

A photograph of a rock climber in a blue shirt and orange pants scaling a dark, textured rock face. A rope is visible extending from the climber. The background shows the rugged texture of the rock.

PORT HILLS CLIMBING

Evans Pass

Tony Burnell, 2016

EVANS PASS

History

Another Port Hills crag that was dismissed by climbers until the mid 90's. The first recorded climb was by Lindsay Main in 1989. Then in 1995/6 there was a frenzied bout of activity by Joe Arts, Phil Start-Jones, Marcus Tomas & a few others

Climbing Notes

Inclusion of any climbing area in this guidebook does not mean that there is public access. The Port Hills Crag are home to rare species of geckos and native flora and fauna take care not to disturb or damage these.

First impressions are that Evans Pass is not the most inspiring of crags, it's situated above the old dump but you can lift your eyes, look out to sea and pretend. There are over 40 routes at the crag now and they vary in both quality and height. The crag rises to just over 20mts & is less steep in the areas 1, 2, 3 & 4, being less steep there is a tendency for these areas to be a little damp and feel a little dirty due to the buildup of lichen, a lot of these climbs would benefit from more traffic (& a brush over). The majority of routes are bolted although some do require bits of gear to be placed.

By choosing to climb here you accept responsibility for your personal safety & must make your own decision regarding the condition of any fixed equipment. Neither the first ascentionists or the author accept any responsibility for the condition of any fixed equipment.

Approach

420 mts

7 minutes

-43.592833, 172.752072 grid

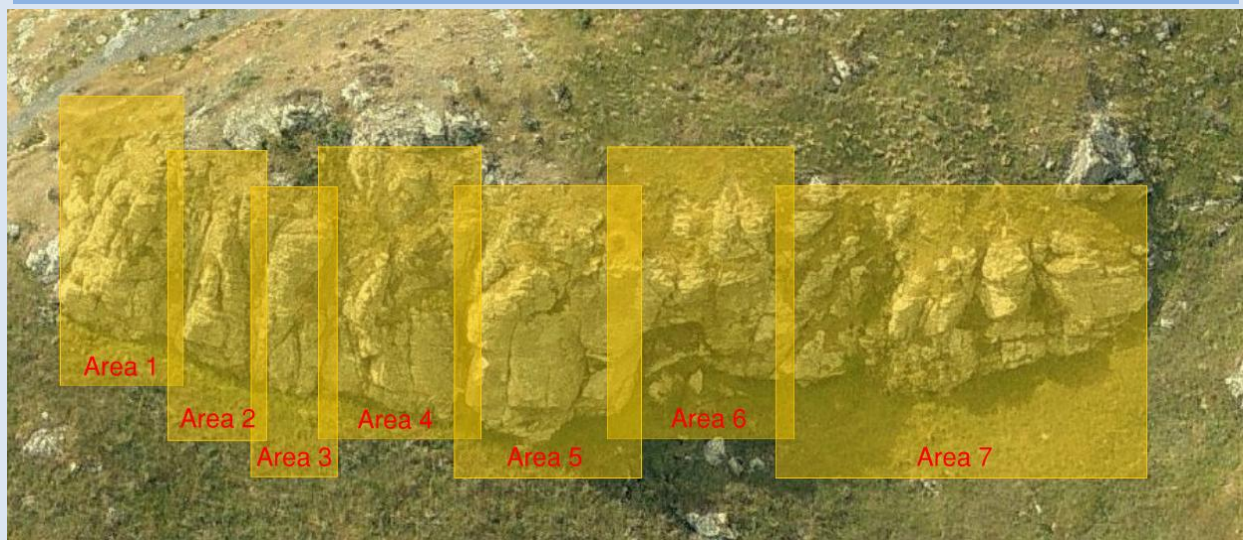
The crag is situated above the old quarry and rubbish tip and overlooks Lyttelton Harbour. Park at the junction of Evans Pass Rd and the Summit Rd. Walk up the road and cross the cattle-stop, take the Crater Rim Walkway up the hill to the small plantation, follow the fence line uphill until you can see the end of the crag. Cross the fence where it has almost collapsed then go downhill and contour along under the crag.



Street View From Parking Area



Overview



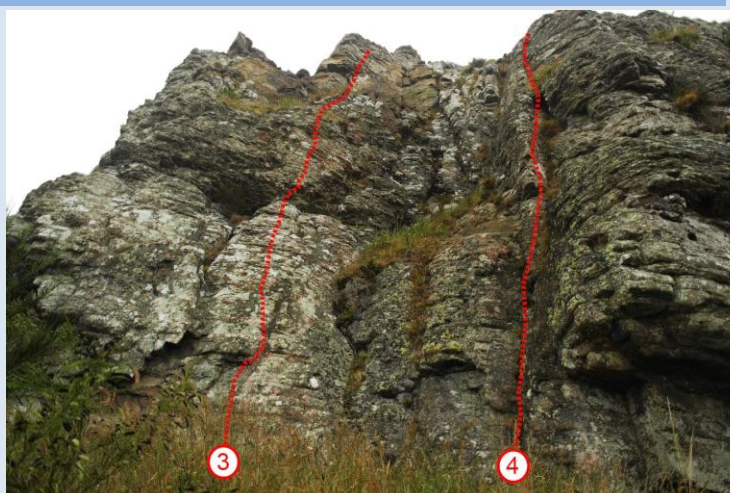
Seismic Damage

The crag sustained some significant damage during the 2010/11 earthquakes primarily at the start of the crag and the area where *"Six Bolts Missing"* was. The routes noted in **red text** have been damaged or have disappeared since the recent earthquakes.



Left Side (1 of 7)

The first line of bolts on the crag possibly installed by someone not very confident in their own ability, or just unable to read a guide book, there are two lines here, *Pling* & *Huh* both were soloed originally as pro was scarce, however there is now a line of 6 bolts up this face, *Pling* can be climbed by clipping all of them and *Huh* by clipping the first three before heading off up the easier ground to the right



1. **Pling 19 (4.0m) (6BR)** The first climbing area you come to has short wall with crack in the middle. Climb the crack to a ledge then up the easier angled wall above to the highest point. Phil Stuart-Jones, solo, 1996

2. **Huh 15 (5.0m) (Solo)** The next wide dog-leg crack up onto the ledge of 'Pg'. From the ledge ease off rightwards up easier ground or finish as for 'Pg'. Unknown.

Moving R we have

3. **Destamination 21 (22m) (4BR + Pro)** Just right of the first small wall is an area of circular features, then smooth orange rock, then a pinkish wall with a single circular mark. Boulder up the wall (crux) to the first bolt, then easier ground. Go up the overhang to jugs then a ledge with a shrub. Step left of this and tackle the right-leaning overhanging arête above. Four bolts and other pro (if desired). Phil Stuart-Jones, 1996

4. **To Her Lichen 16 (m) (5BR)** Climbs the groove, rib and slab to the right of DST. John Entwistle, 2010.

Left Side (2 of 7)

5. **Culturally Hazardous Endeavour's 20 (20m) (4BR)** At the left hand end of the first 'overlap wall'. Through the overlap then small roof to ledge. Two more bulges await above, each with a bolt (the upper one being shared with the route to the right). Joe Arts, 1996



6. **Jake The Snake 22 (22m) (5BR+Pro)** Apparently named after Joe's mountain bike. Start a few meters L of the prominent corner with a grass bank at mid height, climb a shallow, curved groove before moving R onto the face, then through the bulge veering slightly left to finish. Joe Arts, 2000

7. **Gardeners Questionnaire 18 (22m) (5BR)** Take the line to the left of the mossy gully,

shares the 3rd bolt with JS. John Entwistle, 2010

8. Red Shirt 18 (20m) (5BR) Start up steep bulge to a ledge. Finish the last 3rd of UA to get to rap station. John Entwistle, 2010

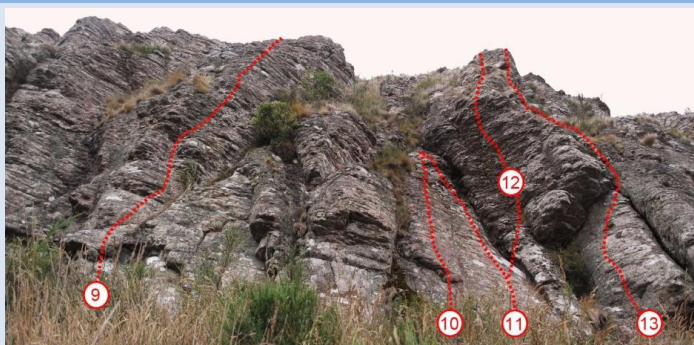
The next feature is an arête just L of RS

9. Unruly Asiatics 20 (20m) (4BR) Stay on the wall on the right side of the arête following the weakness to a ledge before heading up the stepped wall above. Joe Arts, 1996

Left Side (3 of 7)

Approximate 6.0mts to the R is a pink & green wall with a choked up groove on its L side.

10. No Appeal 18 (10m) (3BR) climbs the wall just R of the choked groove. Soloed by Phil Stuart-Jones, 1996.



11. Summary Execution 16 (10m) (2BR) Climbs the R side of the pink & white wall using the corner before heading L to the anchor of 'NA'. Soloed by P.SJ. Phil Stuart-Jones, 1996

12. Rightward Wander 19 (18m) (6BR) Use the same start as SE, then move rightwards onto the steep biscuit textured wall, going around the nose for a slab finish. Joe Arts, 2000

13. Unknown 16 (18m) (6BR) Just L of the dirty off-width, go up the newly cleaned out corner & the left side of the crack to a ledge on the R of the roof. Continue up a jumble of not very good climbing on not very good rock to the anchor of the previous route.

Left Side (4 of 7)

Just down & around on the next face there is the next small roof with a wall above that ends on a ledge.

14. Box of Fluffy Ducks 23 (10m) (2BR). Up the dirty wall, has at least 1BR visible, not worth the effort of cleaning. Joe Arts, 1996

Slab Route 18 (12m) (4BR) Start at the hanging crack, go up & out L onto the face then straight up left the slab just L of the arête, steepening at the top.



15. End of Summer 20 (10m) (3BR) Start at the hanging crack, head up and R onto the wall. Marcus Thomas, 1996

CNZ shows a line up the centre of the wall (R of MS) probably the best line not to exist

16. Moustache Sally 20 (12m) (4BR) A thin start up a direct line of bolts just L of the centre of the wall, finish up the L side of the featured pillar at the top. Callum Hudson, 1997

17. Redge 19 (12m) (4BR) Straight up the right edge of the slab, that gets a bit steeper past the horizontal break. Hardest at the start. John Entwistle, 2010

"Texas Scrub, Six Bolts Missing and Glorious Obsolescence all collapsed during the earthquakes."

18. Cause and Effect 19 (15m) (6 BR) Just right of Redge is a dirty groove, start about a metre to the R of this. Climb straight up the wall past 3BR to a stance on the L arête, move out R to a hole and in the centre of the face then go straight up past three more bolts to a chain anchor. Tony Burnell, 2015

Centre (5 of 7)

19. The Gift 24 (20m) (7BR)

Through the centre of the double roof, then up the steep wall. Marcus Thomas, 2004

20. Burnt by the Sun 22 (20m)

(2BR+Pro) The obvious hanging crack that turns into an off width, crank through the last and largest overlap in the sequence using the fist crack towards the right hand end. Go up the wall above moving left of the crack as it peters out,

then up to the crack system winding down from the top. Exit via the crack in the right-facing top corner. Joe Arts, 1996

21. Cooled by the Rain 21 (18m) (6BR) First led in heavy mist. Bridge the crumbly groove below the right end of the overlap, then lay-back up onto the wall above. Proceed up and over the bulging wall left of the shallow groove, climb up slab to the ledges, then move slightly rightwards to rap station near the top. Phil Stuart-Jones, 1995

22. Hat Trick 20 (21m) (7BR) Boulder up the wall just left of the corner with the thorny bush, then straight up the wall above exiting between the shallow groove and the fading corner which comes in from the right. Circumvent the scrub at the top by stepping right onto the top of W clipping the bolt as you go. Phil Stuart-Jones, 1995

23. Watchunder 17 (21m) (4BR+Pro) It's a bit loose. Bridge the corner with the thorny bush. Head left up the wall above the ramp then climb the wall/crack. As the crack peters out, go up the vertical crack and tackle the juggy overhang and wall above. Uses the first two bolts and fourth bolt of Hat Trick, some big pro in the main crack, and there's a last bolt on the top wall. Another may be added right of the upper overhang. Lindsay Main, 1996

24. Over The Top 19 (21m) Climb WU till the corner peters out, using the bolt on the L wall move up the bulging prow on good holds Phil Stuart-Jones, 1996

25. Round Peg 17 (21m) (4BR) climb the ramp from the Hat Trick Move up past the right hand end of the overhang on good grips. Get your breath back on the ledge, then tackle the headwall staying right of the shallow groove, to the rap station at the top of the headwall. Phil Stuart-Jones, 1995

26. RP DS 21 Boulder out the direct start via the square hole at 4m, continue as for RP. Unknown

27. Dumping Human Waste 19 (21m) (6BR+Pro) Up the flaring crack to a rest and the



first bolt, then up, left around right-leaning overlap, and up to the big ledge. Head slightly right up the steep headwall then out left to gain the left hand right-facing crack. The other crack goes too. Pro in bottom and top cracks approx 30-40mm, if required or small run out on top bolt. Joe Arts, 1995

Centre (6 of 7)

28. A Mainly Inspired Enterprise 20 (19m) (6BR+Pro)

Obtain a stance on the small rounded ledge in the wall just left of the cave. Reach up to clip the first bolt then up & right to better holds under the roof. The first bolt of CS protects the reach out left for the second bolt. Power left through the overhang then up right over the top nose and onto the ramp.



Some of the bolts are shared with Dumping Human Waste, also a wire for the top. The climb turns a few corners so a couple of long quick draws may be useful.

The next, and main, feature of the crag is the large square capped, recess with a large chimney at the left side that turns into a crack at the roof, this is 'Cultural Safety'.

29. **Cultural Safety 22 (18m) (4BR+Pro)** A classic, start at the left side of the cave, bridge up the corner using the L arête, then up into the steep crack/chimney exit R through the continuation chimney. Joe Arts, 1995

30. **Closed Project Tony Burnell**

31. **Lottery 20 (17m) (3BR+Pro)** Climbs the R arête that forms the right side of the cave. Head up the steep arête, then move R and head straight up, keep R of the top groove where the Rock is better. Phil Stuart-Jones, 1995

32. **Un-Named Sport Route 1 16 (18m) (5BR)** 5mts R of lottery is the first of two almost parallel seams or weaknesses. Climb the seam to a good ledge on the right, go straight up the head wall (better rock) past the final bolt & right and onto ledge finishing straight up the headwall.

33. **Un-Named Sport Route 2 18 (18m) (5BR)** start in the second slightly right leaning seam. Climb up the overlapping slabs, step round to the right of the Second roof, straight up at the third to a ledge then directly up the headwall to the anchor of the previous route. Joe Arts, 2004



Right Side (7 of 7)

The next climbs are not on the main crag. Just pass the end of the main crag is a broken area with a couple of prominent roofs and beyond this is Red Wire Slab

34. Not Over Till Your Over 18 (10m) (4BR) A shorter climb on the left side of a prominent prow L of RWS. Start easily on big holds then step up onto



the slab, finish over the small roof to a single bolt belay as for ATOG. Cam Pawson, 2016

35. A Tuft of Grass 20 (15m) (5BR) Climb up steep groove, then move rightwards to gain the easier ground, to finish off on the right side of the headwall. Joe Arts, 2004

Red Wire Slab is the very right most buttress with a red lichenous slabby face.

36. Turks Torrent 18 (15m) (5BR) Start on the right side of the main wall veering leftwards up a system of slabs to Rap Station. Joe Arts, 2004

37. Red Wire Strikes Back 17 (8m) (1BR+Pro) Takes the crack on the left side of the slab near the arête. One bolt and other pro. Joe Arts, 1996

38. Slippery Sloping Slaps 20 (8m) (2BR) The central climb on the slab with 2 bolts. Joe Arts, 1996

39. A boulder problem 16 (Direct) (Solo) Straight up to the big pocket then commit yourself up and left to finish.

EVANS PASS TICK LIST					
No.	Name	Grade	Opinion	Style	Comments
01	Pling	19	☹		
02	Huh	15	☹		
03	Destamination	21			
04	To Her Lichen	16			
05	Culturally Hazardous Endeavour's	20			
06	Jake The Snake	22			
07	Gardeners Questionaire	18			
08	Red Shirt	18			
09	Unruly Asiatics	20			
10	No Appeal	18	☹		
11	Summary Execution	16	☹		
12	Rightward Wander	19	☺		
13	Unknown	16	☹		
14	Box of Fluffy Ducks	23			
15	Slab Route	18			
16	End of Summer	20	☺		
17	Moustache Sally	20	☺		
18	Redge	19	☺		
19	Cause & Effect	19	☺		
20	The Gift	24	☹☹☹		
21	Burnt by the Sun	22	☺		
22	Cooled by the Rain	21	☺👉		
23	Hat Trick	20	☺👉		
24	Watchunder	17	☺		
25	Over the Top	19	☺		
26	Round Peg	17	☺		
27	Round Peg (Direct Start)	21	☺👉		
28	Dumping Human Waste	19	☺		
29	A Mainly Inspired Enterprise	20	☺		
30	Cultural Safety	22	☺☹☹		
31	Closed Project		☹☹☹		
32	Lottery	20	☹☹☹☹		
33	Un-Named Sport Route 1	16	☺		
34	Un-Named Sport Route 2	18	☺		
35	Not Over Till Your Over	18			
36	A Tuft of Grass	20			
37	Turks Torrent	18	☺		
38	Red Wire Strikes Back	17	☺		
39	Slippery Sloping Slaps	20	☺		
40	A Boulder Problem	16	☺👉		

☺ - Nice ☹ - Not Bad ☹☹ - Having done it I wouldn't bother 👉 - Pokey 👉 - Fingery ☹☹☹ - Powerfull ✂ - Sharp ☹☹ - Gulp (S) = Sport Climb Bolt Protected (MP) = Mixed Protection Bolts & Trad Gear (TR) = Trad Gear					
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