

# Moughton Nab Sport Routes

## Mini-Guide

### 2011

By Paul Clarke and Dave Musgrove.  
Diagrams by Nigel Baker



#### **BOLTS**

**The cost of replacement and of establishing new routes has and will continue to be great and you might consider making a contribution if you are using this supplement.** Cheques should be made payable to The Yorkshire Bolt Fund and sent to Dave Musgrove at 11, Wynmore Avenue, Bramhope, Leeds, LS16 9DD. A Paypal account will be found on the Leeds Wall website. Cheques are preferable since Paypal always take a cut. The Bolt Fund has two sections - replacement and new routes. If you would prefer your donation to go to only one of these then please inform Dave.

**WARNING: Climbing and mountaineering are activities with a danger of personal injury or death. Participants in these activities should be aware of and accept these risks and be responsible for their own actions and involvement.**

**Many of these climbs have had few ascents. Whilst care has been taken, the authors accept no responsibility**

**for the accuracy of the descriptions or towards those choosing to attempt any of these routes – to do so is your choice.**

## MOUGHTON NAB

Sport climbing at Moughton has developed relatively recently and all the current climbs are on the sheltered south eastern side of the prominent prow which gives the crag its name. This escarpment is around 300 metres long and is now split into four sectors to aid identification. The whole of the crag is on Access Land under the CRoW Act. The field below the Soft Centre and Right-hand Sector was designated as Access Land in 2007 and rock climbing is a permitted activity under this legislation.

There is a mix of short but fun-packed walls and substantial bulges – some with superb rock. Many of the routes take little drainage and the hardy will find that year-round climbing is possible. The crags do however face to the east and, although you may bask in the morning and early afternoon sunshine, shade comes onto the crags later in the day. Of course this can be a blessing on those rare hot summer days. If a whole day in the sun is required, visit Moughton until mid-afternoon then walk across the moor above the crags to Panorama Crag or Long Scar and bask until late evening. An easy gully at the left end or a stile across the wall above the right end of the crag facilitate this.

The newly developed areas are spread along the escarpment to the right of the Nab itself on the crags running northwards towards Foredale. The first of these (**The Left-Hand Sector**) is actually the right-hand side of the main crag, as described in the YL Guide. There have been new additions and equipping of some of the old routes.

### Approach

**It is now recommended that climbers park near the entrance of Dry Rigg Quarry (taking care not to block the access road during the working week) and walk around either side of the quarry on newly laid footpaths. Access can then be gained by carefully crossing the fence on the right if the left hand path is chosen or by walking up the field or blunt rib directly below the right-hand side. (All Access Land). It is probably best to avoid the old approach directly past Foredale farm to avoid conflict with the farmer who has become disenchanted with climbers in recent months.**

To the right of the **Left-hand Sector** are three others; the **Sporadic Walls**, the **Soft Centre** and the **Right-hand Sector**. It is fairly easy to move between these by following the foot of the crag across steep grass, taking care especially when crossing the rickety wall/fence. **PLEASE NOTE THE ACCESS AGREEMENT – NO DOGS ARE ALLOWED AT EITHER OF THE LAST TWO SECTORS.**

## ROUTES

### Left-hand Sector

This is the sector from the prow to the obvious crevasse formed by a huge land-slip. All the routes are directly above the cavernous pit of the working Dry Rigg Quarry. **The quarry manager has requested that climbing does not take place on this sector during the working week, Monday to Friday up to 6pm in order to avoid any risk of dislodging rock on to workers below. The quarry is never open on weekends or bank holidays so plan your climbing here for Saturdays or Sundays** The first route is on an isolated undercut buttress a few metres right of the fence and main prow.

The first bolt route is right of the obvious gully (some 25m right of the fence below the Nab). This sector gets morning sunshine and shade in the afternoon.

#### **Too Strong to Dislocate** 9m F6b

The bulge just to the left of the obvious crack leads with some difficulty to a shallow niche. Move up to the break and steeply but more easily to a single bolt lower-off on the ledge above.  
12.10.08 Ian Durham, John Hunt, Paul Clarke

Past an easy gully and nice slabby wall with some good VS trad routes is a jutting buttress just left of a steeper gully. The buttress provides:

#### **Black Hole Below** 9m F6b \*

Provides a good warm up for the sterner stuff. A stiff start leads to easier ground.  
Nigel Baker Feb 2010

To the right again is a cave/roof:

#### **The Ribblesdale Ripper** 9m F7a+ \*\*

The bulging wall to the right of the obvious cave crack (of The Moughton Mauler E4) moving right above the overhang. Grade suggestions have varied from F7b+ to F6c (and V4/5)!  
27.10.08 Paul Clarke.

#### **The Weakening Eye of Day** 9m F7b \*

Powerful moves lead to the obvious side pull, whence a tough sequence gains the line of water-worn eyes. These lead to easier ground.  
Paul Clarke 06.04.09

#### **Far from the Malham Crowds** 10m F7a \*\*

Across to the right, a leftward trending shallow groove precedes a swing left to good holds. Pull steeply back right to finish.  
Paul Clarke solo 1987. Bolted 26.10.08



**Look – No Feet** 10m F7a+ \*\*

The steep wall on the right. Great moves that are now easier and a lot safer than when originally climbed.  
Paul Clarke 1987. Bolted 05.10.08

**The Return of the Native** 8m F7a/+ \*\*

The leaning, water-worn and rather technical wall right of a shallow groove and small pinnacle.  
28.10.08 Paul Clarke

Four sport routes take the smooth wall to the right – there is a common lower-off just below the top.



**Middle Aged Rage.** 9m F7a \*\*

The lower wall is taken to gain the break just to the right of a peg. Above this a stiff pull gains the wall above and a tricky finish - though an easier leftward exit is an option (F6c+). Paul Clarke, Nick Dalzell 1987. Bolted 12.10.08. *The original line moved right from the break to join the top of the next route.*

**A Breath of Fresh Air** 9m F7b \*\*\*

The central line of the wall is, short but on superb rock. A must for the technically competent.  
05.10.08 Paul Clarke

**Wild Child** 9m F6c \*\*\*

The crozzly, water-worn wall gives a great little route on immaculate rock that is as good as any of its length in Yorkshire.

Nick Dalzell, Paul Clarke 1987. Bolted 26.10.08

**Wee Dorrit** 9m F5+ \*\*

A tricky start then step right to the crack (of Hatstand). Take a step up the crack and swing left onto a big jug hidden above the 4<sup>th</sup> bolt. Up and slightly left to finish. It is possible to stay on the wall but small holds lead to a blank section and a step left to Wild Child for a move is sensible at this point – F7a+ for this variation.

22.11.08 Paul Clarke, Dave Musgrove. Variation - Paul Clarke April 09.

**Transformations** 14m F7a+ \*\*

Maximise the time spent on this fine wall by starting right of Wee Dorrit, moving up and left to the 3<sup>rd</sup> bolt on Wild Child then traversing across to finish by rocking up and left from the last bolt of Middle Aged Rage.

12.04.09 Paul Clarke

To the right is a free-standing pinnacle with a smart little wall just to its left. The very centre of the wall is taken by:

**Trude the Obscure** 8m F6b+ \*\*

An exquisite little number.

Paul Clarke solo 1987 Bolted 08.04.09

## The Sporadic Walls

To the right of the free standing pinnacle the crag is discontinuous but has a few prominent walls before rising again close to a drystone wall/fence and the Soft Centre area.

The first wall to the right of the pinnacle has two short but quite steep lines:

### **Quarry Hill** 8m F6a \*

The first route to the right of the 'landslip' gully. The finish is steep but on positive holds.

13.2.10 Dave Musgrove, Nigel Baker

### **Queenie's Castle** 8m F6a \*

Just right of Quarry Hill is a pleasant wall climb finishing into a steep short groove at the top.

2.3.10 Dave Musgrove, Nigel Baker

### **Fair to Middling** 10m F4+

Five metres right again climb the easy looking wall below the stunted hawthorn. The lower-off is well back on the terrace.

1.8.10 Dave Musgrove, John Hunt, Nigel Baker

Right again a tongue of rock protrudes down from a compact upper wall:

### **My Funny Valentine** 9m F6a+ \*

The left side of the steep central buttress is climbed via a long reach from a small sidepull.

14.2.10 Nigel Baker

### **Heavy Sessions** 9m F6a+ \*

The right side of the central buttress is slightly more sustained.

2.3.10 Johnny Walker, Nigel Baker

About half-way between the pinnacle and the broken drystone wall is a steep wall in a corner that is taken by Making the Grade. To its left is:

### **Stress Management** 6m F5

The small buttress left of 'Making the Grade'. A tough start leads to easier climbing and a lower off. The difficulties are short, as is the route!

11.02.10 Nigel Baker, Johnny Walker.

### **Making the Grade** 8m F6b+/c

Take the nose direct. A hidden 'crimp' helps to solve the problem of getting to the ledge! Good holds lead to a lower-off and grade debate!

08.04.09 Nigel Baker, Keith Morgan.

## The Soft Centre

Sandwiched between the Sporadic Walls and Right Sectors is the Soft Centre. It gets sunshine until around mid afternoon depending on the time of year and, though there are seeps, it is sheltered and dries quickly. There is some loose rock but the majority of routes are amenable and on good quality limestone. On a good day they are pleasant and are likely to prove popular.

The first two of a trio of routes just to the left of the rickety wall/fence are not on the diagram. Please cross the wall with care and repair it if necessary.

### Mildred 12m F6b

The easiest of the trio but with a tough start. Climb the clean wall to ledges below a loose-looking groove. Take this to the lower-off.

01.03.09 Bob Larkin.

### Judge Dread 12m F6b\*

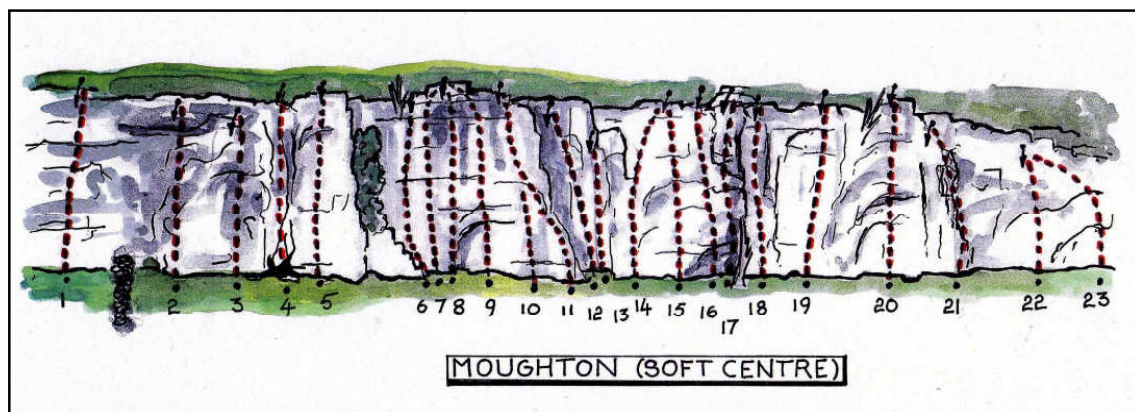
Another tricky start leads to better holds, then tackle the creaky bulge to the belay.

21.02.09 Bob Larkin, Dave Musgrove

### 1 Mordred 12m F6b \*

Just to the left of the wall. Again a difficult wall leads to easier climbing above.

06.12.08 Bob Larkin, John Hunt, Nigel Baker



### 2 Myth and Magic 12m F6a+ \*

Start two metres right of the dry stone wall and climb up and left to a crux bulge at the top.

6.11.08 Dave Musgrove, Bob Larkin, Paul Farrish

### Just An Uther Route 10m F6a

Starting 5 metres right of the dry stone wall climb a nicely technical wall to ledges below a large dubious flake. Step left and climb better rock to the lower-off.

1.3.09 Dave Musgrove, Keith Morgan

### 3 Guinevere 8m F5

About 10 metres right of the dry stone wall a slightly awkward start soon eases then a step left leads to a juggy finish.

12.11.08 Dave Musgrove, Paul Farrish, Bob Larkin

### Groovy Granddad 10m F5

Pleasant climbing in a shallow groove starting just left of the tree stump.

1.3.09 Mick Johnson, Bob Larkin

### 4 A Winter's Tale 10m F5+ \*

Starting above a tree stump, climbs the clean groove using its left rib. Move up the wall when the groove fades.

06.12.08 Nigel Baker, John Hunt, Bob Larkin

### 5 Avalon 10m F6c \*

The clean recessed wall just to the right. Harder if staying on the true path but a little lateral thinking presents at least two options.

30.10.08 John Hunt, Dave Musgrove.

To the right is a thorny corner then a wall that sports a ledge at 4 meters.

### 6 Joust in Time 9m F6a+

The clean wall joust to the right of the thorny corner starting 2 metres up the gully.

30.10.08 Dave Musgrove, John Hunt, Paul Farrish

**7 Sir Lunchalot** 10m F5+ \*

Climb straight up past the left end of the ledge from just right of the base of the thorny corner.

28.10.08 Dave Musgrove, Nigel Baker, John Hunt. *Dave had recently been accused of having a hearty appetite on a climbing website. Also launching an Arthurian namingfest.*



direct pull!

12.11.08 Bob Larkin, Dave Musgrove, Paul Farrish

**8 Arthurian Ledge End** 10m F6a \*

Start below the left end of the ledge and layback up to it. A tricky move on the upper wall maintains interest to the top.

31.10.08 Dave Musgrove, Nigel Baker

**9 The King of the Castle** 10m F6b+/6c \*

Climb the steep wall below the centre of the obvious ledge (3 options) and continue pleasantly up the headwall.

28.10.08 Nigel Baker, John Hunt, Keith Morgan

**Camelot** 10m F6a \*\*

A thin crack leads to the right end of the ledge, followed by a steep wall – which must have been tough at HVS.

Summer 2003 Glyn Edwards. Bolted 21.02.09.

**10 The Quest**, 10m F6b \*

A direct start to the next route.

**11 Knights of Old** 10m F6a \*

Climb the slabby nose between Camelot and Thieving Magpie trending leftwards.

30.10.08 Paul Farrish, Dave Musgrove

**Thieving Magpie** 9m F5

The groove and bulge now has its own set of bolts and lower-off.

**Chastity Belt** 17m F6a \*

The obvious and worthwhile, rising traverse line starting up Knights of Old and finishing at the belay of Joust in Time.

22.02.09 Johnny Walker, Paul Farrish

**12 Merlin** 10m F5+ \*\*

A steep pitch on good holds just right of Thieving Magpie.

12.11.08 Bob Larkin, Dave Musgrove, Paul Farrish

**13 Excalibur** 9m F6a \*

Equally good climbing - just right of Merlin. It involves a slightly harder

Four routes take the next wall which lies to the left of a hawthorn growing close to the crag. The first two may still have some non-stainless glue in bar. Keep an eye open for corrosion.

**14 Foxes Wall** 10m F6b+ \*

Climb with deceptive difficulty past three bolts to finish at a lower-off on the right.

Summer 2003 Glyn Edwards

**15 Economical Route One** 10m F6b \*

Climb past the next four bolts (two are non stainless and getting rusty) keeping to their left. Move right to the lower-off.

Summer 2003 Glyn Edwards

**16 Economical Route Two** 10m F6c \*\*

Nice moves that were originally climbed utilising 2 bolts shared with the previous route, hence the name. Move right from the foot of the previous route and up past a long move to a sloping ledge and a downward pointing spike. Now sports its own bolts and a separate belay.

Summer 2003 Glyn Edwards

**17 Credit Crunch** 10m F6b+/6c \*

A smooth looking wall and bulge leads to a groove/ramp and an easy finish.

Nigel Baker 29.11.08

Just to the right of the hawthorn is an open groove/corner.

**18 Stoatal Recall** 10m F5+

The open groove and wall above.

22.11.08 Dave Musgrove, Nigel Baker, Bob Larkin.

**Weasel Crack** 10m F5 \*

The shallow groove and crack line is steep but on good holds  
2003 Glyn Edwards

**Plagiarising Ferrets** 10m F6a+/b \*\*

A direct line up the wall to the right of the crack with some good moves and interesting rock. The older line uses the crack to swing in – F6a.  
Summer 2003 Glyn Edwards. Bolted Nov 2008 Paul Clarke, Nigel Baker..

**19 Four Candles** 10m F6b \*\*

The wall to the right. A couple of long reaches and a bit of fancy footwork is required.  
01.05.07 Nigel Baker, Keith Morgan, Dave Musgrove

**Birthday Girl Left-Hand** 10m F6a \*\*

The well featured rock to the right leads to a harder finish.  
Glyn Edwards Summer 03. Bolted 01.03.09.

**20 Party Pooper** 10m F6b+ \*

A direct ascent of the crozzly wall (mentioned in the YL Guide as a top-rope problem) joining the BGLH finish. Pleasantly technical on good rock.  
31.10.08 Nigel Baker, Dave Musgrove, Paul Farrish

**Birthday Girl Right-Hand** 9m F6a \*

The obvious shallow groove to the right moving up and right to finish.  
Glyn Edwards Summer 03. Bolted 01.03.09

**21 Party Trick** 9m F5+

The wall to the right.  
12.11.08 Paul Farrish, Dick Tong



On the easier angled ground to the right are two routes:

**Pass the Parcel** 12m F4+ \*

The line is marked by a vague crack. Move right at the top to the lower off of Postman's Knock.  
6.03.09 Paul Farrish, Dave Musgrove

**Postman's Knock** 11m F5 \*

The final line on this sector leads directly to an exit left of an ash tree and a lower-off on the terrace above.  
6.03.09 Paul Farrish, Dave Musgrove

**Gate Crasher** 15m F6b \*\*

A diagonal traverse with continually interesting climbing on good rock. Start from Postman's Knock and move up and left into the groove of Birthday Girl. Cross this and Party Pooper to arrive below the crux of Four Candles. Gain the crucial pocket on this route and make a hard pull left to better holds and a steep sequence further left to the lower-off of Stoatal Recall.  
04.04.09 Dave Musgrove

**One for the Road** 20m F6a+ \*

A similar but higher traverse line generally clipping the top set of bolts across the 'Party' wall. Start opposite the hawthorn and climb up and across left to the third bolt on Postman's Knock. Move easily left to an awkward move just below the grass fringe to gain good holds above the crux of Four Candles. The continuation is steep but on good rock all the way to the Stoatal Recall lower-off.  
07.04.09 Dave Musgrove, Paul Farrish

**Third Party** 9m F4

Just to the right is a crack/shallow groove.  
14.02.10 Paul Farrish (solo).

**Partisan** 9m F6a

The wall to the right, moving left to join the previous route and use its lower-off.  
14.02.10 Paul Farrish, John Hunt

To the right a large tree high on the wall marks the start of steeper ground. Two routes start to its left.

**22 Dopey** 7m F6a+

Climb quite steeply past two bolts to a lower-off. A short, steep route that isn't really a warm-up and is a little more interesting than one would first suppose.  
17.4.05 Richard Hardicre, Nigel Baker

**23 Stumpy** 7m F6c

Two metres to the right. Climb more steeply until past the third bolt (realising that the name is inappropriate!) and then move left to the same lower-off. 17.4.05 Richard Hardicre, Nigel Baker

## Right-Hand Sector

To the right is an obvious overhanging sector. The routes start on the old basement rock but move quickly and powerfully onto generally solid but unusual limestone. The initial band becomes monstrously overhanging as you move further right, with hard starts leading to a break. Above the break the holds get bigger with still steep climbing leading to good double-bolt lower-offs. Due to its undercut nature, this area takes longer to dry than the other sectors. It is however, the sunniest of them all.

To the right is a tempting arch-like feature forming a roof that lies below the large tree.

### 1 Trophy Hunter 10m F6c

The left side of the arch and wall above to a lower-off. Less steep than other routes here.

13.6.06 Nigel Baker, Keith Morgan, Paul Clarke

### 2 Arch Tempter 10m F6c+ \*

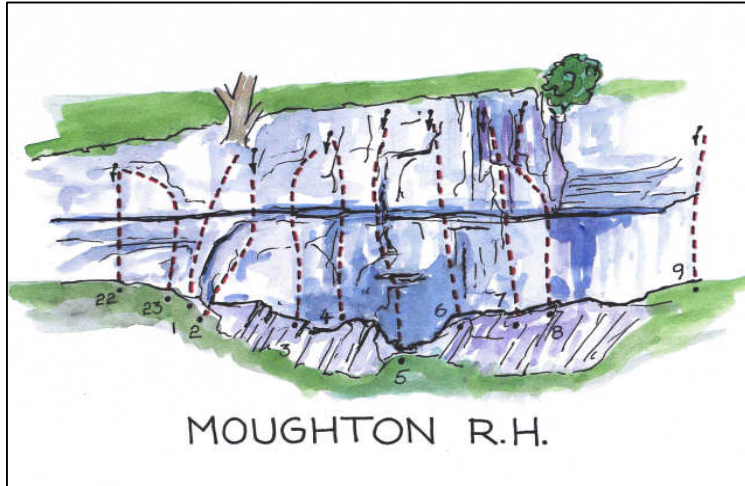
The arch and wall above to a lower-off.

19.6.05 Nigel Baker, Keith Morgan

### Do Not Go Gentle 18m F7a+ \*\*

A fine traverse. Start up Arch Tempter to gain the break and follow this to a good heel hook rest on Burly in Ribblesdale. Pull up to stand in the break stepping right to better holds. Another break leads across to the last bolt on Lazarus which is followed to the belay.

04.04.09 Paul Clarke, Nigel Baker



Just past the arch is a steep wall topped by a break and a smoother grey wall.

### 3 Something Wicked 10m F7a \*

Start (often wet) beneath a hole at half height and gain it steeply and with a sense of urgency. Pull up onto the wall eventually moving across to a lower-off shared with the next route.

17.4.05 Nigel Baker, Richard Hardicre,

### 4 Slapping Beauty 10m F7a \*\*

The leaning wall before things start to get really steep. The name says it all! Start by climbing the obvious slate boss then trend up the wall slightly leftwards.

10.4.05 Nigel Baker, Paul Clarke

### Burly in Ribblesdale 13m F6c \*\*

A good addition and perhaps the easiest of the routes on the overhanging sector though a long first move may stop short climbers. Again take the slate boss but make a reach to a good slot, and pull up to the break. Step up rightwards then back left to a good hold in the next break. More good holds on the right of the tree lead up to join the finish of the next route.

11.04.09 Nigel Baker, John Hunt, Paul Clarke

### 5 A Power of Good 14m F7b \*\*\*

The roof and bulges to the right. Start at the obvious large pocket and pull steeply to the left then up on smaller holds and eventually the break. Easier moves on positive holds lead to a lower-off on the ledge.

10.4.05 Paul Clarke

### 6 Lazarus 10m F7b \*

A line of mechanical and glue-in bolts has a steep and fingery start. Avoid the big block to the right of the finish.

16.7.05 Paul Clarke

### 7 Bucket Symphony 10m F7a \*\*\*

Jugs in space – well nearly all jugs! A few metres to the right an obvious side-pull allows a leap to gain the more than adequate, cemented, remains of a much larger hold. Above the break steep and surprising territory leads to the last roof. Pull up and step onto the ledge on the left.

18.5.05 Paul Clarke, Nigel Baker.

### 8 Space Monkey 11m F7a+ \*\*

A few metres to the right and below an obvious hanging white groove. A difficult start leads to the break. Steep pulls gain better holds. Pull into the groove, using the fang, and follow it to the lower-off. There are 7 bolts but a couple were just for gaining the rock whilst cleaning and there is certainly no need to clip them all on the lead.

27.5.05 Paul Clarke

To the right, above more steep ground, is a loose groove containing some exposed tree roots - a rather good example of biological erosion! To the right again is a big roof topped by a white wall (any takers?). At the right end of the roof is found:

### 9 Finger Nabber 7m F6c+

A climb that lacks height but not impact. Steep pulls lead to the break below the right-hand side of the roof that is passed with some difficulty (and considerable pain from a sharp hold) to good rock and a lower-off.

19.6.05 Keith Morgan, Nigel Baker.