

HALLS

By Mike Camilleri & Cliff Ellery

The first inhabitants of these strange rock formations were from a far off cragless land known as Palmerston. The Masseyites as they refer to themselves, occupied the crag for a relatively short period before they mysteriously disappeared, some say they were wiped out by a giant meteor, others say they migrated down south, lured by the promise of an encroaching ice age. Little is known about these people and all that remains to this day is a few bits of their primitive hardware.

While out walking in the wilderness the Messiah "Dave" wandered across this forgotten crag and was suitably impressed with what he saw. Upon his return he told his disciples and together they planned their pilgrimage to this new land. However it came to pass that Dave had to return to Blenheim to pay his taxes or something, and while he was away his disciples unable to contain themselves, pillaged the new crag climbing every crack and grid bolting every face.

Halls is a great little spot, sure it's a bit of a walk in, but once you are there you're rewarded with some fantastic climbing on good clean rock. Best of all its quite away from crowds and has its own swimming hole.

Location and Access

Halls as the name suggests is located on James Hall's property, however access to the crag is via Len Smiths farm, see location and access details for Smiths Rock. Having phoned James Hall and asked for permission, sign in at Smith Rock and park by the Milking shed as per normal. From the milking shed head straight ahead down the farm race to the bridge. Walk across the bridge then follow the river upstream for about 800m till you arrive at the crag, Sunday wall is the long cliff face on the other side of the river, see map.

Land Owners Name: James Hall
 Phone Number: 07 8722 846
 Access: Phone, please leave a message on the answer phone if no one home. Access is via Len Smith place, see access information for Smiths Rock.

Disclaimer

The author, publisher, and landowners take no responsibility for damages, injury, disability, or death resulting from the use of this guide. This guide does not guarantee any of the fixed gear, including bolts, peg, or belays mentioned in this guide. All fixed gear is to be used at the climbers own risk. Ownership of the guide does not grant you entry onto the property or crag. No responsibility is accepted for the accuracy of the information in this guide. Climb at your own risk. This property is a commercial farm and as such has hazards associated with such a property. Access is at own risk.



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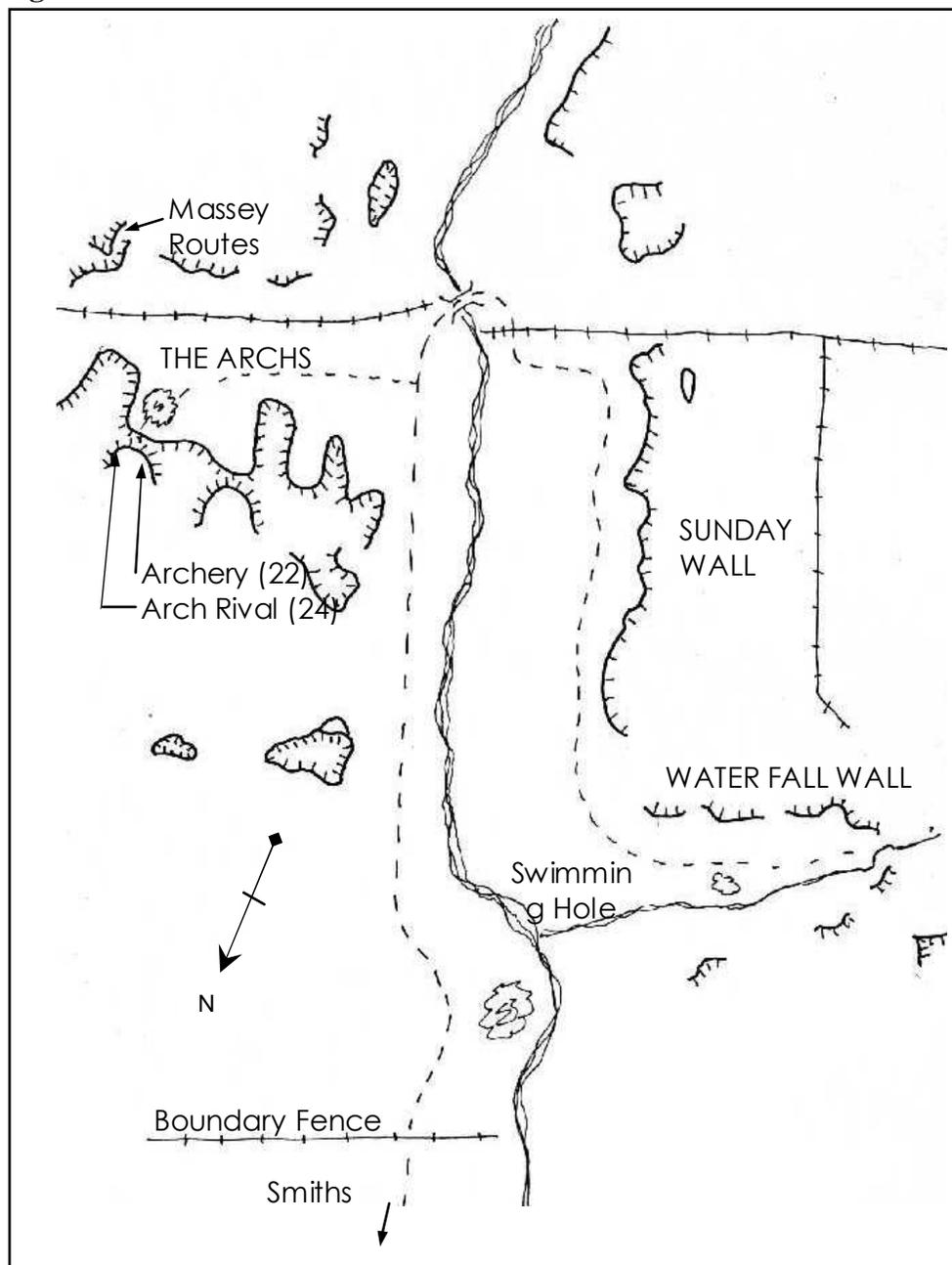
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 Rock Climbing Information

Figure 1: Hall Overview.



Sunday Wall

All the routes are 12-15m high. From left to right:

Sunday Voices (18)

Right facing face with 5 bolts and a DBC belay.

Kevin Barratt, Bryce Martin, Cliff Ellery 18-1-98

K2 (17)

Climb the crack immediately right of Sunday Voices. Exit right at the top and climb past 2 bolts to a DBC belay.

Kevin Barratt, Bryce Martin, Cliff Ellery 22-2-98

Placemaker (17)

Climb the thin crack. One bolt, and share the belay of K2.

Kevin Barratt, Bryce Martin, Cliff Ellery 8-3-98

* Riverdance (21)

7 bolts and a DBC belay.

Bryce Martin, Cliff Ellery 23-11-97

In the Footsteps of Dave (16)

Climb the thin crack up to the trees, then the face on your left. All natural gear, especially the tree belay.

Cliff Ellery, Bryce Martin 23-11-97

* Buckets of Rain (16)

The face immediately left of *Backdoor Beauty*. 5 bolts and a DBC belay.

Bryce Martin, Cliff Ellery, Kevin Barratt 22-2-98

* Backdoor Beauty (16)

Climb the wide, clean, crack. Exit right onto the face and climb past two bolts to a DBC belay.

Bryce Martin, Cliff Ellery 23-11-97

Birdy Hop (19)

The face immediately right of *Backdoor Beauty*. 5 bolts plus clip the top bolt and belay of *Backdoor Beauty*.

Bryce Martin, Cliff Ellery, Kevin Barratt 8-3-98

* Fourteen at Most (20)

Climb the left leaning, thin crack, exit left and up the face to a DBC belay. All natural gear, and the crux is low down, so make it good.

Cliff Ellery, Bryce Martin 23-11-97

Breathe In (15)

Climb the shallow, square, left tending groove. 5 bolts and a DBC belay up and to the right.

Bryce Martin, Cliff Ellery 23-11-97

Mudlark (16)

The left facing corner. 4 bolts and a DBC belay.

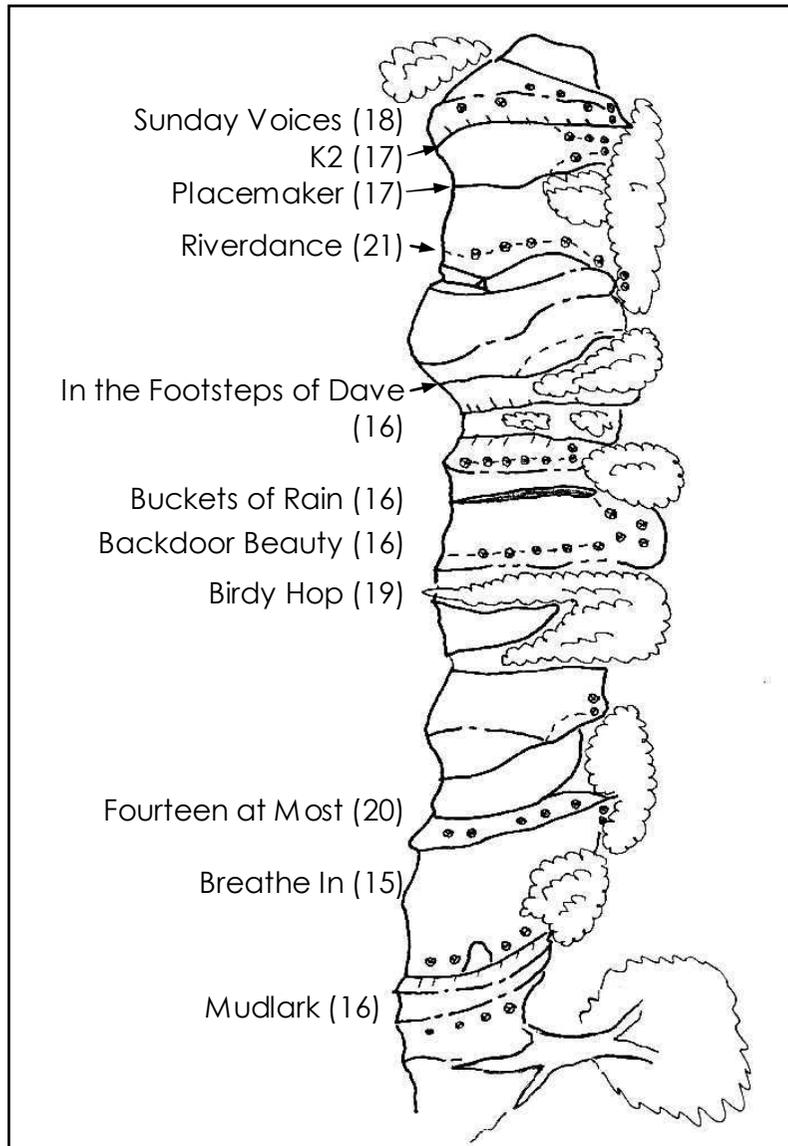
Bryce Martin, Cliff Ellery 18-1-98

Pretending (15)

Climb the right hand face of the buttress, and exit left and up to a DBC belay.

Bryce Martin, Cliff Ellery 18-1-98

Figure 2. Sunday Wall.



Waterfall Wall

Right of Sunday Wall and around the corner is Waterfall Wall. The routes are described from right to left and start a few metres left of the waterfall.

Bite the Bullet (19) 12m

The first line at the head of the valley. 3 bolts + DBC belay. Harder than it looks.

Bryce Martin, Cliff Ellery 22-2-98

Keep On Keeping On (18) 15m

6 bolts and a DBC belay.

Bryce Martin, Cliff Ellery, Kevin Barratt 18-1-98

*** Pups Plaything (17) 15m**

Climb the deep corner to gain a crack near the top. 4 bolts and a couple of mid-sized cams for the user-friendly crack. DBC belay on the RH headwall.

Bryce Martin, Cliff Ellery, Andrew Sussex, Roelant Dewerse 26-1-98

**** Snakeline (18) 15m**

The best line on the wall: steep and overhanging, with lovely pocs. 7 bolts + DBC belay.

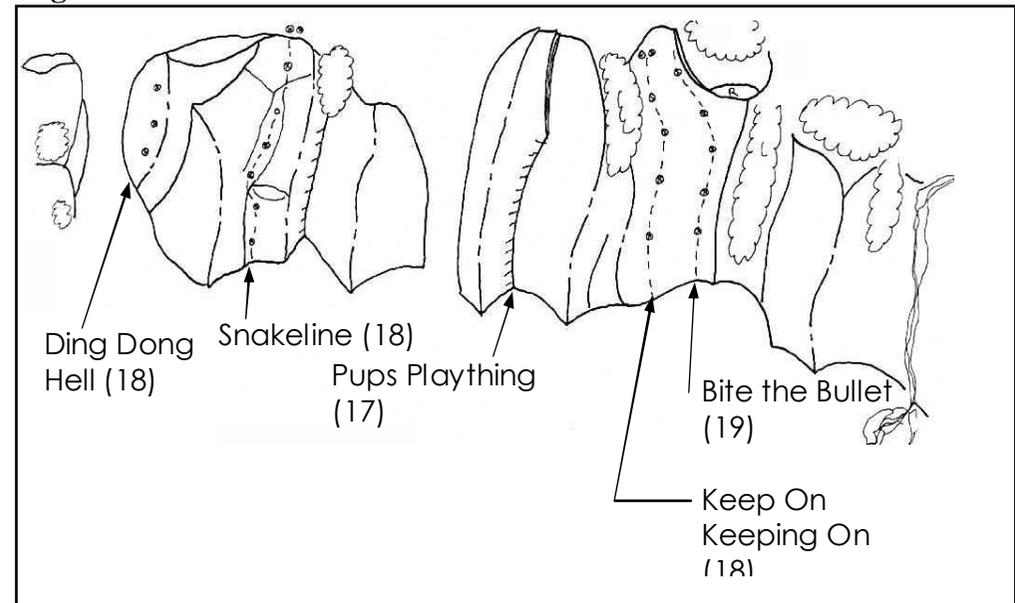
Bryce Martin, Cliff Ellery 23-11-97

Ding Dong Hell (18) 10m

Short climb, just left of a spike in the middle of the buttress. 5 bolts and a DBC belay.

Bryce Martin, Roelant Dewerse 26-1-98

Figure 3: Waterfall Wall.



The Arches

On the other side of the river and directly opposite Sunday Wall is The Arches.

*** Archery (22) 15m

Climb the backside of the big arch. Climb the RHS then traverse across the arch to top out on the LHS. 6 bolts and a DBC belay. Unique, strenuous and with good holds. A must do if you can.

Cliff Ellery, Kevin Barratt, Bryce Martin 22-2-98

** Arch Rival (24) 12m

Climb the LHS in the corner of the backside of the big arch. Share the belay of *Archery*.

Cliff Ellery, Bryce Martin 8-3-98

There are at least 3 other bolted routes here, done by some people from Massey who didn't give me route info. Under the arch, just left of *Archery* is the partial line of bolts of an abandoned project, author unknown. On the other side of the gully, 7m up from a boulder are two bolted routes, one up each side of an arete. Climb them as you find them, as my info is not reliable.

Massey Route #1

Climb the LH side of the arete. A few bolts and a DBC belay.

Massey Route #2

Climb the RH side of the arete. A few more bolts and a DBC belay.

10m further down the hill is another route on a scalloped outcrop.

Massey Route #3

Climb the scalloped face. 3 bolts and a DBC belay.

Rough as Guts (19)

At the right hand end of the Massey Routes. Start at the left hand of the cave, climb pasy first bolt then climb head wall. DBC Belay (Pro 4 Bolts)

Jose Benshimol, Kerry Crawford, Jim Rogers 18.5.00

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