

# New Routes - Stapylton Area



The new routes listed below are those which are located in the Mt Zero Range, which is defined here to mean everything north and/or west of Roses Gap Road. Included routes are those which have been submitted, and which are not in the existing published guidebooks (*Grampians Select*, Mentz & Tempest 1998; *North Grampians*, Andrews 1989?; *North Grampians Update*, Andrews 1993?, and are not in the October 2003 online [Grampians PDF guide](#).

The routes here are made available on this site on an "as received" basis without any verification by the VCC. Thus, listed routes may have inaccurate details such as grade/length/location etc, or may be entirely fictional. If you have any information that clarifies or questions existing route descriptions, please send it in to the [New Routes](#) You need JavaScript to see this content. .

Information regarding replacement/installation of bolts and abseil anchors can be found at [Safer Cliffs Victoria](#).

## **ISKRA CRAG - DOLGORUKI WALL**

**Rostislav** 14m 8

10m right of Dolgoruki Direct. Flake crack to scoop, up corner to belay in through cave. The other side of the cave is on the First Tier ledge, scramble off. Ben Wright, Heather Murray, Geoff Brian. 18.1.04

## **AMNESTY WALL**

**The Tyrants Grasp** 18m 22 [sport]

Additional bolt added to start so dangerous stick-clip off chossy ledge can be avoided.

**The Good Fight** 25

The dodgy wire placement that protected the crux (past the horizontal break) no longer exists. A bolt is now required to make the climb a safer prospect - Steve Chapman

**Amnesia** 25m 21

The route has been written up as 'Unnamed' 25m 21/23 by Matt Brooks. Dianne Fermio was in fact the first ascentionist of the Grade 17 part of the climb & also the Upper Grade 21 continuation on the right hand side of the pillar. Dianne Fermio October 2001

**Amnesia L Variant** 25m 23

Matt Brooks. October 2001

## **SANDINISTA WALL**

**Reversing Peregrines** 25m 23

Very pumpy fun thugging, tempered by iffy rock and pro below the 1st bolt - long stick clip recommended. Start 8m L of Fading Fast (i.e. start 15m L of Contra Arms Pump). Carefully up steep juggy fractured rock just L of the bolt to join the major R-wards diagonal. Pump R past 2nd bolt to join FF which is followed to the top (i.e. R beneath dead bush and then up the crack 4m L of Contra). Top out, or better, walk 4m R on the last ledge and reverse mantle to new DRB anchor atop Contra. Full set of cams including a #4 camalot or equivalent, plus 1 or 2 medium wires. Will Monks, Neil Monteith 21.8.05

**Fading Fast** is marked with a painted white square at the start.

## **WHITE WALL**

North Grampians guide p160, North Grampians Update p20

**The Misty Ridge** 60m 17

A mountaineering romp up a major feature. Squeezed in between Sunset Boulevard and Pig Sticker. Pitch 1 15m 17 - Up Pig Sticker for 8m to base of wide left facing flake corner. Ignore this and step 2m right to steep left facing hand crack in corner. Up this for 7m to ledge and belay. Pitch 2 40m 10 Step around right up jugs to huge slabby arête. Up this arête staying as close to the edge as possible for maximum exposure. The finish steepens slightly for full value. Walk off down via Echoes Block. Neil Monteith & Kathy Dicker 2.7.2005

## **CUT LUNCH WALLS**

An online guide to Cut Lunch Walls (Mt Stapylton, Grampians) with photo topos can be found [here](#).

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## \*\* On My Own 19m 24

Variant finish to Tender Hooks which offers sustained pump pleasure on immaculate rock. Up to it's third RB past crux then bridge right across scoop (FH) to stunning red varnish wall. Pumpy moves on positive edges (RB) lead to a very tricky move to gain horizontal under rooflet (#1 SLCD). Jug to glory through roof and up easy headwall (RB) to DRB lower-off. Long draws are useful. Direct start past three RB's is a project. FFA Neil Monteith 24.4.2004

## Justin Thyme 20m 23

Needs a couple of bolts, climbed on pre-placed wires. Start 8m right of Salad Abuse. Cairn to reach flake then hard moves right. Up the corner then easy ground to Upper Cut Lunch Wall Ledge. Robin Holmes, Steve Chapman Sept. 04

## Koalasquatsy Wall

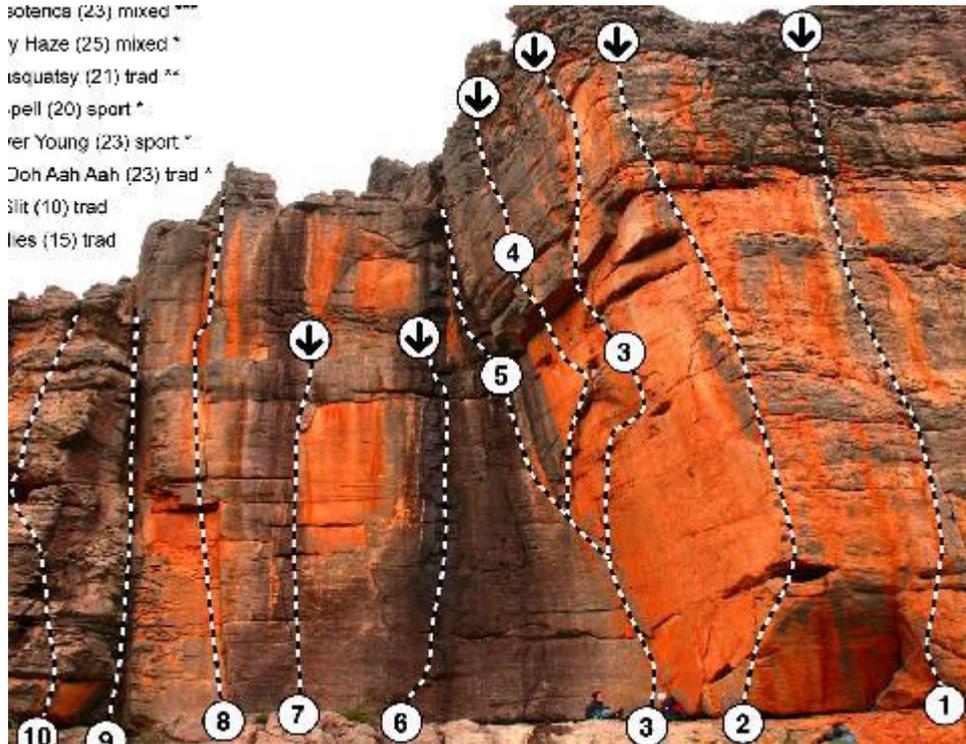
### Tranquilliser

20m 24 \*

[Mixed]

Long steep wall with burly start. Starts 7m right of Us Esoterics and 2m right of arête (Wheels of Steel). Boulder start up tiny corner (FH) to thin crux crack (FH). Wander up slabby jugs to blank bulge (FH) and onwards up steep juggy wall. Rap anchor. Full rack required including small wires. Neil Monteith & Mike File 21-08-2005

potencia (23) mixed \*\*\*  
y Haze (25) mixed \*  
isquatsy (21) trad \*\*  
pell (20) sport \*  
er Young (23) sport \*  
Joh Aah Aah (23) trad \*  
ilit (10) trad  
les (15) trad



## \*\* Wheels Of Steel 18m 26 [sport]

Stunning prominent orange arête that was strangely ignored by previous climbers. The prow with the undercut start 5m right of Us Esoterics. Start on ledge as for Us Esoterics. Leap for jug, cut loose out right to arête. Boulder moves up this on delightful dishes leads to easier climbing before final pumpy bulge. 7 bolts and double ring lower-off. Was originally led on two bolts but sense prevailed and now it's a very pleasant outing. FFA Neil Monteith & Hannah Lockie 13.5.2006

## \* Candy Haze 25m 25 [Mixed]

Varied wall climbing with a tough gritty finish. Up Koalaquatsy for 5m (wires). Lean right to clip u-bolt on rooflet. Out right then up pumpy flake, step left into heucos then over roof to final tricky headwall. 6 UBs and lower-off. FFA Kent Paterson 03-06-2006

## Dry Spell 15m 20\* [mixed]

Drought conditions only! The black gritty water streak 2m left of Koalaquatsy. Highball (or optional small wires) to first BR, then layaway and stem up the subtle line past another two BRs. #1 SLCD in horizontal for finish mantle move onto belay ledge. Rap off slings. Neil Monteith & Hannah Lockie 08-04-2006

## \* Forever Young 15m 23 [Sport]

Expect some big whips! A mystery single rusty bolt has been on this route for many years but remained un-claimed. It is now a sport route with an exciting finish. Starts about 2m right of Ooh Ooh Aah Aah at slab. Boulder up to first bolt, pump through horizontals then undercling up to shallow pockets and right facing flake. Now, launch for the top ledge! 4 UBs and lower-off. FFA

# New Routes - Stapylton Area

VCC

Neil Monteith 11-06-2006

## TRIBUTE GULLY

A small shady spot on the way into Van Dieman's Land - Mt Stapylton. About 200m past Cut Lunch Walls the track passes through a tight canyon with a nice looking wall on the right side this is it. If you end up scrambling along and down a ledge using a tree you have gone too far (that is the way to VD land).

**Lines N' Noses** 10m 18 \* [Sport]

Fun little jug fest and the best warm-up in the area. Starts 1.5m left of In Halen at left edge of main wall. Boulder the start, then straight up the sustained subtle arête. Four u-bolts. Lower off anchor above In Halen. Neil Monteith & Will Monks 31-07-2005

\* **In Halen** 13m 18

At the left end of this wall is a featured grey face which is a tiny bit overhung. Look up about 8m and spot the ringbolts. The first half is trad - and takes good big and small wires in obvious slots. Double rap rings on top. The route is a very good warm-up being pumpy with no sharp holds. FFA Neil Monteith & Gareth Llewellyn April 2004

We felt that In Halen was solid at grade 18, once you got about 2 - 3m off the ground! The first moves were very bouldery and harder than grade 18. The rest of the route was as described. Trad gear was good and pretty obvious. There seems to be a general reluctance to grade a route harder if the crux is leaving the ground. But that's a separate issue. Michael O'Reilly

*Pic: Ross Timms (a.k.a. Peter Garrett) "dancing" on Midnight Soiled. Pic by Michael O'Reilly*

**Midnight Soiled** 14m 22 [sport]

Start in the 'green', 3m left of By Jovi, directly below orange jug and very large pocket. Climb straight up for 6m until holds disappear. Make an unexpected, very large move to the right and up (crux), to a poor crimp and then good holds. Pumpy traverse left for 2 metres. Continue straight up to top. This route has been entirely retro-bolted (5 UBs) to fit into the theme of other routes on this wall. The route now finishes direct to the anchors above By Jovi. Permission was gained from first ascent party. The route is certainly worth at least one star. Michael O'Reilly, Ross Timms, Steve Chapman and Peter Garrett. 12-6-04

\* **By Jovi** 14m 23 (sport route)

Starts 5m right of In Halen. Central line of ringbolts up "turtle shell" featured wall. Fingery and sustained climbing with high all rests. Mantle at the top is somewhat exciting. Double rap rings on top. FFA Neil Monteith, Kent Paterson & Jono Schimdt April 2004

We can confirm both the grade and the quality of By Jovi. The better holds were very difficult to distinguish

from the small sloping crap holds, due to the nature of the grey rock. We couldn't find the 'somewhat exciting mantle' at the end of the climb. In actual fact, the final holds (for the moves onto the ledge) were the biggest on the whole route! A recommended route up a nice piece of rock. Michael O'Reilly

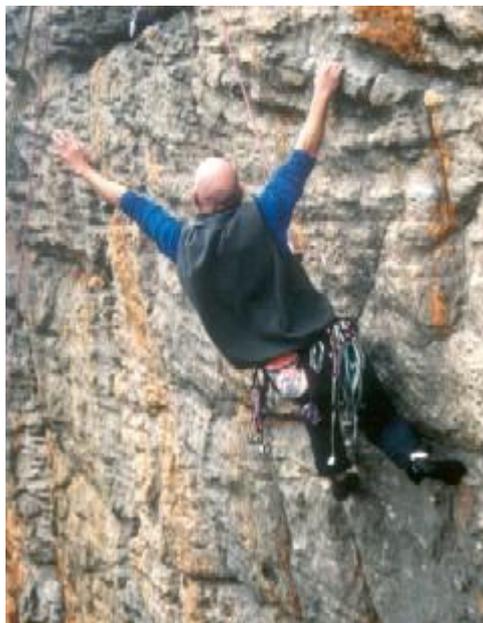
\* **Jet** 14m 23/24

Starts 3m right of By Jovi in front of small pine tree. Less sustained but cruxier than By Jovi. Thin crimping up a slightly overhung wall. Three RB<sup>1</sup>s then jugs and bomber wire slots to finish. FFA Nick McKinnon, Neil Monteith, Will Monks & Kent Paterson 29.5.2004

## UPPER TRIBUTE GULLY

A new wall directly above/behind the main Tribute Wall. Access is either via a route on Tribute Wall or by scrambling 100m along terrace left Us Esoterics. A ravine forms the base of this wall and has a few handy chockstones that can be used as belay platforms. Not a great deal of worthwhile potential for new routes of quality in the mid to high grades. Some good easy routes can be done on the right side.

\* **Back Stabbath** 17m 21



# New Routes - Stapylton Area



Featured steep wall climbing. Central line starting on large chockstone. Belay off single u-bolt. Slight left trending route with a bouldery middle section on slopy holds. Four u-bolts and clip-and-go loweroff anchor. Bring a small trad rack of medium wires and hand/fist sized cams. FFA Neil Monteith, Adam Demmert & Hiedi Macklin 26.2.2005

## **BAD MOON RISING WALL**

The large smooth streaked slab between Koalasquatsy and Van Diemans Land. North Grampians Guide p163, North Grampians Update p21, and an online guide can be found [here](#).

All routes on the left side of the wall have natural belays, with descent provided by a 22m abseil off DRB 8m R of Bitten Finger.

This wall resides at Hollow Mountain, Grampians, Victoria. These are the slabby streaked walls between Tribute Wall and Van Dieman's Land. The routes and rock quality resemble Wall Of Fools at Summer Day Valley. The right side is home to several nice sport routes and the left has some of the best easy jug fests in the Grampians. Surprisingly the harder routes were all but ignored for many years until this guide was being written.

A few weekends and the area sprung from only two easy routes to quite a collection of nice climbs. Descent from the left side trad routes can be made via the double ring-bolts located on the ledge above Revenge Of The Chicken. Cliff faces into the sun most of the day.

Location: Walk through the Tribute Walls ravine, scramble down via worn tree to large open rocky platform. The cliff to the west (right) is Bad Moon Rising Wall. If you continue along this rocky platform for 80m you will end up in the Van Dieman's Land Amphitheatre. Routes described right to left.

### **1: Raunchy Rooster** 18m 22\* [Sport]

Another good sport route. Surprisingly easy if you can crimp hard. Furthest right most bolted route near the entrance of the chasm. Four UB's and a FH. Second bolt is a scary clip. Lower-off using anchors above Rage And Ruin. Mike File 2005-07-23

### **2: Rage And Ruin** 18m 23\* [Sport]

Nice face climbing with a pumpy surprise finish. Located on far right side of wall at rightwards arching undercling flake. Layback up flake to start for 2m, then blast straight up the thin face above to horizontal. Up slightly right on orange streak to last bolt. Fight directly up to top. Six u-bolts and double RB lower-off. Neil Monteith, Adam Demmert & Mike File 2005-07-03

### **3: All the Way to Eleven** 18m 22\* [Sport]

Start as for, and clip first two bolts on, Rage And Ruin. Step down and head diagonally left across the black streak & up the orange headwall past a further 3 U's and a FH (6 bolts in total). Needs a lower off anchor. James Pfrunder, Jackie Bernardi and a cast of thousands 2005-07-31

### **4: Black Streak Project** 20m 0 [Trad]

Adam Demmert has his eye on this line. Might go at grade 24+

### **5: Chicken Head Hunter** 25m 23\*\* [Sport]

Elegant face route in a similar vein to Diazepam. Very thin start which eases considerably at the halfway point. At least six bolts and a double U-bolt lower off. Adam Demmert & James Pfrunder 2005-07

### **6: Revenge Of The Chickens** 25m 24\*\* [Sport]

The best route on this cliff. Start as for Chicken Head Hunter. Up this to bolt three, then step left and follow line of UB's up the increasingly pumpy and difficult wall to runout finish. Double UB lower-off. Adam Demmert, Malcolm Matheson & Neil Monteith 2005-07-20

### **7: Bitten Finger** 22m 17 [Mixed]

The first features left of the central blank section of the wall are two parallel orange overlaps. Climb the overlaps with pro on the left, to the crux bulge (BR). Follow the holds and gear up the slab above, staying just left of a small water groove. Takes wires, small-med cams and a bolt plate. Will Monks & Ben Cirulis.

### **8: Headless Chickens** 22m 15 [Trad]

2m L of Bitten Fingers. Easily up orange patch to bulge, which is breached via a small crack/weakness with great gear and buckets. Headless chickenheads keep the slab above interesting. Take wires & small-med cams. Ben Cirulis & Will Monks.

### **9: Octohexarian** 27m 8 [Trad]

The central buckety black streak. Take slings for bollards. Starts about 10m right of Bad Moon Rising and 4m left of Headless Chickens. Unknown 1980's

### **10: Bite The Hand** 23m 11\* [Trad]

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Direct line up juggy gritty slab. Starts 6m right of Bad Moon Rising below light grey streak which ends at same finish as BMR. Up left side of grey streak to delightful short right facing thin flake at 1/3 height. Continue up on jugs to top. Descend via double u-bolts above Revenge Of The Chickens Neil Monteith & Kathy Dicker 2005-07-02

## **11: Bad Moon Rising** 30m 14 [Trad]

The landmark right facing leaning corner on the left side of the wall. The line looks good but the rock quality is fairly suss in many places. Bring a full rack. James McIntosh & Melanie Taws 1986-11-08

## **12: Puddlejugs** 20m 17 [Trad]

The prominent arete left of the Bad Moon Rising corner. Climb the Bad Moon Rising corner for 5m, moving left onto the pedestal. Continue up the overhung face moving left around the arête, and follow the right-hand crack to the top. Ben Cirulis & Jo Hugman 2005-07-31.

### **VAN DIEMAN'S LAND**

#### **\* The Brian Jonestown Massacre** 15m 25

I see yellow, I see orange, I see green and I see blue. Located directly below Jane's Addiction. 7 bolts to lower off. Great. FFA Kent Paterson 13.5.2006

#### **\* Happiness in Magazines** 20m 25 [Sport]

Brilliant pumper. First 6 bolts of The Brian Jonestown Massacre then traverse left on pockets past 2 bolts to join up with the pumpy finish of My Bloody Valentine. 9 bolts. FFA Kent Paterson 03-06-2006

#### **Sonic Youth** 30m 24 \*\* [sport]

A mega link-up of the pocketed wall from Terminal Insomnia all the way across to finish up Sisters Of Mercy. FFA Kent Paterson & Alister Roberston 10.6.2006

### **STAPYLTON AMPHITHEATRE - CLOUD CUCKOO LAND**

Cloud Cuckoo land is on the south side of Flat Rock. It has been written up before but the directions had a mistake. Follow the marked track up flat rock until it swings left then continue straight up to the top of Flat Rock. Follow easy ramps down the south side of Flat Rock to where a large pinnacle sits in front of an easy-angled slab (which is part of Flat Rock). The rock is generally appalling apart from the slab and most of the climbs lack appeal. These next climbs take the main slab and the corner on the left side of the slab and provide the place with something worth repeating.

#### **What The Dormouse Said** 12m 15

Nice moves. Sport route. The next route left of Heat Haze, past 3 bolts, moving slightly right past second bolt, to rap anchor on ledge below crud rock. Kieran Loughran, Ray Lassman March 2006.

#### **Grace Slick** 12m 20

I was going to grade it by the second-hardest move but have guessed at this. We both took a few goes on top-rope to work out the last moves but it's probably easier now it's cleaned. Sport route. The route left of What The Dormouse Said, 3 bolts to rap anchor. Kieran Loughran, Ray Lassman April 2006

#### **White Rabbit** 12m 11

Lovely corner that's harder than it looks. The corner marking the left edge of the slab is really nice and will clean up to be a good climb. Belay on the large ledge on the left. Ray Lassman, Kieran Loughran April 2006.

### **STAPYLTON AMPHITHEATRE - NORTHERN WALLS**

A new rappel anchor has been placed to serve the Trident area - avoiding the need for the scramble across right to the tree. The new anchor is about 10m left of the top of Trident and is easy to get to. It is about a 35m abseil - I didn't have a 70m rope to see if that would work but you will definitely need a second rope if your rope is shorter than that.

#### **Plastic People** 47m 19

Was almost going to call it YACSAFT (yet another climb starting as for Trident) but that would be silly. Mostly quite easy but the last pitch is very good. The second and third pitches should be combined but someone was being a wimp. 1. 20m Start as for Trident to the traverse. Traverse left and for Trident but continue left around the arete and belay as far left as you can on a small stance on the lip of the overhang (this pitch is as for pitch 1 of It's My Brain Again) 2. 15m Rising traverse left into the base of the corner marking the left side of the steep wall. Easily up the

# New Routes - Stapylton Area



corner to a commodious ledge on the left below the overhang. 3. 12m (crux) Pull through the overhang in the left of two lines almost immediately above and continue up to rap-anchor. Norm Booth, Kieran Loughran (alt) and Ray Lassman February 2006

## **STAPYLTON AMPHITHEATRE - CENTRAL BUTTRESS**

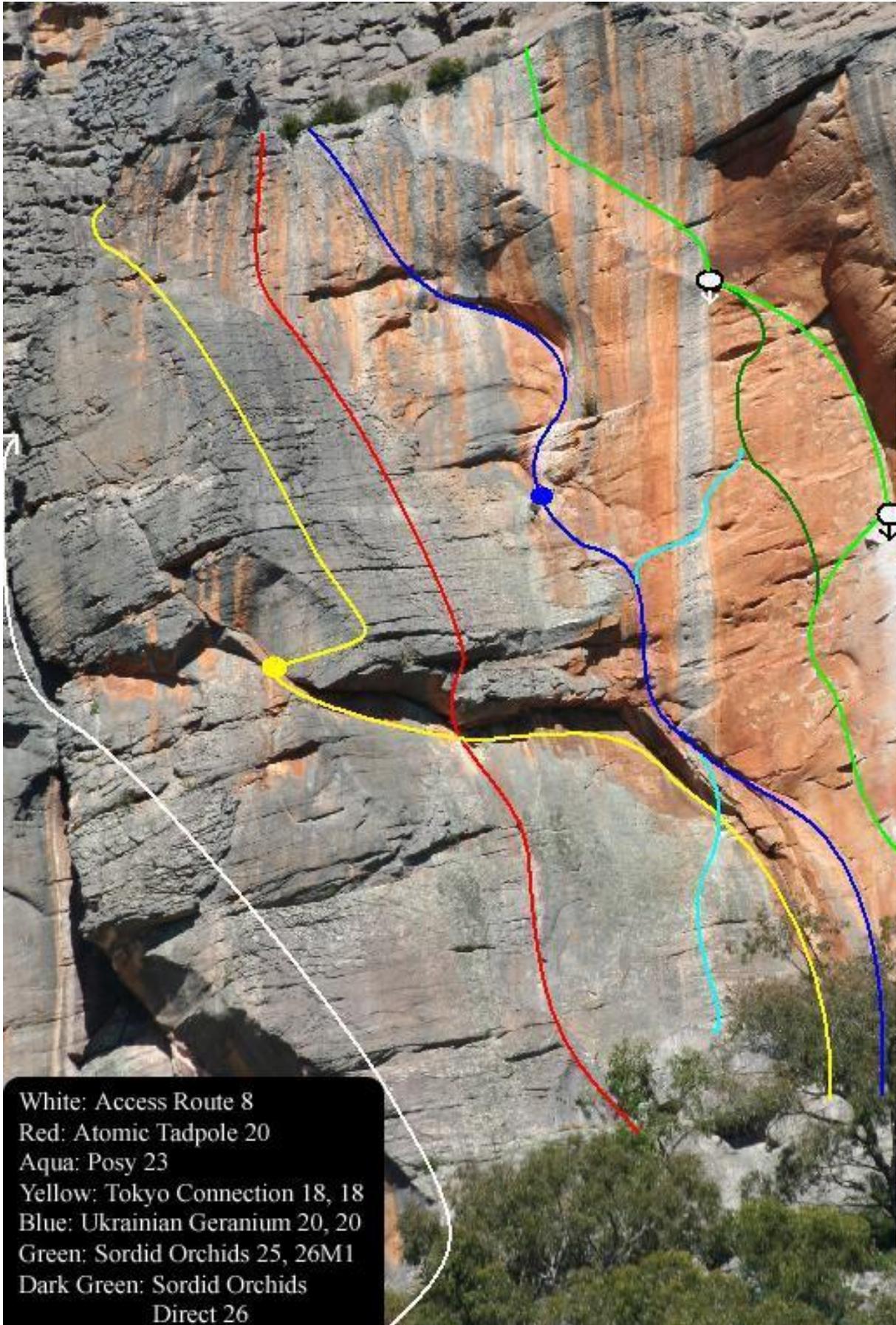
### **Cerambycid variant 16**

This interesting variant to the second pitch of Cerambycid is very serious with poorly protected climbing on fragile rock. The leader waltzed up it and the second followed screaming, leaving a trail of detached holds in his wake. 2a. Bridge up the gully for a few metres until able to move out right onto loose holds on the arête (no protection to this point). Climb the arête on fragile flakes, with a step right into Cerambycid at one point for a runner, until you meet the left end of the overhang. Continue more easily to belay. Ray Lassman, Kieran Loughran Dec 2006

## **TAIPAN WALL**

*Topo of Taipan wall left end routes, by Will Monks*

# New Routes - Stapylton Area



White: Access Route 8  
Red: Atomic Tadpole 20  
Aqua: Posy 23  
Yellow: Tokyo Connection 18, 18  
Blue: Ukrainian Geranium 20, 20  
Green: Sordid Orchids 25, 26M1  
Dark Green: Sordid Orchids  
Direct 26

# New Routes - Stapylton Area

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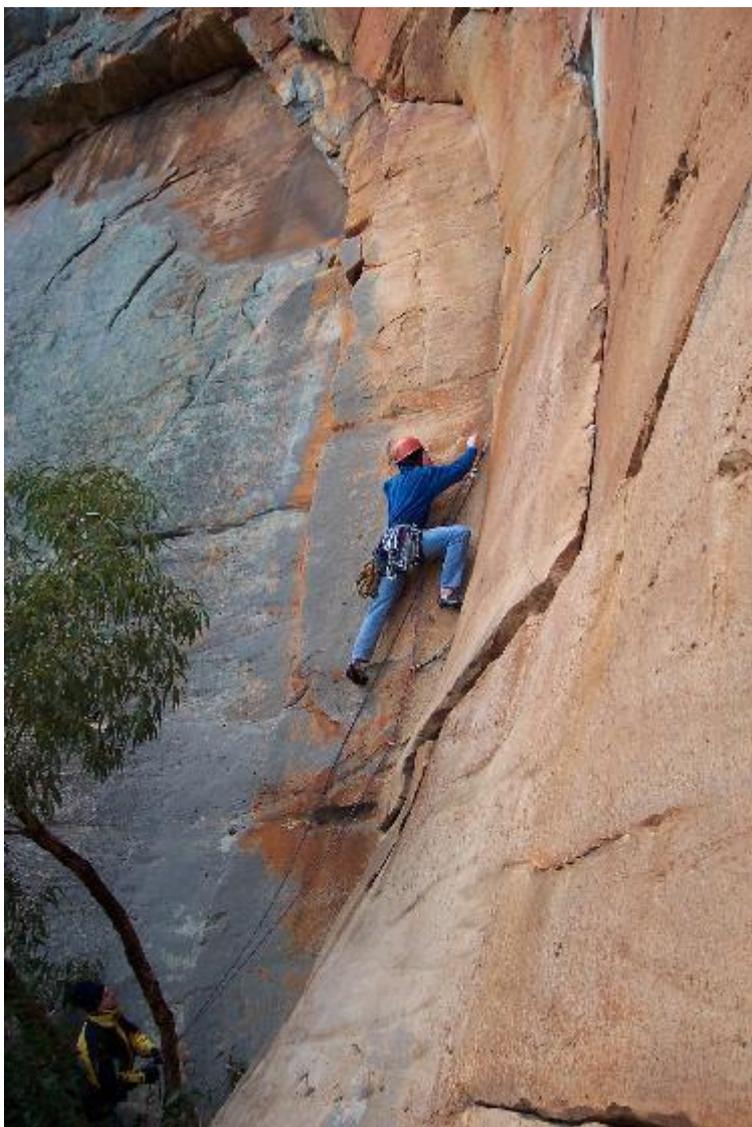
## \* **Posy** 28m 23

A selection of the various flowers, and adds some nice poses of its own. Defies the left-leaning nature of all the other routes here. Start on the big boulder between Atomic Tadpole and Tokyo Rose (Tokyo Connection). Trend R up the easy but only adequately protected slab (pro is on the R). Cross Tokyo Rose and join Ukrainian Geranium, which is followed for 8m over bulges to the start of the upper slab. Arrange pro, traverse 3m R to FH, then up grey streak to break. Move R to join Sordid Orchids Direct past it's final 2 FHs, to rap anchor (28m). Full set of cams and wires, and several long draws (or double ropes). Will Monks, Mike File 1.10.05

## \*\* **Ukrainian Geranium** 45m 20

Start 2m R of Tokyo Rose (Tokyo Connection), and 2m L of Sordid Orchids. 1) (25m 20) Thin orange corner then diagonally up L with feet dropping into TR for a move or two. Steeply over bulge and up the short orange flake on the R to gain slab. SHB below white bulge. 2) (20m 20) Move R over white bulge to ledge. Leftward arcing thin orange corner to the intermittent crack 4m R of Atomic Tadpole's finish. Will Monks, Kevin Lindorff (alt), Joe Goding 11/9/04

*Pic: Will Monks on the first ascent of **Ukrainian Geranium** (20), Photo by Kevin Lindorff*



## \*\* **Sordid Orchids Direct** 28m 26

Extends the first pitch of Sordid Orchids by 12m and adds three bolts. Sustained wall climbing with crimpers and reach moves. Climbs more like a Blue Mtns wall climb rather than a Taipan steep sloper fest. Climb SO to horizontal break after last RB. Instead of traversing off right hand straight up wall above (FH), step left (#2 camalot) and then up again (2 FH's). At large slopey rail step right into SO pitch 2 and climb this for 2m to a single U-bolt loweroff (60m rope only!). Above this U-bolt is the aid move on SO pitch 2. It still looks impossible! FFA Neil Monteith & Will Monks 26.1.2005

## \* **Dance of Life Dinosaurs Don't Dyno Connection** 40m 23 M1

Takes in some great climbing and avoids the crux of both routes. 1) (25m 23M1) Up DoL to the major break 10m below the top, step R to comfy belay off bollards and large cams. 2) (15m 20) Traverse L along the break, cross Clean Sweep, and join DDD at good stance on the arete. Up the short slab and groove finish of DDD. Will Monks, James Pfrunder, Kevin Lindorff 25/9/04

## \* **The Mint** 42m 21

Start at the R end of the elevated ledge at the base of Dinosaurs Don't Dyno, but belay on wide

ledge 6m below to see crux. 1) (32m 21) From elevated ledge, step down to hand traverse R under large roof, cross Great Divide and continue traversing R to Seventh Banana first anchor. 2) (10m 17) Continue traversing R to Sirocco first anchor. Rap off. Full set of cams. Has also been done by starting up the unpleasant flakes 10m L of Great Divide leading to the largest part of the roof (10m longer, not recommended). Pitch 2 can probably be reversed at the same grade by those wanting more after Sirocco's first pitch (or those who don't like Sirocco's sling anchor!).

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Will Monks, Mark Rewi (alt), Neil Monteith 15/1/05

**\*\* Divided Years** 16m 25

Steep scoopy 'World Party' start then thin technical finish. Well protected and convenient for climbers who end up on the ledge above the left end of Taipan. This route is a rap in and climb out affair between The Great Divide and Daedalus. Locate double rap rings on ledge about 10m south of the Dance Of Life rap chains. Rap down wall aiming for double ring belay at right end of horizontal break. You will need to be pushing off and swinging in to reach this anchor the wall is steep! Traverse left across horizontal (FH), then up into water funnel scoop (two FHs) to small cave. Out right side of this cave on crimpers past final FH to juggy gritty finish. #3 SLCD and a few medium wires are all that is required in the trad department. FFA Neil Monteith, Kent Paterson & Hannah Lockie 4.12.2005

**\*\* Seventh Pillar Right Hand Variant** 14m 21

Sustained moves in a fantastic position. Start at the original 2nd belay of Seventh Pillar (i.e. at the guano-stained stance halfway up the 2nd pitch as now described). Extend high pro in the original, then traverse 3m R to incipient flakes. Up past 2 FH and straight up grey streak (med wire). Step L to belay as for the original. Will Monks, Kevin Lindorff 9/10/04

**\*Snake Flake Direct Start** 25m 26

Adds a good independent direct start to this route. Up slabby flake for 6m as for Invisible Fist. Traverse left under roof and over roof flake (FH) with tricky mantle move over lip. Extend runners to avoid rope drag. FFA Malcolm Matheson, Neil Monteith, Jacqui Middleton. 25.5.03

**\*\*\* Fisting Party** 50m 26 [sport]

A link-up of The Invisible Fist into the top two pitches of World Party. One of the greatest single pitches in the universe for anyone with the stamina. Almost a sport route (15 bolts) with only two medium wires being optional on the entire route. Climb Invisible Fist to the 2nd last ring, then step right (new FH) into the slopy rightwards traverse of World Party pitch 2. Finish up pitch three of World Party - the 'best 24 in the country'. Neil Monteith 4.3.2006 (split into two pitches)

**\* Constrictor** 18m 21

Squeezed in-between pitch one of World Party and Anaconda. Starts 3m right of World Party and just left of small bush growing out of horizontal crack. Boulder up tenuously onto orange slab and good pocket (FH). Step left slightly and climb slopers directly to re-join World Party at large horizontal. Traverse right across this for four metres to short vertical flake. Arrange pro and balance up flake onto slab (FH). Finish up slopers (FH) and over final committing bulge to ledge. Rap chain. FFA Neil Monteith 8.11.2004

## **SPURT WALL**

**\* Splutter** 17m 25 [sport]

Starts 2m left of Dial-A-Lama. Stickclip first ringbolt. Bouldery start then a few good bulges, pockets and slopes before being confronted with a confounding sequence to reverse into the upper crux of Dial-A-Lama. Finish right as for that route past its last bolt to rap chain. Seven bolts. Neil Monteith 5.3.2006

## **THE PLAZA STRIP**

**\* Hip-bath** 20m 16

A small climb with lots of interest. 1. Traverse left from the start of Foot-Spa along the lip of the roof. Follow the diagonal crack up right then wriggle back left, finishing up headwall just right of the arete. First ascent: Keith Lockwood, Kieran Loughran, Sept 25, 2004

## **BULLANT WALL**

This wall, beside the summit walking track, is at the point where a side track heads right towards the Citadel. The Plaza Strip is about 100 metres back to the left of Bullant Wall. Note: I disagree with Kieran's idea about Bouldering Buttress and The Plaza Strip. They are separate entities, and I found it too dangerous to walk/scramble from one to the other. If you walk right from Bouldering Buttress, you end up on top of the climb Foot-Spa and half-way up the climb Evil Elf.

**Nipper** 15m 13

The left-hand, curving line on Bullant Wall. The finish is a bit of a surprise. Keith Lockwood, Norm Booth, Tim Lockwood. 5.7.03

**\*Sting** 15m 20

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Nice laybacky flakes up bulging wall 3m right of Nipper. Could be a soft touch for the grade, but it's a bit pumpy for a lingering leader. Tim Lockwood, Keith Lockwood, Norm Booth. 5.7.03

## **THE GUARDHOUSE, MT STAPYLTON CAMPGROUND**

West facing wave of overhung orange rock on the hill behind Stapylton Campground. Follow Sentinel Cave track for ten minutes until you can spot the wall on the left high on the hillside. Hike directly up gully to below wall and follow ledge system marked with cairns to base of wall. Morning shade. 25 minute walk-in. See the drawing done by Neil.

### **\*Little George 14m 23**

Named after George the baby gecko, that hitched a ride on a backpack all the way to Brunswick... causing havoc at Jac's place for two weeks before being returned to the Grampians! Follows left-trending line of four ringbolts in centre of crag just right of big scoopy hueco in rooflet. Stroll through delicate start just left of first bolt, locate the secret hold, and march your way to glory over steep juggy terrain. Double RB lower off. Jacqui Middleton, Neil Monteith. 25.4.03

### **Ranger Danger 14m 24**

Weaves around black streak on far right side of crag. Bouldery start (stick clip ring), up slots to easier ground. At halfway head slightly right to hidden RB and crux dyno. Finish up steep jugs. Five RBs and DRB lower-off. FFA Neil Monteith, Kent Paterson. 14.6.03

### **\*\* Line Of Sight 15m 23 [sport]**

Wave to the scout hoards at Stapylton Campground as you pull to glory through the ceiling. Located on left side of wall about 8m left of Little George. Reachy orange goodness to start to reach prominent roof cave. Over roof and up right side of subtle arête to final juggy wall (optional large wires to avoid mild runout). 5 UB and double UB lower-off. FFA Neil Monteith 7.5.2006

## **SENTINEL CAVE, MT STAPYLTON CAMPGROUND**

### **Easier Puzzle 12m 10**

Start at small corner break 2m left of Half Shark Half Man. Follow break to finish at Half Shark Half Man's anchors. Phil Neville, Joe Morgan-Payler, Michael Schedlberger. 18.4.03

### **Antics 15m 26**

Climbs the biggest section of the roof in true HB style. Five metres of solid ceiling thuggery. Follow Army Of Ants to first bolt, then traverse left to ledge. Climb left leading roof flakes directly above the ledge past 4 FHs to lip. Back climb to clean. No anchor. FFA Malcolm Matheson, Jacqui Middleton. 24.05.03

### **Makybe Diva 7m 25 (sport route)**

A direct start to Antics. Starts 3m left of Army of Ants. Steep bulgy wall in true Nowra style. Three FH's. Either lower off first bolt on Antics or continue outwards for the full grade 26 finish. FFA Neil Monteith 11.12.2004

### **\*\*Media Puzzle Special Addition 21m 23**

As for Media Puzzle, however, once at the double bolts, monkey upside down on jugs out right along the horizontal break for 4m pass 2 BRs then up the chains (crux ) to finish. Peter Daish, Damian Hall, 15.11.2003. It's easier to "back fall" to the double bolts on Media Puzzle than to "lower off & clean".

### **Far Lap 25m 23 [Mixed]**

An airy and bold girdle traverse of the main cave. Climb Media Puzzle to fifth RB then traverse rightwards across obvious horizontal break (minimal pro) to belay on large ledge below Antics' roof. An 8m section of this traverse is totally un-protected and is serious groundfall potential (grade 20). Lower off fixed screwgate on first bolt of Antics. FFA Gareth Llewelin, Adam Demmert & Neil Monteith 17.9.2005

### **\* Screaming Barfies 11m 22 [sport]**

An easier version of the crag classic Steeping On Snakes. Squeezed in between Dwarf Pumper and the latter then finish as for SOS through the roof. 4 U-bolts. FFA Neil Monteith & Hannah Lockie 7.5.2006

## **SENTINEL WALL**

### **\*Tatiana 12m 15**

Start 2m right of central crack on buttress slightly downhill and right from Sunraysia. Up through thin start to pockets and past technical finish to tree belay. Michael Schedlberger,

# New Routes - Stapylton Area



Phil Neville, Joe Morgan-Payler. 18.4.03

## **Know Your Signals** 14m 15

Start 4m right of dirty roof hand crack and right of Tatiana. Follow weakness through thin start to under roof. Watch for loose rock. Traverse left 2m and finish at tree belay. Phil Neville, Michael Schedlberger, Joe Morgan-Payler. 18.4.03

## **WARDEN WALL, STAPYLTON CAMPGROUND**

Small featured wall on left side of track about 100m past Castle Crag on the walk in to Sentinel Cave. These are short trad routes on good rock. See topo in Argus Nov03.

Numbers in front of route description correspond with numbers on photo.

### **[1] Crimps of Doom** 10m 17

Face round corner and 1m left of Rohans Route, a few balancy crimp moves gets you to the top. Joe Morgan-Payler. 25.10.03

### **[2] Rohans Route** 10m 17

A hard and bold mantle at the start reaches jugs (crux) and easy hauling to top. Rohan Archibald. Solo. 25.10.03

### **[3] My Bitch Bubba** 10m 18

Same start as for Gormet, only stepping onto thin face after reaching first block, then following the break on left-hand side of face. Tuan Le. 25.10.03

### **[4] Gormet** 10m 14

(Gourmet?) Nice climbing up an attractive line. Follow orange corner to top. Hanh Le. 25.10.03

### **[5] Photographers Solo** 10m 8

Best access to top as well as an easy down climb.

## **MOUNT STAPYLTON CAMPSITE AREA - MOUNT PLEASANT**

On the right sidewall by descent path

### **Homebrew** 9m 14

Flake crack and shallow corner 3m right of Lovedale. Ben Wright, Peter Kello, William Swinson. 17.4.05

### **If You're Short, We Can Help** 8m 17

Step off boulder 5m right of Homebrew, good moves up orange wall. Ben Wright, Peter Kello. 17.4.05

## **CAVE OF GHOSTS CLIFFS**

This area is referred to in the Bill Andrews 'Rock Climbers Guide to the North Grampians' (addendum on page 329), and also in the recent 'Mt.Stapylton Campground' update by Neil Monteith. The original leaders (Ian Welsby and Colin Mibus) describe a separate outcrop as follows: "about 100 metres south of the car park is a miniature Castle Crag". Note that this lozenge shaped outcrop would be useful for beginner to intermediate climbing instruction as it is within easy walking distance from the campsite, is about 12 metres high (more than the 10m indicated), has several good routes on reasonable rock offering natural protection, can be set up for abseiling, and can be down climbed at about grade 6 (about 2 metres right of the north arête on the west side, and harder than the grade 3 route Automatic Runway described). Two climbs are marked with crudely painted large white squares high (about 3½ m) above the ground. They are Ghoulies 12m 15 (harder than 12) on the west side, and Casper 12m 11 (harder than 9) on the east side (situated about 6m from Goulies, but around the south arête). Six new routes have been established on this crag as follows (moving anticlockwise from the north arête):

### **Lamington** 10m 15

Climb up left edge of smooth grey wall on the west side (approximately 4m from north arête) through left end of overhangs to finish via right hand of two cracks. Ben Wright, Nicky Eustace. 13.12.03

### **Vanilla Slice** 12m 18

Start in middle of west side and climb up slab and through weakness of main overhang (using hold up right) and finish through projecting shelf at top. Ben Wright, Nicky Eustace. 13.12.03

### **Rock Cookie** 12m 13

Start at Ghoulies on the west side (1½m from the south arête) but move to the right through the

# New Routes - Stapylton Area



middle and top bulges. Jack Lewis, Ben Wright. 13. 12.03

## **Mince Pie** 12m 19

Climb up just right of south arête to thin crack. Ben Wright. 25.12.03

## **Piece of Cake** 7m 10

Crack on wall on east side approximately 4m left of north arête. Nicky Eustace, Richard Eustace. 13. 12.03

## **Turkey Sandwich** 25m 14

Circumnavigate the outcrop starting up Automatic Runway and following the break at mid-height going anticlockwise to the south arête (belay possible here) and continuing around to the start. Going clockwise looks feasible too and may be better. Ben Wright. Solo. 25.12.03

North, and approximately 45m directly uphill through boulders and scrub is a wall about 18m high containing the climb Spirit In The Sky 18m 8. This is situated 12m right of the large cave and was also established by Welsby and Mibus and is also marked by a crude white square 3½m above the ground. Warden Wall (100m to the south) was also climbed on and it was felt that My Bitch Bubba should be down graded from 18 to 17 (harder for shorter climbers), and that Gormet (not Gourmet?) should be down graded from 14 to 13. Another short (but good) route was established on the parallel wall set back a few metres on the right (south) side.

## **Jump Gimli!** 7m 14

Climb straight up from slight scoop in the wall 2m from right-hand end. Short climbers will need to use dynamic technique. Jack Lewis, Simon Punt, Cameron Barrett. 13.12.03

### **SENTRY WALL**

Walk to Mini Castle Crag, Gordon thinks this should be called something else such as The Stack so as to avoid confusion with the Arapiles version. Walk eastwards up a broad gully directly uphill from the crag through small rock terraces for about 150 metres. A small cliff is reached with a narrow chimney near the left end. Descent is either via the chimney, a gully due North of the chimney or at the southern end.

Climbs are described from left to right

## **The First Post** 12 m 9

5 metres left of the chimney. A nice short corner to a ledge. Escape off right or thutch up a wide crack to top. Gordon Bedford, Gary Lyons 24-4-2005

## **Sentry Arete** 12m 5

The right hand rib of the chimney. Gordon Bedford, Gary Lyons 24-4-2005

## **Aware** 12m 16

3 metres right of the chimney. The steep crack through the bulge at the top. Gary Lyons, Gordon Bedford 24-4-2005

## **Cold at Dawn** 12 m 15

5 metres right of Aware The steep right facing flake crack. Gary Lyons, Gordon Bedford 24-4-2005

## **Topple Tor** 15m 15

Scramble around the bottom of the broken buttresses for about 50 metres to an undercut, leaning stack. The steep SW arête. Gary Lyons, Gordon Bedford 24-4-2005

## **Sentry Line** 15m 12

On the Eastern face on the other side of the block directly over from Aware. Starts in a small alcove. The narrow, left leaning crack that finishes the semi-circular break in the top overhang. Gary Lyons, Gordon Bedford 24-4-2005

### **THE UNNAMED CLIFF**

*(Joe Goding has submitted a whole new guide to the entire cliff, building on Bill Andrews North Grampians guides. As I seem to have lost my copies I think the info below is all the new stuff, but if not then some of this should be credited to Bill! )*

Joe has also provided this [topo](#) for free download (120 kB).

This cliff has a number of worthwhile climbs and isn't quite as remote as its neighbours. It is a fairly long crag and as access is at the left-hand end and the descent is at the right-hand end it can seem a long walk in climbing booties. Take Texas! There has been some recent development of a small face at the left end, including abseil stations, and some routes in the 22 department. Rock quality of this wall (Energise your soul wall) is generally excellent orange/grey sandstone. The rest of the cliff varies greatly, with large sections of choss, some very appealing lines. The

# New Routes - Stapylton Area



descent off some routes looks epic, beware. Route finding to date has been hard due to lack of any decent topo maps. Please treat this update with caution as many of the existing routes have not been added to the topos as the editor was not sure where they went. I hope the routes that I have indicated (which I am sure of) are useful to find your way around this crag. Possibility for new routes is great. Joe Goding 12th July 2004.

**Map Details** See Northern Grampians (VICMAP). 1:50,000. The new track (as described in text) hits the cliff at approx 075 230 Also see "Mount Stapylton" 1:25,000 (VICMAP)

**Suggested Campsites** 1) Troopers Creek (Further) or 2) Mt Stapylton (Easier & closer).

**Access** This crag is basically found near the south-east corner of the Toscana olives fenceline (there is a reasonable road on the south end of this. The road on the east boundary should only be undertaken by large (i.e. Hi-Lux or Land Cruiser) 4WD with decent clearance. 1) From the Troopers Creek campsite, head along Rose's Gap Road (towards Wartook) for 5km to Smith Road, (at 009 241) turn right onto this and follow it until it heads west (at GR 063 028) turn north onto Winfield Road. One kilometre along Winfield Road there is a vehicle track on the right (Cameron's Road), follow this (along the south, fenced border of Toscana Olives) for about 1½km until it peters out and turns north. Park here and head off roughly following an old vehicle track (that has had lots of trees felled across it). The start of the track can be a bit hard to find. You will hopefully find the trail which is just slightly higher than the old vehicle track most of the way, and joins it from time to time. You might catch the odd bit of yellow tape on a branch. After about 500m you come to a more open area, sloping down into the creek. Head left just before the creek, cross it after around 80m and follow it up and left (Cairned) until it heads steeply uphill to the base of Energise your soul route. \*The old track took another route slightly to the south but the track was re-made in order to reduce erosion as the old track was not well cairned and went mainly over loose ground. Routes described from left to right across the cliff.

2) From the new Mt Stapylton campsite, head west on Plantation Road, turn south onto Windfield Road. Follow this until you reach the south end of Toscana Olives. As for Access description 1).

**Cliff Faces** North west. A good winter cliff. Be a little careful of wind on the left end of the cliff as it can get pretty full on and tie up your ropes amongst the chicken heads! Time from Car: 20 - 25 minutes.

**Descent** - The top of this cliff has a number of mini-canyons running back from the cliff edge, especially at the left hand end, because of this, descent is definitely easier via the gully towards the right-hand end of the cliff. This gully is readily located by a couple of large cairns, the highest of which indicates the start of the gully. Down in the gully there is an option, either an "Organ Pipes (at Arapiles) descent gully" type hole, or the buttress on its left (facing out). Of the two options the buttress is slightly easier. If going down the hole, move out right (facing the cliff) at the bottom; if taking the buttress option, move left (facing the cliff) towards the bottom of the "hole" option and down climb the bottom part of the buttress to a good ledge. Traverse this to the right and drop down to ground level and walk out through the scrub for 10 - 15 metres to where it thins out and back to the base of the climbs. All of the above sounds complex but it should gel when you are actually there. It is also possible to get down the left hand end of the cliff but it would probably require a few trips to become familiar with all the ins and outs of the maze. At the left-hand end of the cliff is a descent gully; at the bottom of this gully is a small face. Non Event starts at the overlap in the centre of this face.

**\*Dave Cebal Route 1** 24 22m

Start on dark left arête of grey/black wall in decent gully. Up crack to small ledge at approx 4-5m. Move right onto face, straight up face until approx 8m before top, tending left at the end. Low on pro at around 7-16mish. Good gear to start, but pretty full on moves and little really good gear in middle. FA David Cebal (onsite ground up ascent), Joe Goding, Jacqui Middleton. Winter 2002 with frozen feet.

**(-3 stars) Dave Cebal Route 2: Dancing Dave and his technicolour coat of choss** 25m G19

Was this called "Dancing Dave and his Technicolor coat of choss"? If not it should have been. Struggle up the corner into wide bridging moves. Little pro. Poor moves. Unmemorable. Would not recommend repeat. left into middle of face and up to top. Move left (west) to find DBB/Rap. approx 25m to ledge, maybe 40m to lower gully. FA David Cebal, Joe Goding. Winter 2002?

**Gooseneck** 25m 16

Start 5m left of Why.Com at the right facing corner (the left of facing corners) with a block at 8m. Up corner to ledge. Past a gooseneck and into the next corner and up. Glen Donohue, Graeme Smith. 27.2.00

**Why.Com** 40m 15

# New Routes - Stapylton Area



Start on the buttress on the other side of the gully opposite and 25m left of Alias at a small cave. Step right onto the undercut face and diagonally right to a bushy ledge. Up slightly left to an enormous ledge. Continue left to corner and steep brittle crack above. Graeme Smith, Glen Donohue. 27.2.00

**e-climb.com** 20m 19

Start 7m right of Alias. Up right leading ramp then up face to steep crack at top. Leader avoided first crux at top of ramp by stepping into easy ground on right. Graeme Smith, Glen Donohue. 27.2.00

**Moss Games:** 24m 19

start in middle of slab up and left of Energise your soul wall . Up and right to ledge, tending left slightly into upper face to join left leaning crack at end. Loose finish when pulling onto top. Beware. Scoot off left at large ledge. Search for DBB (2 recessed rings) in gully below dark grey/black wall. Rap 10m to ground/lower gully. FA Mark Rewi, Joe Goding Date? May 2004

**\*The Phantom Cocky Killer Of Trooper's Creek Arms** 16m 18

On left end of large attractive orange face (lowest point of main cliff where the track meets the cliff). Arête on left-hand end moving slightly left at ledge through crack to large ledge. Double glue in G304 stainless 10mm x 90mm bolts and gold FIXE Chain abseil. Joe Goding, Shane Hurt.

**Will's Lament:** 14m 22

Start as for The Phantom Cocky Killer of Troopers Creek Arms but go straight up and don't tend left at ledge. Past FH and steep moves to ledge. DBB Rap 15m to ground. FA Mark Rewi, Joe Goding. May 2004.

**\*\* Deep Blue:** 30m 22

Start as for The Phantom Cocky Killer of Troopers Creek Arms, move right as 2m on good pockets, straight up to "Brain" rock sticking out (4-5m) crucifix move to good pocket in right leading horizontal (FH) further right on thin holds and small footledge to good ledge (belay possible - but beware of falling leader off the top of this pitch! Directly above). Up wall as for Energise Your Soul past FH and into crack, left to ledge, DBB and rap 15m to ground.

**\*\* Energise Your Soul** 19/22 35m.

Central line on overhanging 'Arapilesian' looking wall. Can be done as one pitch. 1st pitch - GR 19 20m. Start up below black groove/crack. Up and into crack (crux) for a few metres to first horizontal break. Traverse left to juggy corner, take care with rock, up and onto good ledge below obvious closed corner to belay to reduce rope drag. 2nd pitch - GR. 22 15m Up closed right facing corner above, past FH (crux), exciting moves up and left to belay ledge and rap chain. FA Stephen Holloway, Amanda Cole 3/27/2004

**\*\* Gifted** 27m 23

Direct, sustained and well protected. At the L (NW) end of The Un-named Cliff is a compact orange wall facing NW(Energise your soul wall), overlooking the major gully. Up past recent rock scars to horizontal break (@3m), follow short wide black crack on right of this, then trend slightly R up wall for 15m to join a short wide crack 1m L of the arête, swing right onto the arête, then juggy short slab for about 8m. Rap chain (25m to ground). FA Will Monks, James Pfrunder, Joe Goding. 26 June 2004

(The conifer referred to in Three Men In A Boat is dead, burned in the 1999 fire. The fire came down the gully at the left end of the cliff.)

## **BORDEL BUTTRESS**

**\*\* It's not Pink!** 30m 15

Start up Companion's Route for 4m, step onto nose, traverse left 2m. Up the prominent flake. Great pro and solid clean rock Pete Holmes & Tegwyn Bath 9/5/05

## **COPPERMINE TRACK CLIFF**

A reasonably extensive cliff but broken in parts by terraces and rotten overhangs. It provides a few pleasant middle grade routes and has easy access. Wear a helmet as the rock is fairly crumbly in places. Drive 1km along Coppermine Track from the Roses Gap/Mount Zero Road and the cliff is directly above. About 10 minutes walk. Routes described from the right-hand end.

**Small Change** 10m 15

Pleasant. At the right-hand end of the main cliff is a short wall with 2 crack lines. The right-hand crack. Philip Armstrong, Jeremy Maddox. 22.2.03

**Bad Penny** 10m 18

# New Routes - Stapylton Area



The left-hand crack. A bit fierce. Philip Armstrong, Jeremy Maddox. 22.2.03

## **Coprolites** 20m 13

40m left of Bad Penny there is a break in the overhangs with 2 corner lines about 6m apart. The right one. Cairned. Mossy crack and short corner to roof, step left, up to next roof, step left (suspect rock) and up to ledge. Walk off right. Philip Armstrong, Chris Armstrong. 16.2.03

## **Ok Tedi** 30m 14

Gains the corner 6m left of Copralites. 1. 20m Up easy wall to large ledge then steeply into corner, up this, move onto right wall towards the top and exit to ledge on right. 2. 10m Up to roof, traverse 4m right and pull through break. Philip Armstrong, Chris Armstrong. 16.2.03

## **Bent Copper** 35m 14

About 40m left of Ok Tedi locate a short clean-cut right facing corner about 15m up the cliff. Start in the bushy chimney/gully below this. Cairned. 1. 25m Head out right to avoid the vegetation then back left to the foot of the corner, good climbing up this to large ledge. 2. 10m Up slab to overhang, mantle excitingly through this 2m left of the dead tree. Philip Armstrong, Jeremy Maddox. 1.2.03

## **Amungme** 35m 10

15-20m left of Bent Copper (before you get to the big chimney line). Climb the juggy crack line through a number of bulges, then the nice wall and easy angled ground above. Philip Armstrong, Jeremy Maddox. 22.2.03

## **Bronze Age** 30m 16

1. 20m The big crack/chimney line at the left-hand end of the main cliff, just left of Amungme. Good holds and runners on the right wall. Belay at the big chockstone. 2. 10m (Crux) Traverse left across the wall below the roof to the arete. Step left and up. Jeremy Maddox, Philip Armstrong. (alt) 8.6.03