

**Banks Peninsula
Climbing**

TEOKA



Teoka
Tony Burnell
Rev. A (2023)



Thanks to **Conor Boyd IT** for creating & hosting the website (www.porthillsclimbing.nz).

Thanks also to **Aspiring Safety Limited** for their continued support, get along & see them for all your climbing needs

General

The Banks Peninsula Crags are home to rare species of geckos & native flora & fauna take care not to disturb wildlife or damage native plants do not cut down any native trees or shrubs. Inclusion of any climbing area or climb in this guidebook does not mean that there is any R of public access.

Te Oka is not quick drying & after prolonged rain it takes a while for the seepage to disappear. The crag is situated about five hundred metres above sea level overlooking Little River & Lake Forsythe, it is sheltered & has a westerly aspect. The sun hits the crag around lunch time & stays till it sets behind the Southern Alps.

The crag was overlooked during development on the Banks Peninsula & apart from a fleeting visit by *Phil de Joux & Martin Clarke*. Only *Phil* stayed long enough to record a climb 'Dark Tower', but they did leave some abandoned projects. In 1997 *Alan Monnox* introduced *Pat Deavoll & Tony Burnell* to the crag, that was his first mistake especially if he was harbouring any secret desire to put up some new routes. During June & July 1997 *Pat & Tony* set about the development & cleaning up of the bolted but unclimbed, projects. After several weeks work, their tally had risen to ten routes on the main crag, three of which were 'Last Night of the Poms', 'Orbital Smash' & 'Doing it by Degrees'. At the northern end of the crag *Alan Hill* added three trad lines.

Climbing Notes

Climbing is Dangerous - By choosing to climb here you must accept responsibility for your own personal safety, you must make your own decision regarding the condition of any fixed equipment. Neither the first ascensionists nor, the author accept any responsibility for the condition of any fixed equipment which is now over 25 years old. The fixed gear comprises Galvanised tru-bolts, chain links & some stainless-steel hangers, all show signs of age. Neither the first ascensionists nor the author accepts any responsibility for the condition of any fixed equipment. Replacement of fixed gear is a costly & time-consuming exercise so please do your bit, lower or top rope off your own quick-draws. Only use fixed gear for abseiling, by doing this you will extend the life of the equipment considerably. Respect the existing climbs, do not add bolts, when doing new climbs make sure you know where the existing lines are before getting your drill out.

In this guide routes are described from Left to Right. The route identifier at the bottom of each climb shown on the topos is normally that of the earliest recorded route.

As far as possible all known routes have been included in this guide, however there is not much information available, so the lines indicated are the ones we climbed & thought the most logical. If you want to know where a route goes read the text as well as looking at the topos. None of the climbs are longer than 30mts therefore route lengths are not shown. Climb with care, test all holds before you pull on them, check your placements & wear a helmet. It is a good idea to take a brush & clean the routes, it will be appreciated by the next visitor to the crag.

Climb with care, test all holds before you pull on them, check your placements & wear a helmet. It is a good idea to take a brush & clean the routes, it will be appreciated by the next visitor to the crag.

Tracks are marked in

Sport routes are marked in

Variations are marked in

Trad or mixed protection climbs are marked in

Seismically Damaged climbs are marked in

YELLOW

RED

PINK

GREEN

WHITE

The following Abbreviations / Definitions have been used

Sp - Denotes Sport Route.

Tr - Denotes Trad Route.

Mp - Mixed Protection Route (bolts & trad).

R & L - Denote R & L.

DBA - Denotes anchor station/lower off point

#Br - Denotes the number of bolt or chain links

Access & Restrictions

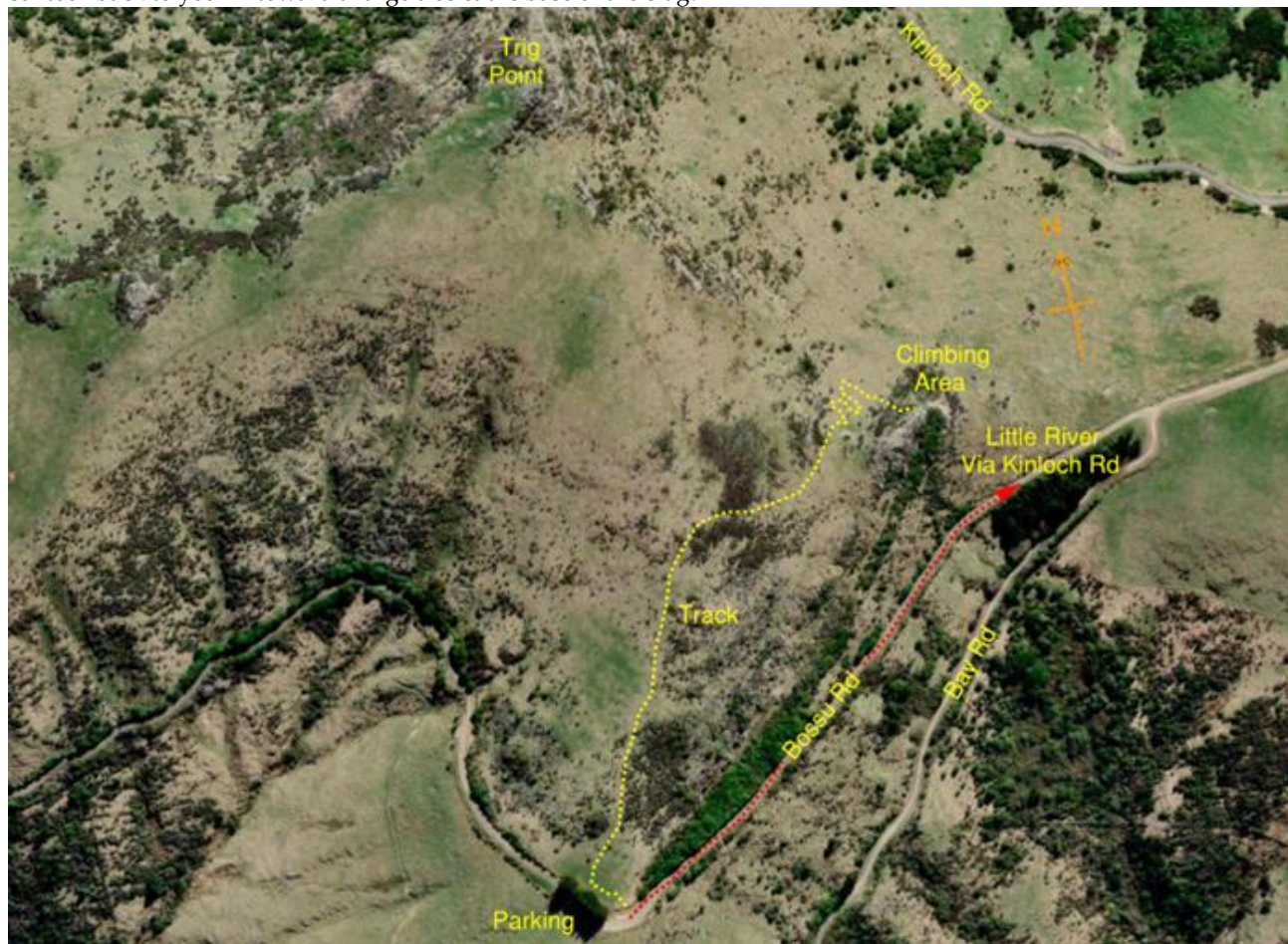
Permission is required to access this crag; for access contact the farm managers Jo (Tel: 0212264121) & Sarah (Tel: 0212771188). Unless you have permission from the farm managers you cannot access this crag.

The crag overlooks Little River & Lake Forsyth & the parking is located on Bossu Rd park opposite the sheep yards.

For directions to the parking use the GPS coordinates below.

Area	GPS	Distance	Walk Time	Restrictions
Parking Area	-43.819003, 172.784159	-	-	<u>Permission is required to go to this crag</u>
Crag	-43.815810, 172.787596	600mts	20+ min	<u>Dogs are not permitted</u> <u>The crag is closed for lambing from Aug to Oct</u>

Go through the steel gate, cross the stock yard & through the second steel gate, turn R & follow a vague 4WD track heading up hill following the ridge line, where the track levels out & before the trig point becomes visible, there is a small buttress to your R keep this in sight but continue along the 4WD track till it turns slightly L (the trig point is still not visible) leave the track at this point & contour to the R across the hillside till it levels out, the small crag should still be on your R at this point & you should be able to see the trig point about 300 mts to your L. Head downhill toward Lake Forsythe crossing a low angled slab of rock just as you start to descend, work your way down between the small bluffs. If you get it R there are only two short, awkward steps, the descent is about 100mts vertical & ends up in a shallow gut contour back to your R toward a large tree & the base of the crag.



Grading

The 'Ewbank Grading System' is not the best grading system when applied to mixed pro or 'boldly' bolted routes as it provides little in the way of information & are normally accepted as just the technical difficulty of a particular climb, it can be tricky to use these grading systems when trying to assess the actual seriousness of any climb.

NZ	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
American	5.8-	5.8	5.9	5.10a	5.10b	5.10b	5.10c	5.11a	5.11b	5.11c	5.12a	5.12b
Euro	4c	5a	5b	5c	6a	6a+	6b	6b+	6c	7a	7a+	7b

The grades given here assume that the climber is climbing on-sight & placing gear on lead.

In this guide you will see a suffix to the grades (S1 – S3) this is to provide the climber with additional information on the overall seriousness of the climb.

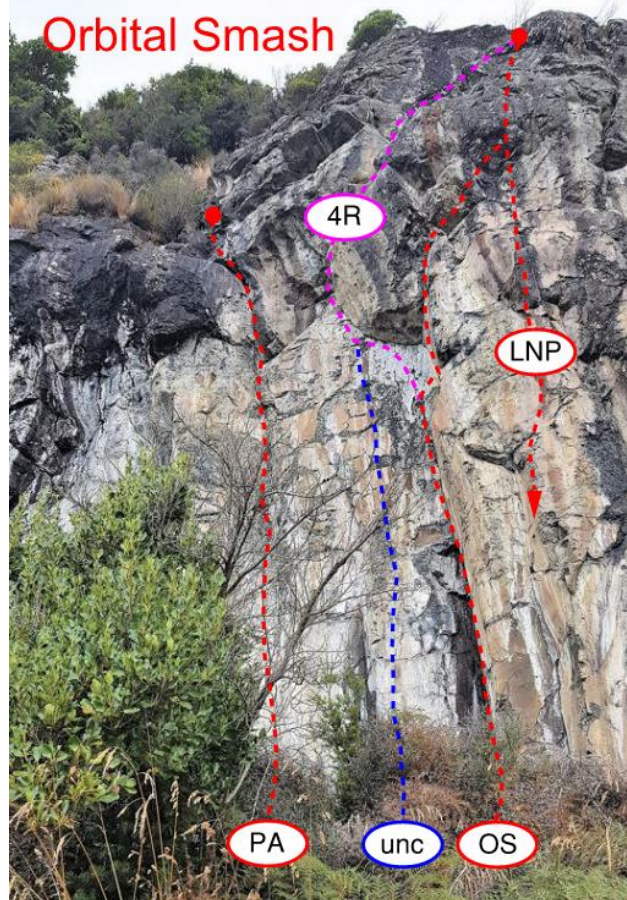
Banks Peninsula, Te Oka Crag:2023

- S1 - A straight forward climb with good protection & a low risk of injury from a fall.
- S2 - Reasonable protection, but a fall could result in injury.
- S3 - Protection is marginal or non-existent & a fall could result in serious injury.

Climbers should remember that this additional suffix to the grade is my opinion & in no way scientific, gear can fail, rock can fail & any fall can result in injury.

Climbing

The climbs are described form R to L starting with 'GG'.



GG Grumble & Grunt 24 S1 **Sp 5Br** *Tony Burnell, 1997*

At the R side of the crag there is a hanging groove come chimney formed by the columns, start off a ledge at 3.5mts, using undercuts on the R to get up into the chimney, climb it with difficulty. Exit the chimney slightly R to gain a standing position on a ledge. Move up to the bulging roof above & climb it directly on good holds, chain belay on the wall above.

DD Doing it by Degrees 25 S1 **Sp 6Br** *Tony Burnell, 1997*

To the L of 'GG' is a steep black rib that fans out into a wall. Start on the L side of the rib, continue up the rib on layaway holds until you move out L onto the face proper. Climb the face on small positive holds to a good layaway hold, an awkward move past a Br leads to better holds before getting onto the not so welcoming ledge using rounded holds. Climb up the steep rightward trending crack to good holds then move over R to the chain belay of 'GG'.

LNP Last Night of the Poms 25 S1 **Sp 5Br** *Pat Deavoll, 1997*

Climbs the L arete formed by the second groove/chimney. Start in the groove & use it to make as much height as possible before you are forced out L onto the arete. Continue the steep wall with what feels like a long run out to get to Br4, hard moves passed the Br4 lead to a ledge & Br5, rest then up strenuously to belay over the roof. *(Equipped by Martin Clarke)*

OS Orbital Smash 25 S1 **Sp 6Br** *Pat Deavoll, 1997*

Moving L the next feature is a recessed white wall bounded on it the R by a steep corner & capped by a bulging roof. Climb the groove with difficulty, there is a good rest at Br4. Continue up the hanging arete until your way is barred by the roof, which is avoided by moving R & finishing as for 'LNP'.

4R Fourth Rock from the Sun 25 S1 **Sp 7Br** *Pat Deavoll, 1997*

Start up the groove as for 'OS' to the resting hold. Commit yourself out L on to the wall & move up to a Br, small friable holds on the steep wall lead to a hanging wedge shaped groove; lay back strenuously up to good holds in the horizontal break. Traverse rightwards & up round the corner & pull into a steep groove, move R again to the same of 'LNP'.

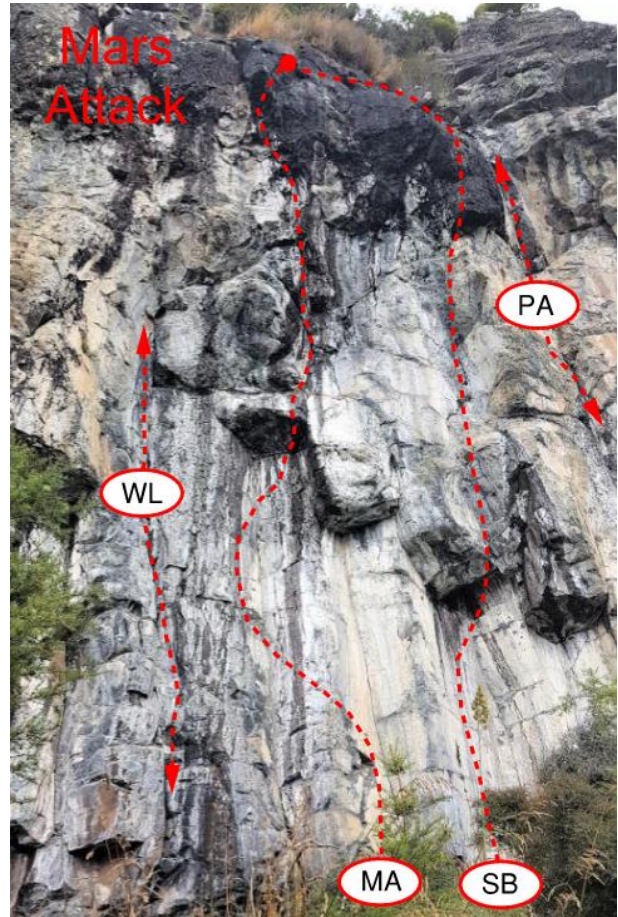
Banks Peninsula, Te Oka Crag:2023

A direct start to 'OS' was bolted (shown in Blue), there is a bolt with a tag on, this has not been climbed.

PA Paranoid Android 25 S1 Sp 5Br

Pat Deavoll, 1997

Climbs the corner & hanging groove to a lower off.



SB Sentry Box 24 S1 Sp 6Br

Tony Burnell, 1997

Start in the groove about 2mts L of 'MA', easy first clip. Dynamic or reachy moves lead to a huge jug & Br2. Awkward moves round the bulge on small holds to Br3, then sloping holds. Move R then up to get a sort of rest in a short sentry box, Br4. Swing out R onto the arete, move up on good holds to the bulging black roof passing 2Br's. Strenuous moves over the bulge on the L onto the hanging slab, move R again to the belay of 'MA'.

MA Mars Attack 23 S1 Sp 6Br

Pat Deavoll, 1997

Takes the crack line at the L side of the white wall (Br1 is missing a hanger). Start to the R of the crack in a subsidiary crack, move back L at what would be the Br2. Climb the crack with difficulty, mainly because the crack's no use. A sort of rest can be taken at the roof before you finish up the hanging groove round the L side of the roof.

WL Wanderlust 22 S1 Sp 8Br

Tony Burnell, 1997

The first route from 1997, bolted & climbed in the day. Start about 1mt R of the boulder on the track below the long groove with bolts in its L wall. The route takes the line of least resistance up the centre of the cliff trending L. Climb the groove passed 3Br to a point where you are forced onto the L wall, move up the wall on reasonable holds until you can quit the groove round to the L to gain a standing position on a bulge & Br. L again & up to the roof, Br, then swing L over the bulge into an easy angled groove. Move up then out R to gain the exposed rib & climb straight up the rib passed another Br to a chain belay.

LBT Little Big Top 24 S1 Sp 8Br

Tony Burnell, 1997

Warning some gear is missing from this line. Start as for 'WL', up the groove & move L round the face onto the sloping ledge. Above you on the bulge is a Br the main difficulty is in clipping it. Move up & slightly R under the roof to poor undercuts & layaway's; above is a hanging crack come lay back with a good edge. Make some powerful moves round the bulge onto good in-cut holds. Pull up into the corner groove above; follow the groove past 2Br's till you can move out L to the belay of 'WL'.

Between 'WL' & 'FC' is a brown wall with Br this is an old project from 1997.

FC French Connection 25 S1 Sp 7Br

Tony Burnell, 1997

An old unclimbed *Phil de Joux* line towards the L side of the crag, climbed & extended to the top of the crag. Start easily off the ground into a groove/corner climb past 2 Br before moving out R on small holds to gain a sloping edge on the L

Banks Peninsula, Te Oka Crag:2023

& a good hold on the R, up again to good holds & Br3. Continue easily up the bulging wall via a crack on the L & onto the halfway ledge. Move L & up the steepening wall on reasonable holds to the last, & a hidden Br before gaining the hanging corner & a chain belay.



DT Dark Tower 23 S3 Sp 3Br

Phil de Joux, 1994

The first route recorded at the crag climbs the broad pillar with grooves to R & L, it is steeper than it looks. There is a rest ledge before heading out onto the face on small dirty holds & tricky to stand up & reach the belay, the climb originally topped out but now has chains at the top of the initial pillar.

The next three route are reached by contouring around L for about 30 mts past a ledge system, unfortunately there are no anchors on these climbs, from R to L the climbs are:



Banks Peninsula, Te Oka Crag:2023

TG Tongan Groove

18 S3 Tr OBr

Alan Hill, 1997

Start 6mts R of 'Sup' climb the L facing corner. Climb the corner & step R, continue up over the bulge to exit up easier ground on the R.

Sup Supernatural

21 S3 Tr OBr

Alan Hill, 1997

Start 5mts R of 'CP' below a groove with a small shrub. Climb the groove to a V corner capped some jammed blocks. Surmount the roof on the L & continue straight up.

CP Childs Play

18 S3 Tr OBr

Alan Hill, 1997

Start on the ledge & surmount the bulge above using the prominent, jagged crack. Dubious holds & dubious gear.