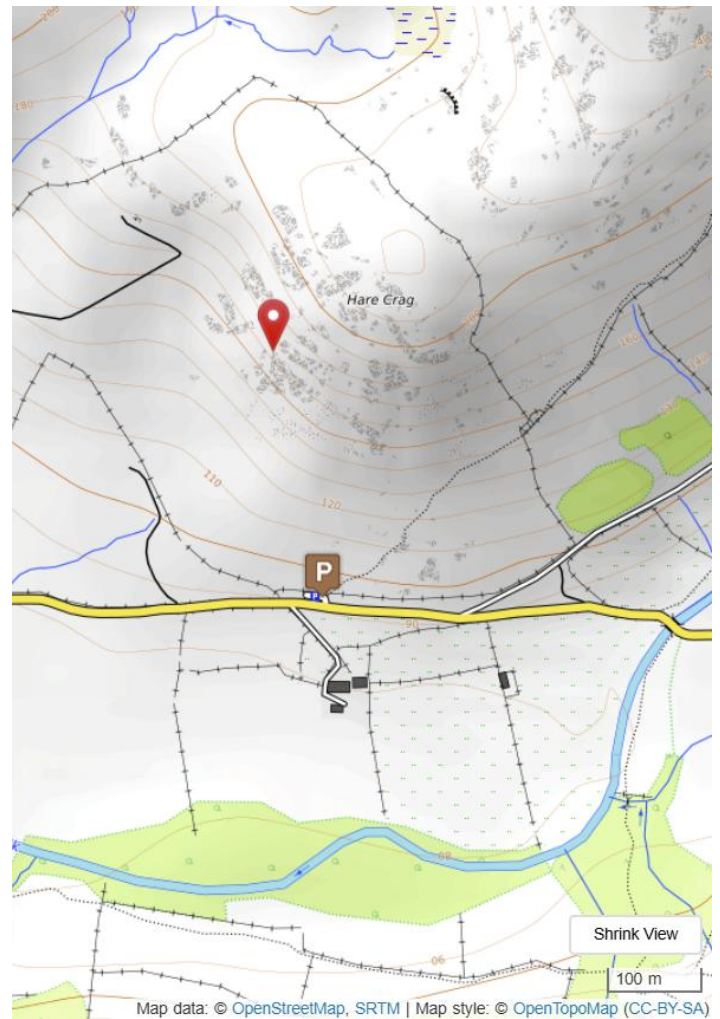
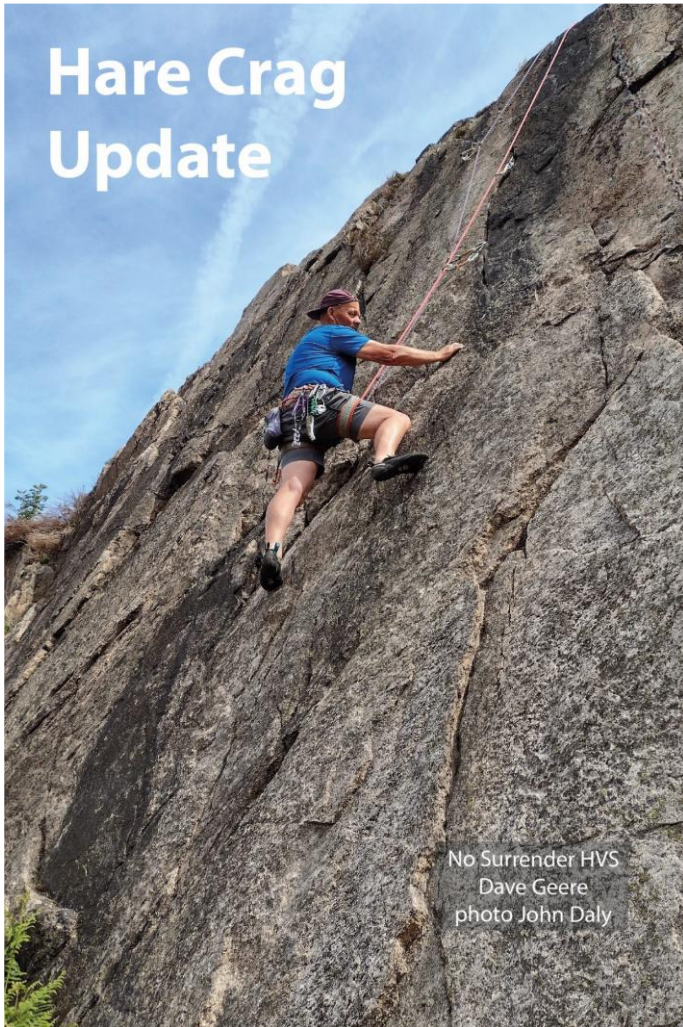


Hare Crag Update



NY 1996 0118 Alt 160m 10-15 mins

Clean, fast-drying and sunny - delightfully rough granite walls and blank open slabs containing good climbing at all grades and a contrast of styles. The Yosemite of the Lake District! A justifiably popular crag which actually comprises several separate buttresses. The crag appears prominently on the fellside behind the Youth Hostel, seen as you drive up the valley.

Approach: There is a small car park opposite Wha House Farm. From the west end of the car park go through the gates, a 15-minute walk on faint paths over a low ridge northwards leads to the crag. The paths may be obscured once the bracken has grown. The six buttresses are described as they are approached, working from right to left.

Right-Hand Slabs

South-West facing

Clean open slabs and a great place for beginners, although protection can be sparse. Descend well to the left.

1 Hareshirt 15m Severe

Left of a grassy gully is another slab. Climb the centre of the slab, trending right where it narrows under a steepening, to a tricky exit left up a short groove.

FA J H Bell 30.05.2010

For more interest routes can be combined; for instance *Easy Slab* trending into *The Rib* makes a nice problem (25m S).

2 The Rib 22m Diff ★

This pleasant open route starts from a well-trodden bare patch immediately below the left-hand rib. Follow the crest of the rib. There's a thread in the grass gully on the left. Scramble to the top.

FA J Daly 10.1987

3 Celebration 23m HS 4a

A delicate unprotected eliminate.

FA A Phizacklea 23.04.1994

4 Easy Slab 24m VDiff ★

A lovely route, not too well-protected that follows the jagged 'lightning crack' up the centre of the slab to a triangular niche then trend leftwards.

FA J Daly 10.1987

5 Pleasant Slab 26m Severe

A fine line on the clean upper slab. Climb the slab via a vague crack just to the left of two grass patches then trend leftwards across the slab to the top of *The Rib*.

FA J Daly 10.1987

6 Hirsute Slab 25m HVS 4c

A poorly protected route giving some 'hairy' moments. Climb the moss-speckled slab, passing delicately between the two prominent heather patches to reach easier ground.

FA A Phizacklea 10.09.1995

7 Plaque Route 50m VS 4c

Pleasant open climbing on P2. The first pitch is poorly protected and has a scrappy appearance; in mitigation the landing is good! Start behind the dead tree just left of *Birch Tree Groove*.

1 30m 4c Pull over the bulge with difficulty. (Easier on the right.) Move up leftwards, keeping just above the steep grassy gully, to a grass ledge containing a little spike.

2 20m 4a Negotiate the overlap to gain a line of quartz scabs leading up the cleanest slab.

FA W E Pattison, A W Dunn 1974

8 Birch Tree Groove 40m VDiff

Rather dirty although it improves greatly with height. Start just right of the dead tree, below a grassy groove.

1 15m Climb the groove to a ledge and tree.

2 25m Follow the slabs on the left.

FA W E Pattison, A W Dunn 1974

Slim Slab

At the toe of this buttress and well down to the right from the existing routes like *Pleasant Slab* is another nice 15m narrow slab offering the next two routes. Descent: abseil from the tree 10m back or scramble down the right flank.

1 AWOL on Idwal 15m Severe 4a

From the lowest point of the slab follow quartz plaques up leftwards, then climb the centre of the slab to the top. Bold but escapable.

FA J Daly 28.04.2025

2 Edgy 15m VS 4b ★

Climb the precarious right edge of the slab direct.

FA D Geere, J Daly 02.05.2025

Right-Hand Wall

Located higher up the right flank of *Hare Crag* above *Slim Slab*, this nice granite wall is visible in profile from the Wha House car park. Approach by scrambling across a boulder-field, then head up through bracken. Alternatively climb a Slim Slab route then scramble up past the abseil tree. The best descent is an awkward scramble down to the right.

1 Shotgun 11m VDiff

Climb straight up to gain and follow an obvious juggy diagonal line heading up leftwards.

FA J Daly 28.04.2025



2 Smoking Gun 13m Severe

Climb a layback edge then take a direct line up through some zig-zag cracks, finishing up left.

FA J Daly 28.04.2025

3 On Point 12m HS 4a

A tricky direct start up the black streak leads to the prominent wide crack that heads up leftwards.

FA J Daly, D Geere 02.05.2025

4 No Surrender 14m HVS 5a ★

Climb the thin left-hand crack in the headwall direct.

FA J Daly, D Geere 02.05.2025

5 Soixante-Neuf 14m E1 5a ★

Climb a slim layback edge up to a tiny rectangular overhang, then climb the twin cracks above.

FA J Daly, D Geere 02.05.2025

