

McGeeks Squad:

Late Summer Assault on Arbroath 2011

Scotland South Team hits the Sea Cliffs

By Scott Gowens

After Geek had taken us on successful outings throughout the summer to Kirrie and Avertical World (organised by the MCofS) he decided we were ready for an assault on the Arbroath Sea Cliffs.

After a safety briefing and chat about the dangers of being at the sea cliffs Neil quickly sorted the group and he and Grant set about rigging climbs on a number of routes for us to try.

Grant led up the character building *The Deil's Heid* ? 5+ The original route up its seaward face was done in the 70's probably by blokes in big boots hammering in pegs for protection. Over time these have been replaced with new type stainless bolts like they have at Kirrie but it's still an exposed challenging climb. Gabs, Eilidh, Kera and Rory and others despatched this very scary climb until the tide started to wet the belay stance as it does when the sea is raging and the dads retreated over to the dry.

Geek set more routes over at Grannies Garrett, both were on the ridiculous overhanging prow and *Sweet Dreams* proved to be the test piece of the day!

The climbers all showed great guts and determination as the sun shone and they climbed out over the sea on the overhanging routes. A bit of friendly father daughter rivalry saw Grant beat Megan's initial highpoint, only for him to be outdone as she rather than being physed out topped out !!!!!



Grant and Megan getting psyched for Grannies Garrett Routes. The Deil's Heid in the background



McGeek (Legend) on *Sweet Dreams* "who needs Spain"



LEFT:
Mr Whyte Junior

RIGHT:
Megan sends
Sweet Dreams

BELOW:
Satans Serenade
sent by Eilidh



Much of the day saw us red point attempts of *Satan's Serenade* and we loved the steep setting, Kirsten, Rory and co all having really good go's.

Although many of the kids (and adults) had had a long Saturday competing at the bouldering competition the previous day the weather and geeks enthusiasm ensured that some excellent climbing was enjoyed throughout the day, it was a memorable 16th Birthday for me.

We have had a great climbing season, training, competing and out on real rock. We will be all training hard in the winter so geek can get us out on more climbs next year...

or even out in the snow?

Scott Gowens
Climber (Geeks Squad)



Scott ends the Long Day at 16!