

## THE VENUES

**Clifton** Easy access, classic routes and good protection make this one of the best crags in the area. Single pitch 10-20 metre routes on granite.

**Clints of Dromore** A pleasant south facing granite crag with lots of easy routes and an gentle amble in.

**Meikle Ross** Big scary greywacke sea-cliffs with a great atmosphere. Routes from 10-60m long. Some low grade non-scary stuff also.

**Dungeon Hill** A remote but excellent big cliff with lots of great rock. Routes up to 150 metres. A big walk-in, you need a mountain bike really.

**The Thirlstone** Sandstone bouldering and short routes on the beach.

## ACCOMMODATION

Camping on a highly rated coastal site less than 2 miles from Meikle Ross, Grid Ref NX 652456. If you fancy a bit luxury they have 5-berth wooden wigwams which accommodate 5 but can only be booked for 3 nights  
<http://www.solwayviewholidays.com/>

## Getting there

Take the A69 out of Newcastle and after 45 miles, at a roundabout take the A689. Follow this onto the M6(N) and after 5.7 miles exit the M6 onto the A74, then straight away bear left onto the A75. Follow this for 45 miles and turn left on the A711 to Kirkcudbright. Thru Kirkcudbright, over the bridge, turn left for Borgue. Follow coast road for Borgue. Take next left for Brighthouse Bay then next left for Ross Bay. Reception at White House on right hand side. Site 500yds on left.

The journey is about 125 miles and should take around 2hrs 45mins.

Sat 18<sup>th</sup> – Sun 19<sup>th</sup> August 2012

We haven't had a meet to the Dumfries & Galloway for many years, if ever, maybe because much of the easily accessed climbing is quite new. I have to admit to not having climbed there before and have relied on local guide John Biggar's website for info and photographs. It's at <http://www.johnbiggar.com/galloway-climbing-index.asp>

We'll be camping on a coastal site less than 2 miles from the seacliffs of Meikle Ross, pitches are booked for Fri/Sat nights.

As well as the climbing there are mountain bike trails galore – there are 4 of the 7stanes MTB centres in the area.

Also, the beautiful Galloway Hills are nearby for some great hillwalking.



Dungeon Hill

## Articles

Galloway Climbing, Stephen Reid, Needlesports:

[www.needlesports.com/NeedleSports/Galloway/gallowayindex.htm](http://www.needlesports.com/NeedleSports/Galloway/gallowayindex.htm)

Climbing in Galloway, John Biggar

[www.johnbiggar.com/galloway-climbing-index.asp](http://www.johnbiggar.com/galloway-climbing-index.asp)



# Recommended Routes

## Dungeon Hill

Top Tip – big cams

|       |                  |    |
|-------|------------------|----|
| Up to | Traitors Gait    | VS |
| VS    | Carrick Corner   | VS |
|       | The Scrieve      | VS |
|       | Galloway Grooves | VD |
|       | Monkey Puzzle    | VS |

|       |                     |     |
|-------|---------------------|-----|
| HVS – | Bannockburn         | E1  |
| E3    | Scots Wae Hae       | HVS |
|       | Heir Apparent       | E1  |
|       | The Colonels Corner | HVS |
|       | Incy Wincy Spider   | E2  |
|       | Parcel Of Rogues    | E3  |

## Meikle Ross

Top Tip – Drop a grade!

|    |                  |    |
|----|------------------|----|
| Up | Promontory Wall  | S  |
| to | Clockwork Orange | S  |
| VS | Mental Block     | VS |
|    | Demolition Tango | VS |
|    | Mellow Yellow    | VS |

Anything on Crab Slab (see miniguide below)

|      |                      |  |
|------|----------------------|--|
| HVS- | You're on your own   |  |
| E6   | here – Most of these |  |
|      | are on the large and |  |
|      | scary Limehouse      |  |
|      | Cliff                |  |

## Clints of Dromore

Top Tip – Hex 9 handy for belays

|                                  |      |
|----------------------------------|------|
| White Slab                       | Diff |
| Dark Slab                        | VD   |
| The Return Of The Black Streaker | VD   |
| Spare Rib                        | S    |
| Monkey Puzzle                    | VS   |
| Stupid Cupid                     | VS   |
| Make My Day                      | E1   |

## Clifton

Top Tip – Watch out for loose rock and bulls

|    |                  |    |
|----|------------------|----|
| Up | Dirl Chimney     | VS |
| to | Jeune Ecole      | S  |
| VS | Elder Crack      | VS |
|    | Demolition Tango | VS |
|    | Liplet           | S  |

|       |                 |     |
|-------|-----------------|-----|
| HVS - | Fingerlust      | E4  |
| E4    | The Arete       | E2  |
|       | Kenny's Chimney | HVS |

## Other Attractions

**Red Kite Feeding Station** at Ballymack Farm near Lauriston, great for photos of these fine birds.  
<http://www.gallowaykitetrail.com/feeding-station-i38.html>

**Mountain Biking Trails** in and around Galloway Forest, including the Glentool, Kirroughtree and Dalbeatty 7stanes trails.

<http://www.7stanes.com/>

Remote hillwalking in The Galloway Hills around Merrick, and the Rhinns Of Kells.

<http://www.needlesports.com/NeedleSports/Galloway/walking.htm>

**Bouldering** at Garheugh, Thirlstane and The Ranking Boulder

[http://www.scottishclimbs.com/wiki/Garheugh\\_Point](http://www.scottishclimbs.com/wiki/Garheugh_Point)

[http://www.scottishclimbs.com/wiki/The\\_Thirlstane](http://www.scottishclimbs.com/wiki/The_Thirlstane)

<http://roddebouldering.blogspot.com/2009/06/rankin-boulder-top.html>

# Solway View Campsite

Neil & Patricia Picken  
 Balmangan Farm  
 Ross Bay, Borgue  
 Kirkcudbright, DG6 4TR  
 01557 870206

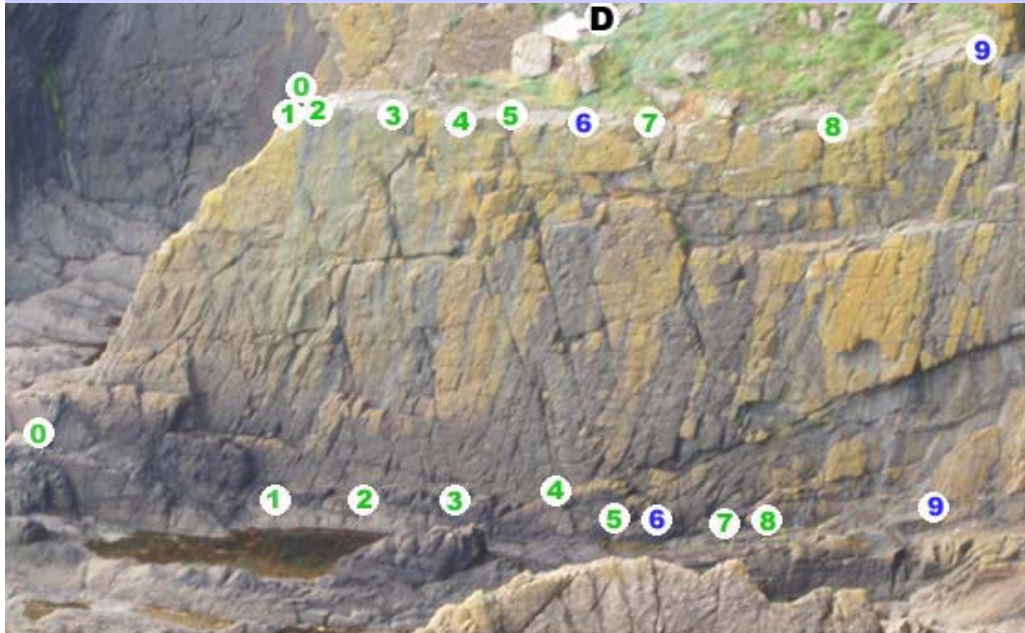
8 pitches have been booked for Fri/Sat nights. The charges are £10 per night for 2 adults and a vehicle. All pitches have a fire pit and a bench and table. Up to 2 extra adults are allowed on a pitch for £5 each. Up to 2 pets per pitch are allowed. The club's had to pay an additional £20 for joining the Camping & Caravanning Club for which I'll be passing the hat around.



# Miniguides

## Crab Slab on Meikle Ross

A pleasant wee area just east of Limehouse Blues and somewhat dwarfed by that huge cliff, though the routes here are still 12-15m long..! The best access is down the grassy ramp at the west end of Fox Craig. This area has a nice base, good solid boulder belays at the top, very little loose rock, generally reasonable protection and has routes from Mod. to HVS. Reproduced courtesy of John Biggar.



## Crab Slab

0. **The Arete, M, \*** easy and scenic climb up the arete
1. **Little Fishy, D,** slightly harder, less scenic, diagonal to join arete
2. **Crab Eyes, HS 4a, \*** bold crux at top
3. **Tropic of Cancer, S 4a, \*** easier than it looks, hardest at top
4. **Mutant Slater, HS 4a, \*** harder than it looks, hardest at bottom
5. **Crabbit Auld Man, S 4a,** the most obvious, central crack
6. **Arthropomorphic, VS 4b,\*\*** nice climbing, poor protection
7. **The Sinking of HMS Screwgate, VD** hard to start
8. **Winkle Up, VD,** a diff with poor protection
9. **Landsickness, HVS 5a,\*** the crux is the overlap

# Eastern end of Fox Craig on Meikle Ross

Some routes not in the guide. Reproduced courtesy of John Biggar.



## Fox Craig eastern end

1. Crack and Corner, VS 4b, \* nice climbing
2. Curving Arete, S 4a, \*\* climb on or near the arete, two starts
3. Fats Waller, E1 5b, \* a hard steep slab
4. Left Arete, VS 4b, \*\*\* the excellent arete, reached from the right
5. Rez's Route, VS 4b \*\* the steep cracked face
6. Alligator Crawl, HVS 5a, \*\*\* the excellent cracked wall
7. Twin Cracks, S 4a, \*\*\* a nice wee climb up the cracks
8. Sharks Tooth, VD, bridge up the big corner