

Llanymynech Quarry

Introduction: There is little to report at Llanymynech Quarry in the way of new routes. However, Gary Gibson has been busy equipping and re-equipping most of his routes and these details are now provided below. Thanks to Gary for supplying the details. It will be interesting to see if the quarry becomes more popular as there is now a wider range of sports climbs on offer. Details of all of these developments are also available on Gary's website.

The Red Wall

8a **I Saw Three Ships** 6c+ **

A fine direct pitch between *Ship Dip* and *The Deep* which provides excellent and sustained climbing to a belay at two-thirds height. A 60 metre rope is sufficient to lower off.

First Ascent: Gary Gibson 25/12/02.

All other routes on *The Red Wall* (with the exception of *Long John Codling*) were rebolted during the winter of 2002/03. Grades for the following routes have been revised as follows:

7 **Mussel Bound** 7a ***

8 **Ship Dip** remains at 6c+ but now **

9 **The Deep** 6c+ *

10 **The Ancient Mariner** 7a ***

A 70 metre rope will enable a lower off from just below the top of the crag.

11 **Dead Man's Fingers** 6c+ **

15 **Crab Stick** 6c *

The Black Wall

19 **Black Wall** **

Now said to be E1 5b.

22 **Picking Blackheads** *

The grade has gone up to E5 6a.

Grid Iron Wall

23 **Humpty Dumpty** 6c+ *

Now bolted and "much better".

24 **Hickory Dickory Dock** 7a **

Now bolted.

25 **Incy Wincy Spider** 7a+ **

Now bolted. Low in the grade.

26 **Pew, Pew, Barney, McGrew, Cuthbert, Dibble, Grub** 7a+ **

Now bolted. A long reach will be helpful.

28 **Curfew** 6b+ **

Now bolted. Superb.

28a **A Night Torchlight Parade** 6c **

Takes a direct line to the left of *Curfew*. Climb straight up the lower wall and continue direct up the fine upper wall. The initial section, as far as the ledge, can now be used to start *Gaza Stripper*.

First Ascent: Gary Gibson 31/12/02.

30 **A Night On The Town** 6c+

A new start to this route has been added direct up the lower wall and the route has now been bolted.

31 **Smack The Juggler** 6b+ *
Now bolted

32 **Jack The Smuggler** 6c+ **
Sustained, excellent and now bolted.

The Nomad Wall

35 **Nomad** E6 6a ***
Grade increased.

36 **The Screaming Skull** E6 6b **
Grade increased.

The following two routes can be found on the steep, leftward facing, triangular wall which forms the right hand side of the 'second cwm' to the right of *Stone The Crows*, see page 53 in *West Midlands Rock*. Abseil from the top of the quarry, into the hanging bay, to gain the start of the routes:

36a **Strong Medicine** 26m E3 5c *
Climb the lower wall directly (avoiding the corner) to gain the ledge at half-height; bold, cams useful. Climb rightwards, through cracks and blocks, until close to the arete. Gain the top by climbing up and slightly leftwards.

First Ascent: Stu Bradbury, Glen Craven 18/12/02.

36b **Lust For Life** 26m E4 5c/6a **
A better route. Follow *Strong Medicine* to the ledge at half-height. Climb leftwards and up a short corner to gain a small ledge. Climb up to and past a peg runner, crux, before climbing direct to finish up a shallow bow shaped corner.

First Ascent: Stu Bradbury, Stewart Muir 20/01/03.

Tunnel Buttress (See page 53 in *West Midlands Rock*)

The next route can be found between the entrance to the tunnel and the stile when approaching *Blind Faith Buttress*, it lies directly above

a flowstone boulder on the overhanging flowstone wall which is split by a prominent crack.

36b **Shades Of Two Worlds** 26m E3 5b 5b

A route of character that would benefit from further cleaning. Start right of the flowstone boulder at a bore hole runnel.

1. 5b. Climb the right to left running groove (cams in the bore hole runnels protect), pull around the bulge to the left to gain the flowstone corner and climb this to a good ledge and belay.

2. 5b. A stunning pitch up the overhanging flowstone wall to the left of the stance. Make a rising traverse leftwards to gain the crack on the left wall. Climb this in a sensational position until a mantel gains a small stance on the left. The short steep wall and a terrifying mantel finish is all that separates you from success (crucial small cams).

First Ascent: Stu Bradbury, Glen Craven (1st pitch) 21/5/04.

Tunnel Buttress and Cul-de-Sac Quarry

Nick Dixon is also reported to have climbed new routes in these areas, unfortunately further details have not been forthcoming.

The following route is situated in the fenced off plantation approx 100 metres right Cream (Route 48, see page 55 in *West Midlands Rock*). Start in the small amphitheatre below a clean bulge.

48a **Sasha The Basha** 20m 7a **

Excellent varied and technical climbing. Climb the initial dusty crack to the roof and move left on the lip (BR) to a hard pull (BR) to gain a standing position above the roof. Move slightly rightwards and up on crimps and edges to a good hold (BR above). Hard moves upwards and slightly left gain better holds and a 'thank god' rest under a small roof. Pull through roof on its right (BR) and follow the delightful slab to a 2 bolt lower off.

First ascent: Chris Jones, Dylan burgess 6/11/06.