

From: [Joe Hashman](#)
To: [2002 Act Review](#)
Subject: Hunting with hounds across the Scottish/English border
Date: 04 February 2016 21:01:26

Dear Sir or Madam,

To my mind, the idea that hunted foxes and hares don't cross manmade national boundaries is silly – there is as yet no exclusion fence on the English/Scottish border! Many Hunts operate either side of that invisible dividing line, often on the same day because:

- 1/ their ‘country’ (ie: the geographic area over which they hunt) encompasses land in both countries.
- 2/ the English/Scottish border forms the boundary of their ‘country’ but it is not a physical barrier that would prevent hounds “accidentally” chasing a fox (or hare in the case of Beagles) from one side to the other.

WHICH HUNTS AND WHO SAYS?

Bewcastle Hunt

“The country (hunted on foot) is situated on the borders of Scotland, Northumberland and Cumberland.”

Source: Baily’s Hunting Directory 2007-2008, page 15.

Border Hunt

“The country is nearly all hill and open moorland astride the English/Scottish border.”

Source: Baily’s Hunting Directory 2007-2008, page 20.

College Valley/North Northumberland Hunt

“The College Valley and North Northumberland Hunt came into existence in 1982, when The College Valley Hunt amalgamated with the North Northumberland. The Country hunted is in Northumberland and extends from the Kale Water in the north-west taking in the Cheviot Hills to the Harthope Burn and Glendale Valley and on to the coastal strip by Holy Island and then north to Berwick-Upon-Tweed and the Scottish Border.”

Source: <http://cvnnh.org.uk> (February 3rd 2016)

Jedforest Hunt

“The Jedforest Hunt country is rectangular in shape approximately 15 miles by 7 miles. It lies in the county of Roxburghshire and the hunt boundaries are the River Teviot to the North, the River Slitrig to the West, the Roman Road/Dere Street to the East, and the Scottish/English border to the South”

Source: <http://www.jedforesthunt.co.uk/about-us.html> (February 3rd 2016)

Other Hunts which have the boundaries of their countries defined at least in part by the English/Scottish national boundary include;

Berwickshire Hunt

Duke of Buccleuch Hunt

Liddesdale Hunt

EVIDENCE OF CROSS-BORDER HUNTING

Further evidence of hunting across the English/Scottish border can be found in hunting reports. These are first-hand accounts of actual hunts written by followers of those hunts and published in the sporting press. The following are three examples from before legislation was brought into force in either country:

College Valley/North Northumberland Hunt

“A large crowd and many visitors came to Hethpool on the 25th, and saw a fine hill hunt.... Hounds persevered over the Schill Rigg to cross into Scotland to circle the Dodd hill, and go up the Cheviot burn. He turned out to the peat on Maillieside but swung back to the Auchope Cairn – 2,300 feet, and thus back into England.”

Source: Hounds Magazine, Volume 5 Number 6 Summer 1989.

Jedforest Hunt

“At Overwells we enjoyed the hospitality of the Fraser family....hounds were hacked to the Batts Moor to draw.... Coming off the hill for Whitton Edge, the pack rejoined and crossed the Roman Road into Border Country.”

Source: Hounds Magazine, Volume 7 Number 3 January 1991.

Bolebroke Beagles at the Northumberland Beagling Festival

(Note: this refers to hare hunting with beagles)

“Again, we journey north of the border for our final day, on Friday, to Mr Bob Tyser’s farm at Chatto.”

Source: Hounds Magazine, Volume 7 Number 1 November 1990.

I contend that MPs from all parties deserve a voice and parity with the strongest of the two pieces of legislation should be the aspiration (ie The Hunting Act – bringing Scotland in to line with England, not the other way around).

Yours sincerely,

Joe Hashman

<http://www.houndswoff.co.uk/archives/huntingacrossthescottishenglishborder/>

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