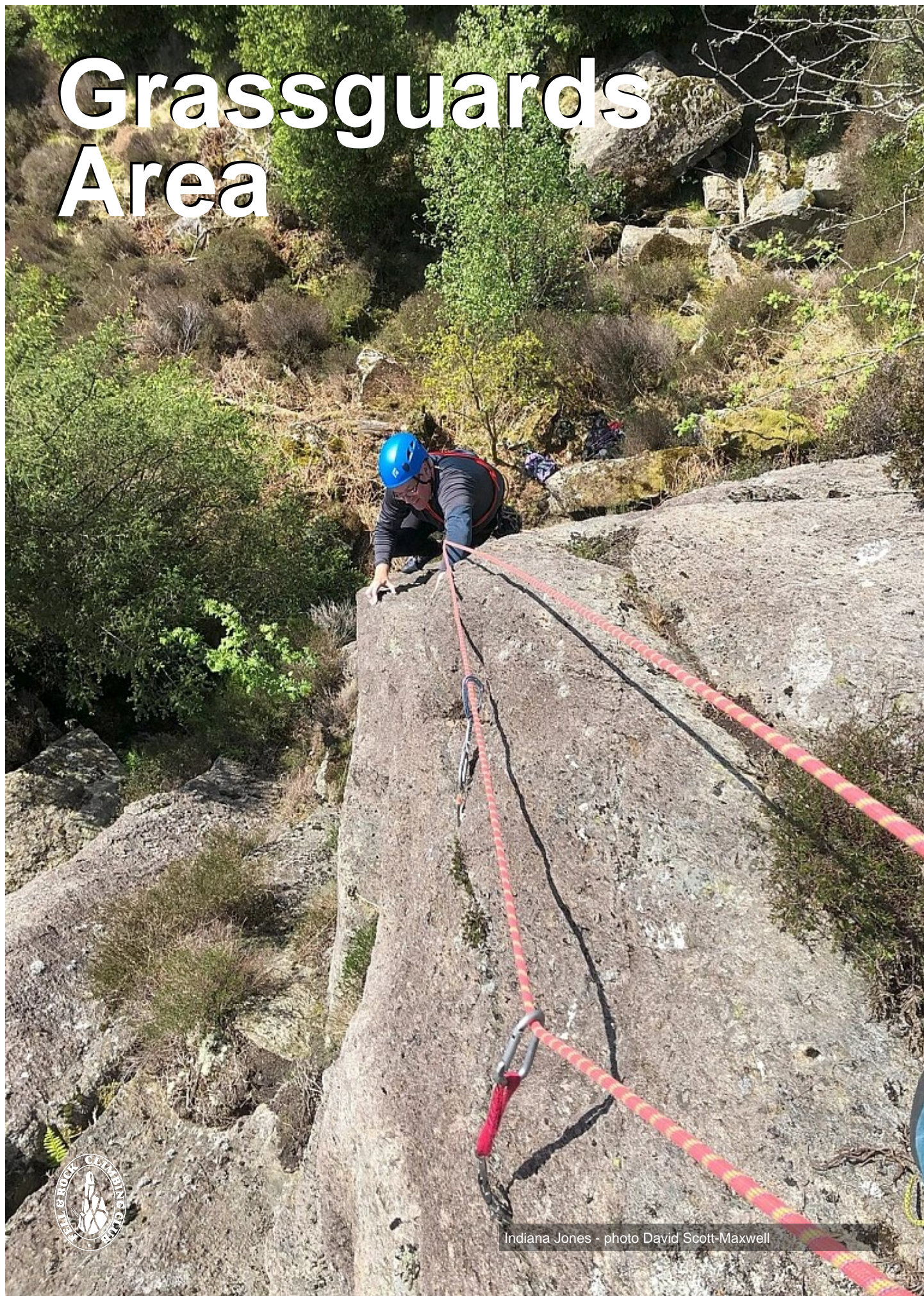


# Grassguards Area



Indiana Jones - photo David Scott-Maxwell



## WARNING

You climb at your own risk. Climbing is a dangerous activity carrying the risk of serious injury or death. If you climb, the presumption is that you are aware of and accept these risks together with responsibility for your activities and your safety.

You are the sole judge of conditions, the suitability of any chosen route, the ability of the party and you take sole responsibility for your actions.

Rock is a dynamic medium and rockfalls are frequent. In the mountains the weather changes quickly, climbs change unpredictably; blocks, flakes and holds become loose and fall off, rock becomes vegetated and dirty, in situ gear deteriorates or disappears. Even a minor change can have a dramatic effect on the difficulty or seriousness of a route. There can be no presumption that any given climb will be found in the condition described. It is therefore essential that climbers judge the seriousness or difficulty of any route before committing themselves.

While every effort is made to present accurate information, the descriptions, grades and comments provided in this guidebook are compiled from a number of sources. They may contain errors, are subjective or may have changed and should not be relied on. Neither the FRCC nor anyone involved with the production of this guide can be held responsible for any inaccuracies, omissions or mistakes, nor liable for any personal or third party injuries or damage, howsoever caused, arising from the use of this information.

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Instructions for downloading and printing.

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1. click on the link <https://www.frcc.co.uk/mini-guide-downloads/>
2. scroll through the menu
3. select the pdf you want by clicking the link
4. a new window opens with the contents of the pdf
5. on your computer select Print or Export and print or save the pdf
6. on your smartphone or tablet choose send and choose a destination

Printing

A5 pdfs can be printed 2 pages side-by-side on A4 paper

Each crag starts at the top of a new page so, to save paper and ink, you can choose which pages (Crag) to print.

To keep you informed and updated we are publishing crag and mini-guides to the area. Our pdfs are constantly updated to provide accurate and up to date information about new developments in the Lakes. All of this information is collated by volunteers from the FRCC Guidebook Team. These downloads supplement our comprehensive and selected guidebooks:

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- Gable & Pillar
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- Scafell & Wasdale
- Eskdale - in preparation - expected 2024

Our guidebooks can be purchased at <https://www.frcc.co.uk/shop/>

Free shipping for orders over £30.

# Long Crag

OS Ref: NY 232983

Alt: 230m

A pleasant sunny crag providing some good routes on immaculate Duddon rock, with commanding views across the valley to Seathwaite waterfalls and the Coniston fells beyond.

A good gearing up and lunch ledge can be found at the top of the crag.

## Approach

Cross the bridge directly behind Troutal Farm. Follow the footpath downstream, upon exiting the woodland continue for a further 100m to reach a large boulder on the right and the first of the fenced tree guards. Head uphill to gain a good path that leads uphill towards the Grassguards track - Long Crag is clearly visible on the uphill track. When level with the crag a small cairn marks a vague path leftwards through the trees.

## Descent

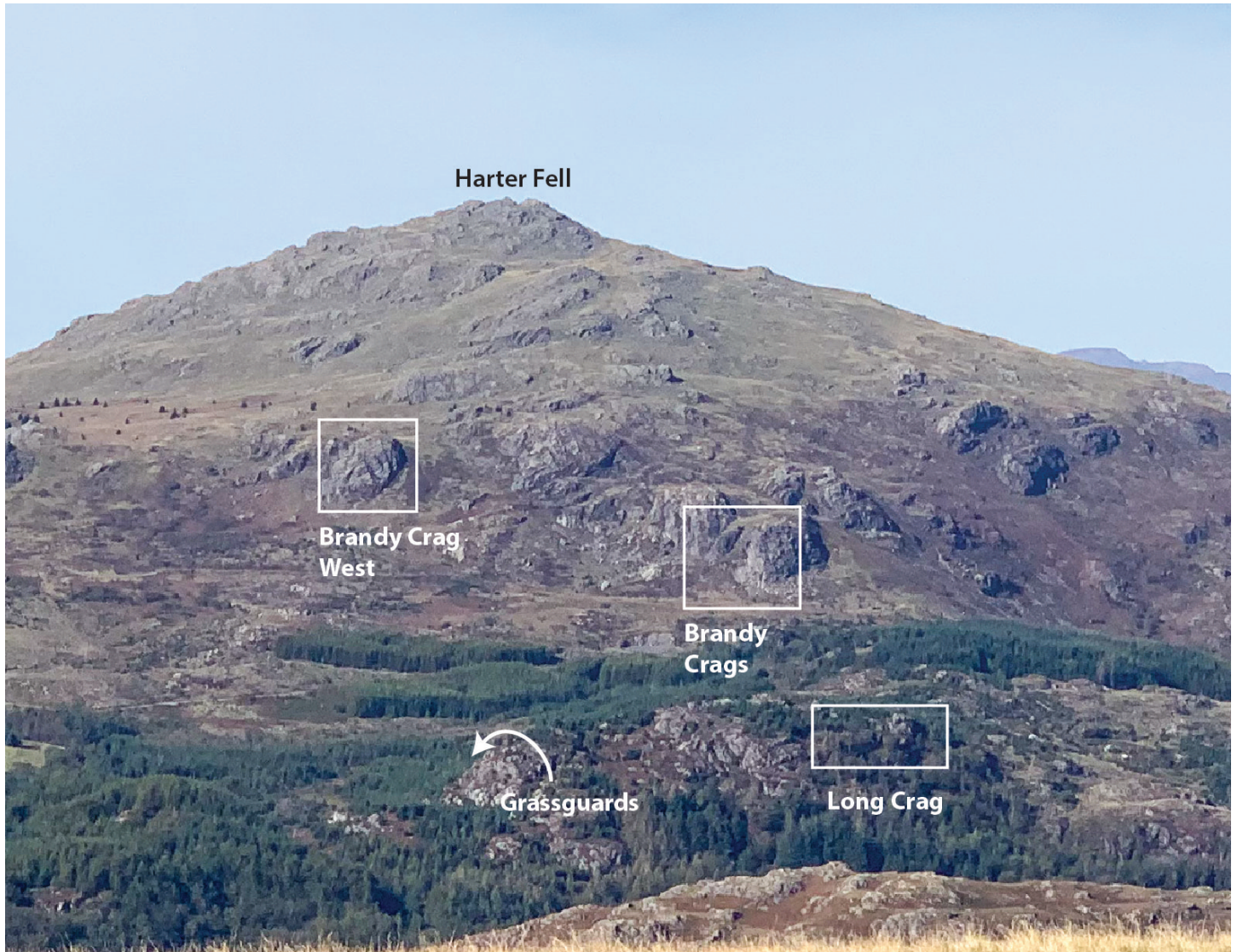
Descent is to the left, there is also an abseil anchor in situ.

Grades

5

1

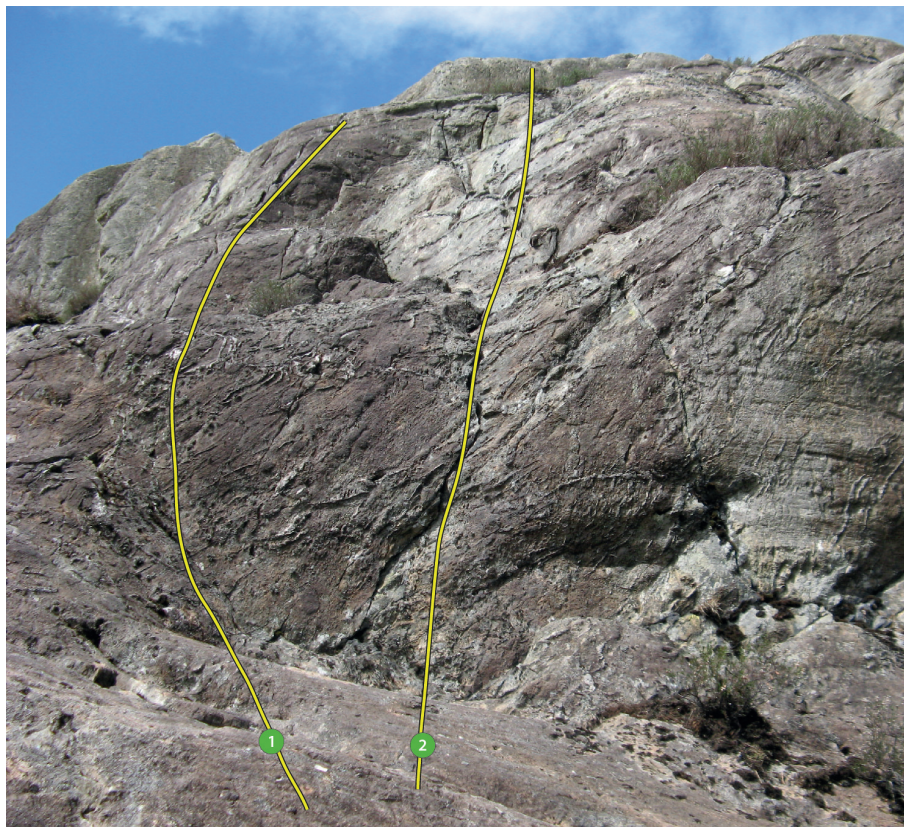
3



Grassguards Area

25 mins SOUTH EAST facing 🌞





Long Crag LHS

**1 Resonating Ramp** S † New 25m

Start behind a substantial spruce tree at the base of the crag. A left slanting ramp leads up to a slab. From the left edge of the slab climb directly up the bulging wall passing a hollow flake at mid height

08.05.2022 Martin Scrowston, Carole Scrowston

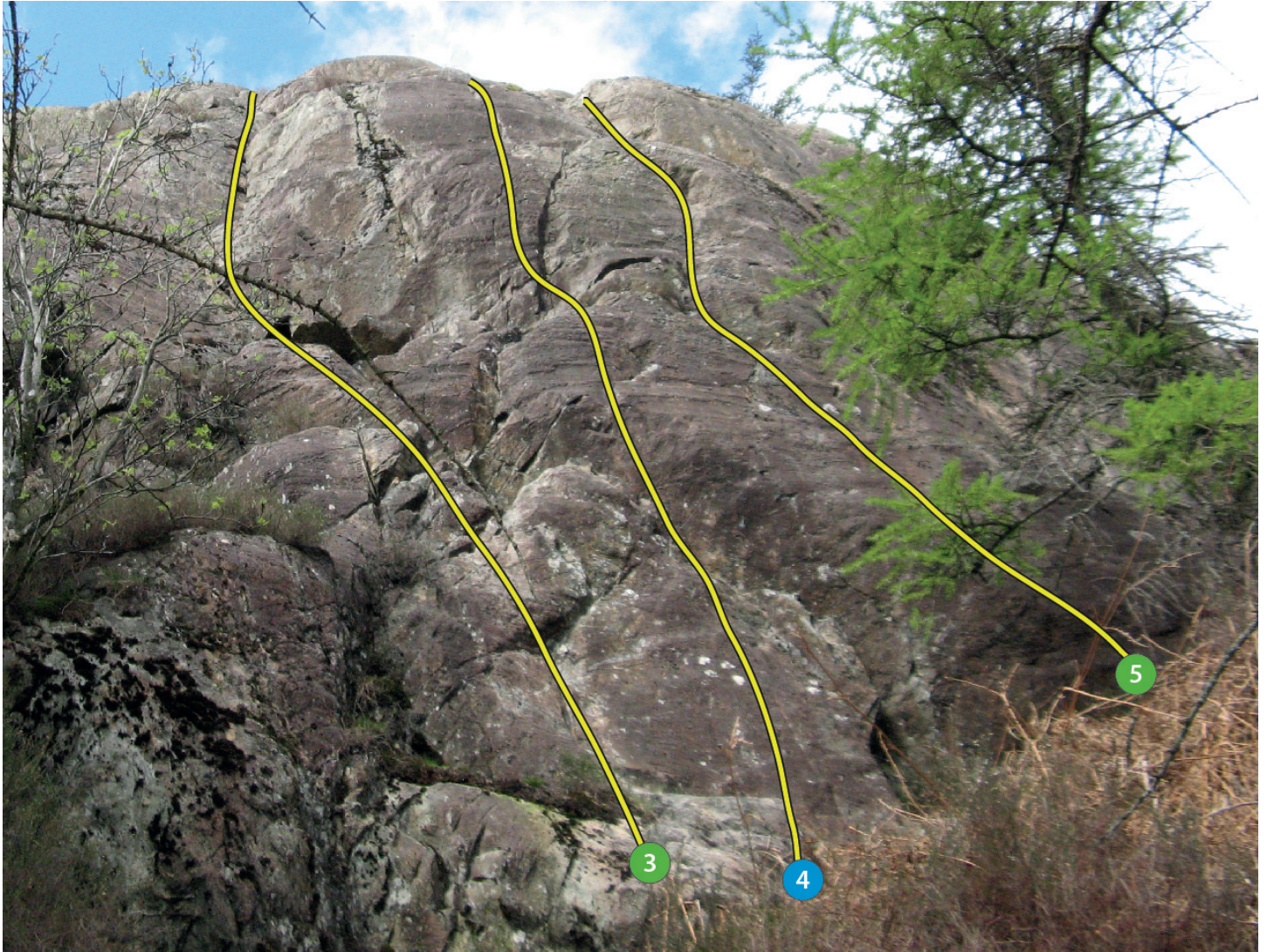
**2 Long Shot** S † New 25m

Start as for [Resonating Ramp](#). From the back of the slab a broken crack leads up and right to follow the barrel shaped buttress.

11.04.2022 Martin Scrowston  
Solo







Long Crag Centre

**3 Longing HS 4b † New 22m**

★★

The obvious crack up the centre of the buttress. Start left of a small Larch tree at a small rock step. Move up leftwards to gain a ledge with some perched blocks. Enjoy the satisfying crack above

15.05.2022 Martin Scrowston, Paul C. Bennett

**4 Not Long HVS 4c † New 22m**

★

The steep wall on the right of the buttress. Start right of [Longing](#), steep climbing leads up the bulging wall and crack to a small ledge. Follow the thin crack above (crux) to a more relaxed finish.

15.05.2022 Martin Scrowston, Paul C. Bennett

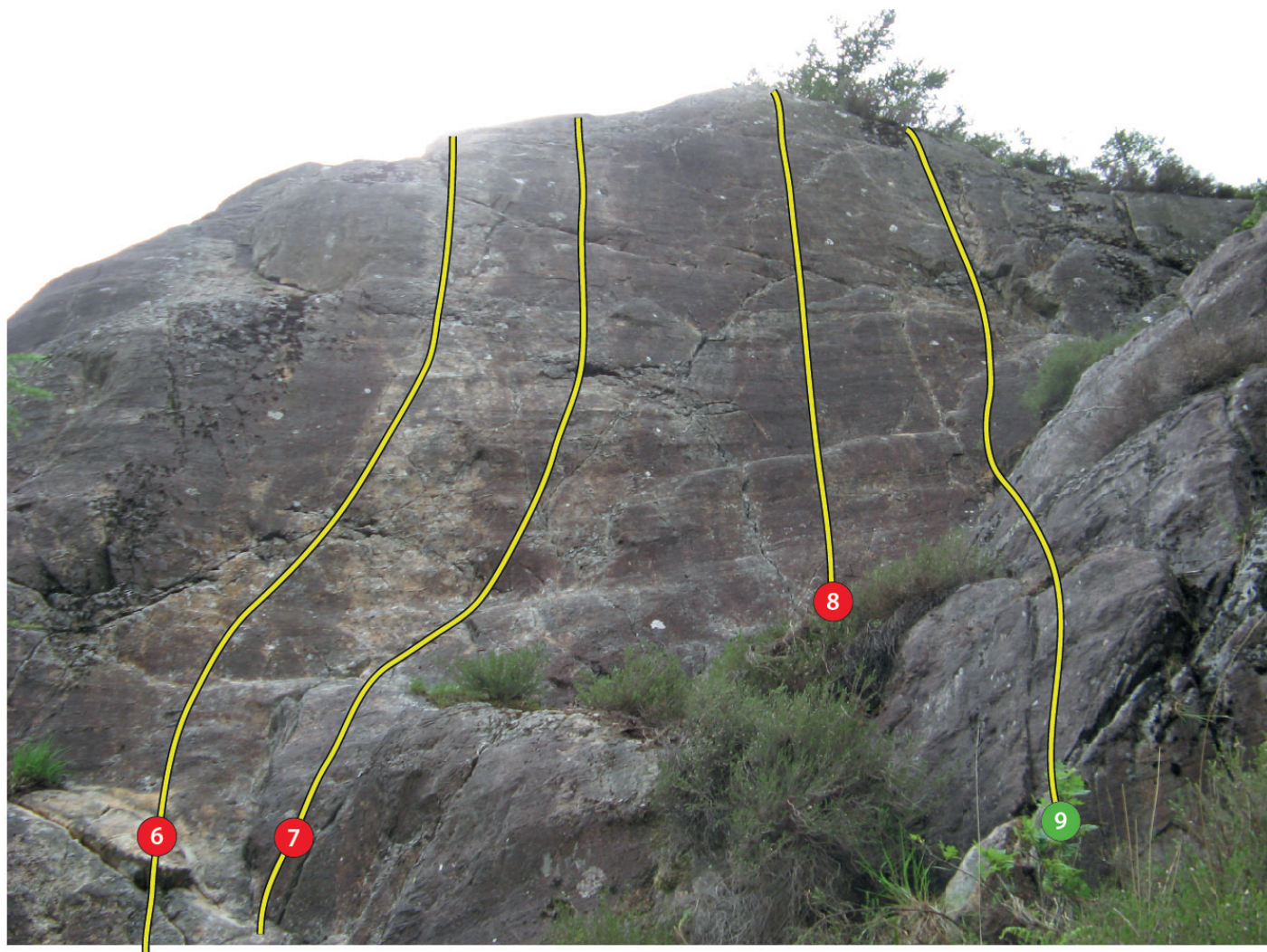
**5 Longevity HS 4b † New 22m**

★

A good route up the right edge of the South Buttress. Start at some left slanting cracks at the right hand side of the main buttress. Traverse up and left to gain the Main Buttress, follow the bulging wall above to finish via a left slanting overlap.

15.05.2022 Paul C. Bennett, Martin Scrowston





Long Crag RHS

**6 Primal E2 5b † New 18m**

The steep east face provides some good routes on excellent rock. A left slanting ramp gives access to the left side of the wall. Follow the thin cracks with a good rest at half height.

22.05.2022 Martin Scrowston, Paul C. Bennett

★★

**7 Prolong E1 5b † New 18m**

Climb the centre of the East Wall via a large pocket and thin cracks above.

15.05.2022 Martin Scrowston, Paul C. Bennett

★★

**8 Two Long E2 5b † New 12m**

Start at the right side of a grassy ledge. Ascend the blank wall passing two good ledges to finish up the steep crack (crux).

18.05.2022 Paul C. Bennett, Martin Scrowston

★★

**9 The Long Climb S † New 20m**

A wandering route that improves with height. Start by a diminutive rowan tree. Pull up and scramble left into a corner. Move up to follow a right slanting ramp to a ledge. The wall above requires a mantelshelf move to gain a mini leftwards traverse to finish at the highest point of the face.

24.05.2022 Martin Scrowston

Solo



# Grassguards

OS Ref: SD 228 981

Alt: 245m

Grades

5

1

A west-facing slabby pillar of rock that overlooks Grassguards cottage.

The crag was discovered and developed independently by two teams. DSM +AG also climbed a route that took the area of 2 + 4 Details on FRCC website. Find the crag then use the discrete Detailed or Summary button. This e-book is considered the best way to describe the climbs available now.

## Approach

Park as for Crag Band at the Fickle steps parking area.

Follow the path down in a westerly direction, then cross the river Duddon via the Fickle stepping stones (water levels permitting). On the opposite bank follow the path heading west up the fellside towards Grassguards cottage. The path is followed along the right bank of Grassguards gill until beneath the overhead power cables, now cross the fence on your right and follow the clearing beneath the cables to midway between the first and second poles, the compact buttress is now visible on a fellside to the right. Head rightwards through a clearing then cross some tussocky/boggy ground (boots recommended). A final short scramble up the slope between some pine trees gives access to the crag.

## Descent

Abseil descent from the belay tree.



Grassguards

### 1 High Plains Drifter E1 5b † New 17m

Delicately climb the centre of the blank pillar for 5m. Step left to a crack which is followed to beneath the final headwall; this is climbed direct on small flakes.

4.03.2023 J Daly, K Phizacklea

### 2 Temple of Doom E2 5c † New 17m

Delicately climb the centre of the slabby pillar for 5m. Step left to a crack for protection then continue up the middle of the pillar to finish on a ledge above the right edge.

19.06.2022 D Scott-Maxwell, A Gittins

### 3 Expulsion Crack E1 5c † New 15m

Climbs the prominent central crack. Climb converging twin cracks to where they meet at a small triangular glacia; tiny hand holds on the right wall help you stand on this (crux). The steeper crack above is then followed to the top.

8.04.2023 J Daly





**4** **Expulsion Right Hand** E2 5c † **New** 16m



Climb [Expulsion Crack](#) to mid-height where the cracks converge then delicately traverse right to an in-situ thread or nut in the horizontal crack. Climb the slab above utilising two diagonal flake cracks.

8.04.2023 J Daly

**5** **High Noon** HVS 5a † **New** 15m



Climb the prominent crack system heading up the right side of the slab with an awkward pull up right into a V-groove near the top; up this to finish.

4.03.2023 J Daly, K Phizacklea

**6** **Indiana Jones** E3 5c † **New** 17m



Start at the lowest point of the buttress and climb up to a ledge on the left. Place a nut in [High Noon](#) to protect the initial section. Climb up rightwards to reach the edge then up to gain a standing position on a vague round boss; pull up to the first short flake above (rock3), then further flakes and the right-hand rib are followed making increasingly precarious layback moves to gain the top.

15.04.2022 D Scott-Maxwell A Gittins