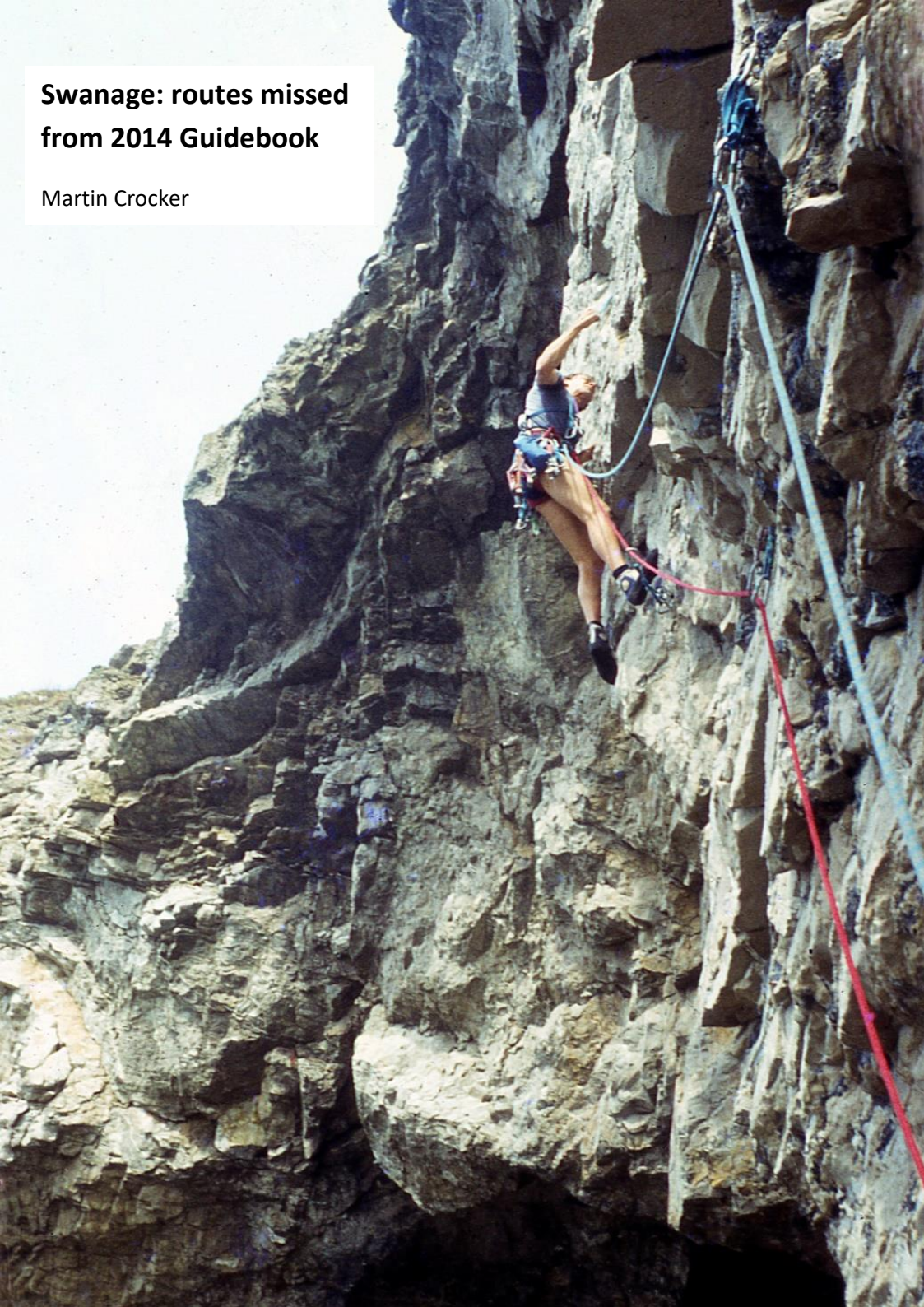


Swanage: routes missed from 2014 Guidebook

Martin Crocker



Swanage: Additions to the 2014 Climbers' Club guidebook

The following are routes missing from the 2014 guidebook (descriptions were supplied alongside routes that *did* make it in!). No disrespect to CC authors: their work is voluntary and usually colossal. MJC, 2016.

Cover: *Giantslayer* (E5 6a), Blackers Hole, the first ascent, 1983. Pic: Crocker coll. (Dave Light)

GUILLEMOT WEST (PAGES 154 – 156)

****Siberian Adventure** 60m E4 (21.1.96) † R

A big-league adventure route in the *Polaris* class, but with harder moves and the bonus of some excitingly dubious rock. Takes previously uncharted territory above the large sea cave, snaking in stealthily from the *White Rave* hanging belay. It is subject to the Guillemot West bird nesting restrictions.

1 20m 6a Follow *Ten-K-Rig* to the niche under the downward-pointing spike. Move right around a rib into a large white niche. Bear right again below bulges; then pull straight up (thread) to a further niche with good thread and nut belays.

2 15m 5c Intimidating. Climb diagonally down right for 3 metres, summon courage and then traverse horizontally right to broken grooves at the left side of the fault zone above the sea cave. Cross rightwards, rising slightly, and precariously gain a black ledge with excellent belays to the right of the fault zone.

3 25m 6a Above, the fault zone morphs into rubble; fortunately your destiny is its solid right-hand wall and capping roof. Take flakes 5 metres right of the fault zone, and pull straight over the roof with difficulty (good wires). From ledges above continue up the wall, exiting carefully up a structurally expanding chimney.

First Ascent: Martin Crocker, Pete Finklaire (in a horrendous Siberian wind, sunless mid-winter)

BLACKER'S HOLE FAR EAST (PAGES 211 – 212)

Alone at Sea 20m E6 6a/b S2 (6.10.96) †

Loneliness on a 6a/b sequence 15 metres above the sea, solo. Abseil 50 metres from the stake atop *Friends of the Earth* (position your rope just left of the white arête of the *Tuning Fork* face, tensioning down left to a ledge at the foot of *FotE*). Traverse right for 6 metres, past two corners, to an overhanging groove. Climb the groove, moving slightly right to a horizontal break (on *The Garden of Earthly Delights*). Take a shallow groove, and then make fingery moves up the right-hand side of the arête, using the thin cracks, onto a slab. Now you are within reach of the rope: haul out up the loose earth slope.

First Ascent: Martin Crocker (solo, after practice): a light drizzle came in to ensure an unforgettable ascent.

The Garden of Earthly Delights: deep water soloed by Martin Crocker 6.10.96: E3 5c, S1. 'A beautiful solo above turquoise depths, well worth the access logistics.'

The buttress left of *Decayed* (subject to a rockfall in the early-90s) is seamed by groove and corner lines. The following three routes are accessed from the *Decayed* etc. stake but with the rope angled approx. 5 degrees west in order that it can be used to gain the cliff-top from the sloping ledges atop the routes. They commence from a recessed ledge above H.W.M., just left of a wide crack.

****Formula 1** 20m E5 6a (6.4.97) †

A superb route of character climaxing in a *Circe*-like pump-cruix in an unlikely setting. (There is good gear below and above the peg [which will be unreliable now]). Trend diagonally leftwards to the base of a prominent corner. Enter the corner; then climb ascending leftwards across the left wall to the arête. Move left around the arête (peg) and crank up to an undercut (bomber Friend 2) from where wild moves and a jug-line over the bulge enable the sloping ledges to be gained. Good wire belays slightly right.

First Ascent: Martin Crocker, Nigel Coe

***Jungle Formula** 15m E5 6a (6.4.97) †

A fine and unusual 'tips and stem' problem up the dihedral above the stance. Sustained stemming leads to a bulge. Scrunge, grunge, or lunge over for a big block-hold; then fight up the crack to jugs and the sloping ledges. Good wire belays.

First Ascent: Martin Crocker, Nigel Coe

Jet Propulsion 15m E4 6b (6.4.97) †

Effectively a right-hand variant to *Jungle Formula*. Climb up right into a corner-crack. Take the crack to an undercut bulge. Stretch around (medium knife blade – **removed**), and step trickily left into *Jungle Formula* at the block-hold.

First Ascent: Martin Crocker, Nigel Coe

Approach the following three routes from the *Decayed* etc. stake (see page 212).

Facelift 20m E3 6a (12.10.96) †

Replaces *Everybody's Downfall* (which had fallen down). Start 8 metres left of the *Decayed* arête. Climb an open groove past one thin move onto easier ground. Follow a rightward-diagonal crack over reasonable crockery (thread) to the ledge atop *Decayed*.

First Ascent: Martin Crocker, John Harwood

Liquefaction 18m E5 6a (12.10.96) †

A direct line up the flowstone-smear wall left of *Decayed*, fairly steady for the grade. Climb centrally up the face (thread and cam runners to the right), using a calcited jug on the right to gain a thin horizontal break. Move left to a small sidehold (Rock 1 placements); then climb direct (a little bold) to the crack of *Facelift*, which is followed to the ledge.

First Ascent: Martin Crocker, John Harwood

***Depraved** 20m E4 5c (12.10.2016) †

Essentially '*Decayed* direct'. Where *Decayed* escapes right, forge straight up the white arête to the finishing-ledge. Good cams underpin the crux run-out, but any flight might not be unimpeded.

First Ascent: Martin Crocker, John Harwood

BLACKER'S HOLE FAR EAST/CONNER COVE (PAGE 212)

***OrinoCoe 60m E5 (15.9.96) †**

This climb traverses the headwall of the extensive sea cave west of Conner Cove in an easterly direction. Quality climbing on Pitch 1 (small cams useful) is tempered by a long and arduous Pitch 2 (which would probably be safer as a solo). Start as for *The Law*.

1 25m 6a Ascend a rib just left of the inlet, moving up onto a jammed block. Swing right into a bottomless corner and climb it to the capping roof. Now make a sustained traverse right on undercuts to better holds after 6 metres and good nut belays in a vertical crack 3 metres further right.

2 35m 5c Traverse right under bulges and then along an incipient horizontal crack to gain a scooped handrail. Swing right; then mantel up and follow the scooped sloping ledge rightwards, with little protection, to a groove where the ledge disappears. Drop down over a bulge, continue right for another 6 metres, and then top out fairly easily just left of a white streak.

First Ascent: Martin Crocker, Nigel Coe (Abseil inspected the belay area – to make sure there was a belay – but everything else on sight.)

BOULDER RUCKLE

Changes to *Tatra*:

In January 2014 a large rockfall dramatically changed the classic VS *Tatra*. The fall has left the cliff remarkably clean, and the route has been reclinbed: Pitch 1 of *Voyske Tatry* can be climbed to the faultline, whereafter the original pitch 2 and pitch 3 of the VS are unchanged. There is actually nothing left of the original *Tatra Direct* put up in 1966 by Tony Willmott and Alan Heppenstall. The upper part of the top corner was reclinbed by Nigel Coe and Tim Dunsby in 1991 after rockfall at that time! The following route replaces *Tatra Direct*.

Voyske Tatry E2 5c (16.02.2014) †

1 5b. Climb the obvious corner to about half its height, before traversing right to the hanging arête. Climb up to the lip of the roof to take the diagonal crack to the faultline. Belay in the corner-niche.

2 5c. Avoid the dodgy blocks above the belay by traversing out left to the arête which is climbed until you can step back right into a superb corner. Follow the corner to the top. All solid and with good gear.

First Ascent: Pete Finklaire, Sue Hazel, Laura Trespidi. (Pitch 1 climbed by Pete Finklaire, Bob Mot, Andy Blakely on 11 January 2014, finishing up *Tatra*.)

Repeats

Daggers can be lifted from the following:

Equaliser (1991 repeat)

Tempting Truancy (2001 repeat)

First Ascent List

Sheffield Uber Alles (Pete Oxley route) Climbed without its bolt by Martin Crocker 28.8.95

Jesus Lizard (Pete Oxley route) Climbed without its bolt by Martin Crocker 27.8.95