975)

(4a). Gain the ledge at the back of the bay and climb the crack to the left of *Leaning Crack*.

35 **Leaning Crack** 11m HS (Ron Kenyon, 1974)

(4a). Gain the ledge at the back of the bay and climb the corner crack.

36 * **Havnor** 11m VS (Ron Kenyon, R Parker, M Sheldon, 19th June 1975)

Often overlooked but worth doing with excellent rock.

(5a). Start on the ledge at the back of the bay behind the tree, just right of *Leaning Crack*. Climb the wall above trying not to use the tree.

** **Celadon** 14m E2 (Karl Lunt

(unseeded), 26th October 1997)

(5c). Start just left of *Marik*. Climb up to the large tree on the ledge. Surmount the bulge continuing in a direct line up the wall about 1metre left of *Marik*. Sustained but well protected and on good rock.

37 ** **Marik** 14m HVS FA (John Simpson, Dennis Hodgson, John Workman (with aid), FFA Ron Kenyon, 1974)

(5a). A superb climb, unfortunately getting polished now due to its popularity. Start below an obvious crack just right of the ledge at the back of the bay. Overcome the sandstone base and attain the crack (good gear) and climb this to a resting place. Finish either directly or easily moving right then back left again, just below the top.

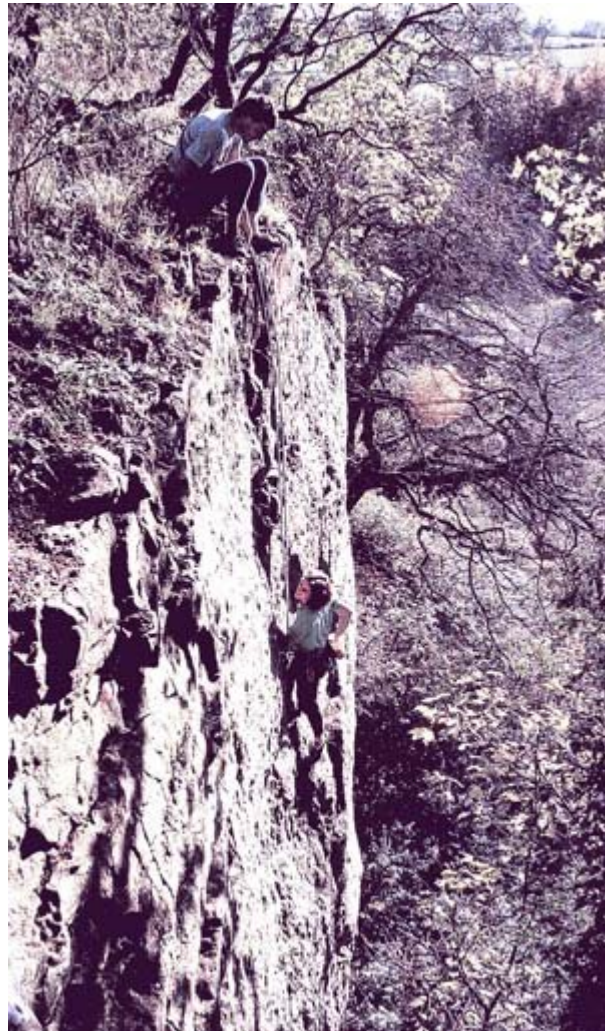
38 **The Windeye** (Paul Carling, 1980s)

This once superb wall climbed the overhang and wall right of *Marik* at E3 (6a). However following the collapse of the sandstone base it has not yet been reascended. Good route waiting ?

39 **Gont** 14m E2 (Stew Wilson, Chris King, 1980s)

This route has similarly been affected by the collapse of the sandstone base. It originally climbed the centre of the overhang and the wall above on the right. The rock is not above suspicion.

(5b). The upper wall is now gained by climbing from the right and ascended to the top.



Andy and Caroline Fanshawe on **Marik** (HVS)

Photo: Ron Kenyon

40 **Windkey** 14m E3 (Karl Lunt, John Wilson, Stew Wilson, 20th June 1987)

The stability of the rock on this route has been affected by the collapse of the sandstone base. Strenuous and technical. Start at the foot of the right-hand arete.

(6a). Climb the sandstone base to a ledge. Move up leftwards to a short, thin crack and climb this (crux) to better holds and the wall above.

Sixth Bay

This bay has a large beech tree growing on the path.

41 * **The Gebbeth** 14m E1 (Alan Beatty, 1974)

(5b). A steep climb just right of the left arete. Climb up to the roof. Pass this then continue up using discontinuous cracks to the top.

42 **Curvy Crack** 14m VS (Ron Kenyon, 1974)

(4b). Climb the curving crack to the left of the corner of the bay.

43 **Toolie Corner** 14m MVS (Ron Kenyon, 1974)

(4b). Climb the corner of the bay

44 **Something to Remember** (Ron Kenyon, 1974)

This route took the crack in the wall right of *Toolie Corner* at VS, but has now gone back to nature.

45 **Titus Alone** 12m Ungradeable (Originally top roped - soloed by J P de Rohan in wellies, 1981)

(5b). Health warning job - climb the right-hand arete.

Seventh Bay

This is the final section - do not go further right of the drystone wall to the area behind the cottages.

46 **Titus Groan** 12m E1

(5a). The obvious cleft - adventurous with the presence of several tons of "hanging death". Start in the corner of the bay and climb up the cleft. Using the right wall, bridge the left wall up to the overhang. Overcome the overhang and finish up the groove above.

Titus Again 12m HVS (Chris King, Steve Prior, Shaw Brown, 22nd April 2004)

This is the wall right of the cleft.

(5b) Move up steeply to gain the flake leading right to the arete, just above a large tree. Climb the arete moving left at the top.

47 **Flic-Flak Crack** 9m VS

(4c). Climb the wide crack, 6 metres right of *Titus Groan*.

48 * **Crippling Crack** 9m S

Climb the corner 3 metres right of *Flic-Flak Crack*.

King's Meaburn FIRST ASCENTS

1970s & 1980s

Details of climbing are very sketchy until about 1973, but prior to this J. Simpson, J. Workman and D. Hodgson climbed Marik, using aid.

A couple of visits by R. Kenyon, T. Dale, A. Beatty and P. Rigby renewed interest and in this period many of the climbs were recorded. Ron Kenyon was instrumental in the first free ascent of Marik, a fine plum to pick.

The Gebbeth was ascended on a top-rope by Alan Beatty. Beatty soon led this route which was something of a 'Horror Show' at the time on account of the loose rock. This phase of development soon led onto the blanker walls, when Phil Rigby contributed Phall and Pete Whillance showed up to claim Maid Marian Way.

The two fine lines of Gont and Windkey were popular top rope problems. Gont was first led by Stew Wilson and Chris King, unbeknown to one

another around the same period, not so Windkey.

Paul Carling was towed along to the crag by Stew Wilson and pointed at Windeye which he did in good style only to have mud thrown in his eye by certain locals who made the second ascent and placed a peg which Paul promptly removed.

Development in the latter part of the Eighties was entirely in the hands of Karl Lunt and friends. In June 1987, he solved a long-standing problem by leading the difficult Windkey in the company of John and Stewart Wilson.

One year later, Lunt led the Headmaster Ritual and in November 1988 several easier climbs were done after abseil cleaning, the best being Small Assassin. Three days before the end of the year, Lunt climbed The Ring of Confidence with Tom Phillips. In May 1989, Lunt accompanied by Andy Williamson led the old top rope problem, Trilogy but had to resort to side runners.

Early 1970's	Marik	(With some aid) John Simpson, Dennis Hodgson, John Workman. Free, Ron Kenyon 1974
1973	TD Corner	Tim Dale
1974	Phall	Phil Rigby
1974	Bay Rum	Ron Kenyon
1974	Jan The Flake	Stew Miller
1974	The Gebbeth	Alan Beatty
1974	Curvy Crack	Ron Kenyon
1974	Toolie Corner	Ron Kenyon
1974	Something to Remember	Ron Kenyon
1974	Scarlet Lyvennet	Ron Kenyon
1974	Nightride	Ron Kenyon
1974	Ged	Ron Kenyon
1974	Steph	Al Hewison, Ron Kenyon
1974	Rune Wall	Ron Kenyon, Al Hewison
1974	Kirsten Wall	Alan Stark
1974	Trundle Crack	Ron Kenyon
1974	Leaning Crack	Ron Kenyon
1975	Maid Marian's Way	Pete Whillance
1975	Liang Shan Po	Ron Kenyon, Alan Stark
1975	Trilogy	Jeff Lamb (with runner in tree). Without tree runner, but with side runners in Liang Shan Po, Karl Lunt, Andy Williamson, 8th April 1989
1980s	Gont	Stew Wilson, Chris King
	Windeye	Paul Carling
1981	Titus Alone	Originally top roped - soloed by J P de Rohan in wellies!
1988	Jun 7 Headmaster Ritual	Karl Lunt (unseconded)
1987	Jun 20 Windkey	Karl Lunt, John Wilson, Stew Wilson
1988	Nov 26 Double Jeopardy	Karl Lunt (solo)
	The Small Assassin	Karl Lunt (solo)

		The Flange	Karl Lunt (solo)
1988	Dec	28 The Ring of Confidence	Karl Lunt, Tom Phillips
1993	May	Phallacy	Andy Margerson, Ian Lewis
1993	May	Just for Shirl	Andy Margerson
1996	Mar	10 Blinkered Vision	Ron Kenyon, Alex Heron
1997	Jun	Arete right of Maid Marian Way	Barry Linsley
1997	Oct	26 Celadon	Karl Lunt (unseconded)
1997	Oct	26 Ten Years After	Karl Lunt, Mick King
2002	Oct	5 Raindance	Chris King, Ron Kenyon
2003		Teenage Kicks	Peter Simpson Variation Finish, Chris King, Michael Kenyon, Ron Kenyon 19th October 2003
2003	Oct	19 Borderliner	Chris King, Michael Kenyon, Ron Kenyon
2004	Apr	4 Titus Again	Chris King, Steve Prior, Shaw Brown
2004	Sep	4 Smiling Through	Barry Clarke, Jane Metcalfe, Mick Bromley
2005	Aug	16 Shining Through	Barry Clarke, Ben Ledson

First ascent details are required for the following:- Babel Towers, Bogey Arete, Bulging Crack, Crabstack, Crippling Crack, Fast and Hideous, Fickle Flake, First Wall Eliminate, Flic-Flak Crack, Havnor, Ivy Crack, Owl Crack, Percy Throwup, Slipway, The Bulge, Titus Groan, Tove Wall, Tree Chimney, Twist and Shout.

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