



To the south of Hartington are the two beautiful dales of Beresford and Wolfscoate that run into each other. There isn't that much rock, but three bits are worthy of attention giving some good esoteric routes in picturesque surroundings. The dividing line between the two dales is unclear. Pike Crag is definitely in Beresford Dale, Drabber Tor is in Wolfscoate and The Celestial Twins could be in either. We have called it all 'Wolfscoate Dale'.

Each crag has at least one classic making a visit worthwhile, with a few other tasty morsels to enhance the experience. The routes are seldom popular but the dales themselves, particularly around the Left Celestial Twin, are busy with walkers. It is possible to pick a route or two from each crag, although Drabber Tor is quite a long walk including a wade at the end. The routes are natural limestone which is reasonably solid on the main lines, but take care on the less popular routes, especially on the Left Celestial Twin if there are walkers below.

Conditions

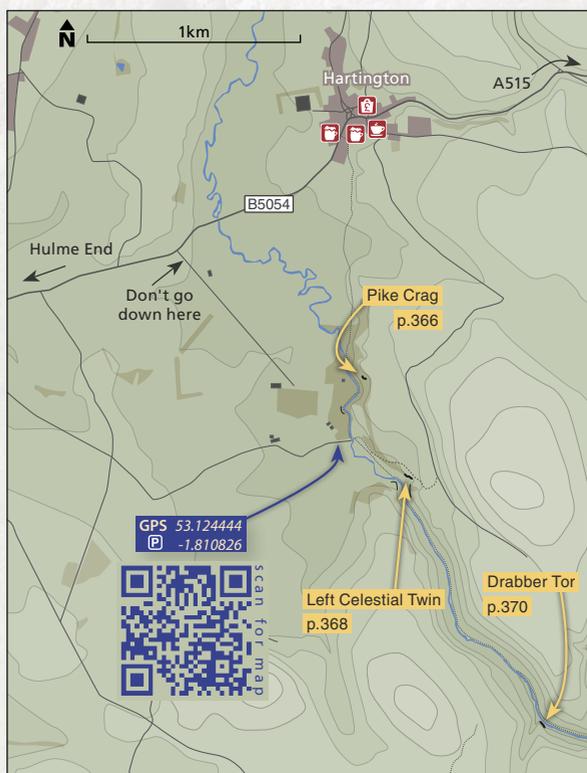
Pike Crag and the Left Celestial Twin face southwest and are well sheltered. They only suffer from minor seepage so can make good venues on cool sunny days. Both will be suntraps in the warmer months. Drabber Tor faces northeast and only gets early morning sun. It makes a good warm weather venue but dries more slowly than the others and can have some seepage.

Access

Drabber Tor and the Left Celestial Twin are on National Trust land - N.T. are willing to allow access to the crag. Please avoid disturbance of the vegetation and bird life, particularly at nesting time. There is often a restriction due to nesting birds from 15 Feb to 31 May on the Left Celestial Twin. Access to Pike Crag has never been a problem.

Approach

Also see map on p.363
There is parking for about a dozen cars at the lower end of the minor road (signed 'Beresford Dale') that runs south from the B5054 - the road between Hartington and Hulme End. This is 2km west of Hartington. Keep left at both junctions and stop before the ford. It is worth noting that some SatNav devices try and send you down the private road passed before the turning off the B5054.



Paul Trifally pulling through the bulge on *Castor Direct* (E2) - p.368 - at the Left Celestial Twin. This is the biggest of the three crags in the area although the main section lacks great lines. Most routes have short cruxy sections with lesser climbing inbetween. There is some good rock and moves but no real stand-out classics.



Pike Crag

This isolated buttress is not popular but does have one stand-out route.

Approach (map p.364) - From the parking, head to the river and take the path leftwards upstream. After crossing a bridge there is a large yew tree on the right. The wall is above this up the hill, but there is no real path. The best approach is to scramble under the yew trees as far up the bank as you can get, then cut leftwards across the slope to the crag.

Descent - Abseil from the fixed belay above *Dewdrop*, or from trees. Alternatively make a difficult vegetated scramble down the right-hand side (looking in).

1 Poet's Corner VS 4b

Start around to the left and climb the corner.

FA. Brian Dale, Steve Dale, Barry Marsden 1973

2 Poet's Arete E2 5c

The left arete.

FA. Gary Gibson 2016

3 Down to a Sunless Sea E5 6c

Climb the wall to a thread. Pull up to a flake and easier ground.

FA. Simon Cundy 1994

4 Dewdrop E3 5c

The best route here by a long way. The start looks hard but in reality, it all is. Gain the groove and climb it on slippery jams. Pull left to cracks which lead to a rest before the steep finish. Make sure your jamming technique is up to scratch. Abseil off.

Photo opposite.

FA. Andy Woodward 1978. FAA. Brian Dale, Steve Dale 1973

5 Snow Fool E3 6a

Climb a crack to the overhang and pull around this and move left to the upper crack.

FA. Andy Grondowski, Mark Elwell 1984

6 Gnome Sweet Gnome VS 4b

The chimney moving right where it closes.

FA. Brian Dale, Steve Dale, Barry Marsden 1973

7 Fairy Enough E1 5b

An eliminate up the rib.

FA. Gary Gibson 2016

8 Fairy Flake VS 4b

The big ear-shaped flake. Poor and vegetated.

FA. Brian Dale, Steve Dale, Barry Marsden 1973

9 A Hard Rain E2 5c

Climb a groove to the arete and follow this.

FA. Simon Alsop, Peter Agnew 1991

10 Paradise Regained HVS 5a

Climb thin cracks to a prominent flake. Finish up this with care.

FA. Brian Dale, Steve Dale, Barry Marsden 1973

11 Central Crack VS 4b

The wide crack until the tree stops you.

FA. Brian Dale, Steve Dale, Barry Marsden 1973

12 Forbidden Fruit E1 5b

Pick a line up the wall right of *Central Crack*.

FA. Dave Naul, John Tout 1985

13 Paradise Lost E1 5a

Start up a thin crack then move left onto the face.

FA. Brian Dale, Steve Dale, Barry Marsden 1973

14 Pixie Puzzle HVS 5a

Move right from the thin crack on *Paradise Lost* to the tree ledge. Climb the corner above.

FA. Brian Dale, Steve Dale, Barry Marsden 1973

15 The Elf HVS 5b

Climb a crack to the ledge. Climb another crack past a tree.

FA. Andy Woodward 1978. FA. Brian Dale, Steve Dale, Barry Marsden 1973

16 Hobgoblin Corner VS 5a

The corner on the right-hand side of the crag.

FAA. Brian Dale, Steve Dale, Barry Marsden 1973

17 Pixie's Slot E2 5c

A short route on the arete on the far right.

FA. Gary Gibson 2016



Alan James moving out of the groove on the splendid *Dewdrop* (E3) - *opposite* - at Pike's Crag. This route is miles ahead of everything else at the crag giving sustained steep jamming with excellent protection.

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1 Socrates E2 5c

Climb the pocketed wall to the break. Move up more easily to a steeper headwall.

FA. Gary Gibson, Hazel Gibson 2016

2 Pollux E2 5c

Climb a slim groove then easy ground to a rest below the upper wall. Attack this with some powerful pulls to a grassy finish.

FA. Bob Dearman, Mike Horlov 1978

3 Possession in 90% of the Law

..... E3 5c

Move up a flake and continue to the diagonal break. Make some tricky moves to another break then pull up and left into *Pollux*.

FA. Gary Gibson 2016

4 A Man Possessed E4 6a

The crack left of the cave leads to a break. Climb through the bulge to a second break, swing right and finish with gusto by a series of powerful moves.

FA. John Codling, Dave Jones, Mike McDonald 1979

5 Strangely Possessed E5 6c

Move left from *A Man Possessed* and pull past some threads.

FA. John Codling, David Jones, Mike McDonald 1979



6 The Man They Love to Hate

..... E4 6a

Climb above the left edge of the cave, then continue in a direct line to the final bulging wall. Fingery and sustained.

FA. Gary Gibson 1982

7 For Ever and Ever E5 6b

An eliminate. Pull out of the cave then move up and left into *The Man They Love to Hate*. Follow this then pull left to gain the finish of *A Man Possessed*.

FA. Keith Sharples, Nigel Slater 1989

8 Fingerdrive E3 6a

Climb right out of the cave, then trend left up the wall via fingery flakes to the break. Head up and right to the next break and pull past a scoop to a grassy exit. *Photo p.31*.

FA. Dave Jones, Ian Johnson 1979

9 Castor Direct E2 5b

Trend right from the cave to ledges, then climb the wall to the break. Move left into a groove leading to a big hole. Finish direct out of the hole. *Photo p.365*.

FA. Rik Batye 2009. FA. (Castor) Jeff Morgan, Bob Toogood 1969

10 Cronus E1 5b

Make a hard start up a wall past two breaks. Move left and pull over a bulge. Follow flakes above to the top.

FA. Gary Gibson, Hazel Gibson 2016. Includes sections of *Castor*.



Left Celestial Twin

A small selection of routes on a lovely little buttress of excellent, pocketed rock in a sunny riverside setting. It is often busy with walkers so take care when climbing above them since there is some loose rock.

Approach (map p.364) - From the parking, cross the river and take the path right across the field. The crag is above the path past the gates and walls at the far end.
Descent - Scramble to the top of the buttress, then head right and go over the wall onto a track. Walk around 75m rightwards along this to a gate which leads to a gentle descent path. Earlier scrambles to this path can be made. Be prepared for nettle hell if wearing shorts!

Access - There is often a restriction due to nesting birds. No climbing from 15 Feb to 31 May.

11 Definitely Devilish VS 4c

The left-hand of two short corners.

12 Thom's Arete VD

The blunt arete between the two corners.

FA. Tom West 1961

13 Arrundale's Crack S 4a

The right-hand corner on the terrace.

FA. Jack Arrundale 1961

14 Raquel Welch HVS 4c

The wall and bulges just right of the corner.

15 Applause HVS 5a

Trend rightwards up the wall to gain and climb the flaky groove.

FA. Graham West 1961

16 Bright Eyes E2 5c

Swing left out of the undercut flake and climb the wall.

FA. John Codling, Bob Cope 1979

17 Fever Pitch E4 6a

Like *Fever Dream* but on the left-hand side of the arete.

FA. Gary Gibson 1999

18 Fever Dream E3 5c

Climb the undercut flake out to the arete, swap sides, then balance up the right-hand side in a dramatic position.

FA. John Codling, Jerry Codling 1979

19 Roberts Roberts HS 4a

The right-angled groove throughout.

FA. Barry Roberts, Michael Roberts 1961

20 Thread, Butter and Wheeze ... E2 5c

The centre of the wall, right of the corner, on good holds.

FA. Alan Williams, Gary Gibson 1983

21 Strawberry Window E2 5b

The left edge of the cave, then the shallow groove above.

FA. John Codling 1979

22 An Ill Wind E5 6b

Climb up the left-hand side of the cave then pull left onto the wall. Pull up the left-hand side of the prow above.

FA. Gary Gibson 1999

23 Going Tornado ... E5 6b

The right wall of the cave is climbed leftwards.

FA. Ron Fawcett 1981

24 Praffle HVS 5b

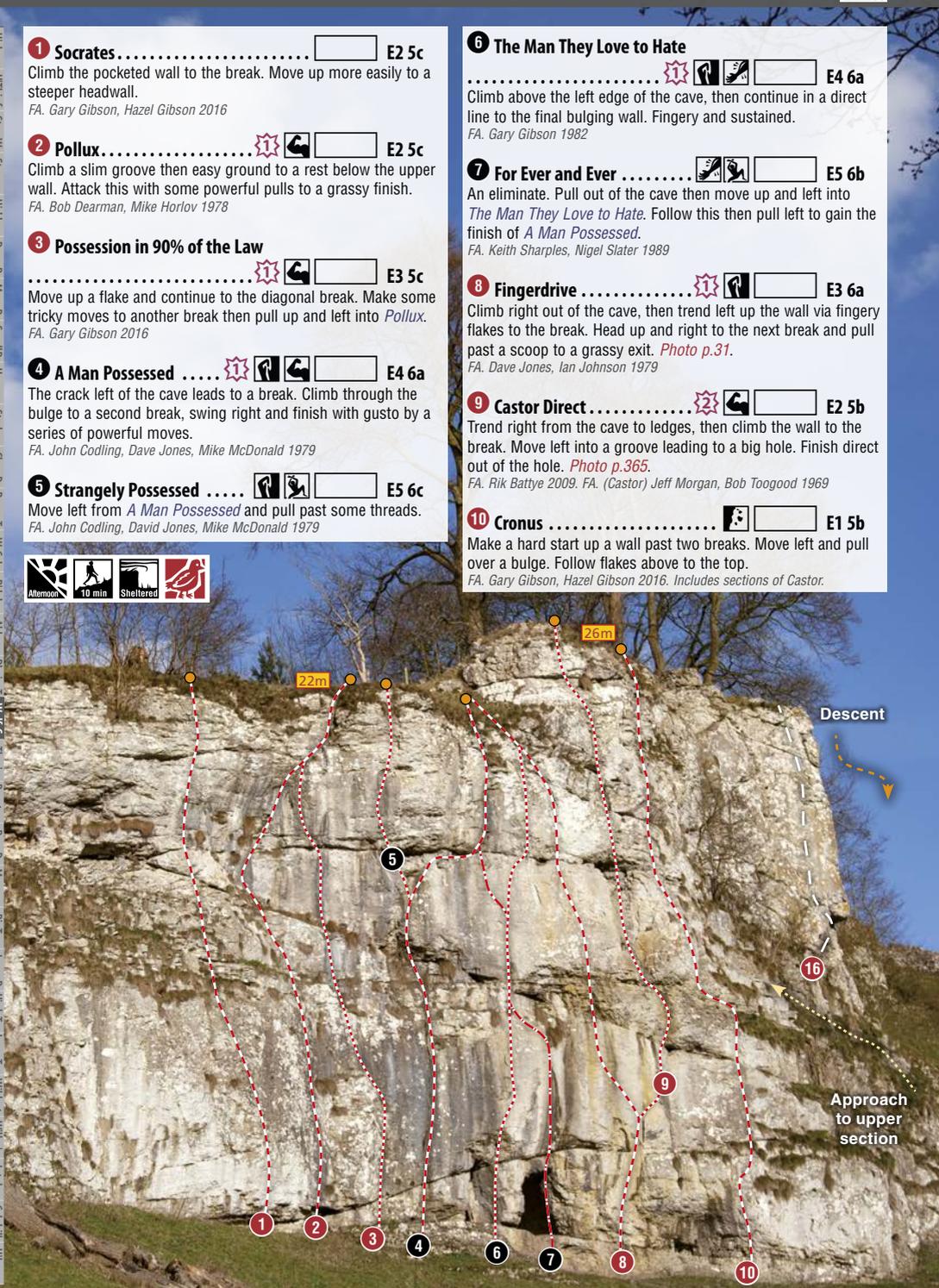
The tricky, curving groove to a hard and scruffy exit.

FA. Bob Dearman, Mick Horlov 1978

25 Plink, Plink Fizz E1 5c

The short white wall.

FA. Clive Allen, Rob Wright 1986



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Wolfs
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Intake
Cobhill
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Drabber Tor

A surprisingly long walk down Wolfscoote Dale brings you to this nice wall of rock which faces northeast (and hence is usually in the shade). Most people come to find *Peace* in the central section. The rest of the routes see little attention although the hard ones are all good.

Approach (map p.364) - Walk past the Celestial Twin and continue for about 20 minutes until this wall is visible on the opposite bank. Either wade or use stepping stones to cross the river directly below the crag.

Descent - Most routes have lower-offs. For the few on the right-hand side, walk left (looking out) to the gully and go down here.

1 Jerry Moffatt Stole My Face ... **E2 5b**

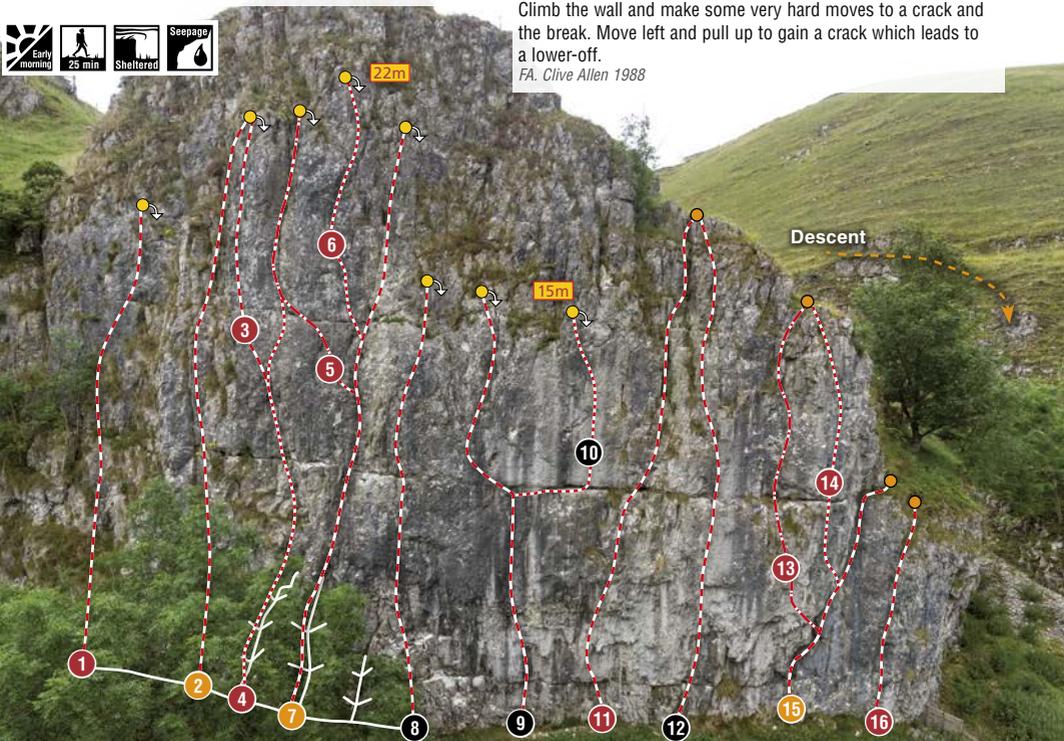
Nice name. Climb grassy rock to gain a short clean section. Climb this on pockets then scramble up to a fixed thread belay. *FA. F.Richards, Nick Dixon 1984*

2 Dutch Sunday **HVS 5a**

Climb up grassy rock to a short groove. Follow this and cracks above to ledges. Move right to the lower-off on *Kuragin*. *FA. Clive Jones, Dave Gregory 1978*

3 Kuragin **E3 5c**

An escapable eliminate. Follow *Peace Direct* to the good holds then make a hard move up slightly left for the break (thread). Pass this with another hard move and climb the sustained tower above. Keeping your hands and feet off the easy ground to the left is nearly impossible. *FA. Gary Gibson 2016*



4 Peace Direct **E3 6a**

A direct line up the wall which may have been the original line. Climb the blocky groove then easy ledges to the steep section and some good holds. Make thin moves up right to gain the break then a hard pull to the upper crack and climb this.

5 Peace **E2 6a**

Probably the way it was originally climbed and very worthwhile. Follow the groove of *Perlusive* to the first peg, then move left to twin threads. Make a tricky move up left to gain the upper crack and climb this to the top. *Photo opposite.*

FA. Clive Jones, John Myres 1978. They may have climbed the direct version above. Both versions were certainly climbed in the 1980s.

6 North Winds **E1 5b**

A nice direct finish. Climb *Perlusive* to the top break and a stainless peg. Then make a long move up left to gain a finishing crack which leads to a lower-off. *FA. Gary Gibson 2016*

7 Perlusive **HVS 5a**

The original line. Start below an open groove between two flake grooves. Climb this to threads then pass two pegs to the upper break. Move slightly right and up to the lower-off.

8 Blow all Away **E4 6a**

Climb up some ledges then make hard moves to the break. Move right and climb direct to a lower-off. *FA. Gary Gibson 2016*

9 Nettlefish **E5 6b**

Climb the wall and make some very hard moves to a crack and the break. Move left and pull up to gain a crack which leads to a lower-off. *FA. Clive Allen 1988*

Dominic Green negotiating the tricky crux moves of *Peace* (E2) - *opposite* - at Drabber Tor. Over the years people have been climbing two different lines thinking they were climbing *Peace* - one direct and one coming in from *Perlusive*. It is unclear which way the first ascensionists went. What is clear is that both are good lines and worthy in their own right.

10 Solara **E5 6b**

A good right-hand finish to *Nettlefish*. Follow this to the break then step right and finish direct past a bolt. *FA. Simon Cundy, Nick Conway 2018*

11 War **E1 5b**

Climb the wall to a good hold, then continue to a groove which leads to a belay on the top. *FA. Clive Jones, Dave Gregory 1978*

12 Muninn **E5 6a**

The wall leads to a small overlap with a thin crack. Hard moves lead to the break. Easier climbing remains to the crag top. *FA. Gary Gibson 2016*

13 Flame **E1 5b**

Climb layback flakes, then move left to a cracked rib. Continue up left to a break and onto the left of the arete above to finish. *FA. Clive Jones, Dave Gregory 1978*

14 Huginn **E3 6a**

A minor variation moving left from higher up *Gourd*.

15 Gourd **HVS 5a**

Follow the groove all the way.

16 Death Croak **E1 5c**

The crack in the short right-hand side of the wall. *FA. Allen Williams, F. Richards 1984*

Hibon Colahill Inlake Wilbery Wildcat Long Tor High Tor Lorry P. Pic Tor Masson Dovey Beeston Thor's Wolfsc Rheinst Alderly Rdale W-C-J Raven T. Clee D. Staden Hampur SmallD Moss R. Deep R. Hirden StonyW StrayW H'Thief H'Shoe