

The Soft Parade

2013
may

The Soft Parade.

About the Crag.

The crag is on a small cliff line facing NNE on the *eastern side of the ridge almost directly opposite Barden's Lookout*. Being on the eastern side it has sun from early in the morning until about 2pm in the winter and is protected from the cold westerly winds (it bakes before lunch a bit in summer!). The crag is low angled – slabby to vertical – and was originally designed as a teaching crag. As such, its a great place for those wanting easier climbing, a place to take the kids and also, for those wishing to improve their leading and trad climbing skills. Depending on the age of your kids it's a 5 – 10min easy walk.

Barry Jung has been the heart of the place since the beginning and has almost single handedly equipped the place. He bought his first drill at age 75, when he was forced into 'early' retirement. For some there are a few oddities at the crag - Baz explains these as "For practice." For some it is overbolted but judging by the crowds it is very popular. No doubt the local 'guiding' companies will discover it soon, which is fine but don't allow them to monopolise the crag - the last thing needed is another New York or Mt York.

The Kids Area (Bob's Slab) has been set up on a small juggy slab, on the right, at the bottom of the final access. It has 5 SSGICs across the top of the slab, and a viewing platform at its right hand end (photos!). **This is the only area with cliff top access!** At the time of writing the base of the crag is still a little unmade. Those of you with kids, please feel free to move stuff about as you feel necessary. As in most places in the Blueys the cliff top is not suited to the setting up of top ropes so please respect your fellow climbers and keep away from it.

Gear and Equipment.

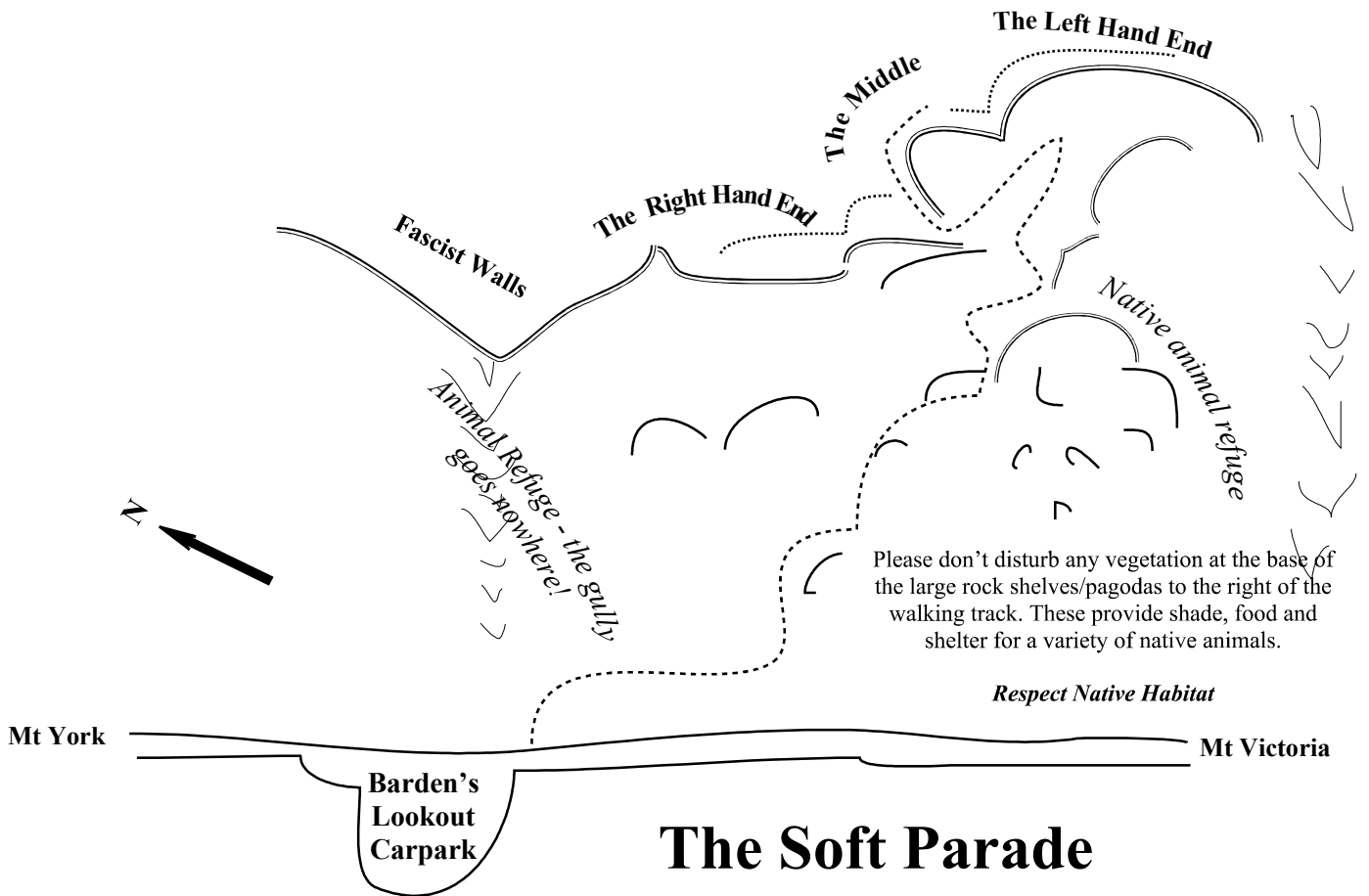
For non climbing parents, the Kids Area; 6 bolt plates, some rigging rope or slings and a 20m length of rope - but the routes have rings and can be lead!

For the rest; quickdraws, a couple of bolt plates for the belays, a full rack – mainly wires and hexes but a selection of cams can be handy – a couple of the routes could take a 4 or 5 camalot but it is not essential gear! *The Left Hand End* is all trad climbing though the routes have been set up with bolted belays and there is a selection of rap points scattered across the top of the cliff. *The Middle* is all sport on ring bolts as is *The Right Hand End*. *Fascist Walls* (we were going to call it 'Abbots Dream') is, at this stage, also trad but Baz is moving in!

For me, the slabs are the pick of the crop - don't miss 'Double Decker Disco' as its a classic as well as Baz's hardest lead this century - but there really is something here for everyone. Yes, its a bit sandy but that's what you get at this grade in the Blueys (don't forget Piddo, Zig Zag etc have had people crawling all over them for decades), the trad routes - if you respect the rock - really are quite good and offer the full gammut of styles and you pretty much get to use everything on your rack too. So unscrew that shiny rack of the living room wall and get on down and scratch it up a bit.

We would really appreciate it if you could take all your rubbish out, bury your poo and not top rope directly through the anchors. Also please remember that when were not here the animals are ...avoid the watering places and don't disturb any nesting places. Animals are people too!

Special thanks to Baz, Julie Reay, Sam Puchala, Natalia Frazier, Jacindi Jackson, Julia Booth, Kendra Magyar, Josie McCullough and Grant 'Butcher' Colville for their jokes, nerve, patience and heckling. Have fun. Be good.



Shitting in the Woods!

Garden trowels can be purchased for about \$2.00

How you found it.

Hole!

Shit in it!

Bury it!

Small Garden Trowel.

Keep well away from water courses!
They are a source of life!

Leave it how you found it!

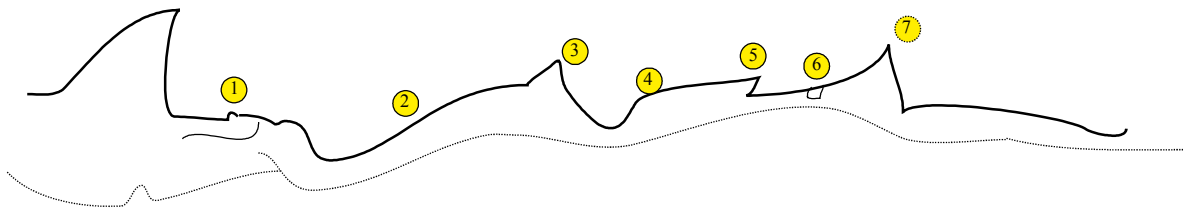
The Routes

The areas are listed from left to right – Note, you come into the crag at the Kids Area which is between The Middle and The Right Hand End so the routes are described from the furthest part of the crag back to the access gully and then on through to Fascist Walls.

The Left Hand End

On the right side of the dark gully at the furthest left end of the crag is a short steepish route. This is 'The Outsider 23' it is the last climb listed in the West Side area of the New York crag. All the routes listed here are to the right of this. The trad routes in this area have all been equipped with a single bolt belay as there is good gear at the belay also. There are several rap stations scattered about to the left or right of the routes and in many cases it is necessary to belay your second through so they can set up the rap. These has been done to help teach rope management at belays and also because in many cases these days alas, it appears that many would just top rope the climbs rather than leading or seconding them. The section of the crag has been 'designed' to help climbers learn and not to facilitate consumer climbing, we have chosen to leave rock as we found it so take care - there may be loose rock that should be avoided. Please refrain from 'trundling'. The clifftop is unstable and not suited to top outs (hence the rap stations). Have fun, get scared and improve your gear climbing skills!

- | | |
|--|----------|
| ① Modest Mouth | 10m 15* |
| Above small ledge. Layback crack to rap station on the top of the cliff.
Julia Booth 2012 | |
| ② Don't the Moon Look Good Mama | 12m 14* |
| Crack with large tree to rap station.
S Squires 1997 | |
| ③ Ten Carefree Minutes Under a Cloudless Sky | 10m 15** |
| Wide corner crack to belay/rap point.
M Warren 2012 | |



- | | |
|--|-----------|
| ④ Sexo; Drogas y Rocas | 12m 18*** |
| Right leading diagonal, take offwidth exit to belay.
Natalia Frazier 2012 | |
| ⑤ Mr Mean Mouth | 12m 16** |
| Flared offwidth/chimney, take right hand exit to belay.
M Warren 2012 | |
| ⑥ Celebrate with Cake | 12m 16** |
| Twin crack to belay.
M Warren 2012 | |
| ⑦ What a Friend We Have in Mother | 12m 11* |
| Corner cracks, take left hand exit.
M Warren 2012 | |

The Middle.

Once again, the routes are listed from left to right carrying on from the previous area. The 3 short 'practices' have all been climbed and go to a large ledge above the track. Probably the most popular section of the crag. Jugs and a few kids routes.

Layback Practice 5m

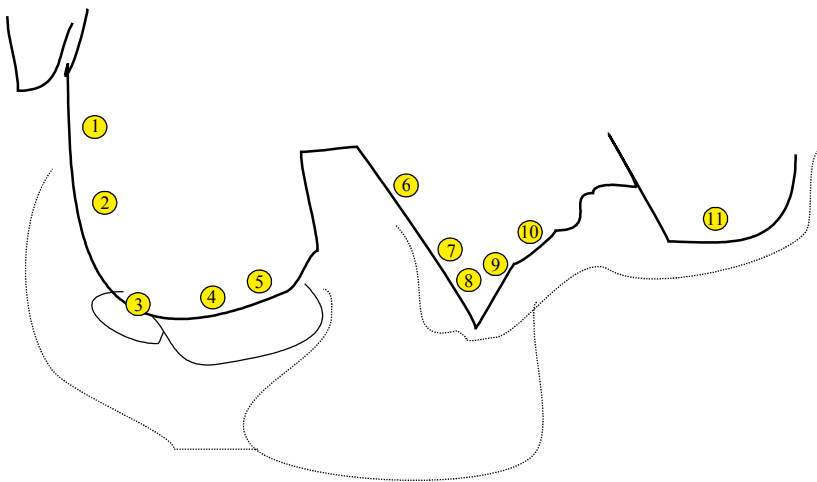
Jam Practice 5m

Offwidth Practice 5m

5m around from the off width is an access gully/chimney for the top of the practices. On the block above the track is a grey wall with undercut right hand end. From left to right are;

- | | |
|---|----------------|
| ① A Touch of Frost
S Puchala 2012 | 10m 16* |
| ② Dirty Nuns with Chewing Gum
S Puchala 2012 | 10m 14* |
| ③ Hysterical Porcupine
Starts on the detached block. Take Care at 3rd bolt!
S Puchala 2012 | 12m 16* |

. *The crag is effectively split here.* The track turns to the right coming *down* from the access gully and kiddies area. The next two routes are on the north side of the same buttress as the previous routes and start off the rock platform. There is a belay bolt here. The lowest branch track bypasses the kiddies routes and the access gully and goes to the Right Hand Side



- | | |
|--|----------------|
| ④ Lazy Lizards
S Puchala 2012 | 8m 12** |
| ⑤ A Soft Touch
S Puchala 2012 | 8m 10** |
| ⑥ Avian Antics
Small flake line.
S Puchala 2012 | 8m 18 |

then two climbs sharing a lower off...

- | | |
|---|--------------|
| ⑦ Fringe Benefit
J McCullogh 2012 | 6m 16 |
| ⑧ Downside Up
S Puchala 2012 | 8m 19 |

...Bob's Slab Playground. What kids?

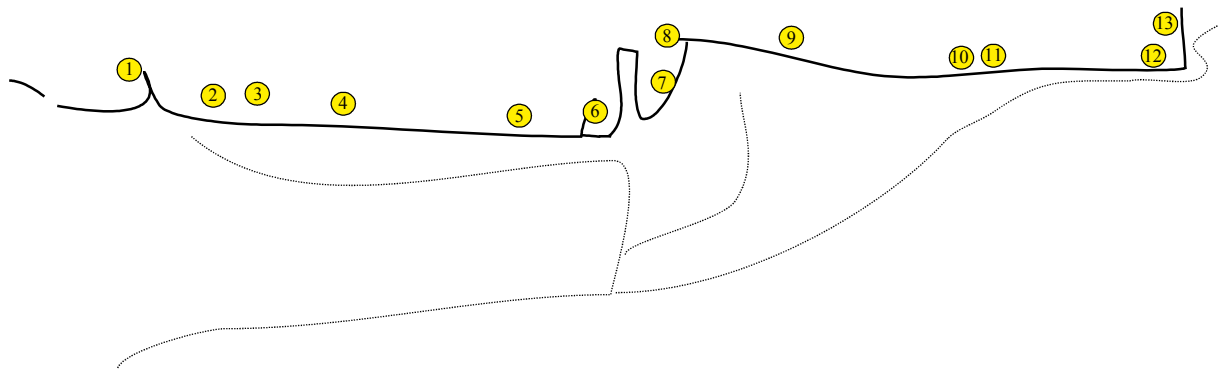
- | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|
| <p>9 Bobs Breakfast
J. Reay 2012</p> <p>10 Who's Bob?
B Jung 2012</p> <p>11 J. Meister
Josie McCulloch 2012</p> | <p>8m 11</p> <p>8m 9</p> <p>8m 9</p> |
|--|--------------------------------------|

You are now back to the access gully.

The Right Hand Side.

To access this area turn *left at the bottom of the access gully*. The first two climbs are scattered over a short broken cliff.

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>Frequent Flyers
About 10m right.
B Jung 2013</p> <p>S'easy
Short juggy face up the bank about 20m from the gully.
J Reay 2012</p> <p>1 Up The Spout
Crack! Gear to lower off.</p> <p>2 ASAP
S Puchala 2012</p> <p>3 Prompt Delivery
S Puchala 2012</p> <p>4 Hanky Panky
M Warren 2012</p> <p>5 Devious Diversions
Nice slab 5m right.
B Jung 2012</p> <p>6 Okipoki
3m right of DD.
J Reay 2012</p> <p>7 Soho Central
Around the corner again. Low angled slab.
J Reay 2012</p> | <p>8m 10</p> <p>8m 10</p> <p>8m 8</p> <p>8m 16</p> <p>10m 16</p> <p>8m 15</p> <p>10m 15**</p> <p>10m 14**</p> <p>6m 12*</p> |
|--|---|



5 metres to the right is a long wall with an obvious right arête,

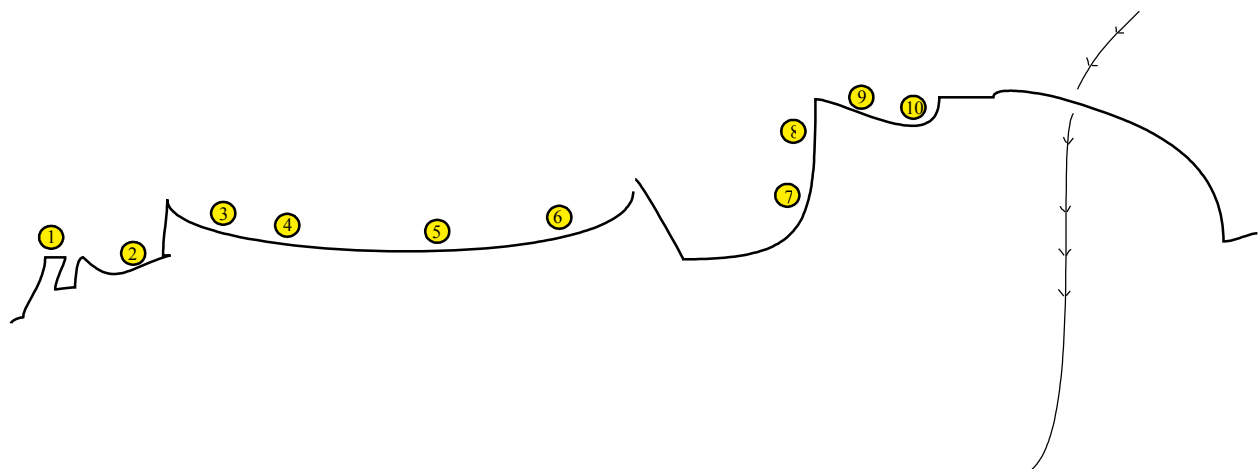
- 8 **Honk On** **10m 13***
Apparently you can climb the wall or the layback offwidth with the same bolts! What cheek ...
J Reay 2012
- 9 **Gender Warfare** **8m 17**
2m right of previous.
J Reay 2012
- 10 **Cast Iron Lullaby** **12m 15**
S Puchala 2012
- 11 **George's Perspiration** **12m 14**
GKMuraoka 2012
- 12 **Visions Fade** **12m 16*****
Arete
S Puchala 2012

Then around the corner on the face,

- 13 **Organic Donkey Milk Products Climb 1** **12m 17****
M Warren 2013

... Up to the ugly short chimney

- 1 **Squeeze Here** **6m 13**
S Puchala 2013
- 2 **Split For Dinner** **10m 15*****
M Warren 2012
- 3 **Sensitive Freight** **8m 15***
M Warren 2012
- 4 **Hot Jam Tart** **8m 19**
Hardest route at the crag!
M Warren 2012
- 5 **Your Choice** **10m 14**
B Jung 2012
- 6 **The Last of the Jelly Beans** **10m 13***
B Jung 2012



Fascist Walls

Walk around the next bit of broken cliff and follow the track down into the alcove. The next few sport climbs are up on the walls to the left.

- ⑦ **Upstairs Downstairs** **12m 17**
A short route ending below the ledge and tree which is actually pitch 1 but I suggest either run it out or belay on the ledge.
B Jung, J Reay 2013
- ⑧ **Jump on Board** **6m 16***
B Jung 2013
- ⑨ **Project - Baz**
- ⑩ **Double Decker Disco** **12m 17*****
...ignore rings in the middle of the face!
B Jung 2013

Walk through the creek alcove carefully - please don't use it for lunching or the toilet as its the 'watering place' for the local animals - around some more broken cliff to a few very nice trad routes and much more scope for lunch and toileting.

- A Good Day For The Beach** **10m 15****
Perfect layback and mantel.
Kendra Magyar 2013
- I've Sent Your Saddle Home** **12m 17****
Left leaning flake/corner.
M Warren 2013
- Organic Donkey Milk Products Climb 2** **12m 12***
Orange ramp/corner. Finish left.
M Warren 2013

Note; Many of the 'easy' natural lines have been climbed (most of them soloed) but unless the FA has seen fit to equip them with lower off anchors, give them a brush and generally make them palatable to the public they haven't been included in the guide book. With a little bit of imagination and quite a bit of hard work there are still routes to be done down here. They will be included in any future editions.

Notes.

Climbs marked (^) ; names have not been provided by either the FA or the route equipper nor has the name of the FA been given unless known without a doubt - I hope this gives no offence.

Grades; the grades, particularly of new climbs are sometimes subject to dispute, the only way you can really have an idea is to actually climb them. The grades in this update are those of a cross section of climbers from the local community and I hope give a clear lineal progression regardless of style. Regardless of the number, grades should be consistent. I hope that this is the case as we have tried hard to be objective.

Route descriptions: A toughy. You have to give everyone the chance to 'onsight', for this to happen you really cant give info about the climbs. I mean, onsighting means that you just might not have the right gear, definitely shouldn't know anything about the crux, where it is etc, etc. If you haven't taken the right gear then you have simply fucked up - onsighting is about fucking up and dealing with it. The stars give an indication of quality. 0 stars is still worth a look, 5 stars means do it even if it kills you!

Links: Unless a link breaks new ground and has significant original climbing on it it isn't included in this guide. In fact it shouldn't be included in any guide!

Rubbish: Unlike your climbing gym, no one gets paid to come down and collect the rubbish left at the crags. Please take it out with you. Finger tape, band aids, cigarette butts, toilet paper etc are all considered to be rubbish.

Flora & Fauna: Respect the beauty of the outdoor experience. Take care when lowering off, don't let your friends or kids destroy native habitat. Consider leaving your pets at home for the day. Look, listen, learn ...use the outdoors for education.

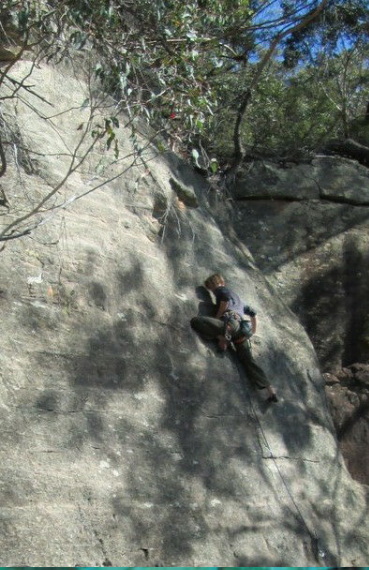
Tags: Routes are 'tagged' for a reason. From a layman's point of view though, tags should be respected because there is less chance of you being injured if you show this little bit of respect.

References: Rockclimbs in the Upper Blue Mountains 1995, Blue Mtns Selected Climbing Areas 1999, Blue Mtns Climbing 2002, Blue Mtns Climbing 2007, Sport Climbers Guide to Mt Victoria 2010, ACA Route Database, The Crag database. Personal conversations with both the users of the crag and those who have seen fit to produce the routes - we haven't always been in agreement but we've chatted away anyway.

Thanks: To all of you who has spent the time, effort and cold hard cash to put up so many cool and interesting climbs throughout the world, because without you we would have to do all the work ourselves.



Produced and edited by Mitch Warren May 2013

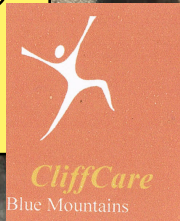


“I know I can do it. I can do it ...if there was a bolt between that one and that one ...I can do it!”
 “Your choice! What d’ya mean ‘your choice’. You don’t get a choice!”
 “I’m NOT clipping that!”
 “I’m not doing it, I only climb hard stuff.”
 “Is this Bob’s? What *is* it?”
 “No, he’s got a Grigri. He’s never belayed before ...Grigris are safer.”
 “Don’t kill it, *please* don’t kill it... You bastard!”

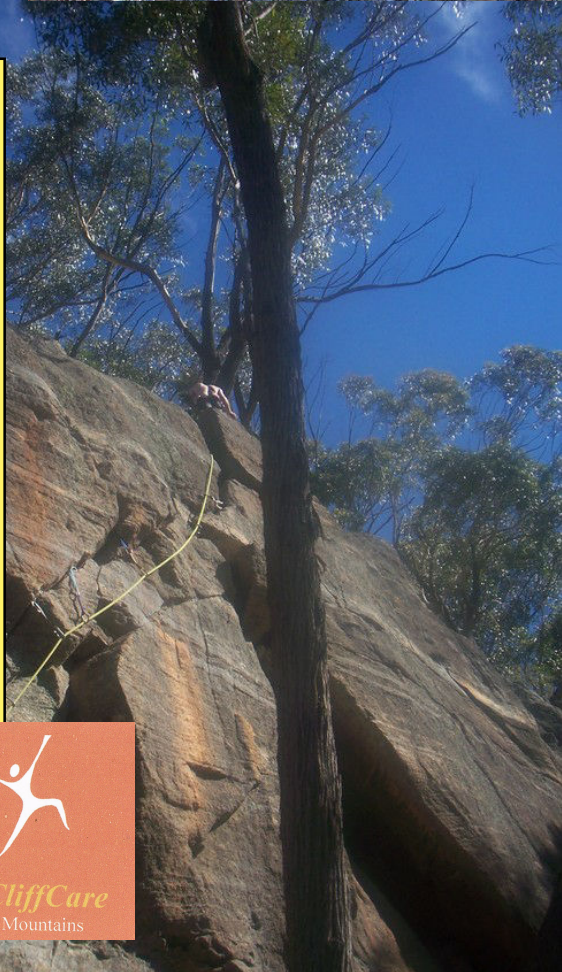
The opinions expressed in this guide are totally uninformed, much of it is total claptrap gleaned off the internet. None of the information had ever been substantiated by anyone who has even looked at a climbing harness let alone put one on. So, if you purchased this guide and actually found it helpful you’ve just been damned lucky. Remember the info in the big glossy commercial guidebooks is much more likely to be correct.

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We practice safe stupidity

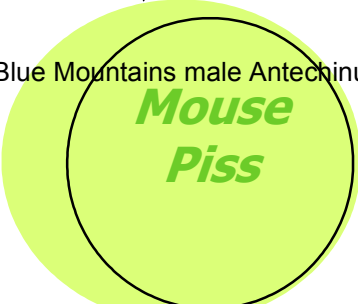


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