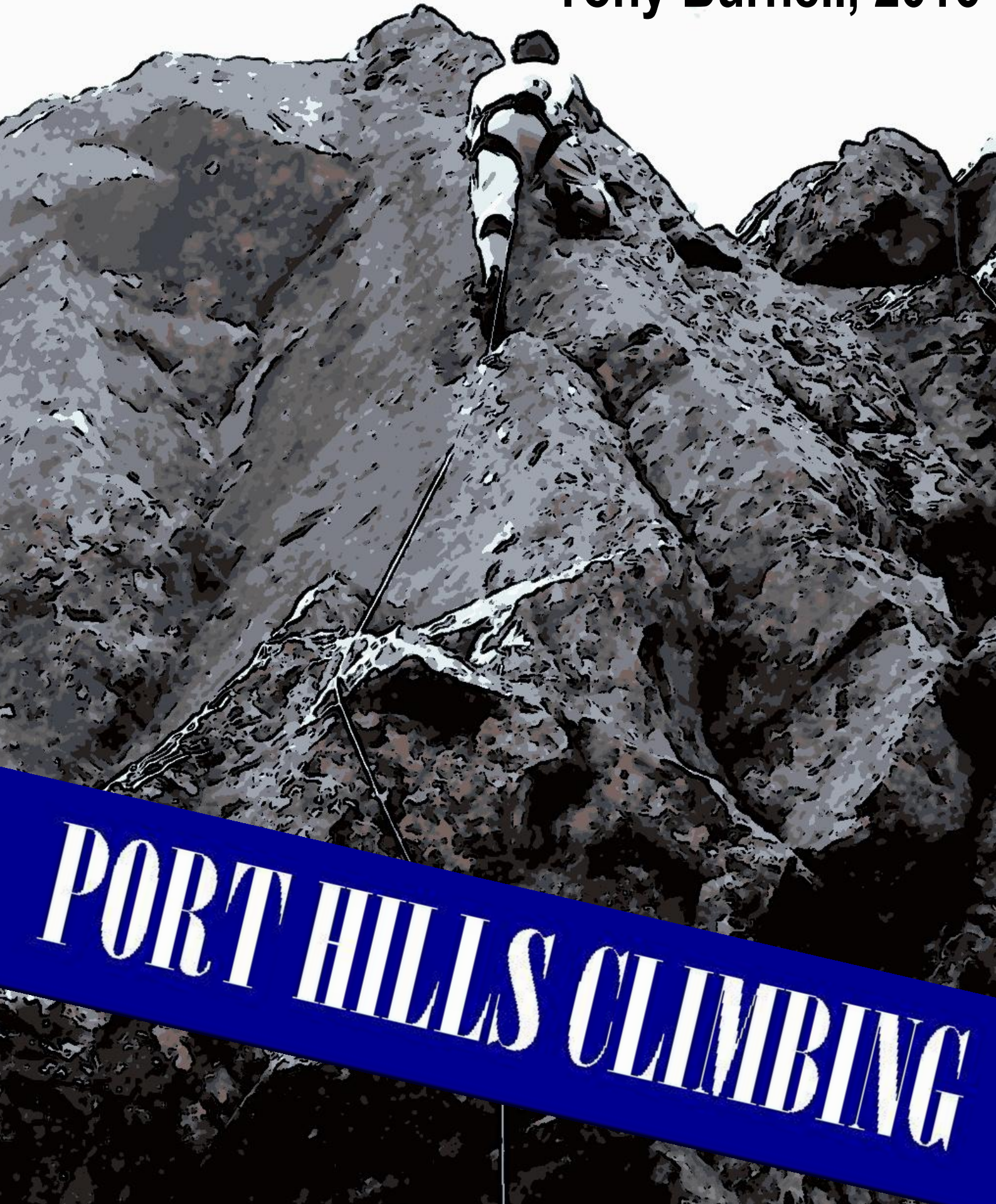


The Tors

Tony Burnell, 2016



PORT HILLS CLIMBING

The Tors

Introduction

Home to some of the Port Hills classic climbs such as *Nudity*, *Future Legend*, *Hot Legs*, *Collateral Damage*, the majority of which are trad climbs although the crag does sport the odd bolt. There are other classic grooves some, bizarrely, given grade10 that should really be given a higher grade and others, graded 24, that should be given a lower grade, so there are a few grading inconsistencies across the crag. During the earthquakes of 2010 & 2011 some of the routes were damaged / destroyed. In the latter category was a John Allen's classic *Future Legend* and in the former *Gollum & Dominoes*.

History

Development of The Tors started in 1970 when Ross Gooder produced a swag of routes including, *Smaug*, *Gollum & Hotlegs* the latter being a real classic. Around 1973 Lindsay Main added a number of climbs and has at various intervals returned to pick off other lines, however the crags coming of age and probably the most memorable lines were climbed when John Allen arrived from the UK producing some of the classic and bolder routes such as *Nudity*, *Future Legend*, *DIY* and *Moss Guard*. Overall Lindsay has been the biggest contributor to the crag culminating with the bolted line *Colateral Damage*. Other minor contributors were Tony Ward-Holmes, John Barnes, John Howard, Tony Burnell, Henry Mares & Joe Arts.

Location & Access:

350mts

7 minutes

The Tors are located on the Lyttelton side of the Summit Road approximately 200 metres West of what remains of Castle Rock. Park as for Rapaki Rock and walk Eastwards along the Summit Rd, around 20 minutes walk. Alternatively park as for Lyttelton Rock and approach from the East.

The access route adjacent is from the old parking spot on the Summit Rd.



Tony Burnell (*Nudity*)



Seismic Activity:



As previously mentioned The Tors has suffered some damage during the 2010/2011 earthquakes. On the main cliff *Future Legend*, *Someone Else's Girl* & *Crapbreech* have all completely disappeared, still on the main cliff *Smaug*, *No Nirvanas*, *Dominoes* & *Gumbo* were only slightly damaged and have been rehabilitated. All routes listed here have been cleaned and reclinbed

Orientation:



In the main The Tors is a trad crag and natural pro is required, anchors are usually pretty easy to arrange at the top of the crag amongst the large boulders; there is a bolted anchor station between the top of *Hot Legs* & *Mirage*, there is also a set of chains on the back wall above *Nudity*.

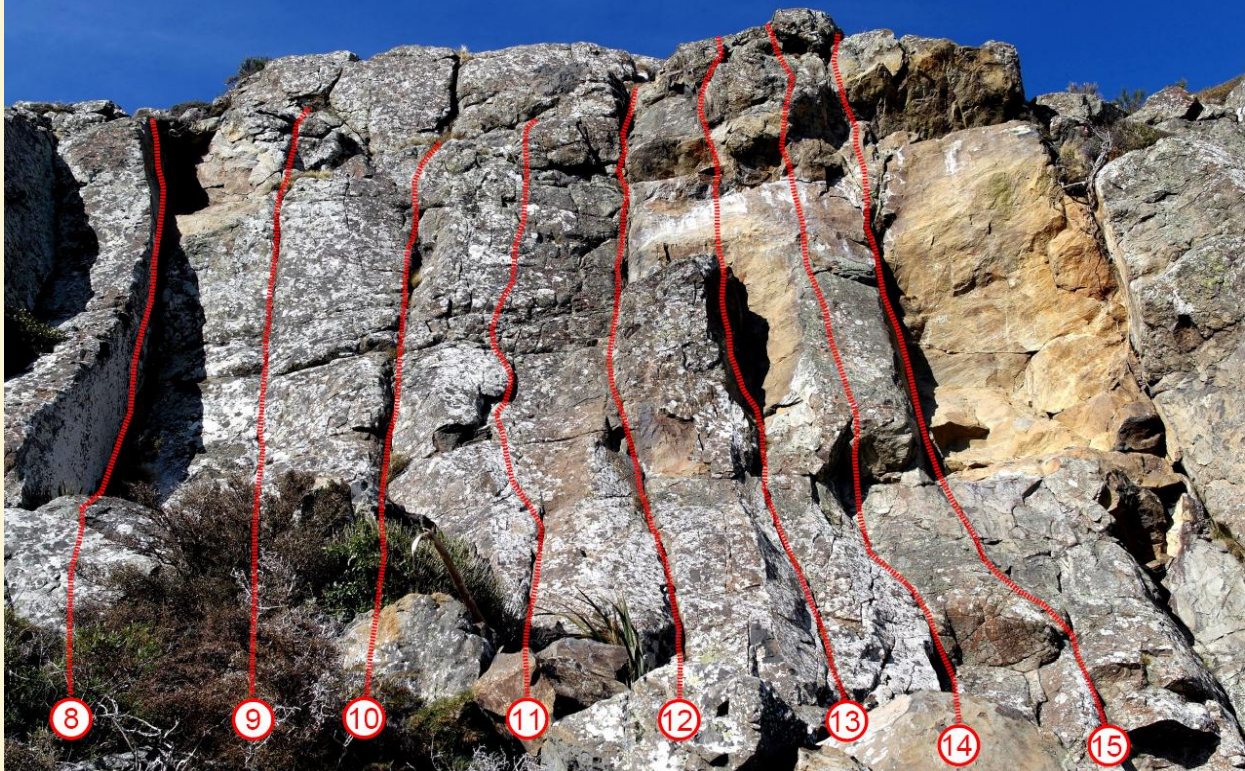
A 10mm bolt was placed on the wall above *Smauge* in order to clean these lines..

West Face Left:



1. **Kilgore's Wall - 10:** The wall left of the first crack ('KC') climb the left trending seam.
2. **Kilgore's Crack - 10:** Start at the left end of the crag by a large flax. The steep left trending crack.
3. **Wampeter - 11:** Start to the right of the flax. Another steep left trending crack line. Lindsay Main '77
4. **Foma - 10:** The left trending corner, that leads via a grassy bulge into the 'V' notch
5. **War & Peace - 14 - 15m:** The stepped bulging wall right of 'FO', bad protection.
6. **Granfalloon - 13 - 15m:** Starts in the left most of the two parallel corners, climb the slab into the corner, just above the vegetation move left across the wall and up the arête to the top. Ross Gooder '70
7. **Pantagruel - 14 - 15m:** The corner Start as for 'G' but finish straight up the corner. Ross Gooder '70
8. **No Nirvanas - 17 - 15m - ☺:** Climbs the steeper, right facing corner, that forms the left end of the slabby face. Climb the groove directly passing some vegetation on the way. Lindsay Main, 1977
9. **Smaug - 21 - 15m - ①★☺:** Climb the thin crack in the slab just right of 'NN', finish straight up since the earthquakes modified the crag, poor pro. Ross Gooder '70
10. **Mr Baggins - 10 - 15m - ②★☺:** A great little climb up the crack system in the centre of the slabby face. Follow the crack, good gear.
11. **Wide Open Spaces - 15 - 15m:** Climb the centre of the wall between 'MB' & 'G', nice climbing with adequate pro. TB 2015

West Face Centre:



12. **Gollum - 12 - 15m**: Climbs the right side of the face, follow the crack system to the top of a pedestal, straight up to finish. Ross Gooder, 1970

The following routes, in their original form, Dominoes, Gumbo, Future Legend, Someone Else's Girl & Crapbreach have all disappeared, well not quite, they're still hanging around the base of the crag in kitset form.

13. **Dominoes Revisited - 18 - 15m**: Climb up into the newly formed groove, top out on the pedestal then up the head wall direct. Lindsay Main '83 (climbed and rehabilitated by Tony Burnell 2015)

14. **Rehab - 22 - 16m**: Start in the capped groove right of the newly formed pillar (very close to where 'FL' would have started). Climb up to the overlap then on to the face above, climb the slab past 3BR to the top. TB 2015

15. **Gumbo Revisited - 17 - 15m**: Start easily up the original line before heading up the newly formed corner & headwall above to finish. (climbed and rehabilitated by Tony Burnell 2015)

West Face Right:

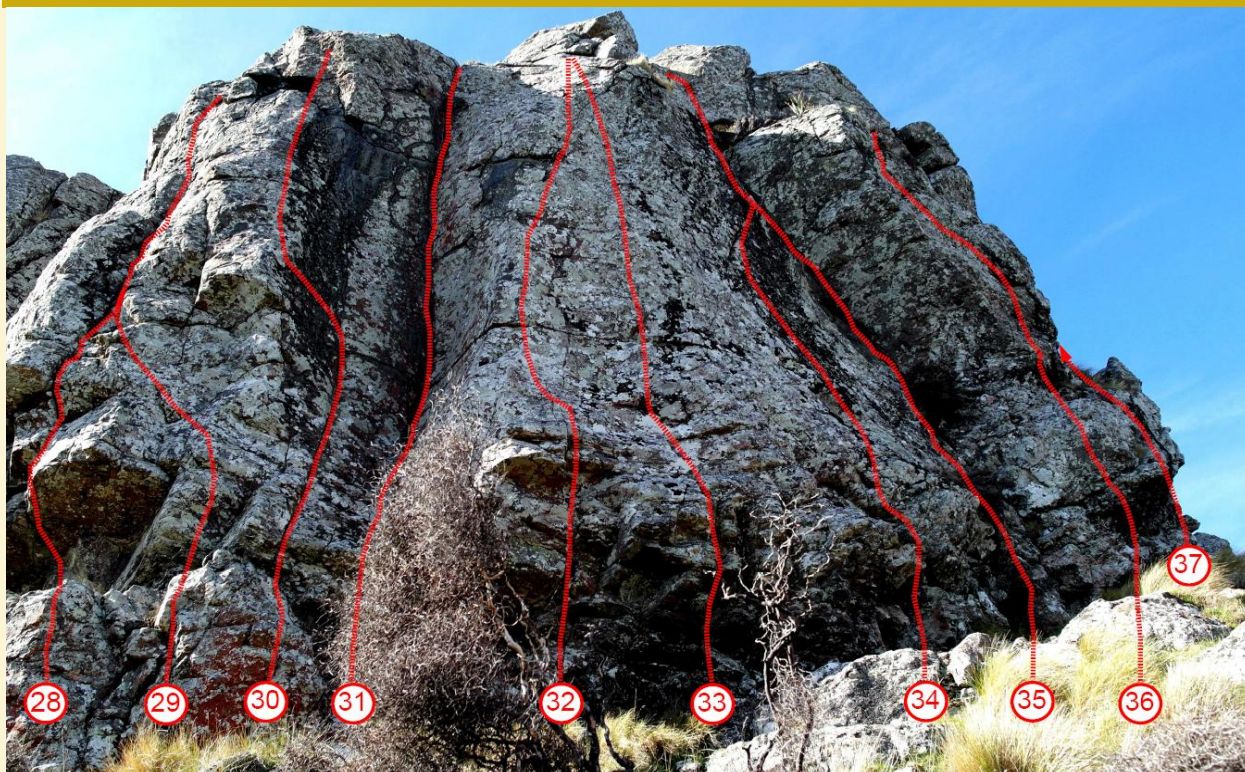


16. **Crapbrech Revisited - 19 - 16m**: Start up the wide crack, formerly *Crapbrech*, when you hit the area of rock collapse move out right onto the face and finish up to the top of DIY.
17. **D.I.Y. - 19 - 16m - 2★☺**: The wall to the left of 'HL', start up the short rib to the overlap, get onto the face above climbing a groove then the face left of the blunt arête. A great climb, poor pro. John Allen '79
18. **Hot Dag - 18 - 15m - ☺**: Start as for DIY but move right to the short crack, then straight up the wall left of the corner of 'HL'
19. **Hotlegs - 17 - 18m - 3★☺**: A really classic climb, a tricky start up and over the overlap, then up the groove above. Ross Gooder '70
20. **Hot Pants - 20 - 18m**: Climb 'HL' then move out R to gain a standing position on a pedestal, go straight over the roof & up the front face of the pillar on good holds, no protection to the top (climbed on sight). Tony Burnell '99
21. **Mirage - 20 - 18m - ☺**: Start up 'HL' then move R into the right-facing corner, turn the roof on the R. Lindsay Main '82
22. **Collateral Damage - 21 - 18m - 2★☺**: The roof and arête between 'M' & 'CC'. Start on the left, move out to the first bolt & up over the roof (crux), then move technically up the arête. Three bolts. Lindsay Main '96
23. **Cat's Cradle - 21 - 18m** Move up the smooth groove left of 'GA' then stiff moves over the roof to a vegetated ledge at 5m. Lindsay Main '80
24. **Gargantua - 16 - 18m - 1★☺**: A fun route up the prominent groove line, the crux is the start and is best started from start from the left . Ross Gooder '70
25. **Exposition - 17 - 18m - 1★☺**: Start as for 'GA' but follow the seam up the right wall of the groove, following vague cracks. Climb direct up the right side of the bulge at the top of the crag. Lindsay Main '73
26. **Porno - 22 - 18m - 2★☺**: Start just right of the start of 'GA', go rightwards & clip a bolt, move up the right facing flake before trending rightwards using small flakes and

cracks, then into the large open groove and finishing pretty much as for 'JS'. John Howard '79

27. **Quick Thrash** - 24 - 18m: A direct start to 'PO' going straight to the bolt. Tony Ward-Homes, 1999

South Face:



28. **Jambilicus Direct Start** - 18 - 17m - ①★☺: Start directly below the groove and climb straight up. Gavin Tweedie '82
29. **Jambilicus** - 15 - 18m - ①★☺: Start just left of Nudity. Climb up and traverse L to the base of the groove poor pro at the start. Henry Mares '77
30. **Two Bit Climb** - 19 - 18m: From just L of the start of 'NY', climb the thin crack in the wall, go up past an old BR then left to, & up, the arête. John Barnes 1989
31. **Nudity** - 20 - 18m - ③★☺: The awesome looking corner, good pro but space and a great technical test. Slightly easier if you move to the 'R' at about 2/3 height. John Allen '77
32. **Licked Splat** - 22 - 17m - ☠: Up & over the roof R of 'NY' then up the blunt arête with care. Steve Elder '89
33. **Moss Guard** - 22 - 17m - ☠: Climbs through the roof 3m right of 'NY', up the thin wall past a good spike, keep trending left to the top. John Allen '79
34. **Great Notion** - 21 - 17m: Goes over the roof L of 'GG', follow the thin, steepening crack before moving 'R' into 'GG'. Lindsay Main '83
35. **Gormenghast** - 17 - 17m The left leaning corner at the right side of the slabby wall, usually needs a clean before it can be climbed. Lindsay Main '77
36. **Progressive Ageing** - 17 - 18m - ☹: Climbs the steep wall R of 'GG' with 2BR, definitely a climb of two halves pretty chossy. Joe Arts '94
37. **Bulgy Bowels** - 17 - 14m - ☹: The bulging wall to the 'R' of the descent route, not really worth doing. Joe Arts '94

