



## **The Border Story** ***Battles and Bridges***

The Anglo / Scottish Border – the first 1000 years

This is a brand-new four-dimensional project investigating the similarities & differences between people and communities on either side of the Anglo / Scottish Border. This is not just another Border history, rather it is a project that will link the many important historical Border events into the wider perspective of the national and international situations of the times. This project is about the people of the Borders and their unique identity as a group, and how the concept of the Borderers as a third nation in the 'Middle Land' between England and Scotland' came to be.

*During its 1000 years history the Border has seen*

- Five centuries of battle and conflict.
- The desperate and lawless times of the Reivers.
- The Union of the Crowns, and then of the Parliaments
- The Border no longer a barrier to transport, trade or working together.

**If you could help, or would like to be involved in this exciting project**

Please contact Clive Hallam-Baker

clivehb@border-story.org.uk • 01890820501 • [www.border-story.org.uk](http://www.border-story.org.uk)



*Among the topics we will consider are:*

- Geology and topography that ensured the early isolation of the area.
- Cultural differences North /South and East West of the Border.
- Early Christianity and the evolution of religion.
- The 500 years of conflict and battles that ad a lasting effect.
- The Reivers and devastation of the local economy.
- Union of the Crowns, and beginnings of more peaceful times.
- Union of the Parliaments and closer trade and cooperation.
- Innovations in transport, the Industrial and Agricultural Revolutions.
- Castles, bastles, pele towers fortified buildings and walled towns.
- Politics- not the modern party stuff - rather the ancient seats of power.
- The Border itself – where and why, and glitches along the route.
- Research of academic papers, and translation into layman’s language.
- The growth, of tourism and the recent ‘discovery’ of the Borders.
- Similarities and differences across the Border.

Plus Any other topics that come to light as the project progresses.



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