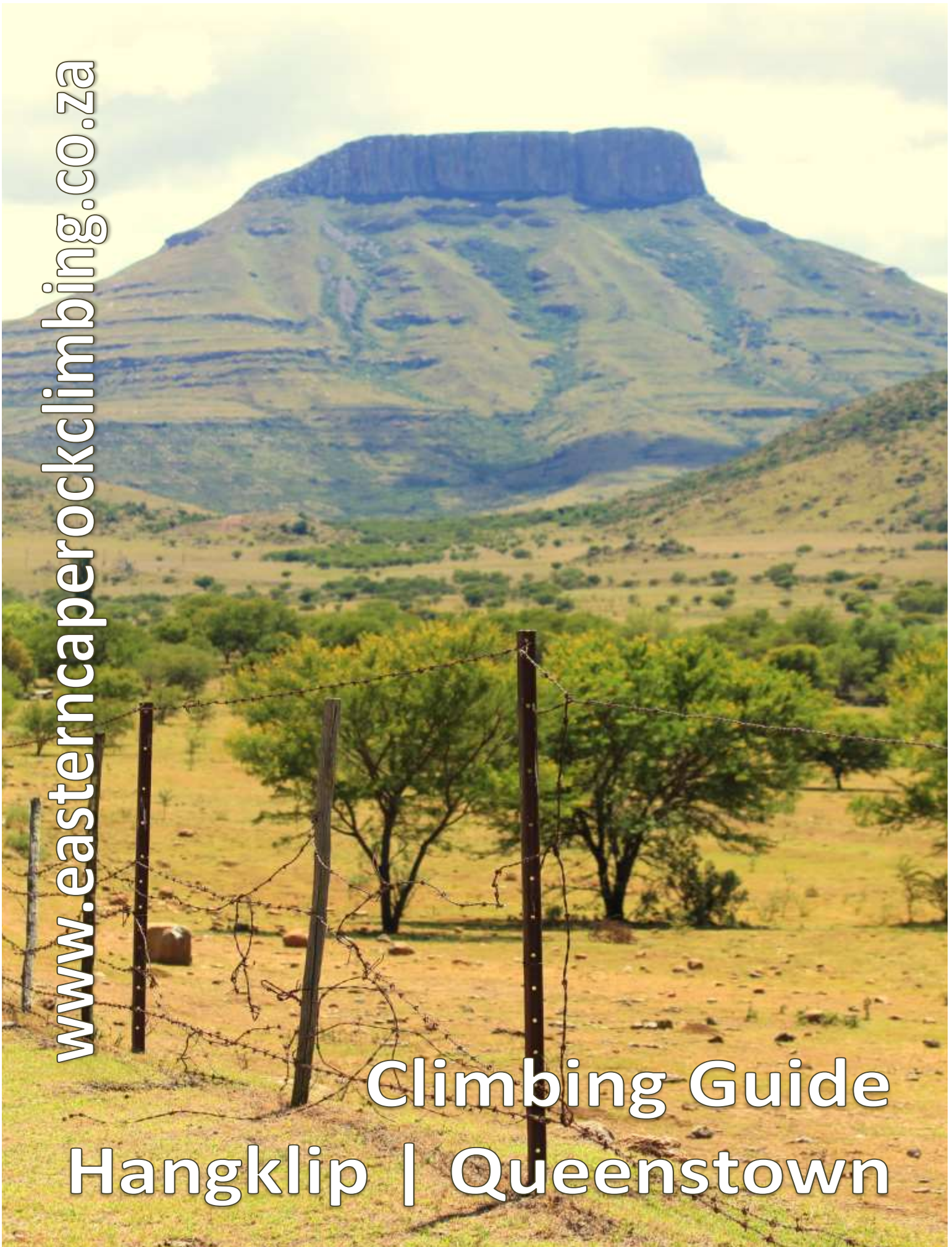


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# Climbing Guide Hangklip | Queenstown





**Legal Note:** All climbing is very dangerous & always at your own risk. Nobody is forcing you to climb. You choose to climb, so choose to go home before the risks become too high. Remember even small injuries can take 6 weeks to heal. No responsibility for inaccurate or incomplete information will be accepted by the scribe or climb.co.za. The landowners accept no liability what so ever. Climbers take full responsibility for themselves at all times. Fixed protection will become unreliable, loose rock is common, solid rock becomes loose & RD writers make up most of the information anyway. This RD is only a guide & is no substitute for experience, training, common sense & a touch of caution. So you are on your own...take care!

**Note from the scribe:** Please note that this is a web based guide, easy to change, so send corrections, additions & adjustments to [info@easterncaperockclimbing.co.za](mailto:info@easterncaperockclimbing.co.za) . You are welcome to print this out or use the info for a better guide. But please don't distribute in anyway other way. I look forward to first ascents being claimed, old pictures, forgotten notes...please send it all to me.

**Please note that this is a work-in-progress. If you have any information, pictures or any routes where you are certain of location, this bumbling scribe needs as much help as he can get. The routes recorded in this guide are in no set particular order. Basically, there was a huge amount of guess work.**

**Access:** Hangklip is on private land. The farmer is happy to allow climbing. Access is by arranged permission. Please contact [info@easterncaperockclimbing.co.za](mailto:info@easterncaperockclimbing.co.za) to assist with arrangements.

**Walk-in:** About 1.5 hours if you are fit. The walk-in is steep & tough.

**Thanks & Appreciation:**

- Massive thanks to the landowner for welcoming climbers to camp & climb all the years.
- Andrew Forsyth, thank you for all your handwritten route description in the Port Elizabeth Camp Trails route file & also your personal climbing journal.
- John Moss for always being the first man on the ground, discovering so many places & writing the routes up in the MCSA Journal.
- Russ Dodding for various pictures, his poem Images of *Queenstown – Easter '84*, the copy of the SA Climbers Club 1984 Newsletter & pushing the guide.
- Mike McKechnie thanks for the pictures from the 1984 SA Climber Club Meet.

**Time & Weather:** The South Face gets shade basically all day. The East Face would get afternoon shade. Winter would be cold & miserable. Summer would be really hot & Hangklip would suffer thunder storms.

**Potential:** 32 routes recorded. There is a huge amount of potential. There have been very few climb trips to Hangklip since the SACC Easter 1984 meet.



**Ethics:** Gooi papa gooi!

**Rock Type:** Vertical dolerite, up to 180m high.

**History:** There are a number of fantastic Bushman painted sites to on the north west side of Hangklip. One of these sites has very fresh-looking paintings.

The rock climbing at Hangklip was discovered by John Moss in 1974. John discovered an amazing number of crags. Hangklip saw its biggest action when the SACC held their National Easter Meet 20-23 April 1984. At least 46 climbers attended & 27 routes were opened.

**Star Ratings**

- ★★★ Classic route in this province
- ★★ Good route in the area
- ★ Good route at this crag
- No star Reasonable to bollocks

**Abbreviations & Symbols**

- (T) Trad route (natural gear) & grade
- Sport route (bolted) & grade
- Open Project / in-progress & ± grade
- Closed Project & ± grade
- (S) FA was solo & grade
- Potential
- Abseil point
- (11B&C) Number of bolts & top chains
- P / RB Piton / Removable bolt
- Afternoon Shade
- Morning Shade
- Shade all day
- Sun all day
- Dappled shade all day
- Can be climbed in wet weather

## South Face



### **Pessimist's Prerogative – 21**

Andrew Forsyth & Clee Roy April 1985

15m R of *Body Swerve*, LH end of the cliff,

P1 - 21 – 8m Short off width crack to a ledge.

P2 – 15 - 15m Up crack behind the ledge & exit to the L. Climb over easy ground towards a large ledge on the R.

P3 – 21 – 20m Move the belay into the narrow gully below a short face & a prominent jam crack. Climb the face on good holds, up to the crack. Up the jam crack to a belay ledge.

P4 – 16 – 25m Climb the RH & then easier ground to the top.

### **Musical Friends – 20 ★★<sup>2 4</sup>**

Dave Freer, Gary Hodgekinson, Andrew Forsyth, Adrian "Pygmy" Jardin & Steve Bradshaw, Easter 1984 (T)

5m L of *Yellowbeard's Flake*, kill yourself. Chimney off back of pinnacle.

### **Yellowbeard's Flake – 16<sup>2 4</sup>**

Paul Schlotfeldt, Andy Wood, Julian Maund & Helene Gabriel, Easter 1984 (T)

Start 5m L of *Body Swerve*.

P1 – 16 – 25m Open book till ledge.

P2 – 16 – 40m Climb layaway flake.

### **Body Swerve – 17<sup>2 4</sup>**

Tony Maddison, Rob Brand & Doric Holmes April 1984

This is the first major recess. Take the RH crack.

P1 – 17 - 18m Climb the crack 2m L of a small tree at the base.

P2 – 14 – 10m Move up boulders to the next ledge.

P3 – 17 – 18m Climb two cracks strenuously.

P4 Scramble to the top.

### **Power of 4 – 19<sup>2 4</sup>**

Dave & Barbi Freer & Gary Hodgekinson, Easter 1984 (T)

P1 – 19 Start up 2nd off-width crack in the big gully on the L. Belay from top of the crack.

P2 – 18 Continue up R corner, across broken ground to chimney on John Moss' route. Up this.

### **Sea of Tranquility – 21 ★★★<sup>2 3 4</sup>**

Andy de Klerk & Ed February, Easter 1984 (T)

In the gully on the LHS, above big boulder.

P1 – 21 – 30m

P2 – 19 – 45m

P3 – 17 – 20m

### **Blind Phuegh – 21 ★★★<sup>2 4</sup>**

Paul Schlotfeldt, Andy Wood & Julian Maund, Easter 1984 (T)

Start at the crack on the arête to the R of the big recess, R of *Sea of Tranquility*.

Single Pitch – 21 – 30m Ascend crack to roof. Abseil off nut.



### **Collapsible Cutless – 20**

Gordon Morton, Guy Robbins & Chris Radcliff, Easter 1984 (T)

Climb crack in recess, 5m R of *Blind Phuegh*.

Single Pitch – 21 – 30m

### **ER - Easy Ride – 14<sup>1</sup>**

John Ions & John Moss, September 1974 (T)

This is the first climb on the south side of Hangklip & take a broken line on the far LHS of the wall. It starts about 50m R of the fence at a recess & a short steep wall.

P1 – 14 – 33m Ascend a large flake to the L of the short steep wall. Make an awkward pull out to the R onto the top of the protruding flake & continue R to a short chimney. Move L & then back R to a stance in an open gully.

P2 – 10 – 23m Up easy chimney in the back of the gully, to a stance.

P3 – 12 – 23m Continue up the gully to where it steepens, move back L, then up to a small belay below some huge blocks.

P4 – 11 – 13m Over the blocks to a ledge.

P5 – 11 – 30m Traverse R to regain the gully & climb the gully. Move out R, then scramble to the top.

### **Solar Plexus – 19<sup>2 3</sup>**

Andrew Forsyth & Mike McKechnie, Easter 1984 (T)

This is the first long climb from the LHS of the south face.

P1 - 16 – 14m Climb the off-width to the ledge.

P2 - 17 – 25m Up the LH crack for about 12m then move R into a layback crack which brings you onto a ledge directly above the obvious steep black corner.

P3 – 19 – 30m Climb the crack till it widens into a tight chimney. This is really tight. The crux is climbed facing the LHS. Layback, jam & bridge to the ledge.

P4 – 16 – 18m Take the LH crack up to the ledge.

P5 – 19 – 20m Between two off-width chimney cracks is a steep jam crack, up this to the summit.

### **Quadriceps – 19<sup>2 3 4</sup>**

Andrew Forsyth & Mike McKechnie, Easter 1984 (T)

P1 – 19 – 40m Up the chimney facing R. At about 20m move R into another crack & up to the first stance.

P2 – 19 – 25m Climb the LH flaring off-width chimney on the L. Layback around a small overhang & jam up to a ledge on the L.

This is the same ledge as the one at the top of the 3<sup>rd</sup> pitch of *Solar Plexus*.

P3 – 14 – 12m take the break to the R of pitch 4 of *Solar Plexus*. Move over some piled blocks to the R.

P4 – 19 – 18m Climb the obvious crack on the L by means of some careful bridging, using some holds on the LH wall. Move back, slightly to the L at the top & onto a ledge. This is the same ledge as the one at the top of the 4<sup>rd</sup> pitch of *Solar Plexus*.

P5 – 19 - 20m This is the same pitch as pitch 5 of *Solar Plexus*.

### **G - Gomenghast – 18<sup>2 4</sup>**

Dave & Babi Freer & Gary Hodgkinson, Easter 1984 (T)

P1 – 18 Start up crack to L of gully with “bus” chockstone in it. Go through the overhang & tree. Continue for 10m to belay ledge.

P2 – 18 Up off-width / chimney behind higher chockstones.

P3 – 18 Go up “mucking farvelous” diagonal crack to L. Traverse into LH chimney.

P4 - 16 Continue up chimney for 30m.

### **JR – Jolly Roger – 18<sup>2 4</sup>**

Chris Vind & Guy Winfield, Easter 1984 (T)



- P1 – 13 Start 2m L of *Spiritus Sanctus* (?). Climb diagonally R up the blocky ramp.  
P2 – 17 - >35m Traverse into corner system R of *Spiritus Sanctus*. Up 35m to a triangular stance.  
P3 – 17 – 6m Up open book, climbing twin cracks.  
P4 – 14 – 35m Up L leading gully.  
P4 – 17 – 25m Climb obvious layback crack to the top.

## **Spiritus Sanctus (?)**

### **F - Firefly – 16<sup>1</sup>**

Paul Andersen & John Moss 17/11/1974 (T)

Firefly follows a line on the LHS of the great cleft break, about two thirds R of the LH end or the south face.

- P1 – 14 – 20m Start on the lower LHS of the cleft at the foot of a short-broken wall. Climb the wall easily, trend R to the foot of a short wide crack. Up the crack & continue up into the recess in the LH wall of the cleft.  
P2 – 16 – 15m Leave the recess via a chimney on the L, the chimney is blocked by a series of chockstones.  
P3 – 10 – 30m Up above the belay, then diagonally L onto the front face of a short wall.  
P4 – 13 – 33m Over the wall & move to the L into a steep chimney, up the chimney past a huge chockstone to a large platform.  
P5 – 13 20m Continue up the chimney to where it becomes blocked. Move L & up to a stance.  
P6 – 11 -17m Climb the wall above. Easier rock leads to the summit ridge.

### **FV – Firefly Variation – 17<sup>2</sup>**

Alvin Woods & Christina Rotteglia, Easter 1984 (T)

From the top of the 2<sup>nd</sup> pitch of Firefly, step out R, out of the gully & climb the cracks to the top.

### **Bogfly – 17 140m<sup>4</sup>**

Dave & Barbi Freer, Alvin Woods & Christina Rotteglia, Easter 1984 (T)

This route starts R of Firefly & crosses it to the L.

### **Howling Wolf – 19 ★★★<sup>2 4</sup>**

Alvin Wood, Keith James & Chris Radcliff, Easter 1984 (T)

This is a varied & sustained gem.

Start to the R of the water drip. A broken, partly vegetated, low angle blocky ramp, leads up to an obvious chimney.

- P1 – 17 – 45m Climb the ramp up to the big stance at the base of the RH chimney.  
P2 – 17 – 40m Climb the chimney strenuously & exit onto a series of sloping ledges on the R.  
P3 – 19 – 20m Face climb past tree above to big stance.  
P4 – 19 – 23m Climb very strenuously to big stance above.  
P5 – 13 – 35m Continue up obvious chimney to the top.

### **Trampezuis – 17, A1<sup>2 3 4</sup>**

Andrew Forsyth, Mike McKechnie & Clee Roy, Easter 1984 (T)

- P1 – 16 – 20m Climb the chimney up to a chockstone. Make a move to the R, then a move back L & up to a ledge below a narrow chimney.  
P2 – 17, A1 – 22m Traverse along the ledge to the R until reaching the base of a black layback jam crack. Climb this past some loose looking blocks roughly halfway up. Onto a big ledge. 3 points of aid were used.  
P3 - 17, A1 – 35m Climb the crack in the corner. Up to a small roof, make an awkward move to the L & then up directly to a large ledge. (This pitch was freed by Tarquin Holt & Tinie Versveld at 20)  
P4 – 16 – 22m Move L into a wide chimney. Straight up over big chockstone, exiting at the top through a large hole.



### **FH – February’s Hangover – 21 ★★★<sup>2 4</sup>**

Tarquin Holt & Tinie Versveld (Ed February was absent), Easter 1984 (T)

Start 4m R of *Trampezuis*.

P1 – 21 – 25m Climb the crack.

P2 – 19 – 20m Climb groove above until it is possible to move R into a continuation of recess/crack to a good stance.

P3 - 20 – 30m Continue straight up crack, moving L at roof. Ascend the crack.

P4 Scramble to the top.

### **Gunge of a 1000 Campaigns – 21<sup>2 3 4</sup>**

Russ Dodding & Stewart Middlemiss, Good Friday 20/04/1984 (T)

The name *Gunge of a 1000 Campaigns* refers to the contents of Russ’ E.B.s (old school climbing boot/shoes) not to the quality of the route.

P1 – 16 – 35m Start directly below the large chockstone that is 10m R of the bivi cave, with the freestanding pillar cairn. Up to chockstone, stance on top.

P2 – 19 – 20m Up RH crack, where it flares, transfer to the LH layback crack. Up the layback crack to a large ledge.

P3 – 14 – 10m Up chimney to twin chockstones.

P4 - 19 – 40m Up LH crack for 15m until you are able transfer back R into main crack. Up this strenuously to roof. Chimney past this to “diving board” on top.

P5 – 13 – 20m Walk 5m R. Up groove & scramble to the summit.

### **Idiots Outing – 20 ★★★<sup>2 3 4</sup>**

Alvin Wood, Julian Maund, Andy Wood, Andy Smith, Russ Dodding, Paul Schlotfeldt & Guy Robins, Easter 1984 (T)

20m, single pitch. Start 3m L of *Ripped Off*. Climb the crack to where it peters out & abseil off.

### **Ripped Off – 20<sup>2 4</sup>**

Keith James & James Kantor (1<sup>st</sup> pitch), Easter 1984 (T)

Chris Radcliff, Guy Robins & Gordon Morton opened the rest. Easter 1984 (T)

Start 5m L of Man *On The T Shirt*.

P1 – 19 – 40m To a tree stance.

P2 – 17 – 30m

P3 – 16 – 45m

### **Pirates Are Pooftahs – 20<sup>2 3 4</sup>**

Guy Robins, Adrian “Pygmy” Jardin & Steve Bradshaw, Easter 1984 (T)

Crack 1m to the R of *Ripped Off*. 40m to a tree, then abseil.

### **Man On The T Shirt – 21 ★★★<sup>2 3</sup>**

Guy Robins & James Kantor, Easter 1984 (T)

A classic 3 pitch layback. Start 5m R of *Ripped Off*.

P1 - 19 – 20m Climb the obvious layback crack to stance on the R.

P2 – 20 - 15m Layback the flake, moving L to the block. Move up to a small stance below a black crack.

P3 – 17 – 10m Climb the hand crack, moving L on crimps to *Ripped Off* stance. Abseil off or continue up *Ripped Off*.

### **For Your Legs Only – 20<sup>2 4</sup>**

Guy Robins & James Kantor, Easter 1984 (T)



Start 3m R of *Man On The T Shirt*. Climb the obvious & sustained off-width crack. Single pitch, 20m.

**PD - Polyphased Deformation – 21, A2<sup>2 4</sup>**

Andy de Klerk, Chris Jackson & Gordon Bosch, Easter 1984 (T)

Start 10m L of Heffelump Hunting.

P1 – 21 - 35m Climb chimney crack to stance.

P2 – 20, A1 – 35m Climb crack with on aid point through roof. Up off-width & hand crack. 3 points of aid where the crack pinches closed.

P3 – A2 - 27m Climb the crack to belay under small roof below groove.

P4 – 17, A1 – 50m 1 point of aid through roof. Climb the gully to the top.

**HH – Heffelump Hunting – 21, A2 ★★<sup>2 4</sup>**

Tarquin Holt, Tinie Versveld & Lawrence Chambers, Easter 1984 (T)

Apparently, this was one of the boldest routes climbed on the SACC Easter 1984 meet.

Start at the obvious leaning pillar on the RHS of the south face, near the south east corner of Hangklip.

P1 – 19 – 25m Climb crack to L of pillar & crack above.

P2 – 21, A2 – 20m Continue up crack, through roof & up finger crack. Traverse R to stance, using points of aid where necessary.

P3 – 20 – 30m Traverse R, around the corner & up crack.

P4 – 20 – 15m Up through roof to summit.

Excellent layback at the top.

**Cul-de-sac – 17 (?)<sup>4</sup>**

Tony Maddison, Rob Brand & Doric Holmes April 1984





## East Face



### **BL – Brotherly Love – 20**<sup>2 4</sup>

George & Steve Mallory, Derie Van Eeden, Easter 1984 (T)

On the East Face, about 200m R of the corner where the South Face Meets the East Face, is a huge square, 13m roof ± halfway up the cliff, *the flying buttress*. Start 13m L of this huge roof.

P1 – 19 – 45m Climb up the recess to where it steepens into a crack (±35m up). Move ±3m L & then up to a large ledge.

P2 – 19 – 23m Climb the corner & jam crack above, until hanging stance can be made at a resting place.

P3 – 20 – 23m Continue up the same crack, past an overhanging section to where the grade eases.

P4 – 16 – 30m Up the chimney to the top.

### **Squirt – 19**<sup>2 3 4</sup>

Dorick Holmes, Tony Maddison & Rob Brand, Easter 1984 (T)

Start 5m L of the *flying buttress*.

P1 – 19 – 40m

P2 – 16 – 22m

P3 – 16 – 35m

P4 – 16 – 20m

### **SR - Sibling Rivalry – 21, A1** ★★<sup>2 4</sup>

George & Steve Mallory, Derie Van Eeden, Easter 1984 (T)

On the East Face, about 200m R of the corner where the South Face Meets the East Face, is a huge square, 13m roof ± halfway up the cliff, *the flying buttress*. Start just R of this huge roof.

P1 – 19 – 30m Climb up onto the 10m buttress on the LHS. From the RHS of the top of the buttress, climb a jam crack to a big ledge in the open book, below a layback crack.

P2 – 21, A1 – 23m Up the layback fist crack until it is possible to step L to stand delicately, using finger locks. Climb up another 2m to make a hanging stance.

P3 – 20 – 22m From the hanging stance, move R to a jug & a mantle. Continue up the crack to where the crack diverges & widens into a narrow chimney.

P4 – 19 – 30m From the stance, move R onto a huge ledge. Walk R to the end of the ledge & climb straight up to a stance below a recess.

P5 – 17 – 30m Up to the top.

#### References:

<sup>1</sup> John Moss M CSA Journal 1974, Page 61

<sup>2</sup> Handwritten notes from Port Elizabeth Camp Trails file.

<sup>3</sup> Andrew Forsyth's handwritten personal journal & loose route descriptions.

<sup>4</sup> Keith James South African Climbers Club, May 1984 Newsletter