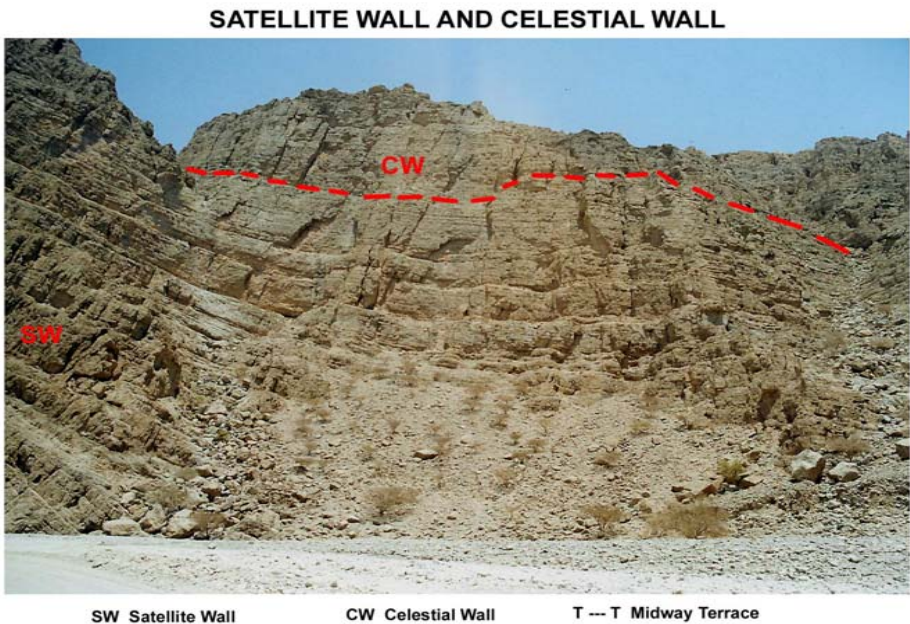


CENTRAL WADI BIH

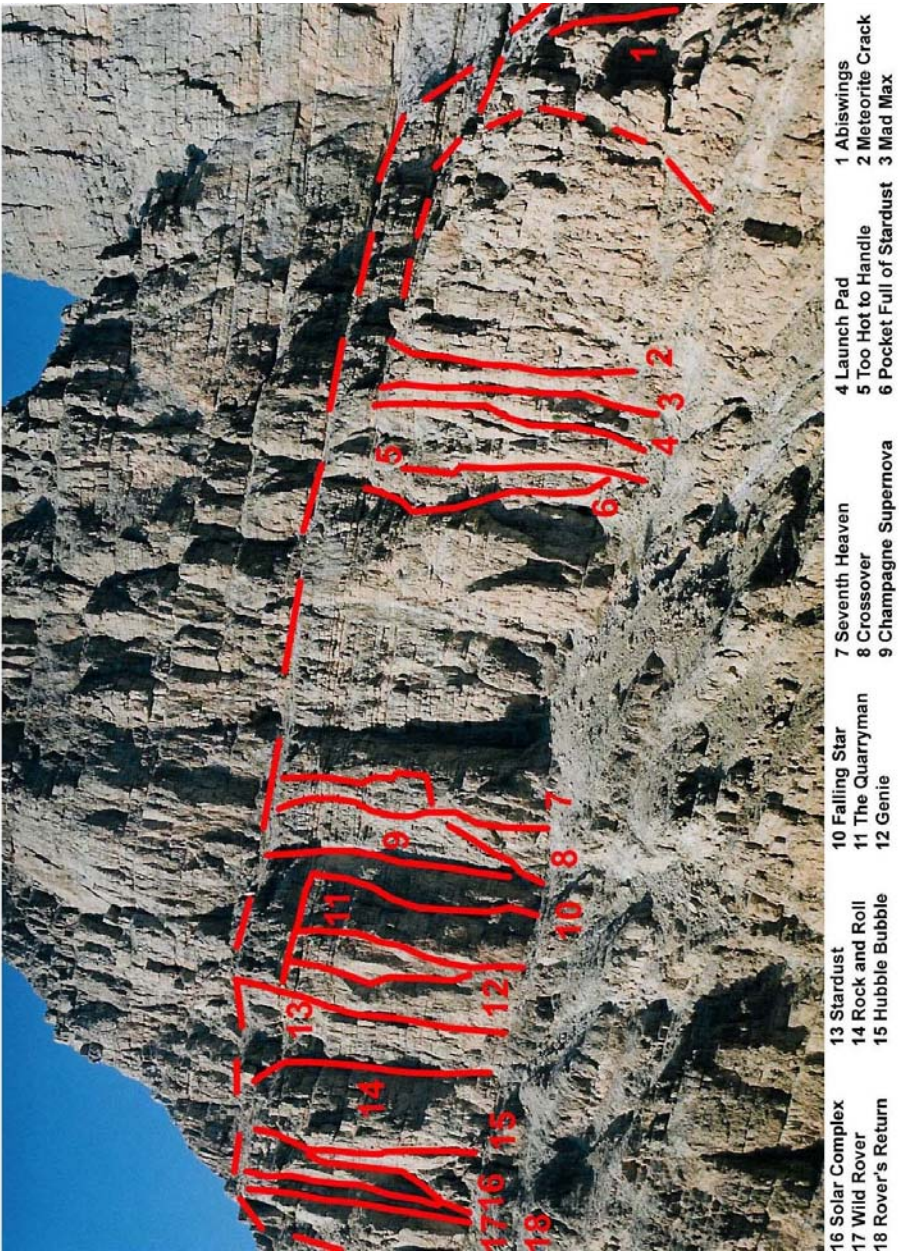
The next climbing areas are located deep in the wadi system. The tarmac road ends at the Wadi Al Bih Police Station (UAE) and border post - (document check) some 10 km beyond the entrance to Wadi Qada'a.



CELESTIAL WALL AREA

Approx. 3.5km beyond the police station, the track crosses the wadi bed and makes a sweeping curve rightwards. An inhabited settlement is in an elevated location to the right, and to the left, a broken buttress rises from the wadi bed, which offers few attractive lines. Above this broken buttress are a number of diagonal ledge systems, which offer access to the face above -- Satellite Wall. Further right, a boulder slope reaches to the wadi floor. Above this is the impressive face of Celestial Wall. To the right of Celestial Wall is a broad gully, which serves as a descent from the crags. A terrace cuts across the upper section of the wall, allowing shorter routes to be climbed either on Lower or Upper tiers, and also gives a fine alternative walking route to Jebel Yabana and the high pastures. Both crags generally face south, and receive a little shade. It is a testament to the dedication and endurance of John and Dee that a number of routes on these fine crags actually took place in mid April and Sept/Oct, when temperatures on the face were well into the 40's. Beyond the gully are a number of dwellings, guarding the entrance to Wadi Aini. This long and attractive wadi, contains several unexplored faces, and eventually leads to the high mountain village of Aini, and beyond to Jebel Yabana.

SATELLITE WALL



## **SATELLITE WALL**

Satellite Wall lies below and to the left of Celestial Wall. It is easily reached by a short steep walk, up a ramp line, to gain a terrace that runs below of the wall. The climbs are described from right to left, the normal direction of approach. The best descent for climbs on the left-hand end and central areas is to turn left up along the top ledge and then down a gully on the left to return directly to the start of the climbs. Alternatively it is possible to follow the same ledge to the right. This leads under part of Celestial Wall and back to the wadi floor. From the right-hand end there is a scramble down a gully on the right to the base of the wall or down ledges at the back to the wadi floor.

The first climb described is not on the main wall but on a short wall (with a bush) on the right just above the boulder filled gully that runs down from the left -hand end of Celestial Wall. 3 to 4 minutes walk from the parking area.

**ABISWINGS**                      **20m E3 6a**                      J.Gregory, Abi Williams 2001 Feb 23rd  
Climb the steep crack in the middle of the wall. The crack overhangs at the top, strenuous.

To the left, the first section of the main wall is broken and uninteresting.

Beyond this is the right-hand descent gully. Some 20 metres to the left of the gully is a crack that gives the first route on the main wall.

**METEORITE CRACK**                      **40m Sev ( Hard)**                      D.McEnery,J.Gregory 2001 Feb 8th  
The crack is deep and wide at the top with jammed blocks. Scramble up to the start.

1. 25m 4a . Climb the crack to an overhang, round this and up to a belay in a recess.
2. 15m . Continue more easily through the jammed blocks at the top.

**MAD MAX**                      **45m VS**                      J.Gregory,D.McEnery 2001 March 16th  
Start in a shattered recess just above a tree at the base of the wall. The first pitch is poorly protected, and feels precarious. The climbing is not difficult but requires a steady nerve, an interesting pitch.

1. 20m 4c. Climb the ramp on the left of the recess and step right above the recess (sling on spike) across onto the right wall and up to the first good runner in a crack. Climb the wall on the right to the overhang and belay.
2. 25m 4a. Continue in the same crack line.

**LAUNCH PAD**                      **45m Sev ( Hard) (VS start)**                      J.Gregory,D.McEnery 2001 Jan 30th  
A crack line to the left of a hanging bush.

1. 30m The start is undercut and awkward (VS) but can be avoided by going around to the right. Continue straight up the crack to a stance below a large block.
2. 15m. Continue in the same line to the top.

**\*\*TOO HOT TO HANDLE**                      **45m VS**                      J.Gregory,D.McEnery 2001 Feb 3rd

1. 30m 4c. An excellent route. Climb the crack to a triangular overhang. Pass this on the left to a good stance above.
2. 15m. Step left and continue easily on good rock to a terrace.

**POCKET FULL OF STAR DUST**                      **45m VS**                      J.Gregory,D.McEnery 2001 Feb 13th

1. 25m 4a. Start as for Too Hot To Handle. After 5 metres step left and continue up the wall in a leftwards direction to a belay below a roof.
2. 20m 4b. Climb up a groove on the left of the roof, then over a bulge and continue straight up to a short overhanging crack with good holds near the top.

This is the end of the climbs on the right-hand section. There are no more climbs over the next 80 metres or so. The next main feature is a large right facing corner, which has defied attempts due to an area of loose blank rock at 15 metres. Around the corner to the left is a prominent open book corner, Champagne Supernova. There is an arch at the bottom of the right hand wall, with crack lines at the right and left hand ends.

**SEVENTH HEAVEN**                      **75m E1**                      J.Gregory,D.McEnery 2001 Mar 21st  
The right-hand overhanging crack of the arch.

1. 20m 5b. Climb the strenuous crack, and belay below a small roof on the left.
2. 40m. Continue easily straight up the wall behind the belay to belay on a big ledge below an undercut crack.
3. 15m 4c. Climb the crack and then up to the terrace.

**CROSSOVER**                      **75m V Diff**                      J.Gregory, D McEnery 2000 Apr

1. 20m Scramble up the first section of Champagne Supernova, and move over into the wide crack on the right. Climb this and make a rising traverse over the top of the arch to a block belay.
2. 40m Continue straight up the wall.
3. 15m Follow the same line to the top.

**\*\*\*CHAMPAGNE SUPERNOVA**                      **75m HVS**                      I.Gregory,J.Gregory 2000 Apr 8th  
Good climbing on good rock

1. 35m 4a. Climb the crack to belay just below a white mark on the right wall.
2. 25m 5a. Continue up the corner to a belay above the overhang.
3. 15m Climb easily to the top terrace and tree belay.

**FALLING STAR**                      **75m VS**                      J.Gregory,D.McEnery 2000 Dec 2nd  
Start 15 metres left of Champagne Supernova. The route follows a leftward leaning crack line.

1. 20m. Follow the crack line to a ledge and belay.
2. 25m. Continue to a ledge below a steep section.
3. 15m 4c. Climb the right facing corner to the next ledge.
4. 15m There are big overhangs above, walk along the ledge to the left for 15 metres or so to a belay. Continue left for a further 7 metres to the end of the overhangs and then climb the crack or the wall on the right to the top.

Around to the left are two open grooves up blankish looking rock. Both routes share the same start from a small boulder at the bottom.



**\*\*THE QUARRYMAN****80m VS** J.Gregory,C.Gregory 2000 Dec 21st

The right-hand groove.

1. 40m 4c. Go straight up for 5 metres before moving rightwards up into a corner. Continue in the same line for a further 15 metres to where it is possible to traverse to the middle of the wall on the right. Climb straight up the wall on good holds (long run out) to a stance on a small ledge.
2. 25m 4a. Climb the crack behind the stance to a ledge. Either continue straight up or move left for 6 metres and climb up to the ledge just under the overhangs.
3. 15m. Traverse 7 m left under the overhangs and climb the crack or the face on the right.

**\*\*\*GENIE****70m HVS**

I.Gregory, J.Gregory 2000 Nov 21st

1. 25m 4c. Start as for the previous climb but move up leftwards. Continue up over a bulge to a small ledge and belay.
2. 30m 5a. Continue up the corner, which tends left and then right, good climbing, and up to a belay on the ledge under the overhang.
3. 15m. Traverse 7 m left under the overhangs and climb the crack or the face on the right.

**\*STARDUST****70M HVS**

I.Gregory,J.Gregory, Naomi Aboud 2000 Nov 16th

A small tree marks the start of the route.

1. 25m 5a. Climb the crack moving R after 20 m at a leaning roof, and up to a good ledge.
2. 45m 4c. Follow the same crack line to the top.

**ROCK AND ROLL 65m V.Diff**

D.McEnery,J Gregory 2001 Feb 20th

The obvious wide corner crack gives a good climb for its grade.

1. 50m. Climb the crack direct to above a jammed block.
2. 25m. Continue easily to belays at the top.

A small bent tree and a large boulder at the base of a crack, mark the start of the next route.

**HUBBLE BUBBLE****45m Sev**

D.McEnery,J.Gregory 2000 Dec 1st

1. 25m. From the bent tree follow the leftward leaning crack line to a good ledge below an overhang.
2. 20m. Climb up to the overhang, go round to the right and continue more easily.

**SOLAR COMPLEX 45m VS**

J.Gregory,D.McEnery 2000 Dec 2nd

The obvious crack in the back of the last main corner of the wall.

1. 15m. Climb to a good ledge below a shattered area.
2. 30m 4c. Climb the wide shattered crack (good protection) and continue on much better rock to the top.

To the left of Shattered Crack are two parallel cracks.

**\*WILD ROVER****55m VS**

J.Gregory,D.McEnery 2000 Nov 3rd

1. 35m 4c. Climb the right-hand crack to a ledge.
2. 20m 4b. Continue up the crack around bulges.

**\*\*ROVER'S RETURN****55m HVS**

J.Gregory,D.McEnery 2000 Nov 3rd

1. 35m 5a. Climb the crack to the pod that is hard to exit and up to a ledge.
2. 20m 5a. Continue up the crack, with one awkward section, to the top.

**CELESTIAL WALL**

Celestial Wall is a complex, SW facing wall about 160 metres high. A horizontal ledge lies just above the base of the wall and many of the routes start from here.

Another major ledge crosses the wall just above the half way mark, which provides access to the top pitches of the longer routes and the start of other climbs. It is also the way off from the lower pitches and climbs. This midway ledge makes the crag very user friendly as it provides the option of climbing individual pitches on their own, or linking pitches on the various tiers to give alternative routes to the top of the wall.

In the centre of the lower section of the wall there are several lines very close together. It is possible to do just the first pitches and abseil off a convenient tree on the right, complete two pitches to the midway ledge or continue all the way to the top as one single route.

There is a gully on the right, which provides an easy descent from the top and the midway ledge. From the top of the wall it is also possible to return to the midway ledge by walking leftwards to a cairn and scrambling down into the gully. This is certainly more convenient for climbs on the left-hand side of the top section.

The climbs originating at the bottom are described from left to right. The ones starting from the midway ledge from right to left in the order they are approached.

Celestial Wall contains some excellent lines, from individual pitches to multi pitch routes. It is a very steep wall and the higher pitches provide lots of exposure. The rock is generally good, as the climbs have been well cleaned.

To reach the first routes from the lower ledge walk straight up the scree to the large rock buttress that sticks out from the surrounding walls and reaches up as far as the midway ledge. Several lines begin on this buttress, some of which go all the way to the top. There is a terrace at the top of the first pitches with a tree on the right-hand end that provides a good abseil point.

The first climb starts 80 m to the L of the buttress and is reached by an easy traverse.

**FLYING SAUCER****120m VS**

J.Gregory,D.McEnery 1999 Oct 12th

A climb of increasing interest and difficulty.

1. 30m. Climb to the left of the block to a ledge and continue up the crack to a belay.
2. 20m. Continue up the crack to belay below a hanging chimney.
3. 35m. Gain the chimney, move out to the L and up the crack above to the midway ledge.
4. 35m 4c. Continue up the wide left facing corner crack.

After a further 50 metres, just to the right of two trees, there is another left facing corner crack.

**SPACEMAN****85m Sev** J.Gregory,D.McEnery 1999 Oct 12th

1. 30m. Climb the crack to a ledge then continue to a small ledge and belay.
2. 20m. Continue up the crack to belay in the deep chimney.
3. 35m. Crux. Climb up the chimney to the midway ledge.

The next two climbs start 40 metres along the ledge at a crack to the right of a small tree growing from the base of the wall.

**\*BETELGEUSE****80m VS**

J.Gregory,D.McEnery 1999 Oct 26th

1. 35m 4a. Climb the steep crack and move slightly left after 30 metres, and up to a steep undercut crack.
2. 45m 5a. Climb over the bulge with difficulty and continue up the crack and over a final bulge to the midway ledge, good climbing.

**BIG DIPPER****80m VS** J.Gregory,D.McEnery 1999 Oct 12th

1. 35m 4a. Follows the same first pitch as Betelgeuse. Climb the steep crack but move right at the top of the pitch to belay below a left facing corner.
2. 45m 4c. Continue up the corner to recess under a bulge and hanging bush. Climb out to the left over the bulge and up to the midway ledge.

No more lines start from the lower ledge. The remaining climbs start from the midway ledge. Access to this ledge is by the gully on the right. Follow the gully for about 10-15 minutes to where it narrows and bends to the right. Just after this there is a small single stem tree on the left. Follow a ledge below the tree for about 200 metres and go through a gap onto the front face (marked by cairns).

About 40 metres along the ledge by a tree is the first climb.

**POLLUX****25m Sev (Hard)**

J.Gregory,D.McEnery 2000 Apr 7th

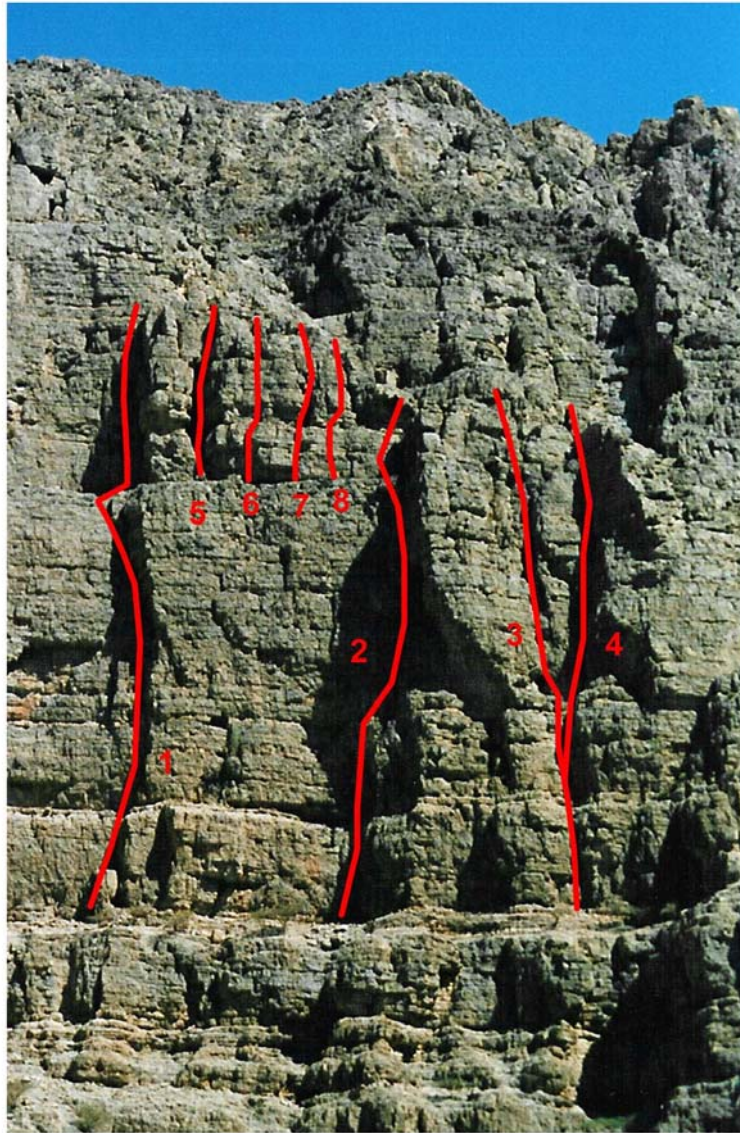
Start up a crack just right of the tree. Follow the crack for 10 metres and move right into another crack and follow this.

**CASTOR****35m VS 4a**

J.Gregory,D.McEnery 2000 Apr 7th

Start just left of the tree at a large block leaning against the face. Climb the crack behind the block, then move rightwards and back left and up to the top.

## CELESTIAL WALL - LOWER RIGHT



1 flying Saucer  
2 Spaceman

3 Betelgeuse  
4 Big Dipper

5 Black Hole  
6 Star Attraction

7 Pollux  
8 Castor

**\* STAR ATTRACTION**      **35m E2 5c**      I Gregory J.Gregory,C Wilson 2001 Sept 1  
A real little tester of a climb. Start under an overhang with a crack. Climb the crack to the overhang and then over this and up the crack above. Move right and climb another crack.

**BLACK HOLE**      **35m VS 4c**      J.Gregory,D.McEnery 2000 Mar 10th  
An obvious wide chimney crack. Climb easily up into the chimney and continue rightwards at the roof to the final steep off-width crack and up this.

Around the corner is a wide crack (P4 -- Flying Saucer), which is a worthwhile climb in its own .

**\*DARTHVADER****60m VS** J.Gregory,D.McEnery 2000 Mar 31st

1. 20m. Climb the crack round bulges leftwards, then straight up to a good ledge on the left.
2. 20m 4c. Follow the same crack line through yellowish rock to a bulge. Pull round to the right and continue up the crack above to a large block on a terrace.
3. 20m. Move left into a wide crack and left again into another crack to finish.

20 metres left of **Darthvader** at a slightly higher level is a large scooped recess

**\*JABBA THE HUTT****60m VS** J.Gregory,D.McEnery 5 Apr 2000

Start from the right-hand end of the recess.

1. 20m. Climb out right from the recess into the crack which is followed easily to a ledge on the right.
2. 20m 4c. Move left onto the face and go straight up to a hanging crack and up this to a tree belay.
3. 20m 4a. Climb the grey wall directly behind the tree just left of a crack and then more easily to the top.

**\*\*\*CHEWBACCA****60m VS** J.Gregory,D.McEnery 2000 Mar 31st

A right facing corner crack at the left-hand end of the recess.

1. 20m 4a. Climb the crack then the wall on the right to a good ledge on the left.
2. 15m 4c. Continue up the crack for 8 metres to a ledge on the left. Climb the short crack and then pull round the overhang above to the right and straight up the steep wall to a belay on a tree.
3. 25m 4a. Climb the wall on the left behind the tree and then more easily to the top.

Continue along ledges just below the recess for about 60 metres to large blocks. Scramble up to the right of the blocks and on the right is a right facing chimney crack.

**JAJA BINKS****55m V Diff**

J.Gregory,D.McEnery 2000 Apr 5th

1. 20m. Climb the thin crack into the chimney and climb this on the outside to a large jammed block and belay on the left.
2. 20m. From the ledge scramble over rocks into a crack which is followed to the top.

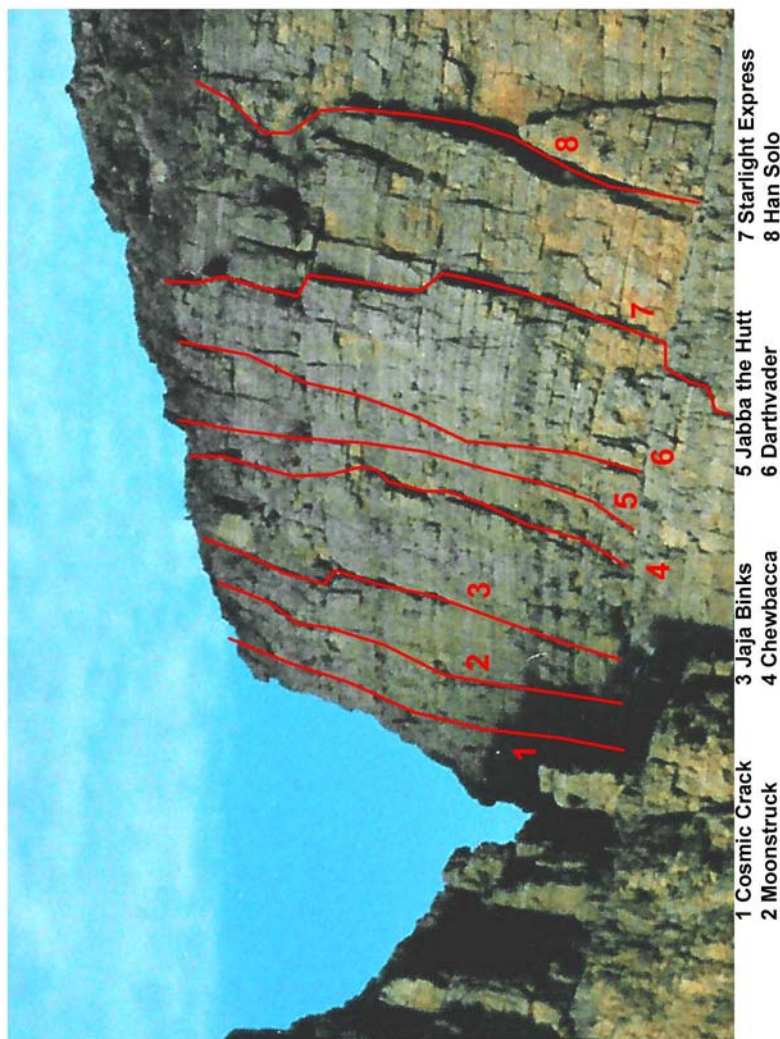
Directly above the large blocks are two parallel crack lines about 8 metres apart. Cosmic Crack starts up the more obvious easy angled crack on the left.

**\*MOONSTRUCK****55m Sev**

D.McEnery, J.Gregory, 2000 Apr 5th

Start about 6 metres right of Cosmic Crack.

1. 20m. Climb the wall direct to the foot of a crack.
2. 20m. Climb the crack moving slightly R and back L to a good ledge below a sloping roof.
3. 20m. Follow the line of the roof to the right and then go straight up to the top.

**\*COSMIC CRACK****55m HVS**

J.Gregory,D.McEnery 2000 Apr 7th

1. 20m. Climb the easy angled crack to a recess below an overhang.
2. 20m 5a. Pull over the overhang and continue up the crack to another overhang. Pull over this and move leftwards to a good ledge, a very good pitch.
3. 20m. Continue up to the left over a bulge and then straight to the top.

Further left the wall becomes broken with no worthwhile climbing.

**AINI WALL AREA**

Beyond the settlement, after rounding a sharp left hand bend in the track, the main wadi becomes much narrower, with cliffs on either side. At 4.5km from the police post there is a prominent large face over 300 metres high on the left side of the track. This is **Aini Wall**, which acts as a convenient reference for the other crags in this area. Below and left of Aini Wall, **Pleasuredome Buttness** which has a deep central gully rises directly from the wadi bed. The buttness then curves leftwards up the hillside towards the village of Aini.

Almost directly opposite Pleasuredome, on the right hand side of the wadi, a narrow wadi cuts deeply into the hillside. A bulldozed area offers some parking off the track. **Sluice Wall** is located near the entrance to the wadi, on its left side.

To the left of Sluice Wall, and directly opposite Aini Wall, a ridge extends down the hillside, which forms the right side of a broad bay that contains an impressive wall at a much higher level. At the back, left side of this bay is a deep gully, and further up is a broader gully which gives access to an old Shihuh trail leading to the uninhabited, but not abandoned village of Ra's (Obaid's Village) on the plateau some 700 metres above.

To the left of the bay, some 100 metres above the valley floor is a steep wall some 70 - 80m high, containing a number of attractive lines including a rightward curving chimney / corner, and a right facing corner line. This is **Wall Of Delights**. Also on the South side of the wadi, and some 3 - 400 metres beyond the right hand end of Aini Wall, the **Summer Walls** is the collective name given to a number of steep buttnesses 100m high, which receive maximum shade in the summer months. In the centre of this area, a small buttness of steep clean rock rises directly from the wadi bed. – **Deception Buttness**, which gives a number of short sharp routes.

1km beyond Aini Wall, to the left of the track, a steep buttness, containing an impressive roof at its right hand side, rises directly from the wadi floor. This is **Senga's Crag**.

A short distance beyond Senga's Crag, on the left of the track, and at a slightly higher level is a buttness with a prominent central corner crack line. This is **Donkey's Dick Buttness**. Just why the Donkey was so pleased to see Bill and Andy walking up to the crag that morning is still a bit of a mystery.



## PLEASUREDOME BUTTRESS. (South to West facing.)

The buttress is split by a large gully /crack facing the road, and a second overhanging chimney further to the right facing up the Wadi. The area to the left of the central gully gradually curves up and round the hillside in the direction of Aini village, and becomes less steep. This is the West Wall, which has a number of pleasant routes in the easier grades. Immediately left of the gully is an excellent shady spot for some traversing and bouldering. To the right of the main gully is the "Detectives" area. Descents are along ledge systems to either end of the crag.

### PLEASUREDOME - West Face



1 Relax

2 Pink Panther

## PLEASUREDOME -- WEST WALL

A prominent crack system is visible in the centre of the wall, directly above a large embedded boulder in the approach slope. This acts as a convenient reference point for other routes on this face.

### RELAX

42m V Diff

A Stark, L C Willis 2000 Sep 10th

A pleasant route with good rock and protection, which is slightly spoiled by a rubble strewn break at half height.

- 1 25m Climb the crack, passing the first bulge on the right. Belay at the break.
- 2 17m Climb the upper crack to a good stance and belay just below the terrace. Scramble up to the terrace and walk off leftwards. It is possible to continue this line above the terrace, but it appears to be little more than scrambling.

## PLEASUREDOME - DETECTIVES AREA



1 Clouseau

2 Poirot

3 Who Dunit

The following pleasant route takes a right facing slabby corner system, 50m right of the previous route.

### PINK PANTHER

45m Diff B Wheeler, A Chubb, G Hustinx 1999 May 10th

- 1 30m Gain a platform at the base of the slabby corner, and climb this pleasantly, to a steeper finish on a small rubble strewn ledge. (good belays). It is possible to continue to a higher stance and belay below the next pitch, but there is a high risk of dislodging stones on to the second's head. 10m of scrambling leads to an overhanging block.
- 2 15m Climb up to below the block and pass this easily on the left to gain a broad terrace. (easy way off to the left.)

In the centre of the south face is a deep gully system

### CLOUSEAU

30m Sev

B Wheeler, A Chubb 1999 May 17th

The chimney line in the left wall of the main gully system

### POIROT

30m VS 4b

G Hustinx, B Wheeler 1999 June

The chimney in the right wall of the gully. Climb the steep chimney crack to a stance and belay. Above, the rock becomes extremely loose. Descent by abseil recommended.



### WHO DUNNIT

**50m Sev (Hard)** A Chubb, B Wheeler 25 June 1999

Climbs the overhanging chimney in the deep corner facing up the Wadi, some 50 metres right of the main gully system.

1. 30m Climb up the crack at the back of the chimney, over some loose rock. Climb up into the overhanging part of the chimney to a jammed boulder. Move back out of the chimney and exit left onto the wall on the left, and so up to the large ledge and belay at the back. Beware of rope drag!
2. 20m Continue up to the right, moving back left into the corner. Climb the corner and back over loose ground to belay in cracks above and to the right. Descend by walking down ledges to the right.

### SLUICE WALL

Almost directly opposite the right hand end of Pleasuredome, a short track leads to a levelled parking area, which gives access to a Shihuh track leading to Obaid's Village, and on to Jebel Haqab. The track ascends the left side of a scree filled gully, and follows a ledge leading leftwards to a steep rocky staircase. To the right of the scree gully is a steep pillar, which guards the entrance to a narrow side wadi. The Pillar has a number of well defined chimneys and corners, and a prominent area of green vegetation.

**Sloose** takes a line of cracks below and to the left of a prominent green area of vegetation. It is not as good a climb as it first appears – in contrast to the routes on Wall of Delights.

### SLOOSE

**100m VS 4c** A Fabre, B Wheeler 1998 Oct

The name says it all. Climbs the chimney and crack system in 3 pitches. The climbing and rock deteriorate in the upper section. From the top, contour up and left (facing the crag) around the ridge to gain a gully leading into the broad bay on the left.

### WALL OF DELIGHTS

In contrast to the previous route, this crag, which lies to the left of the track to Obaid's Village, gives a number of excellent climbs on mainly good rock. The crag generally faces north, and receives maximum shade during the summer months. Routes are described from right to left.

The obvious rightward curving chimney towards the right hand end of the crag gives the following excellent route.

### \*\*\*DEELIGHTFUL

**100m HVS**

B Wheeler, D McEnery 1998

- 1 4b Climb the curving chimney to a good stance and belay.
- 2 4c Climb the corner crack to a stance and belay
- 3 5a Move up to below the final overhanging section, traverse delicately rightwards to the foot of a steep crack and climb this. Move back left at the top and up in to an open corner.  
**Belay on a small ledge just below the top.**

The hillside above the top is covered in loose rubble, and belays are a long way back. Anything dislodged by the rope inevitably funnels directly down the crack.

### WALL OF DELIGHTS



7 The Boys Are Back in Town

5 Two Out of Three  
6 Freewheeling

3 Fred and Barney  
4 The Odd Couple

1 Deelightful  
2 Instant Whip

The next route climbs the right facing corner, left of Deelightful.

### \*\*INSTANT WHIP

**80m VS (Mild)**

A. Chubb, D McEnery 2001 Mar 30th

1. 20m 4b Climb a crack some 3m right of the corner proper, and continue up and over easy ground to belay at the base of the main corner.
2. 40m 4b Climb the corner to an obvious break ledge
3. 20m 4a Continue on up the corner to the top

The next crack line gives the following very good route.

### FRED AND BARNEY

**100m HVS**

B Wheeler, A Chubb 1999 Oct 22nd

- 1 35m 4b Straight up the crack and belay on the break line
- 2 45m 5a Continue up the crack, trending left on some loose rock to the break ledge on the left of the overhang. Leave the ledge with difficulty and continue up to the belay.
- 3 20m Continue more easily to the top.

The next route starts 10 metres to the left at a left facing of width corner, with a tree on a ledge above.

**THE ODD COUPLE****80m VS ( Mild)**

B Wheeler, A Stark 1999 Oct 29th

A varied route, with the 'odd couple' of awkward moves on each pitch. The pitches are best kept short to reduce rope drag.

- 1 20m 4b Climb the off width chimney with difficulty, exiting right to easier ground. Move up to belay near the tree.
- 2 25m 4a Move right, and follow a groove and crack line, moving left near the top. A tempting jug on top of a large dubious flake needs care. Up to belay at the foot of a wide corner crack.
- 3 15m 4b Climb the corner, which is difficult to protect, to an awkward mantelshelf leading to a rubble strewn ledge. On the first ascent, a thin hand traverse was made left at the top of the crack, to avoid a couple of large dangerous blocks. (They were subsequently removed to enable the corner to be climbed direct in safety)
- 4 20m 4b From the belay, move left to gain a groove above a sharp flake. Move right, up and then back left, to gain a line of good holds leading to the top.

In the centre of the crag, to the left of Deelightful, the rocks lie back in the upper section forming a broad gully. A crack and chimney line are visible at its left side.

**TWO OUT OF THREE****85m Sev** A Stark, G Hustinx ( alt) 1999 Oct 8th

The steep crack is undercut and contains some doubtful flakes.

- 1 28m The original start Start some 6 metres left of the crack at a corner, and make a delicate rising traverse to gain a large block above the flakes. Continue up the crack to a broad ledge and belays.
- 1a Var -- 4b Direct Start. Gain the crack with difficulty, avoiding the loose flakes, to the block.
- 2 30m Climb easily upwards to the foot of a steep chimney crack. Up this for 6 metres, then up easier ground, to a good ledge and belay.
- 3 Follow cracks on the left to a small ledge below an overhung corner. Move easily right and up broken ground to a belay. A direct finish up the overhanging corner awaits an ascent, but is very short and totally out of character with the rest of the route.

**\*\*\*FREEWHEELING****100m HVS** B Wheeler, G Hustinx 1999 Sept 24th

Takes the prominent right facing corner crack system some 20 metres to the left of the previous route. Starts to the right of the prominent overhanging crack, at a blunt buttress containing some discontinuous cracks.

- 1 5a Climb the steep wall with the aid of the cracks, to gain easier ground and a good stance and belay at the foot of the main chimney.
- 2 4c Climb the chimney, which whilst being secure offers little in the way of protection, to a good stance and belay.
- 3 4c The continuation crack is off width and overhanging. Move right along a ledge to gain the foot of a crack. Climb this to belay on a small ledge just below the top of the crag.

To the left of Freewheeling is another more prominent corner line

**THE BOYS ARE BACK IN TOWN****100m VS**

B Wheeler, G Hustinx ( Alt) 1999 Oct 1st

Climbs the corner directly in 3 pitches, 5a,4c 4c. The good stances and belays are obvious.

All of the routes finish on a rubble strewn hillside (not uncommon). Exit with care onto the hillside above, and move up and right to gain a ledge system leading into the gully and old Shihuh trail. Alternatively, gain the head of the broad gully in the centre of the crag, (Two Out Of Three) and scramble down with care to reach a broad ledge where 2 good abseil pegs are in place.

## SUMMER WALLS

The Summer Walls are located, some 500 metres beyond the eastern end of Aini Wall on the opposite side of the track, and face north west, and receive shade throughout most of the day in summer. They offer a number of good climbs near the main track. Just before this face, a low buttress (Deception Wall) rises from the wadi floor and which offers some shorter routes and good bouldering.

**Descent** From the top of the main face, go up the broad ridge above, trending leftwards for 3 - 400 metres, to gain the head of a broad gully. Scramble down the gully. In the lower third there is a steep section which can either be descended by abseil (dubious old sling in place) or avoided by traversing ledges on the left (facing out), then moving back right into the gully line which involves some exposed down climbing at moderate standard. About 30 minutes.

As the Big Block is the most easily recognised feature, the climbs are described from L to R.

**\*\*BIG BLOCK CORNER** **100m VS** A Fabre, B Wheeler 1998 June

This is a obvious corner towards the left hand side of the walls, containing a huge detached block in the middle of the route.

- 1 40m 4c Climb the corner and belay on the top of the block
- 2 40m 5a Follow the main corner, and when it starts to overhang, traverse 5m to the left, and belay.
- 3 20m 4c Climb a small overhanging section to gain the top.

**\*\*\*LAZY SUMMER CORNER** **100m VS** A Fabre, B Wheeler 1998 June

This is another obvious corner in the next buttress to the right of Big Block Corner. The rock is water-washed, and a little smoother than elsewhere. An excellent route that needs a bold approach, as the best protection is generally only found after the difficult sections of each pitch have been climbed.

- 1 15m Climb (scramble) easily up to a good ledge below the main corner. If you need a rope on this pitch, forget the rest!!
- 2 45m 4b Climb the corner, which is awkward and sustained, with good protection only appearing after the hard moves. Continue up the narrower crack above to gain a large ledge below a tall block.
- 3 40m 4c Move up onto the block and climb the steep crack for 20m, to gain a wider chimney. Continue easily to a good ledge and belay below the top of the crag.

## SUMMER WALLS



1 Big Block Corner

2 Lazy Summer Corner

3 Return of the Baron

4 Morning Glory



Further right, a deep chimney leads to a corner crack higher up.

**\*\*RETURN OF THE BARON 115m VS --, 4c,5a** G Hustinx B Wheeler, (alt) 1999 Sept 16th

The first 2 pitches follow the easier chimney system, to gain the foot of the crack. Excellent climbing on perfect rock leads to the top.

Further right, three large blocks sit at the foot of a steep straight crack, to the left of an obvious water washed line.

**MORNING GLORY 70m HVS 5b,4c** J Gregory, D McEnery 2000  
A very good route, which climbs the obvious crack in two good pitches

## **DECEPTION BUTTRESS**

Further right again, a low buttress rises from the wadi floor, which offers a number of good short steep climbs generally more difficult than they appear. Towards the left hand end of the buttress a thin corner crack faces up the wadi.

Scramble up for about 10 m to a good ledge below the corner.

**THINK OF ENGLAND 25m VS 4c** B Wheeler (solo with backrope) 1999 Oct 15th

A well protected route which climbs the corner, via some fine layback moves off an excellent edge, directly to a ledge and belays. Descent -- via ledges to the left or right.

To the right of this route are a series of bulges and roofs. Further right again, at the lowest part of the buttress is a large horizontal ledge at half height. At the top of this section, belays are often difficult to arrange, and there are a lot of easily dislodged loose stones. Care advised.

**LEFT CORNER 20m Sev** B Wheeler, A Stark 1999 Sept 3rd

Climb the corner to the ledge and up the crack above.

**TWO STEP 20m VS (Mild) 4c** A Stark, B Wheeler 1999 Sept 17th

The pleasant looking corner and steep flake crack above the ledge offer contrasting problems. It is probably wise not to layback the lower section of the flake crack, as the bottom of the flake appears to be unsound.

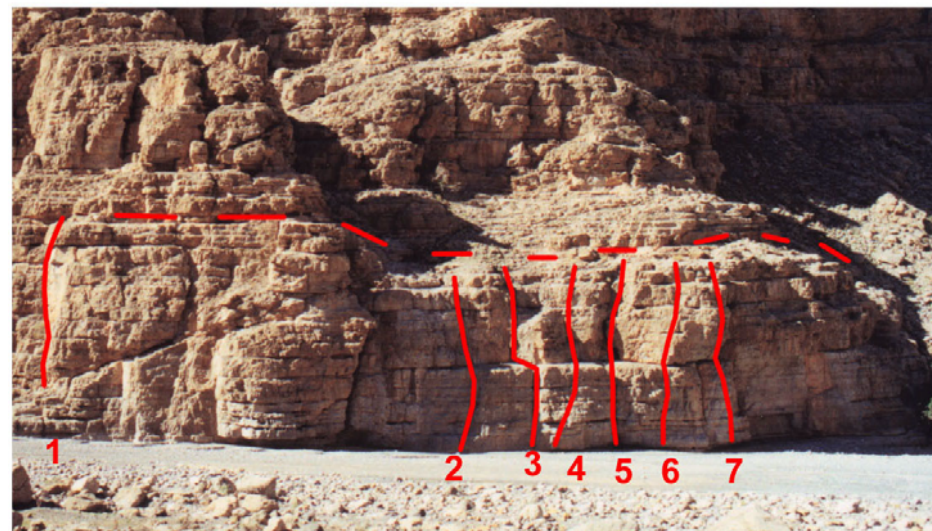
**HOLLOW WINE 20m Sev (Hard)** G Hustinx, B Wheeler 1999 Sept 17th

Starts 2m right of the corner at an undercut rib. A boulder problem start (for the vertically challenged), or a long pull on good jugs (for the tall) gets you on to the face. Climb directly upwards on good holds to a line of horizontal pockets (big hex runner) and move up and slightly right to a ledge. Continue up the wall trending leftwards at the top

**RIGHT CHIMNEY 20m Sev (Hard)** B Wheeler 1999 Sept 10th

Further right is a deep chimney. The start is undercut, and problematical. Once established in the chimney, the route is straightforward. Climb this directly to the top, exiting up the rib on the right. Stride across the gap to the hillside behind. Belay.

## **DECEPTION BUTTRESS**



1 Think of England      2 Left Corner      4 Hollow Wine      6 Doors of Deception  
3 Two Step      5 Right Chimney      7 Beefy's Bistro

The face to the right of the chimney is steep and undercut.

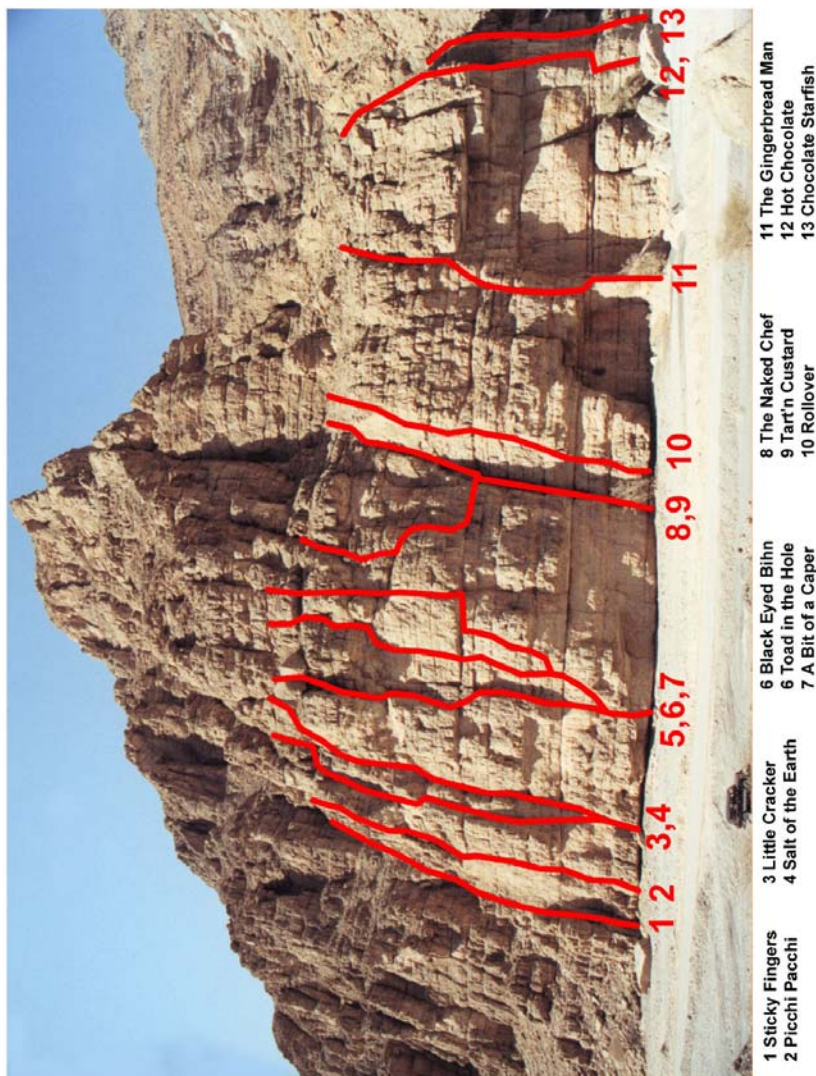
**DOORS OF DECEPTION 20m E1 5b** T Kay, S. Davidson 1999 Oct 9th

Pull onto the face and move up with difficulty to gain a small ledge. Climb the wall trending leftwards to gain a horizontal break with a good ledge to the left below the upper wall. Make a difficult move to gain a flake, then move up and left using a dubious hold to reach a horizontal break. Move up to gain a ledge by a difficult mantelshelf, move right and up to the top.

**BEEFY'S BISTRO 20m E1 5b** I Gregory, J Gregory 2000 Aug 4th

Takes the arete to the right of the previous route, just left of an obvious wide crack.

## SENGA'S CRAG



## SENGA'S CRAG

The crag is situated on the left-hand side of the wadi 5.6 kilometres from the army post. The crag is south facing. Although the crag is much higher, the upper section is quite broken and unattractive from a climbing viewpoint. The climbs are mainly about 65 metres in length and finish at a ledge/terrace, which traverses across the width of the wall and leads to descent gullies on the left and right. The right-hand descent is the easiest.

The left-hand one although quicker for some climbs involves some down climbing and a 5 metre abseil. The rock is generally good, as the climbs have received a fair amount of gardening.

The climbs are described from left to right. The first climbs are on the righthand wall of the left-hand descent gully. Walk up the gully for a short distance to a terrace below a wall with two crack lines that face each other.

**PRET A MANGER** 35m VS 4b J.Gregory,D.McEnery 1999 Dec 3rd  
The left-hand crack, climb the crack direct with good clean climbing in the top groove.

**PLUM DUFF** 35m VS 4c J.Gregory,D.McEnery 1999 Dec 3rd  
The right-hand crack, climb the crack to the overhang and traverse delicately left below the overhang and continue up leftwards round bulges and back right to a large ledge. Continue pleasantly up the crack in the grey wall above.

**STICKY FINGERS** 65m VS J.Gregory,D.McEnery 1999 Dec 2nd  
On the floor of the wadi at the left-hand end of the crag is a large boulder. Behind the boulder is an easy looking corner.

1. 35m 4c. Climb the corner for 15 metres and step out rightwards to a crack on the smooth wall. Climb the crack to a good ledge below an overhang.
2. 30m. Continue in the same line more easily to the top.

**PICCHI PACCHI** 65m HVS J.Gregory,D.McEnery 1999 Dec 3rd  
Start 8 metres to the right of the corner.

1. 35m 4c. Climb easily to the horizontal break with a roof. Move onto the face on the left and then back right to a bulge. Climb over the bulge with difficulty and continue up the thin crack above to a recess below an overhang.
2. 30m. Continue in the same crack line to the top.

**\*\*\*LITTLE CRACKER** 65m HVS J.Gregory,D.McEnery 1999 Nov 19th  
An excellent route, with two very good pitches. A small boulder at the foot of an obvious crack line marks the start of the route.

1. 35m 5a. Climb easily up the crack for 8 metres and step left into a crack leading to a prominent right facing corner crack. Climb this to a ledge on the left.
2. 30m 5a. Continue up the crack behind the stance to a large detached looking flake below a large roof. Move diagonally across the wall to the right of the flake.





Dee McEnery battling through the overhangs on Black Eyed Bihn -- HVS

# **SALT OF THE EARTH      65m Sev**

J.Gregory,D.McEnery 1999 Nov 20th

The obvious wide crack line.

1. 20m. Climb the crack to a ledge and belay.
2. 15m. Continue up the crack to a good ledge and blocks.
3. 30m. Continue more easily to the top ledge.

Some 30 metres to the right is an obvious hanging right facing corner crack with an undercut start and huge block at the top. There is a small block jammed in the undercut. The next three climbs all start just left of this block.

## **\*\*BLACK EYED BIHN      70m HVS**

J.Gregory,D.McEnery 1999 Dec 3rd

1. 30m 5a/b. Pull up over the undercut and then strenuously over a bulge and up into the hanging corner which is followed past an awkward bulge to a stance below an overhang.
2. 15m 4c. Climb to the overhang and hand traverse around to the left. Continue more easily up a crack line to a good ledge below the wide chimney crack.
3. 25m. Continue up the wide crack and under the huge jammed block.

## **\*\*TOAD IN THE HOLE      65m E1**

J.Gregory,D.McEnery 1999 Dec 17th

1. 30m 4c. Climb over the undercut and bulge, move diagonally right and up to a ledge. Climb a crack to a small roof, step right and up to a stance below a long narrow roof.
2. 20m. Climb over the roof and up to a ledge with a block below an overhanging crack.
3. 25m 5b. Climb the deep overhanging crack, strenuous, to a ledge. Continue up the steep crack above to another ledge below a large overhang. Step left and up an undercut crack to the top.

## **A BIT OF A CAPER      70m HVS**

J.Gregory,D.McEnery 2000 Mar 18th

1. 30m 4c. Climb over the undercut and bulge and move diagonally to the right and up to a ledge (as for the previous climb). Traverse 2 metres right and go straight up to a bulge. Climb over the bulge and continue to a small ledge and stance.
2. 15m. Traverse right along the ledge for 5 metres, step down and around into a crack below an overhanging corner.
3. 20m 5a. Climb the crack past the overhang to a ledge below another overhanging corner.
4. 15m 4c. Climb up to the overhang and bridge out to exit left.

## **THE NAKED CHEF      70m HVS**

J.Gregory,D.McEnery 1999 Dec 10th

Start at a tree at the base of prominent crack.

1. 20m 4b. Climb the crack to jammed boulders.



2. 20m 5a. Traverse horizontally left for 6 metres to the arete. Climb the undercut crack with difficulty and after a further 5 metres move left onto the front face. Continue up to a stance below a roof.
3. 30m 4c. From the stance move up into a crack on the left and follow this to the top, good climbing on good rock.

**\*\*TART'N CUSTARD 65m VS(mild)** J Gregory, D McEnery 1995/6 winter

1. 30m 4b. Climb the crack to a good stance about 8 metres below a roof.
2. 35m 4a. Continue to the roof, step around to the right and up to the terrace.

**ROLLOVER 65m E1** J.Gregory,D.McEnery 2000 Mar 17th  
Start at a crack by a tree 5 metres right of Tart'n Custard

1. 25m 5b. Climb the crack for 8 metres and step right onto a ledge below an overhang. Pull over the overhang with difficulty and continue straight up the wall to a ledge and belay.
2. 25m 4a. Continue straight up behind the stance, move slightly left up a crack around a roof and then back right into a thin crack in the middle of a smooth solid wall.

**\*\*\*THE GINGERBREAD MAN 55m E2** I Gregory, J Gregory 2000 Aug 17th  
Start at the base of an arete some 30 metres right of Senga's Crack behind a tree and large boulder.

1. 20m 5b. Climb the arete initially on the right for 5 metres and then on the left and up to an overhanging crack. Climb this with some difficulty and belay on a good ledge above.
2. 25m 4c. From the stance move up and across to the right into a thin crack above a large overhang. Climb this and over a roof to a stance.
3. 15m Diff. Continue easily to the terrace.

The next section is very overhanging and devoid of lines. The last two climbs are on the extreme right-hand end of the crag.

**HOT CHOCOLATE 50m VS** J.Gregory,D.McEnery 1999 Oct 22nd  
Start about 6 metres right of a large tree.

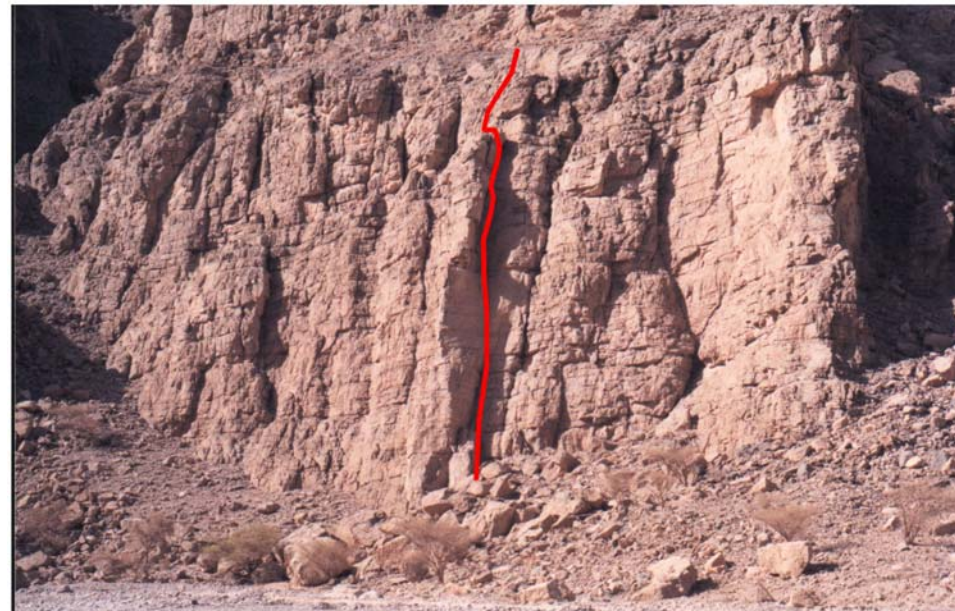
1. 40m 4c. Climb the crack for 8 metres and step right onto a ledge to below a steep jagged crack. Climb this to a ledge and continue up the wider crack above.
2. 15m. Continue easily to the top.

**CHOCOLATE STARFISH 50m VS** J.Gregory,D.McEnery 1999 Nov 18th  
Start at the crack some ten metres right of Hot Chocolate

1. 25m 4c. Climb the crack to a wide ledge and up the crack above to a roof. Step right around the roof and up to a small stance.
2. 25m. From the stance move left across the wall and then straight up to a ledge and continue easily to the top.

To the right of Senga's crag, and a short distance away from the track is another buttress, which has a prominent straight crack. For reasons that are best left a mystery it has become known as **Donkey's Dick Buttress**.

## DONKEY'S DICK BUTTRESS



Donkey's Dick Direct

**\*\*DONKEY'S DICK DIRECT 50m VS 4c** A Chubb, B Wheeler 2000 April

"I saw a Donkey wandering beneath the crag, but Bill wouldn't tell me why it looked so pleased to see him !!"

The route climbs the most obvious clean crack on the crag. Climb up easily for 5 metres to gain entry to the crack proper and continue to a small overhang. Climb past the overhang and up the vertical section above. The angle above relents. Continue on the right of a large leaning block and follow the corner to the top.

Scramble up to a goat track, traverse right and descend the gully to the right of the crag.