High Crag – Ilkley Moor

Approach: The rocks can bee seen from the valley floor high up on the edge of Ilkley moor. Approach as for the Swastika Stones. When on top of the edge High Crag can be seen above and beyond (Grid Ref SE090467. ~20min walk total). Follow path above Swastika Stones to two parallel running walls, turn uphill at the first, through the gap in the wall and follow your nose up to the path above where ~100m later should see you standing above the main Block.

Aspect: The rocks are open to the elements and will catch the wind and no doubt anything else going. The view of Ilkley valley is magnificent and coupled with the remoteness of the rocks makes this a great place to get away from the bumbly hoards at Almscliff.

The Problems

1. Storm 3000. Start on low ledge in the grotty looking corner and move up right using slopey ledges to finish just left of problem 2. **V4**

2. Phat Planet. S.S. on double handed pocket near base of left hand seam and use small crimps up left to pass chipped hold and above. **V4, Good.**

3. Afrika Shox. Move up the right hand seam from pocket with LH and sidepull with RH. **V4, Good and dynamic.**

4. Afro left. Arete from Standing on its Left hand side. **V2.** Possible from s.s. **~V3**

5. Dusted. Arete on its Right hand side. **V2.** Possible from s.s. at same grade.

6. Wall just right again using small crimp in middle of wall. **V1**.

7. Chant of a poor man. Feint rib in middle of wall. **V0**

8. Alis' Arete. Climb the easy arete from a low start. **V0**

9. Arete direct from S.S. **V0**

10. Open up. S.S. in break and up over bulge using slopey crimps. Careful where you place your mat otherwise you'll end up sledging downhill! **V3,** a bit scary……. Don't look down!

11. Double Flash. The bulge just left starting over the spikey boulder. A bit hairy but not too bad really. **V2**

12. Rightism. Arete on the Right hand side **V0**

13. Leftism. S.S. on undercut flake and climb arete on its left hand side. **V3/4, Excellent!**

14. Project. Start as for problem 15 but get first curvy sloper with left hand and move up rightwards to something and the top! **V lots?**

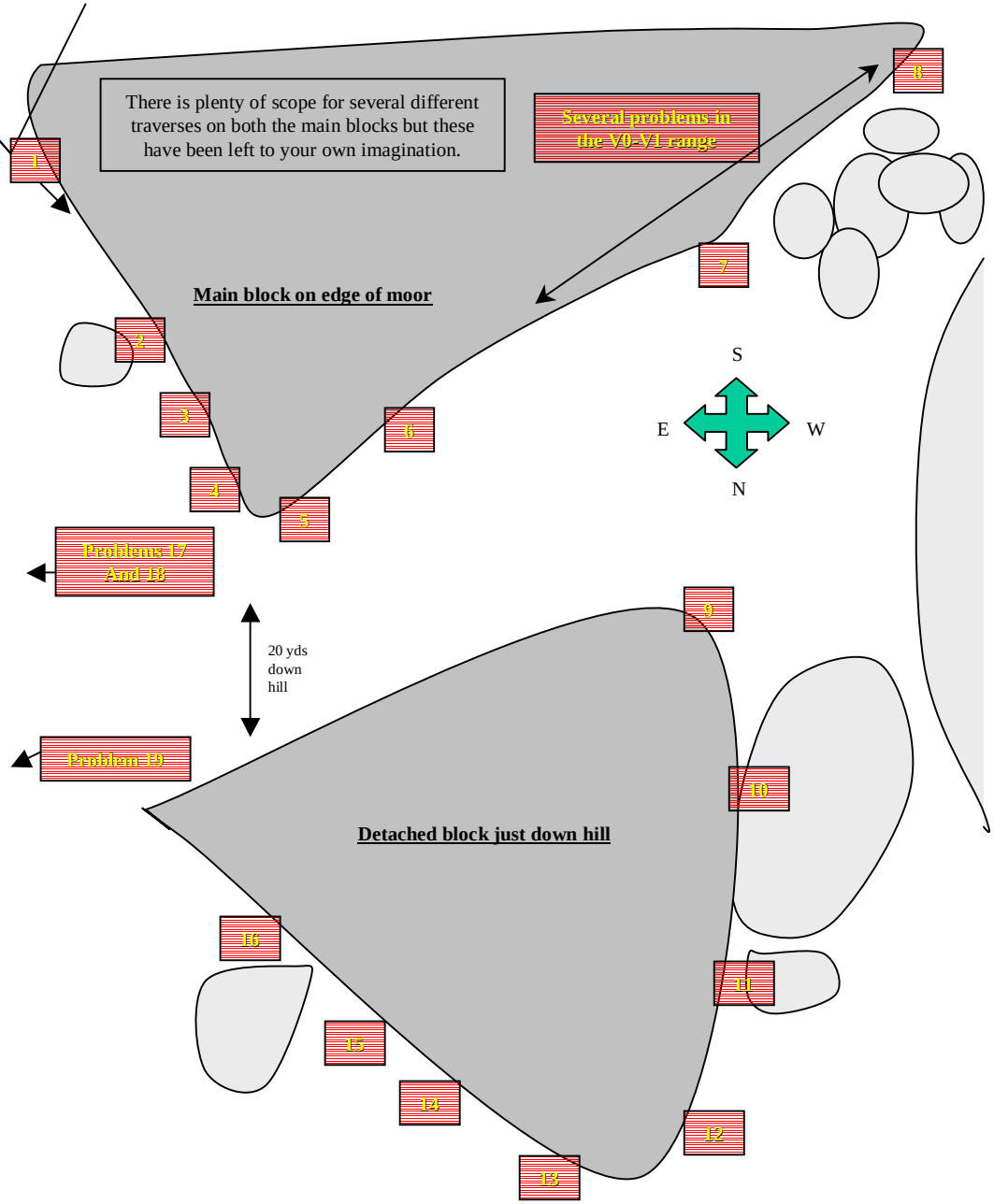
15. Rhythm and Stealth. S.S. with one hand in lower break. Move up and left using slopers, crimps and pockets to a mantle into the slopey scoop above. **V7, Superb but frustrating**

16. Space Shanty. Short problem up wall left of Problem 15. Start low (awkward) and finish on small boss on left of scoop. **V4**

17. El cid. Over in the collection of boulders to the left as facing crag is a small nose. Climb out from break in back and up arete. **V2**

18. Wall to right from low start. **V0**

19. Robs traverse. Rising traverse on back of boulder. **V3**



Grades given are an honest attempt to get them right but take them with a pinch of salt. Just try and enjoy the problems and make your own mind up, As everyone says, its supposed to be fun.

Some of the problems may need a brush, but please be gentle. Soft bristles only, and clean off excess chalk when you've finished on a problem.

Copyright Richard Seabrook, 2003