

LODDON RIVER FALLS

A climbing guide sheet to Loddon River Falls - North West Victoria by Neil Monteith 22.07.2003

Rock climbing is a dangerous sport

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Basalt column climbing in an attractive riverside setting. Get to the small town of Glenlyon (near Daylesford) in North Western Victoria. Drive west towards Drummund for 2.7km and turn left into Holcombe Road. 500m along this road turn left into the dirt Sewells Road. Follow this small rutted road for about 1.5km through a gate to an open grassy area with a big tree on the left. Walk down from this tree and you will see the top of the west side of the gorge below. A small access track down rock steps begins directly below the big tree. Bring a helmet and do not trust anything!

West Side - Main Wall

This is the large wall on the opposite side of the river from the carpark. It is 150m wide and about 20m high. The bottom is quite overgrown with brambles and thistles. A deep mine shaft sits directly under the route *Mine Mine Mine*. Robin Holmes came face to face with an irate and hungry Tiger Snake in the bottom of this mine when attempting to retrieve a lost shoe! This wall gets full morning sun until about 2pm.

1] Question Mark Crack 15m 15

Jon Bassindale, B. Hindmarsh. 4.4.03

2] Mud by Pig 15m 15

B Hindmarsh, Joni 20.3.04

3] No Knees 15m 14

C.Goy, Bryce, Anna Mezzaros, Craig Golding ???.2.03

4] Unknown arete 17m 23?

FTRA Jon Passindale 11.7.2004

5] Club Mud 15m 15

Jon Bassindale, Anna Mezzaros ???.2.03

6] Wee Blinder 10m 19/20 **

Excellent thin crack starting from the left side.
Jon Bassindale 28.3.04

7] Fear of Choss 18m 16 **

Stellar double hand crack between columns. Starts about 5m right of mine shaft. When the right column runs out finish up left crack to dirty top and double U bolt lower off. Bring lots of hand/fist crack sized cams. Michael Boniwell, Kent Paterson 25.5.2002.

8] Mine Mine Mine 18m 23 **

Classic. Thin crackline located directly above mine shaft. Take care climbing above shaft from the left to clip hard to reach FH. Bouldery crux then into thin finger crack. At horizontal break at two thirds height step right and finish up finger crack to double U anchor. Kent Paterson, Neil Monteith 11.2003

9] Tiger Feet 18m 16

Nice start then average loose ledge traverse. Starts 4m left of Mine Mine Mine. Up cracks onto ledge. Wander up and right to loose topout. Jon Bassindale, Bryce, Dominic Hindmarsh. 28.3.04

10] Sick Baby Blues 17m 19

Depressing. Starts 5m L of mine shaft, at the R side of the orange wall. Up rotten crack to ledge on R. Up line on left passing wedged block and high FH. No anchor. Nick McKinnon & Neil Monteith 7.12.2003

11] The Dirt Unit 18m 22

Fun moves but somewhat contrived. Start 5m L of mine-shaft. Up SBB for 3m then step L onto dirty ledge. Arrange wires then up the orange scar face and hanging corners above passing 3 FH's. Keep off the ledge on L. Above third FH make a delicate step R around the arete. Clip the FH on SBB and finish up corner. Nick McKinnon, Neil Monteith & Jono Schimdt 12.7.2004

12] Line Boring 19m 16

Crack just left of TDU. Jon Bassindale 30.3.03

13] Shellshock 20m 17 *

Starts 10m left of mineshaft at the base of a wall between two extensive yellow rock scars, beneath an obvious hanging rib. Climb the cracked wall on the left, until a step right gains the top of the rib and a ledge. The short corner and rib above. Belay to a tree well back from the edge (10-15m). Andy Long & Gordon Talbett 10.5.1996

14] Mudslide 10m 16

Nice short crack ending on ledge. Needs lower-off. Jon Bassindale, Bryce 30.3.03

15] My Name Is Mud 15m 18

A long way left you'll find another patch of trampled bush beneath two nice cracks. Climb these to a ledge with a big perched block. Climb crack right of this to a lurch left leads to wide finish and thus avoiding grassy ledge. Bryce, Mick Rogan, Anna Mezzaros 2003?

East Side – Upper Waterfall

This small wall rises from the eastern banks of the upper swimming hole with the impressive waterfall. On either side of these climbs are shorter and broken walls which could contain several easy trad routes in the future. A single U bolt serves as a lower off point. This wall gets afternoon sun.

16] Bryceless 10m 15

Broken crack. Jon Bassindale, Craig Seelenmeyer 18.11.02

17] Ledgebound 10m 20 *

A non-direct trad version of Pull the Pin. Jon Bassindale, Chris Goy 16.3.03

18] Pull the Pin 10m 20 *

A more direct and retrobolted version of Ledgebound. Consumer classic with lots of fun moves. FH and two ring bolts up subtle arete on left side of smooth wall. Rap off U above Stem Cell. Kent Paterson, Joe Morgan-Payler & Neil Monteith 7.12.2003

19] Stem Cell 10m 22 *

Starts 2m right of Pull the Pin. Technical bridging up a face with some baffling start moves. Two ring bolts and wires to finish. Lower off U. Toproped by Jon prior to first ascent. Neil Monteith, Joe Morgan-Payler & Kent Paterson 7.12.2003

20] Built in Obsolescence 10m 17

Jon Bassindale, Stewie Beekmeyer 23.3.03

21] Mudlust 10m 13

Jon Bassindale, Anna Mezzaros, Stewie Beekmeyer 23.3.03



