

CONTACTS

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AND WHEN THE DAY IS OVER



At the end of the day, the huntsman blows for home. The hounds, horses and riders have had a great day out in the countryside, with no harm being done to any wildlife - although the Quarries will be a bit tired, possibly with less than 'clean boots', and covered in slobber!



THE SOUTH DOWNS BLOODHOUNDS

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THE SOUTH DOWNS BLOODHOUNDS



Hunting The Clean Boot

Unequivocal, publicly verifiable,
humane hunting of human runners.



Member of CBHA.uk

THE SOUTH DOWNS BLOODHOUNDS

The South Downs Bloodhounds were formed in 2004 by their current Senior Master and Huntsman, Jeremy Whaley. Although kennelled in Hampshire, the hunt operates all over the United Kingdom, wherever landowners/farmers are willing to have us. As Jeremy says, "Our country is easily defined, it is completely surrounded by salt water". Although it is said he would even be prepared to cross that!



The hunt is organised by the Joint Masters, who liaise with landowners and farmers who are kind enough to permit the hunt access to their land.

The Masters will visit the land to be hunted a few days before and plan a route to be as safe and entertaining as possible, without doing damage to farmers crops and/or livestock. They will then submit a map for the farmers/landowners to approve and/or make changes.

The map is then given to the Quarries on a hunting day, and they may also use an Ordnance Survey app on their phone to keep them on track.

At the end of the day, or the next day, a Joint Master will check the routes to ensure no damage has been done.

WHO CAN BE QUARRIES?:

Contrary to common belief, you do not need to be an ultra athlete to run for the bloodhounds. At the height of the season, hunts will consist of a distance of 2 to 5 miles, depending on country available, and there will usually be between 3 to 5 hunts, depending on the length of each hunt. These hounds hunt the clean scent of human beings, and no scent enhancement is worn or dragged.



Quarries in action



Quarries being refuelled

WHO CAN RIDE WITH THE BLOODHOUNDS?:

Anyone can ride with the bloodhounds, but you have to be a reasonably competent and confident rider. Between August and mid October the hunt operates non jumping training meets, which are ideal for people and horses new to hunting. The start of the formal season is after The Opening Meet in mid October, and there will be optional jumping on most days. Further information can be found on the hunt website.



Synchronised galloping



Jumps for young and old

CAN YOU FOOT/CAR FOLLOW?:

Following the hunt on foot or in a car is becoming very popular, not least because the routes are preplanned and you can get to good vantage points to see what is going on. There is no formal charge for foot following, but it is hoped those doing so will make a donation in the bucket to help feed the hounds. Some foot followers also like to get involved with jobs to help the day run smoothly, and that is most welcome.



Handing out refreshments and collecting caps (fees)



Good viewing points are easy to find with the maps.